

LEFTFIELDER CATCHES PRIZE: RESIDENT JIM RICE NAMED TO HALL. PAGE 20



OUR 121ST YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 20

28 pages

JANUARY 15, 2009

75 CENTS

Split vote extends superintendent's contact

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

The School Committee's announcement of Superintendent Claudia Bach's contract extension on Jan. 6 came after the details, including salary, of Bach's contract were finalized in a closed-door session that

day. But the committee had decided with a split 3-2 vote during another closed-door meeting in September that it wanted Bach to continue as the school system's leader.

Members Tony James and Dennis Fargue voted against keeping the superintendent another year on Sept. 23, and Arthur Barber, Dick Collins

and Chairwoman Debra Silberstein voted in favor.

"We are five people that are very passionate about education, and we have vigorous debates. But once a decision is made, we all agree and move forward," said James of the 3-2 vote.

James and Fargue said they

believed it was time for a change in leadership, while the majority of the board noted the system's successes under Bach and the importance of having an experienced hand during a time of financial turmoil and principal changes.

Please see **CONTRACT**, Page 2

Man seeks better info, contracts for town

5 private warrant articles submitted to Town Meeting

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Looking back at some old papers, Bob Pokress realized his quarterly tax bill from this year was four times higher than his tax bill for the entire first year he lived in Andover, 24 years ago.

Neither his income or home value has quadrupled, so why should his tax bill? he thought.

It was that epiphany, he said, that prompted him to write and submit five private warrant articles for this spring's Town Meeting that he believes will limit spending and create better town contracts.

Pokress wants to rein in contract costs by eliminating expenses such as allowing employees to stockpile sick time and then paying employees for all those unused sick days when they retire. He also wants Town Meeting to insist officials provide residents with better information about what Town Meeting votes will cost each individual.

"I consider this the beginning of what I will

"I consider this the beginning of what I will call the Andover Taxpayers' Bill of Rights."

Bob Pokress

Please see **POKRESS**, Page 12

Math-loving kindergartners help college student's cause



ANGIE BEAULIEU/Staff photo

Bancroft kindergartner Aiden Lareau stacks tubes of toothpaste in his arms as he and his classmates packed boxes for Devin Geary, 18, a former Bancroft student who will be traveling to Nicaragua in March.

You can count on them

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

Bancroft Elementary School kindergarten students may be 5 and 6 years old, but, boy, do they take their math assignments seriously.

Just ask Devin Geary, a college student who wrote a letter to Debra Nichols, her former kindergarten teacher, asking for donations of personal care items for the poor in Nicaragua.

The children in Nichols' class stepped up and even tied the request into their math curriculum.

"We're learning about tallying and the class was so excited to tally up our donations — the toothpaste, creams, shampoo," Nichols said. "The kids just really got into this."

Geary, 18, attends Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pa. On March 7, she will join the "Bucknell Brigade," a group

that bypasses the typical college break to volunteer in Nicaragua at schools and at a health center it founded. Geary wrote letters to friends, family members and her former kindergarten teacher, asking for help to fill the shelves of the health center.

Items were neatly lined up last Tuesday, Jan. 6, as Nichols' class waited anxiously for Geary's visit. When Geary arrived to pick up the items, the class announced its grand total was 100 items.

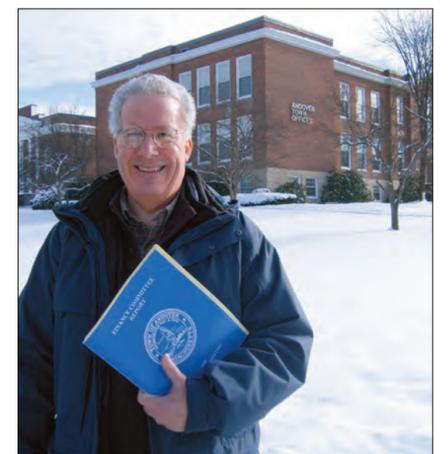
Proudly, the students counted to 100 by five correctly.

"They were just so excited. They really took over by keeping kids in mind. This is for the kids in Nicaragua," Geary said.

The kids even drew Geary a flight plan.

"They drew the plan from Boston to Nicaragua," she said. "But I had to tell them I was going from Pennsylvania to Miami to Nicaragua."

Please see **STUDENTS**, Page 12



BETHANY BRAY/Staff photo

Longtime resident Bob Pokress has written and submitted five warrant articles seeking to control spending or provide financial information.

Affordable housing for Ballardvale rejected by Zoning Board of Appeals

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

The developer of Taylor Cove, a 32-unit affordable housing division proposed for Ballardvale, will appeal to the state to let him build a plan denied by the Andover Zoning Board of Appeals Jan. 8.

The ZBA's decision stemmed

from a disagreement over using a 2.6-acre piece of the 12-acre project. In the 1980s, that parcel was approved by the ZBA for a single-family home, which was never built, as part of Charlotte Circle.

In December, the ZBA gave developer Todd Wacome the choice to redesign Taylor Cove without the 2 acres, known as

parcel A, or to have the entire project denied at the Jan. 8 meeting.

At the Jan. 8 meeting, Wacome's lawyer, Donald Borenstein told the board "we did not feel it was feasible to exclude Parcel A," and presented unchanged plans for Taylor Cove and the ZBA voted to fully deny Taylor Cove.

"I would like it made clear that

the decision was based solely on the legal argument on parcel A," said ZBA Member David Brown. "This does not reflect the merits on the design, which the board has not discussed."

Parcel A is currently undeveloped, and Wacome has the property under agreement to purchase, said Borenstein. They plan to appeal the ZBA's decision

with the state, Borenstein said.

"The ZBA is concerned that it would create a zoning or subdivision violation, and we simply don't believe it does," he said this week. "We were willing to look at variations of the project, and changes, but pretty skeptical that we can rework the project to not include parcel A and still be a good project that we can be

happy with."

In July, Wacome applied with the ZBA to build 32 three-bedroom townhouses on 12.09 acres at 86 River St., in the southern section of Andover. One-quarter of the units — eight condos — would be affordable by state standards.

Please see **HOUSING**, Page 2

INDEX

Arts & Entertainment	5
Business	15
Classified/Real Estate	16
Crossword	6
Editorial	11
Education	7
Letters	11
Obituaries	8
Police Log	4
Sports	9
Townspeople	13



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HOUSING: Proposal rejected

Continued from Page 1

Through the fall, many residents who live in the area opposed the project, listing a bevy of concerns: overcrowding at local schools, increased traffic, the destruction of the parcel's woods. Of Taylor Cove's 12 acres, 1.14 acres are wetlands and the area is close to the Shawsheen River.

Frances Wheeler, a Hillcrest Road resident whose front door looks out onto the Taylor Cove parcel, said Wacome has tried to incorporate Parcel A into two development proposals in the past. Including their rejection of Taylor Cove, the town has come to the same legal conclusion for all three of Wacome's proposals, she said.

CONTRACT: Superintendent receives raise, extension after 3-2 vote

Continued from Page 1

Bach will be given salary and longevity increases "in line with any other staff in the district," said Silberstein. Bach's raise will be split as a 1.5-percent increase for the first half and a 2 percent increase for the second half of fiscal year 2010. Bach's extended contract also gives her an additional 2.5 percent of her base salary as a longevity payment.

She'll be paid \$158,993 for the first half of the year and \$162,173 for the spring, said Silberstein. Minutes of meetings, both public and closed-door sessions, are public record and can be obtained through the superintendent's office. Andover's normal procedure is for the minutes not to be released until they are approved by the School Committee.

While the superintendent said the minutes from the Jan. 6 meeting would not be available until at least the Jan. 20 meeting, when they would be approved, when asked for the minutes Silberstein provided the Townsman with copies. The minutes from the Sept. 23 closed-door session were approved on Nov. 18, said Silberstein.

Neither minutes offer details of the discussion that took place. They note the topic of discussion and any action, such as roll call votes.

After the 3-2 vote was taken in September, Silberstein did not make a public announcement about the decision because salary and other details were yet to be worked out, she said, and Bach had not signed anything yet.

"Technically, the negotiations hadn't been completed," she said. "I didn't know until Jan. 6 that we had an agreement."

It took several months to iron out the details of the contract because the committee was

"I continue to feel honored to be working on behalf of the children of the community."

Superintendent Claudia Bach

focused on other contracts.

"It wasn't a priority of ours. We knew she was renewed. We knew she was going to stay," said Silberstein.

Public meeting laws allow the School Committee to discuss contracts and bargaining strategies behind closed doors. Although the public is not involved in closed-door session discussions, committee members always consider public opinion in every decision they make, Silberstein said.

Bach said she was "happy to accept" the one-year contract extension.

"It's something I felt good about ... I do continue to love my job, I truly do. I feel that this is a very special community, and I continue to feel honored to be working on behalf of the children of the community," she said.

"I think we are facing some very difficult economic times, and I think some members of the committee wanted that stability (of a veteran superintendent). I felt the responsibility to offer that stability, too, as we go through difficult times. The job always has those years that it's difficult, and it's important to have that kind of experience to help us move along."

Bach, 65, has said in past interviews that she wants to retire as a member of the Andover Public School system.

This week, Bach said, "I still haven't made up my mind" about when she will retire.

BACH AS SUPERINTENDENT: HOW AND WHY MEMBERS VOTED

DENNIS FORGUE: NO

"While Andover schools have benefitted from Dr. Bach's leadership over the past 11 years, there comes a time for change in all organizations. I believe that Andover would benefit from a new vision and leadership in the schools.



ON THE WEB
For the School Committee members' complete comments, see andovertownsman.com

"A majority of the school committee did not agree and have voted to extend Dr. Bach's contract for another year. I accept their decision and will focus on working with the superintendent, my fellow school committee members and the Andover community to address the difficult economic challenges we now face."

TONY JAMES: NO

"Our school district has advanced significantly during the time of Claudia Bach, and she deserves some recognition for that. My observation over many years in business, is that no matter how good the leadership has been, there comes a time, in order to move to the next level, an organization can move forward with new leadership, new energy, new ideas."

ART BARBER: YES

"Dr. Bach has been a stable leader over the last 11 years. Ninety-nine percent of our students go on to college, which is an enviable record. Our MCAS scores are in the upper quadrant. She did an exceptional job with the new hires (of seven new school principals last year), and an excellent job in reforming her leadership team.

"She's a dedicated leader that gives 125 percent at all times. Given the tough economic times in the commonwealth and the nation, I thought it would be challenging to change leaders in this time. ... There are between 40 and 50 superintendent jobs open (in Massachusetts) and I didn't want Andover to be one of those."

DICK COLLINS: YES

"I voted in favor because I was on the school board when she came in, I've been on the school board as long as she's been superintendent.

"She's an extremely hard worker and really cares about the kids in the schools. I support her very strongly."

DEBRA SILBERSTEIN: YES

"(She) led us through time of transition, with replacing veteran principals in the last two years.

"We're leading the state in energy savings, we have top MCAS scores and 99 percent of our students go on to college. In times of economic uncertainty it's more critical than ever that we maintain consistent and stable leadership.

"She's also provided a progressive vision for education in our community, and the entire community has benefited from that. If you look at what we've done with the engineering program (establishing it in each of Andover's three middle schools), that speaks volumes. That's just one example."

Andover Townsman

Established 1887

ISSN 1524-1432
USPS 025-440

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Published Thursdays by Andover Publishing Co.
33 Chestnut St., Box 1986, Andover, MA 01810
978-475-7000 Ad fax 978-475-5731; News fax 978-470-2819
E-mail townsman@andovertownsman.com
Web www.andovertownsman.com

Periodical postage paid at Andover, MA, and additional mailing office.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Andover Townsman,
33 Chestnut St., Andover, MA 01810
In-town subscription — One year, \$40; two years, \$68
Subscription outside Greater Lawrence — One year, \$45; two years, \$75
College subscription — One college year, \$30.

COPY DEADLINES
Advertising copy must be in the Townsman office by Monday at 5 p.m.
Camera-ready advertising copy is due by Tuesday at noon.
No cancellations honored after these deadlines.

Andover senator profiled in book

Andover's state Sen. Sue Tucker is profiled in a chapter of "Women at the Table: 40 Intimate Profiles of Political Women in the Northeast," by Michaeline Della

Ferea released this month. The author wanted to learn why women run for office and how they balance family life with the responsibilities of elected office.

"When we share our histories, especially how, when, and why we made our major life-decisions, we open each others' eyes to different possibilities and viewpoints," said Tucker, in a release.

Tax bills coming due

Residents have until Feb. 2 to file for a property-tax abatement.

The town of Andover has mailed the actual tax bills for fiscal year 2009, which started July 1, 2008. Third quarter payment is due Monday, Feb. 2, 2009. Taxes unpaid after that date are subject to interest charges of 14 percent.

Questions about property valuations and appeal procedures should be directed to the assessors' office at 978-623-8265. The assessors' office will be open Monday, Feb. 2, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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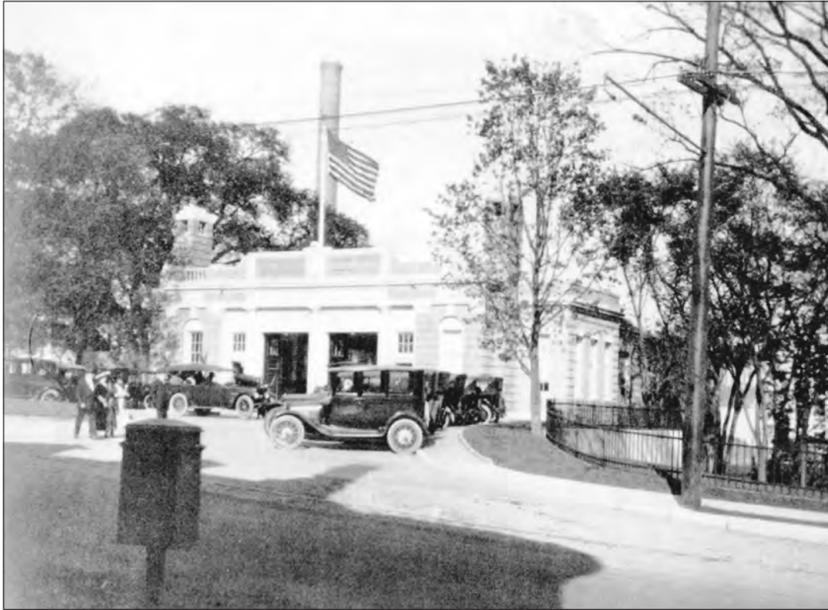
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In Brief

PAST & PRESENT



THEN: The garage of Shawshen Village. Shawshen houses were designed without garages. Central garages on North Main Street (pictured) and Haverhill Street housed all automobiles.



NOW: The garage is now the Woodworth Motors garage.

Democrats to hold caucus in Andover

Registered Democrats in Andover will be holding a caucus at Marland Place, 15 Stevens St. on Monday, Feb. 2, to elect 16 delegates and three alternates to the 2009 Massachusetts Democratic Convention. Delegates will be divided equally between men and women.

The Convention will be held Saturday, June 6, at the MassMutual Center in Springfield. At that time, Democrats

from across the state will gather to adopt a party platform.

The caucus is open to all registered Democrats in Andover who have been registered by Dec. 31, 2008. All ballots will be written and secret. Those not elected as Delegate and/or Alternate, who meet the qualifications, may apply to be add-on delegates in the following categories: youth, minority and disabled.

Discrimination on the basis

of race, sex, age, color, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation or economic status in the conduct of the caucus is strictly prohibited. Challenges to the delegate process can be filed with the Massachusetts Democratic Party, 56 Roland St., Suite 203, Boston, MA 02129 no later than 10 days after the caucus date.

For caucus information, contact Paul Stolberg at 978-470-2784 or stolbs@comcast.net.

Become a friend to elders

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley is offering to train volunteers to help the elderly in the community as part of the "Friends-in-Deed" program. Volunteers are trained as companions, food shoppers, and drivers to medical appointments and errands. Training for drivers is Wednesday, Jan. 28, or Wednesday, Feb. 4. Training for medical advocates who champion issues for elders in nursing homes is being offered Wednesday, Feb. 4. All trainings begin at 10 a.m. at the Elder Services offices, 360 Merrimack St., Building 5, Lawrence. Friends-in-Deed, which is a special program under the umbrella of Elder Services, strives to increase the socialization of older residents who are trying to retain their independence and remain in their own homes.

ESMV offers a mileage reimbursement along with orientation, training and support. Contact Gerry Proulx at 978-946-1445 for reservations.

QUOTE, UNQUOTE ...



I FIND I DON'T HAVE QUITE AS MUCH FIRE AS I used to. I just can't fool myself.
— Popular Andover High Principal Peter Anderson on his decision to resign and pursue other challenges.
Story in Education, Page 7.

IT'S SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE: WHAT'S POSSIBLE WITH GOD. We've come a long way, especially in regards to the new president-elect.

— Lance Bryant, Andover Baptist Church's minister of music on the congregation's Martin Luther King Jr. Day unity brunch, open to all Andover people Monday, Jan. 19.
Story in Townspeople, Page 13.

CUSTOMERS CAN GO TO LUNCH, HAVE their hair done and bank here now. What more could you want?

— Greater Lawrence Technical High School Superintendent Judy Ann DeLucia, on the Andover school opening a credit union branch with student workers.
Story in Business, Page 15.



NEWS IN BRIEF

Town managers breakfast tomorrow

The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee will present "The Annual Merrimack Valley Mayors and Town Managers Breakfast" tomorrow Friday, Jan. 16, from 7:30 to 9:15 a.m. at Andover Country Club, 60 Canterbury St., Andover. The cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members.

Invited guests include Andover Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski, Lawrence Mayor, Michael Sullivan, Methuen Mayor, William Manzi III, North Andover Town Manager, Mark H. Reese, Amesbury Mayor, Thatcher Kezer, Haverhill Mayor, James Fiorentini, Lowell Mayor, William F. Martin Jr., Newburyport Mayor, John Moak and Tewksbury Town Manager, David Cressman.

Call 978-686-0900 for more information.

Town census out

The annual town census for 2009 was mailed to Andover residents on Jan. 2.

The 2009 census form will indicate if a resident is a registered voter in the town and the party designation. Residents may not register to vote or change their party designation on their census forms.

The failing to return a census form, may affect one's active voting status, according to the town clerk.

The town asks people to complete and return their census form as soon as possible. Special census boxes are available throughout the town; locations are listed on the census form. Residents who do not receive a

census form by Jan. 21, should call the town clerk's office at 978-623-8255, or visit the town's Web site at www.andoverma.gov, to download a form.

Dyslexia Alliance of Merrimack Valley

Parents of dyslexic children or struggling readers, are invited to join the Dyslexia Alliance of Merrimack Valley for a meeting and "learn ways to help your multi-dimensional thinker both at home and at school. Come talk to other parents that understand your journey." The group's next meeting is Monday, Jan. 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Tewksbury Public Library, 300 Chandler St. Check out its blog at dyslexiaalliance.blogspot.com or e-mail jaynewmiller@verizon.net for more information.

NEWS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JAN. 15

Bancroft School Improvement Council, Bancroft Elementary School, 8 a.m.

Housing Authority, Frye Circle, 256 North Main St., 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 16

Andover Contributory Retirement Board, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 20

Andovers Village at Home (Council on Aging), Old Town Hall, 20

Main St., 9 a.m.

Conservation Commission, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

Patriotic Holiday Committee, Public Safety Center, Main Street, 7 p.m.

Watershed Advisory Committee, Water Treatment Plant conference room, 7 to 9 p.m.

Recycling Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

Disability Commission, Memorial Hall Library activity room, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, JAN. 26

Lowell Junction-Interchange Task Force, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., Plant and Facilities conference room, 6 p.m.

Board of Selectmen, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 27

Planning Board, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7:30 p.m.

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■ POLICE LOG

ARRESTS

Tuesday, Jan. 6 — At 12:14 p.m., Richard H. Innerasky, 59, of 17 Packard St., Hudson, was arrested and charged with operating under the influence of drugs.

At 1:38 p.m., Debra A. Leblanc, 54, of 8 Skyline Drive, Nashua, N.H., was arrested and charged with possession of class D substance (marijuana) and distribution of class D substance.

Thursday, Jan. 8 — At 1:47 p.m., Carl W. Koch, 58, of 56 Mount Hope St., Lowell, was arrested and charged with driving with a revoked license.

Friday, Jan. 9 — At 3:41 p.m., Donna Hartigan, 45, of 175 Center St., Saugus, was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended license.

Saturday, Jan. 10 — At 10:30 a.m., Mark A. Ruggles, 42, of 7 Ivanhoe St., Billerica, was arrested and charged with driving with a revoked license, subsequent offense.

At 2:49 p.m., Patrick D. Tucker, 40, of 12 Ellen Court, Manchester, N.H., was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended license and on several warrants.

At 6:50 p.m., six officers and detectives responded to a vehicle pulled over for erratic operation. Three males were arrested: At 7:29 p.m., Douglas S. Powers, 23, of 6 Quail Run,

was arrested and charged with resisting arrest, disorderly conduct and possession of a class A substance. At 7:48 p.m., Peter G. Stone, 27, of 100 Vest Way, North Andover, was arrested and charged with a marked lanes violation and possession of a class A substance. At 8:08 p.m., Richard J. Furness, 25, of 48 Brookfield Road, was arrested and charged with possession of class A and class B substances.

Sunday, Jan. 11 — At 1:12 a.m., a 911 call was received for a two-car crash on Central Street. At 2:04 a.m., Susan A. Aliberti, 54, of 8 Apache Avenue, was arrested and charged with a marked lanes violation, not having her license in possession, leaving the scene of property damage and operating under the influence of liquor, third offense.

THEFTS

Tuesday, Jan. 6 — At 1:35 p.m., a Dufton Road resident came into the police station to report identity fraud.

At 8:34 p.m., a Powder Mill Square resident spoke with an officer because a few items were missing from their home.

Friday, Jan. 9 — At 10:32 p.m., a Papa Gino's employee, North Main Street, called police because a group of youths stole a basket of cookies and ran out of the store, leaving in a small,

KNIFE CONFISCATED AT SCHOOL

Andover police were called Monday afternoon after Andover High School officials confiscated a knife from a 16-year-old student.

Lt. Commander James Hashem said schools are required to tell police any time a weapon is confiscated from a student. The school has taken administrative action against the student, the knife was taken by the police, and there are no criminal charges pending, Hashem said.

AHS Principal Peter Anderson said he does not comment about student discipline issues.

black four-door car.

Monday, Jan. 12 — At 12:23 p.m., a resident called police to have a report taken for her son, who is in the service, and had credit card fraud.

AUTO INCIDENTS

Throughout the week, especially the afternoon and evening of Wednesday, Jan. 7, and Sunday, Jan. 11, police received dozens of calls about icy roads, minor fender-benders (without injuries), cars going off the road and into snowbanks and requests for more sanding from locations all over town.

Tuesday, Jan. 6 — At 12:52 a.m., a Lakeside Circle resident called to report that someone had

broken into his work van.

At 3:27 p.m., a North Street resident reported that several items had been stolen from her vehicle while she was away on vacation.

Sunday, Jan. 11 — At 5:43 p.m., a Poor Street resident reported a breaking and entering to his truck the previous night.

INCIDENTS

Tuesday, Jan. 6 — At 6:03 p.m., a Wedgewood Drive resident called police because two males, who said they were from a certain church, came to her home but did not have any identification on them, and "became pushy."

Wednesday, Jan. 7 — At 7:34 a.m., an off-duty firefighter reported that a manhole on North Main Street "exploded" according to the log, and there was smoke coming out of it. Both police and fire responded.

At 3:28 p.m., a Park Street business owner reported receiving a bad check.

At 9:46 p.m., a resident called police about a 16-year-old relative who was suicidal. A responding ambulance took the person to the hospital.

Thursday, Jan. 8 — At 9:36 p.m., a domestic situation was reported, with a pregnant woman feeling threatened by her intoxicated husband.

Friday, Jan. 9 — At 1:40 p.m., an ambulance responded to a person who fell on ice on Main Street.

At 3:41 p.m., a mother called police because her 2-year-old was locked in a bathroom, but uninjured. She later called back to say she had talked the 2-year-old through unlocking the door, and the child was OK.

At 5:56 p.m., a pastor from an Andover church came into the police station to report a pan-handler that has been approaching church attendees for money.

At 7:51 p.m., a caller from Athol, Mass., requested Andover police go to Raytheon to reach his wife. At first, he stated there was an emergency, but the caller was slurring his words and later admitted to drinking heavily, said the cop log.

Monday, Jan. 12 — At 1:47 p.m., an assault was reported on River Road, and a detective responded to take photographs.

At 4:05 p.m., a Holt Road resident called police because they had a bird in their home.

AUTO ACCIDENTS

Wednesday, Jan. 7 — At 4:17 a.m., a Jenkins Road resident called police because a person was banging on their front door, after driving off the road nearby. A responding officer found a car off the road, in a stream, and a fire hydrant knocked over. The water department was notified, and the driver was cited for driving without a license and "speed too great for the condition (weather)."

At 11:55 a.m., a two-car crash was reported on Union Street. One female, complaining of leg and neck pain, was taken by ambulance and the two cars were towed.

At 11:22 p.m., a North Main Street resident reported she returned home to find her fence damaged by a hit-and-run crash.

Thursday, Jan. 8 — At 7:45 a.m., a 911 call was received from Railroad Street reporting a car crashed into a tree. The driver was cited with a marked lanes violation, leaving the scene of an accident and operating to endanger.

Friday, Jan. 9 — At 7:19 a.m., a caller reported a hit-and-run crash, where a vehicle was struck on Brown Street by a white Ford Explorer. The caller had damage to his vehicle's mirror and driver's side window.

Saturday, Jan. 10 — At 11:21 p.m., a 911 call from Reservation Road reported hearing loud bangs, possibly gunshots. A responding officer found a car had crashed into a tree. Two occupants of the car were taken to the hospital for injuries. The car was towed and the operator will be given a summons, said the log.

Monday, Jan. 12 — At 6 p.m., a resident came into the police station to report a past hit-and-run, that happened on Friday, Jan. 9 at the intersection of Routes 28 and 133.

At 8:15 p.m., a hit-and-run crash was reported on Federal Street.

— Compiled by Bethany Bray

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Arts & Entertainment

On the local jazz scene with Sandi Bedrosian

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

Don't feel like driving to Boston but feel like hearing some live jazz on a Friday night?

Serene Restaurant at 12 Main St. offers just what you need. Every Friday night from 7:30 to 10:30, local jazz singer Sandi Bedrosian is at the microphone, accompanied by John Hyde on keyboard. The duo, who are engaged to be married this spring, have performed every Friday night since Serene opened almost a year ago in the space that was formerly Vincenzo's.

Tables get pushed aside to make room for a small dance floor and word is quietly getting out: if you enjoy live jazz and

CHECK IT OUT

WHAT: Jazz Night with Sandi Bedrosian Ensemble. Rick and Alek Razdan, various woodwinds; Dave Vincent, percussion, drums; John Hyde, keyboards, accordion

WHEN: Saturday, Jan. 24; 7 p.m.

WHERE: St. Gregory Armenian Apostolic Church, Jaffarian Hall, 158 Main St., North Andover

\$25 advance; \$30 at the door

Reservations: 978-685-5038
Proceeds benefit the church renovation fund.

kicking up your heels, you can do it locally — and in the company of an accomplished singer.

Bedrosian's resume is extensive. In her early years, she

opened for country singer Barbara Mandrell and pop star Sheena Easton. She also appeared in musical productions of "Carousel" and "Die Fledermaus," she said.

But hitting it big was never really her goal, Bedrosian said. Rather, this small-town girl, who grew up in Methuen and now lives in Andover, most enjoys teaching musical styles to others.

She founded her voice studio on Main Street some 20 years ago, a few doors from the Andover Historical Society. Miss America contestants, aspiring rock musicians and opera singers have traipsed through her door over those years. Just last year, four of her students enrolled in New York University

for performing arts careers. Another student was chosen for a lead role in the Broadway show "Beauty and the Beast," she said.

That's what she says she enjoys the most in her life: that connection with others who also enjoy music, and seeing her students succeed.

"It really works for me," said Bedrosian, now 46. "I enjoy performing, but I also love to teach various music styles."

Like a hockey coach who still skates, she, too, stays active in her profession. She has balanced her voice studio business with performances over the years at dozens of venues, including the Ritz Carlton Hotel and the Spirit



Sandi Bedrosian and John Hyde perform at Serene in Andover Friday night, Jan. 9.

Please see JAZZ, Page 6



Making their own fun

Ben Jenkins, a skier, and Peter Nossiff, a snowboarder, both 15-year-old Andover residents, built a snow jump near Ben's house on Ruggiero Way on Jan. 4, at the end of their school vacations. They then used a bike and tether to provide speed for each other to perform ski and snowboard tricks, according to Gabrielle Nossiff, Peter's mom.

"It's just boys who were bored with vacation. Unfortunately, there wasn't that much snow, so they had to shovel from all around the jump," said Gabrielle Nossiff. "It was an ordeal that took hours."

Ben is on the Sugarloaf freestyle ski team, and Peter also plays hockey.

Woodwind concert blows into Graves Hall at PA

Solar Winds, a traditional woodwind quintet, will offer a free public concert at Phillips Academy on Friday, Jan. 16, at 7:30 p.m.

This concert, open to residents, will take place in the Timken Room at Graves Hall and is presented by the Phillips Academy Music Department. Solar Winds features Jill Dreeben, flute, Diane Heffner, clarinet, Charlyn Bethell, oboe, Dan Shaud, horn, and Neil Fairbairn, bassoon.

The five musicians who comprise the heart of Solar Winds are professionally trained instrumentalists and music educators. Their repertoire includes demanding compositions of the modern era as well as classics, arrangements and novelty pieces.

"Solar Winds brings music of the highest quality to schools and concert halls throughout the Boston area. This truly versatile ensemble can meet the demands of knowledgeable music-lovers (one) evening and charm a roomful of children the following afternoon," according to a release from Phillips Academy.

For more information, call the Academy at 978-749-4263 or send an e-mail to music@andover.edu.

Andover Choral Society to present Elijah

The Andover Choral Society will present this month what it considers to be "one of the greatest works in the choral repertoire," Felix Mendelssohn's "Elijah."

"Elijah" is based on the biblical account of the fiery prophet's exhortations from God to King Ahab of Israel.

The concert will be Sunday, Jan. 25 at 3 p.m. in the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College.

Music Director Allen Combs will conduct the Andover Choral Society along with a full professional orchestra and renowned soloists Patrice Tiedeman, soprano; Krista River, mezzo-

soprano; Rockland Osgood, tenor; and Glenn Billingsley, baritone.

For tickets and information call 978-688-6353, or visit www.andoverchoral.org.

About the composer

Felix Mendelssohn was a child prodigy, completing the familiar incidental music for "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at age 17. He was praised by Beethoven and compared by many to the young Mozart. He is credited with the latter-day revival of the choral music of Bach, whose influence may be clearly heard in Mendelssohn's oratorios.

As a young man he toured Britain and Europe and composed

several works based on his travels that won him enormous critical acclaim, especially in England where he was a favorite of Queen Victoria.

While director of the Birmingham Festival in 1846, Mendelssohn presented the first performance of his oratorio Elijah which was an immediate triumph. During his brief lifetime, Mendelssohn achieved a fame unmatched by any other contemporary composer. "Elijah" was to be his final triumph; his untimely death at 38 in 1847 draws a further parallel to the life and work of Mozart, according to a release from the Andover Choral Society.

EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JAN. 15

"ASSASSINS," by the Drama and Musical department at Masconomet Regional, 7:30 p.m., in the Henry F. Long Auditorium, located in the Middle School; tickets will be on sale in the box office before the shows. Tickets are \$10. The snow date is Saturday, Jan. 17.

"HOW A LENDER LOOKS AT YOUR LOAN REQUEST" WORKSHOP, free, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Learn from a banker and a consultant about credit quality, cash flow and collateral. This presentation will focus on preparing an existing business or startup venture for financing. Bob Vieira, management consultant and former banker, Salem State College, Salem, Mass., will be the speaker, www.enterprisect.org.

FRIDAY, JAN. 16

A CAPPELLA MUSIC, SwingTown! concert, a polished blend of favorites featuring everything from a cappella standards to oldies and rock, by the faculty and student group, including Joseph Thibodeau, Class of 2010 of Andover, 7 p.m., St. John Preparatory School, Kaneb Theatre, Alumni Hall, 72 Spring St., Danvers. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Proceeds from the concert will benefit St. Joseph's Food Pantry, Salem, Mass.

SOLAR WINDS, a woodwind quintet featuring Jill Dreeben, flute, Diane Heffner, clarinet, Charlyn Bethell, oboe, Dan Shaud, horn and Neil Fairbairn, bassoon, 7:30 p.m., the Phillips Academy Music Department, free and open to the public, Timken Room at Graves Hall; 978-749-4263 or www.music@andover.edu.

"ASSASSINS," by the Drama and Musical department at Masconomet Regional, 7:30 p.m., in the Henry F. Long Auditorium, located in the Middle School; tickets will be on sale in the box office before the shows. Tickets are \$10. The snow date is Saturday, Jan. 17.

SATURDAY, JAN. 17

RETURN TO LIGHT, a Winter Sacred Sound Healing Concert, experience centuries old indigenous sound instruments including Singing Bowls, Gongs, and more, 8 to 9:30 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 6 Locke St., Andover, \$25 for individual, \$40 for two people, \$15 for teens 11-16, FREE to children 10 and under; Contact: Circles of Wisdom, 978-474-8010.

GREATER BOSTON ANTIQUES FESTIVAL, over 160 antiques dealers from 10 states, the Shiner's Auditorium, Wilmington, \$8 per person (16 and under free), 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information www.NEAntiqueShows.com. Free parking.

SINGLE EXECUTIVES SINGLES DANCE, Holiday Inn Grand Ballroom, 4 Highwood Drive, Tewksbury, 8:30 p.m. to midnight. Free dance lessons from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., \$12; 978-640-9000, www.se-4u.com.

"WHOSE CLUES?," for ages 6 to 9, 1 to 2:30 p.m., at Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. How can you tell when an animal has been around? Can you discover the clues that they leave behind? Follow the animal tracks and become a wildlife detective in this fun, educational program. Program will include both indoor and outdoor activities so dress for the weather. Meet at the Refuge Visitor Center, 6 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport.

Please see CALENDAR, Page 6

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set the pattern tempo. Over-scale patterns effectively complement houses with strong architecture.

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HINT: A pattern palette that combines neutrals creates a sophisticated look, both classic and modern.

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JAZZ: Bedrosian concert benefits St. Gregory Armenian restoration fund

Continued from Page 5

of Boston cruises. These days, she performs in local concerts with a four-piece ensemble. The group's next concert is at St. Gregory Armenian Apostolic Church on Jan. 24 (see

box), while her weekly duet gig with Hyde at Serene continues. "That's my balance," she explained. "Students see me performing and that makes a difference to them."

Her student recitals — held every year in the third floor of

Memorial Hall Library — can make any singer nervous as the audience is just steps away. But her students know that Bedrosian is familiar with what it feels like to stand near her audience and how nerve-wracking it can be for any singer, let alone young singers.

In between teaching and performing, Bedrosian also does voice overs for Lowell radio station WCAP. She's the voice behind advertisements for River Bank, Nashoba Valley Ski Resort and Pentucket Medical Associates.

"I could do voice overs all day long. I really enjoy it," said Bedrosian who has done thousands of them since her first in 1998. She's working on a CD, aiming for a summer release. As if her life weren't full enough, she unplugs from the

performing and teaching part of her life through cooking. "That's my creative outlet," said this singing cook who likes to make Middle Eastern recipes including grape leaves and baklava and a chocolate chicken dish to die for, according to Hyde.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Continued from Page 5

LIVE FOLK MUSIC, with folk singer Tracy Grammer at the New Moon Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., \$15. Bob Martin opens the show. Tickets are available at the door starting at 6:30 p.m. Tickets may be reserved prior to the show by visiting www.newmooncoffeehouse.org, or by calling 978-459-5134.

SLEDDING AND PUBLIC SKATING, Fruitlands Museum, 102 Prospect Hill Road in Harvard celebrates winter fun with ice skating, sledding, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, bonfires, and tethered hot air balloon rides from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$5 per car plus a donation to Loaves & Fishes. Refreshments are available. Visit online at www.fruitlands.org, before your visit, for latest updates and weather cancellations. Events are also planned for Jan. 24, 25, 31, Feb. 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15. For more information, call 978-456-3924.

PUPPET SHOW, Rapunzel by the Puppet Company, Puppet Showplace Theatre, 32 Station St., Brookline, 1 and 3 p.m., \$10 per person, prepaid reservations recommended, 617-731-6400, www.puppetshowplace.org.

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH FILM FESTIVAL, four acclaimed films will be featured in this year's Human Rights Watch Film Festival at the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Mass., Attendances to the films are FREE with general museum admission.

SUNDAY, JAN. 18

GREATER BOSTON ANTIQUES FESTIVAL, over 160 antiques dealers from 10 states, the Shriner's Auditorium, Wilmington, \$8 per person (16 and under free), 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For

more information www.NEAntiqueShows.com. Free parking.

MONDAY, JAN. 19

UNITY BRUNCH, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Brunch, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Andover Baptist Church, 7 Central St., Andover, Keynote Speaker Beverly Morgan-Welch, Executive Director, Museum of Afro-American History; (978) 475-0166.

GREAT TO SKATE CLINIC, 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m., Phillips Academy Ice Rinks, 254 South Main St., Andover, \$8.00 per person (rental skates are available), for ages 3 and up, (helmet required for ages 10 and under); 978-684-7200 for more information.

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

BOOK SALE, sponsored by the Friends of Memorial Hall Library, preview night, 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$20 per person or free for Friends members.

FRIDAY, JAN. 23

JOB LOCK-IN, Are you looking for a new job? Do you need time to update your resume? Are you looking for business data to help in your interviews? Do you need help finding where to start? Get exclusive after-hours access to career planning resources, business databases, resume and interview books, and computers at Memorial Hall Library's first Job Lock-In, from 5:30 to 10 p.m., Reference librarians will be available to answer questions and to provide assistance. A light meal will be provided. \$10 fee required upon registration. To register, contact Emily Classon at 978-623-8401, ext. 49. Space is limited.

Crossword puzzle

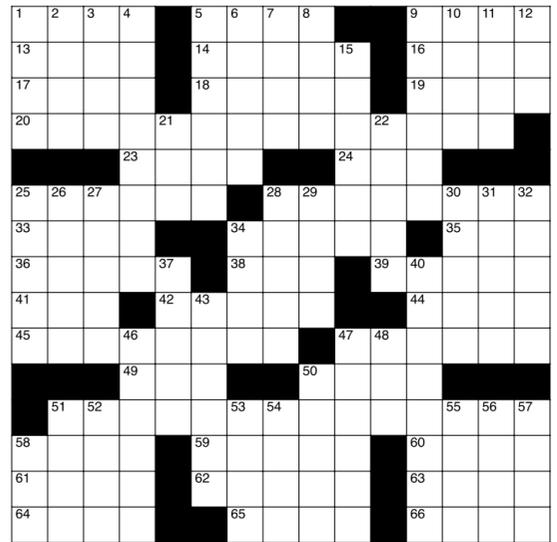
CLUES ACROSS

- Impertinence
- Not early
- Flour container
- Burn plant
- Possessing life
- European owl genus
- Enclosed shopping center
- More huffy
- Dealing box game
- Potter Professor Severus
- A long narrow opening
- Swiss river
- Popular herb seed
- Common trellis designs
- Quahog or Littleneck
- Gaming table covering
- Macaws
- Currant genus
- Universal standard time
- Chair back slat
- Rapid bustling movement
- Donkeys
- If not, then
- Rapid escapes
- Lowered in prestige
- Bird beak
- R_y - prayer beads
- Ag .925
- __eter -length
- Wear away
- Not less

- Jai __, sport
- More lucid
- Particle of an element
- 71465
- A county in SE England
- Crime fighter Eliot

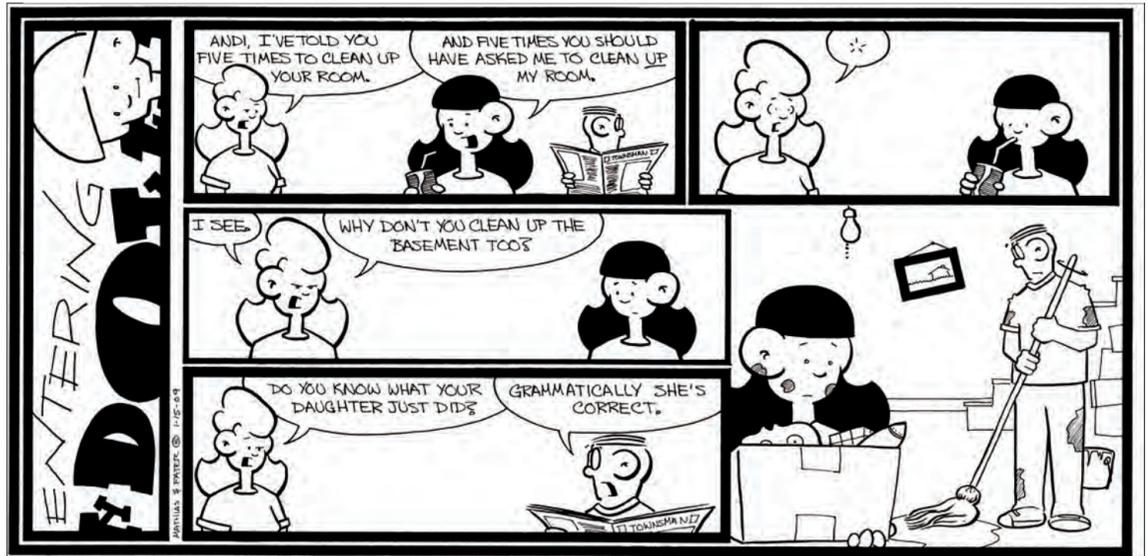
CLUES DOWN

- Tennis great Pete __ras
- Daminozide
- Activity performed alone
- Being the very one
- Famous collie
- Cather story "___ Lady"
- Beginner
- Of all time
- African hunting expedition
- As fast as can be done (abbr.)
- Designer Trudon
- __ky; bonkers
- Artificial and inferior
- Ornamental shade tree
- TV characters Archibald & Fisher
- Lean end of the neck
- Omit or slur over
- Wooden shoe
- Emits coherent radiation
- Small island (British)
- Doctor visits
- Delete recorded information
- Dulled by surfeit



- Very active
- Lumberjack
- Boy band manager Lou
- Dark brown fur pelts
- A deficiency of red blood cells
- State categorically
- __liff: court officer
- Utah town
- The bottom of a doorway
- Afrikaans
- Current war zone (alt. sp.)
- Not one
- Cast a ballot
- Son of Aphrodite
- Dream states
- Taoism

ENTERING ANDOVER by Don Mathias



Solution

S	S	E	N		L	N	E	K		V	T	L	O	
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Education

BOOK REVIEW

'BRISINGR' BY CHRISTOPHER PAOLINI

Series' third book is the perfect charm

By HARRY WOOD
WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

Since the first book of the Inheritance Series, "Eragon," came out five years ago, I've been a devoted fan of Christopher Paolini and his writing. The third book in the series, "Brisinger," is possibly my favorite of the three.

The series tells the story of Eragon, a young farm boy who, while hunting in the mountains, discovers a curious stone. It turns out the stone is actually a dragon egg, and Eragon learns to care for the newly hatched dragon. Unfortunately for Eragon, the news soon reaches people who are not happy to hear of a new dragon, and he is thrown into a situation akin to suddenly becoming No. 1 on the FBI's most wanted list.

Eragon must learn to work with his dragon as a partner to fight against the many evils that he faces, from hostile creatures called urgals to a nasty sorcerer known as a shade. On his journeys he visits such places as Farthen Dûr, the home of the dwarves, and Du Weldenvarden, the elves' home. All the while, he trains with his dragon in the art of magic and in swordplay, preparing for his confrontation with Galbatorix, the evil ruler of the land.

In the third book of the series, Eragon's hectic life has finally settled down a bit, and now he has time to repay old debts and settle old rivalries. He fights with an old enemy and goes back to the land of the elves to learn more about how to fight Galbatorix. His friends are also busy, trying to defend against the forces of Galbatorix's army. Eragon returns from his training to find a battle being fought, and must use his new training to save the day. Then, Eragon sets off to prepare for what could be

his final confrontation.

Paolini wrote the first two books in the series before he was 25, and the third one shows that his immense talent is still growing. I might have grown some biceps from hauling around this book, because after I started it I couldn't put it down. Paolini expertly tells the stories of all the different characters simultaneously, flipping effortlessly from Eragon's story, to his brother's story, to an army captain's, and back again. Normally this kind of flip-flopping would confuse the reader, but Paolini manages to keep the reader in the know.

Not only is the story paced well, it is also intriguing and exciting. I found I had to repeatedly stop myself from skipping ahead to find what twist Paolini had placed around the corner. The battles were so vivid and exciting that I could picture myself standing on the battlefield, the action unfolding around me. Yet Paolini also effectively dialed the action back in some places, creating an introspective mood as Eragon questions himself and his purpose.

All in all, "Brisinger" is a marvel. My only complaint would be that we have to stand another excruciatingly long period for the next book to come out. This book is suitable for children 12 and older, because of some violence and a complicated plot that might put it over the reading level of some younger kids.

Don't expect me to do this again any time soon... but I am giving "Brisinger" a perfect 10/10. There was absolutely nothing that disappointed me. If you are interested, start with Eragon, and work your way through the series.

Harry Wood is an Andover resident and high school student.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

Andover public schools, Jan. 19-23:

Elementary schools

Monday: NO SCHOOL — Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday: Cheese or veggie whole wheat pizza, chicken pot pie, mashed potatoes, manager's choice, veggie sticks and dip, broccoli salad, kiwi and juice.

Wednesday: American chop suey, garlic bread, beef vegetable soup, toasted ham and cheese, manager's choice salad, green beans, cinnamon applesauce, spice cake and fresh fruit.

Thursday: French toast, strawberries and cream with yogurt, vegetable quesadilla, vegetable soup, manager's choice, red bliss potatoes, fresh fruit and juice.

Friday: Cheese or sausage pan pizza, manager's choice salad, Mexican corn and applesauce cake.

Middle schools

Monday: NO SCHOOL — Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday: Cheese or pepperoni pan pizza, chicken nuggets, manager's choice, rice pilaf, seasoned veggies, mixed fruit cup and dinner roll.

Wednesday: Cheese ravioli with sauce, garlic bread, egg-and-cheese burrito, hash browns, manager's sandwich choice, steamed broccoli, strawberry shortcake and juice.

Thursday: Cheese or veggie pan pizza, steak-and-cheese sub with sun chips, manager's choice, macaroni salad, Waldorf salad, mixed fruit cup and fresh fruit.

Friday: Calzone, cheese-burger bar, manager's choice, soup, roasted red bliss potatoes, fresh fruit and juice.

Andover High School

Monday: NO SCHOOL — Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday: Twin taco bar, Mexican rice, black bean salad, Mexican corn and chilled fruit.

Wednesday: Pasta bar, chicken Parmesan, bread stick, caesar salad and fruit.

Thursday: Double cheese-burger with bacon, french fries and juice.

Friday: Popcorn chicken, whipped potatoes, peas, dinner roll and Jell-O with topping.

Also available a la carte daily at the elementary and middle schools: bottled water and 100 percent juice; low-fat ice cream and yogurt; bagel with light cream cheese; yogurt; fresh fruit of the season, and milk.

At Andover High School there is a wrap/deli bar with sandwiches made to order with favorite toppings, plus a daily sandwich offering, daily specials and panini specials.

For prices or other information about lunches, call Gail Koutroubas, food services director, at 978-623-8622.

"He's taught us to be stronger individuals. The first thing he says to us as freshmen is 'Don't be afraid to fail.'"

Senior Andrea Leahy



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover High School Principal Peter Anderson announced he will be leaving at the end of this school year. He is standing outside his office in the hall of banners.

Anderson: 'I just can't fool myself'

Andover High principal talks about resigning

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Andover High School Principal Peter Anderson is moving on after this year because he doesn't have the same fire in his belly anymore, he said.

"There comes a time in everybody's life in a job, and they ask 'Am I still the right person for the job?'" and I said 'No, I'm not.' I don't ever want to be at the point in my life that I stayed too long. I don't want to wake up and say should have, could have, would have," said Anderson.

Anderson, 62, is intentionally not using the term "retire," he said, but is resigning as AHS principal.

Last week, he notified Superintendent Claudia Bach and the high school community of his intention to leave at the end of this school year. The news was printed in last week's Townsman, but Anderson could not be reached for comment before deadline.

Anderson is not sure what he'll do next year, but it may include working at another school.

"Years ago, I set myself five goals. I've made four of them, and the one left to go is to work at a city school," said Anderson. "I think I've run my course (at AHS). At some point you have to come to a realization it's a tremendous demand on your time, nights and weekends. You're a public figure in the community, a voice for a great many groups, students, faculty and sometimes parents."

"Take all of that, and I find, I don't have quite as much fire as I used to. I just can't fool myself."

The search process for a new AHS principal has already begun. Superintendent Claudia Bach, Candace Hall, director of Human Resources and the AHS PAC hosted a meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 13 to brief parents on

Q&A WITH ANDERSON

How are you feeling, having announced your decision to leave?

"Any feelings of sadness I have are around people. I've had a tremendous group of parents in the nine years I've worked here, and a great faculty. I have the best job in the world to come into a building with 1,800 young people who are resilient and smiling and happy."

Am I going to miss that kind of energy on a daily basis? Yes."

What are you most proud of from your time at AHS?

"Last year's graduating class, 99 percent went on to continue their education. I don't think you can find 150 public high schools in America that could make that statement."

Anything special planned for his final graduation ceremonies in June, a trademark of his?

"I can't reveal that," he said, laughing.

the search process and ask for their involvement. Bach has also said she'd like to include students' input as they select the school's next leader.

But educators and students alike talk about how difficult it will be to replace Anderson.

"It's a bummer for everyone that won't have the opportunity to learn from him, and get to know him," said senior Andrea Leahy. "He's taught us to be stronger individuals... The first thing he says to us as freshmen is 'Don't be afraid to fail.' He says to measure life not by failures and victories, but things you're able to take away from it and learn."

Leahy took Anderson's message to heart, she said, and signed up for classes at AHS that challenged her.

Anderson came to Andover High in 2000, as the school's fourth principal in four years. He worked in Andover from 1968 to 1982, as an English and

math teacher, then department chairman and later systemwide program adviser for English and language arts.

After leaving the district, Anderson said he never intended to return. But "it just happened" after he called some former colleagues to catch up.

"The first three people I called, they said 'You have to come back, we can't keep a principal at AHS,'" said Anderson.

As he finishes his last semester at Andover High School, Anderson said he won't make any changes.

"I still have to go on and make decisions. I expect this will be a tough winter and spring because of budget issues. I still intend to go to all the meetings and athletic events," said Anderson.

Teachers, students react

Laura Hajdukiewicz, an AHS science teacher, said Anderson will be sorely missed.

"Peter has always given the faculty such a level of respect that is not always common among administrators. He trusts our decisions and stands by us, and he will be sorely missed by all of us," said Hajdukiewicz, who teaches zoology and anatomy and physiology. "Whenever I had a student who couldn't afford to pay for a field trip, he would somehow find the money even if he paid for it himself. He always wanted to get to know students personally, and he expected all of his staff to do so as well. He always had the kids' best interests in mind — and he never seemed to care about the politics behind his position. He was never afraid of changing things up — even if his decisions were unpopular."

AHS senior Cam Smith agreed that Anderson's style of leadership is different, and he leads by example.

"He has a personal relationship with a lot of the kids at the school, which is different than many principals," said Smith. "He talks about being a leader, and you see him do what he talks about. He cares about us, and takes it (being a principal) one step further."

Anderson always puts effort into making AHS graduations interesting — even riding into the ceremony on a bicycle one year. Smith said he and his classmates are wondering what Anderson has up his sleeve for this year's commencement, as a last hurrah.

"Before you get to know him he's kind of intimidating, but once you get to know him, he's not scary," said Leahy of Anderson's sometimes gruff exterior. "He's just a really approachable guy. He always gives you the benefit of the doubt and listens to the other side of the story."

Leahy has taken several of the classes Anderson teaches at AHS, and worked with him on the school's improvement council.

"Everyone in the school respects him. He's definitely an influential figure in the school and in the town," said Leahy. "He really does fight for what he believes in."

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Obituaries

Doris A. Cook, 79

ANDOVER — Doris A. Cook, 79, formerly Doris Agnes O'Shaughnessy of Red Hook, Brooklyn, N.Y., daughter of the late John and Ann O'Shaughnessy, beloved wife of the late Robert M. Cook, died after a long illness on Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2009, at Cambridge Hospital surrounded by her family.

Doris was born in Red Hook, Brooklyn, and raised mostly by relatives, after the sudden passing of her mother and father at a very early age. She went on to become a successful business woman, founding the Red Rooster, a well-known women's retail clothing store in Branford, Conn., and later on co-founded the Shoreline Racquet Club, a tennis club in North Branford, Conn.

A longtime resident of Branford, prior to moving to Andover three

years ago, she enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, a good laugh, going out to dinner, and loved her dog Daisy. She was a loving and caring mother and grandmother who will be missed by her family and many friends.

Her family members include her son Bob C. and wife Terry of Andover, Kimberly Cook of Swampscott; her grandchildren, Sam and Kyle Cook of Andover, and her brother Jack O'Shaughnessy and his wife Anna of Massapequa N.Y., and their four children, Debbie, Mary Ellen, Kathy, and John.

ARRANGEMENTS: Donations for the memory of Doris may be made to Orchard House Adult Daycare, 421 Shore Drive, Branford, CT 06405-6228-attention: Tom Romano. Funeral arrangements are being handled by the Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover.

Mary R. Silke Meagher, 72

ANDOVER — Mary Rita Silke Meagher, 72, of Andover, died on Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2008 in her home.

Mary was born in Lawrence on Aug. 6, 1936 to John and Veronica Silke.

She was educated in the Lawrence public schools and earned a Bachelor's degree from Massachusetts College of Art. Mary worked for a brief time as an art teacher in Andover public schools. Although her time in the classroom was short, she never lost her love of art or children. Some of her happiest days were spent doing

craft projects with her two grandchildren, Meghan and Matthew of Amesbury. She is survived by her son Ed Meagher; his wife Jen and their two children, as well as her devoted sister Roberta Serretti of Auburn, N.H., her nieces Lauren, Lisa and Robyn and her nephew Frank.

ARRANGEMENTS: Relatives and friends attended her funeral Mass on Monday, Jan. 12, at 10 a.m. at St. Augustine's Church, Andover. Visitation with the family was on Monday at the church. To sign the family guest book, visit www.contefuneralhomes.com.

Fr. George R. Morgan, 69



ANDOVER — George Robert Morgan, OSA, was born on Aug. 19, 1939, in Cambridge, the son of the late, George W. and Mary G. (Noonan) Morgan.

He was baptized on Sept. 7, 1939 at St. Raphael Catholic Church, in West Medford. He attended St. Mary School, Winchester (1945-1953), Matignon High School, Cambridge (1953-1957), and Merrimack College, North Andover, where he obtained a B.S. degree. He was received into the Order as a novice on Sept. 9, 1961, and after a year as Good Counsel Novitiate, New Hamburg, N.Y., he professed first vows on Sept. 10, 1962. He then spent a year at Villanova University, completing his course work in Philosophy, (1962-1963). He then went to Augustinian College, Washington (1963-1967), for his theological studies, obtaining a M.A. degree. He professed solemn vows on Sept. 10, 1965. He was ordained to the priesthood on Nov. 19, 1966, at Chapel of Christ the Teacher, Merrimack College, by Richard Cardinal Cushing, Archbishop of Boston.

Fr. George was first assigned to Austin Preparatory School, Reading, where he taught from 1967 to 1969 and from 1970 to 1976. From 1969 to 1970 he was assigned to Saint Joseph Friary and Msgr. Bonner High School, Drexel Hill, Pa., where he taught. He then was assigned to retreat ministry at Mount Augustine Retreat House, Staten Island, N.Y., (1976-1977). He then served as associate pastor at Saint Augustine Parish, Tower Hill, Lawrence (1977-1978). From 1978 to 1981, he was assigned to Our Mother of Good Counsel Monastery and Merrimack College, North Andover, where he taught. In 1981 he spent a sabbatical year at Mundelein College, Ill. From 1982 to 1986 he was assigned to the Casa San Lorenzo, Miami, and taught at Biscayne College. In 1986 he was assigned to Saint Augustine Parish, Andover, where he served in the parish as associate pastor, (1987-1995). In 1994 he was appointed as chaplain for the Lawrence General Hospital, (1994-1996), and also served as chaplain to Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. From 1995 to 1996 he served at Saint Augustine Parish, Lawrence. In 1996 he returned to Saint Augustine Parish, Andover,

and began to work for Merrimack College in Alumni Relations, (1996-2008).

When he was Director of Campus Ministry at Merrimack College, he expanded the liturgical life of the campus and he provided pastoral care and counseling for many students, faculty and staff. As Director of Alumni, he brought the Augustinian mission of care and compassion for every person to the office and its programs. For thousands of Merrimack College's alumni, Fr. George was an embodiment of the college's Catholic identity and Augustinian heritage. He has worked over the years with many faculty members to bring Catholic social teaching and moral theology into the curriculum and classroom. He was also an important part of the college's musical heritage, from his long involvement with the Alumni Chorale, founded many years ago by his Augustinian brother, Thomas Walsh, OSA, to his central role in the 1989 pilgrimage of the College Chorale to Rome and an audience with Pope John Paul II, to his constant support of good liturgical music at many college celebrations.

After a long and difficult illness, George passed over to the Lord on Jan. 5, 2009, at Holy Family Hospital, Methuen. He was 69-years-old.

Fr. Morgan will very sorely missed by his loving siblings; Maryann and her husband, Walter Roger of Thibodeaux, La., William and his wife, Maureen Morgan of Kennebunk, Maine, Gerard E. Morgan of Burlington, Ruth H. and her husband Bill Curtis of Danvers, Kathleen and her husband, Harry Molloy of Bow, N.H. and Constance Morgan of Hudson. Fr. Morgan is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and his Augustinian family. He was predeceased by his loving niece, Christine Roger.

ARRANGEMENTS: His funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Augustine Church, 43 Essex St., Andover, Saturday, Jan. 10, 2009. Father Morgan lay in state in St. Augustine Church, Andover, Friday, Jan. 9, 2009. Interment will be in St. Mary Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Lawrence. Arrangements were entrusted to the Burke-Maglioizzi Funeral Home, Andover. In lieu of flowers donations in Fr. Morgan's memory may be made to Merrimack College A-8, Fr. George Morgan '61, O.S.A. Scholarship, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover, MA 01845. For additional information, please visit www.burkemaglioizzi.com.

James S. O'Brien, 82



SALISBURY — James Scott O'Brien, 82, of Salisbury, passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2009 at his home after a short illness.

Born in Lawrence on Sept. 11, 1926, he was the son of the late Richard and Beatrice O'Brien of Ballardvale. He was the husband of the late Jayne (Goodwin) O'Brien. They were previous residents of North Andover and Vero Beach, Fla. He was also the brother of the late Joan (O'Brien) Yancey of Norwood.

He was a United States Navy World War II veteran. A graduate of Pynchard High School, Andover, Class of 1944, and a graduate of Merrimack College, Class of 1952. He was employed by Coca-Cola in Atlanta and retired after 30 years with General Motors Corporation.

Jim served as an officer and committee member of the Lawrence Ski Club, Merrimack College Alumni, Knights of Columbus 3rd Degree in Andover and 4th Degree in Lawrence, American Legion in Andover and VFW in Amesbury, Salisbury Beach Betterment Assn, and the Vero Beach Elks. He enjoyed tennis, skiing and golf. He was a parishioner of the Star of the Sea Chapel in Salisbury Beach and

of Holy Cross Church in Vero Beach. He was also a licensed real estate broker and a Notary Public.

He is survived by his brother-in-law Robert Yancey of Norwood, and his sister-in-law Marilyn Goodwin of Gilford, N.H. along with nephews Robert Yancey Jr. of Shoreline, Wash., Scott Yancey of Eagle River, Alaska, Mark Yancey and his wife Sarah of Sandpoint, Idaho, Paul and Mark Goodwin of Gilford, N.H. and Jill Goodwin Hegner and her husband Ken Hegner of Kissimmee, Fla. Also surviving are four grandnieces and grandnephews, Coby and Riley Goodwin of Gilford, N.H. and Grace and Alden Yancey of Sandpoint, Idaho, as well as several cousins.

ARRANGEMENTS: His funeral Mass will be celebrated Friday, Jan. 16, 2009 at 11 a.m. in Saint Joseph's Church, 22 High Vale Lane, Andover (Ballardvale). Burial will follow at Puritan Lawn Memorial Park Cemetery in Peabody. Family and friends may call on Thursday, Jan. 15, from 2 to 5 p.m. at John Breen Memorial Funeral Home Inc., 35 Merrimack St., North Andover. For online condolences and other information, go to www.breenfuneralhome.com. Memorial contributions may be made to the James S. '52 and Jayne O'Brien Endowed Scholarship Fund, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover, MA 01845.

Walter C. Wilson Jr.



NORTH ANDOVER — Walter C. Wilson Jr., of North Andover, died Thursday, Jan. 1, 2009 at Edgewood Assisted Living after a short illness.

Born in Lawrence and a lifelong resident of Andover, for 78 years Walter C. Wilson, Jr., aka Bud, enjoyed being unusually active in a great number of community affairs throughout his life helping others. Bud, as he was known to all his friends, graduated from Pynchard High School in 1946 and from Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburg, Pa. in 1940 where he met his wife of 59 years, Barbara Donley.

During the early 40s, Bud worked for B.F. Sturtevant Co. (was part of Westinghouse) as a sales engineer and then served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After the war, Bud came back to the Lawrence area to work with his father, uncle, and cousin in the family business, the Andrew Wilson Company. The business prospered and was one of Lawrence's highly respected smaller businesses until 1983.

Bud was always active in and gave countless time to the community affairs. His first interest was the Y.M.C.A. as a member and past President of the Y's Men's Club. He was the President of the Lawrence Y.M.C.A. from 1957 to 1959 and was Chairman of its

Board of Trustees. His interest in the "Y" continued throughout his life.

In 1961, Bud was Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Town of Andover and from 1971-1972, he was the first President of the Merrimack Valley United Fund. During this time Bud established a foundation which has enabled the Fund to continually grow and serve the community. Bud continued to serve the community in many various roles such as Director of the Lawrence General Hospital, West Parish Church, Andover Y.M.C.A., and the United Fund.

In the business community, he served as a Director of the Lawrence Co-operative Bank, and Director and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Bay State National Bank. He is past Chairman of the Shelving Manufacturing Association and was also an Honorary Trustee of Lawrence General Hospital and Multiple Sclerosis Society, and President of the Merrimack Valley Visiting Nurses Association.

Bud belonged to, or has been Director of, several organizations including Phoenician Lodge AF&AM, Lawrence Boys Club, National Council of YMCAs, Bon Secours Hospital Guild, and the Massachusetts Chapter of The Multiple Sclerosis Association. Bud was also honored by the Ralph B. Wilkinson Award for his outstanding citizenship in 1982.

He was the beloved husband of Barbara Donley for 59 years and Elizabeth Yeaton for 4 years. He is survived by his only daughter, Joanne W. Vietor of Methuen, 3 grandchildren Barbara Spzak and her husband, Michael of Danville, NH, Kathryn Doty and her husband, Thomas, of Haverhill and Susan Cadaver and her husband, Edward of Haverhill and six grandchildren.

ARRANGEMENTS: A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 24, at 1 p.m. at the West Parish Church, 129 Reservation Road, Andover. Reception to follow service at Edgewood, 575 Osgood St., North Andover, MA 01845. At the request of his daughter, in lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to: Edgewood Assisted Living CIU Unit Building Fund, 575 Osgood St., North Andover, MA 01845, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Central New England Chapter, 101 First Ave., Suite 6, Waltham, MA 02451, the Merrimack Valley Hospice, 360 Merrimack St., Lawrence, MA 01840, and/or a charity of your choice. Arrangements are in the care of the McDonald Funeral Home, Wakefield.

Norma A. Pettigrew, 76

ANDOVER — Norma Ann Pettigrew, 76, of Andover died Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2009 at the Lawrence General Hospital.

Born in Saugus she was the daughter of the late Dennis and Ann Elizabeth (Peard) Pettigrew. Norma graduated from Pynchard High School in 1950 and from Fitchburg State College.

For many years, Norma worked at Raytheon as an Inspector and was a Union Steward. She also volunteered as an Activity Leader for the North Reading Senior Center, was an avid camper and loved to travel throughout the United States and Europe.

Norma is survived by her loving sisters, Claire McClory and her husband Robert and Denise Giles and her husband Norman all of Andover. She is also survived by her nieces and nephews, Wayne, Jeffrey, Scott and Steven McClory and Stacey, Ericka and Derrin Giles, as well as several grandnieces and grandnephews.

ARRANGEMENTS: A funeral service will be held on Monday 10 a.m. at the Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover. Burial will follow in Spring Grove Cemetery, Andover. Family and friends may call on Sunday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Albert A. Talarico, 90

ANDOVER — Albert A. Talarico, 90, a resident of Andover for over 45 years, passed away on Thursday evening, Jan. 8, 2009 at the Lahey Clinic in Burlington.

He was the beloved husband of Charlotte (Dargie) Talarico, with whom he celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on Sept. 28, 2008.

Born in New York on April 15, 1918, he was the son of the late Federico Talarico and the late Marie F. (Tallarico) Talarico.

Mr. Talarico was raised in New York and graduated from Stauben Muller High School. Following graduation he attended the Philadelphia Textile Institute.

Prior to his retirement in 1983, he was employed as a textile stylist by Thomas Taylor & Sons Textile Company of Hudson, Mass. Mr. Talarico previously worked for the Malden Mills, J.P. Stevens and Daniel Fuller Fabrics Companies. He was a communicant of Saint Robert Bellarmine Parish of West Andover, where he was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council # 10877.

Mr. Talarico enjoyed playing cards, gardening and golfing.

In addition to his beloved wife, he is survived by one daughter, Patricia A. Ednie and her husband Raymond of East Stroudsburg, Pa.; one grandson, Sean A. Ednie of East Stroudsburg, Pa.; two brothers-in-law, Philip Dargie and his wife Jean of Merrimack, N.H. and Paul Dargie and his wife Ruth of Cumberland, R.I.; also several nieces and nephews. Mr. Talarico was the brother of the late Vincenzo Galante and Edward Talarico.

ARRANGEMENTS: There are no calling hours. Relatives and friends were invited to his funeral Mass celebrated on Monday, Jan. 12, at 11 a.m., at St. Robert Bellarmine Church, 198 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover. Interment will be held at a later date at St. Mary Cemetery, Tewksbury. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Robert Bellarmine Church, 198 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover, MA 01810, the Alzheimer's Association, 311 Arsenal St., Watertown, MA 02472 or to Knights of Columbus Council 10877, 198 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover, MA 01810. Arrangements entrusted to Farmer & Dee Funeral Home, Tewksbury. www.farmeranddee.com.

Mildred E. Dimlich, 96

POCASSET — Mildred E. (Schruender) Dimlich, 96, of Pocasset, formerly of Andover, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 1, 2009 at her home.

She was born in North Andover, and was educated in the local schools. Mrs. Dimlich was a graduate of Johnson High School, Possenissen College in Boston, and Salem State College where she received her B.S. Degree. She taught physical education at the North Andover High School, then became a guidance counselor at Atkinson Middle School in North Andover. She was a member of the St. John's Women's Guild, Pocasset Golf Club, Nautical Twirlers on the Cape, the Aptuxet Garden Club and the Massachusetts Retired Teachers Association.

She was the wife of the late Mr. Benjamin F. Dimlich who passed

away in 2005. Family members include children, Judith M. Dimlich of Reading, Mr. David J. Dimlich of Falls Church, Va., Mrs. Susan D. Bachrach and her husband Peter of Washington, Mrs. Murphy D. Hearl of W. Roxbury; as well as five grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

ARRANGEMENTS: Her funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, Jan. 9, 2009 at 10 a.m. in Saint John the Evangelist Church, 841 Shore Road, Pocasset. Burial will follow at the Spring Grove Cemetery in Andover. Arrangements are under the direction of the John Breen Memorial Funeral Home, Inc., 122 Amesbury St., Lawrence. For online condolences and other information please go to www.breenfuneralhome.com. Memorial Contributions may be made to the Caritas Holy Family Hospital Auxiliary, 70 East St., Methuen.

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Sports

THROUGH THE YEARS

10 YEARS AGO

In her varsity debut, **Becky Haas** tied the school record in the floor exercise with a 9.35, matching the mark set four years prior by **Tara Cullen**, as Andover bested Chelmsford. Haas led the Golden Warriors in the all-around with an 33.90, with teammate **Laurie Willey** finishing third (33.45).

Janice Coppolino scored a team-best 11 points, grabbed seven rebounds and blocked four shots as Andover crushed Bishop Fenwick 61-26. **Lisa Tisbert** and **Lindsey Pearson** each had eight points for the Golden Warriors, who just days earlier fell to Methuen, 67-51, in the finals of the Greater Lawrence Christmas Tourney.

Tim Sheehy made a steal and broke down ice before sliding a pass across the net to twin brother **Mike Sheehy**, who fired it into the goal with 1:17 left in the game to give Andover its first win of the season, 2-1, over Lincoln-Sudbury for the first victory at their current home, the Valley Forum. **Dave Morin** scored the other goal, and **Mike Johnson** made 20 saves.

Matt Spitzer won the 600, **Long Dang** took the 50 hurdles, **Sean Higgins** took the 1,000 and they teamed with **Chad Mongeau** to win the 4x400 hurdles as Andover indoor track bested Lawrence 53-33. On the girls side, **Pam Muller** took the 2-mile, **Liz Connors** won the long jump and **Kristen Munson** won the 1,000 for the Warriors, who beat the Lancers 71-15.

20 YEARS AGO

Lee Dziadosz scored a team-high 18 points to lead Andover to a 43-39 victory over Methuen in the championship game of the Greater Lawrence Christmas Tournament. The 5-foot-8 senior combined for 32 points in the title game and semifinal win over North Andover to earn MVP honors for the tourney.

Kara Slavin scored 13 points and grabbed 10 rebounds against the Rangers, and was named to the All-Tourney team along with teammate **Jodi Jangro**, who chipped in seven and great defense in the win.

Matt Pothier scored two goals to lead Andover to the 7-2 drubbing of North Andover that gave **Mike Murnane** his first win as Golden Warriors head coach. Andover netted five goals in just 3:10, with **D.J. Cammarata**, **Pothier**, **Sean Darwin**, **Chris McAnally** and **Jack Daulton** each contributing a score.

Behind 14 points from **Todd Muserait**, Andover downed Salem (N.H.) 74-41 to earn a third-place finish at the Greater Lawrence Christmas Tourney. Muserait, a 6-foot-4 center, scored 44 points in the three tourney games, and **John Thompson** had 17 points in the title game. Point guard **Matt Perry** also stood out.

35 YEARS AGO

Future Brown football great **Mark Farnham**, the father of current Brown star receiver **Buddy Farnham**, scored a power play goal midway through the third period to give Andover a 3-2 victory over arch rival Central Catholic. It was the third goal of the season for Farnham, and came off an assist from **Sparky Farnham**. **Kurt Anderson** and **Steve Hillman** each added a goal.

Chuck Redman scored one goal and assisted on another as Andover Bantam hockey beat North Andover 4-1. **John Fahey**, **Lee Appgar** and **John Lyons** each lit the lamp for the winners.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Boys Basketball		
Jan. 18	Brockton	3 p.m.
Jan. 20	at Dracut	7:30 p.m.
Girls Basketball		
Jan. 16	Wachusett	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 20	Notre Dame (Hingham)	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 21	Dracut	7:30 p.m.
Boys Hockey		
Jan. 17	at Central Catholic	8 p.m.
Jan. 19	Lincoln Sudbury	2:10 p.m.
Jan. 21	at Billerica	8 p.m.
Girls Hockey		
Jan. 19	at Beverly	5 p.m.
Jan. 21	Medford	7:20 p.m.
Boys Gymnastics		
Jan. 16	at Burlington	7 p.m.
Jan. 20	at Braintree	7 p.m.
Jan. 22	at Salem	7 p.m.
Girls Gymnastics		
Jan. 15	Billerica	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 22	Dracut	7:30 p.m.
Boys Track		
Jan. 17	at Division 1 Relays	9:30 a.m.
Jan. 21	Chelmsford	3:30 p.m.
Girls Track		
Jan. 17	at Division 1 Relays	9:30 a.m.
Jan. 21	Chelmsford	3:30 p.m.
Swimming		
Jan. 20	at Acton-Boxboro	4 p.m.
Girls Skiing		
Jan. 15	Haverhill	3:30 p.m.
Wrestling		
Jan. 17	Georgetown	5 p.m.
Jan. 20	at Sons of Italy Tourney	10 a.m.

“I’m not self-conscious about (my hearing aids). They are no different from wearing glasses.”

Moira Cronin



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

She may be a sophomore, but Andover's Moira Cronin is an intimidator on the track. The 15-year-old, who is hearing impaired, excels off the track and on, where she tied the Golden Warrior record in the high jump.

Clearing hurdles

Hearing impaired Cronin is record-setting high jumper, sprinter

By DAVID WILLIS
STAFF WRITER

THE MOIRA CRONIN FILE

- **Age:** 15
- **Height:** 5-11
- **Sport:** Track
- **Record-breaker:** Just a sophomore, tied the Andover High record in the high jump with a 5-4 at the Freshman-Sophomore Large School meet on Jan. 3. The record was set by Cindy Surret in 1982. Is also a standout hurdler, winning at the Freshman-Sophomore meet with a 9.28. A member of the Golden Warriors volleyball and outdoor track team.
- **Family ties:** Father Paul Cronin (6-foot-2) played basketball and tennis at Boston Latin and mother Kate Miller (5-foot-11) stood out in track in North Syracuse. Eighth-grade sister Molly (5-foot-8) is also a budding athlete.

No one can deny that Moira Cronin is an athlete.

At 15-years-old and 5-foot-11, she can already touch rim on a basketball hoop with room to spare, and her father is confident he can teach her to dunk within the next year.

Just a sophomore, Cronin tied the Andover High record in the high jump two weeks ago with a 5-4, good for second in the state this year. She is a standout hurdler and a member of the Golden Warriors volleyball team.

But one characteristic that is not as obvious is that Cronin is also hearing impaired, not that she is embarrassed by it.

“I don’t think it holds me back a bit,” said Cronin, who has partial hearing but was unsure of the percent. “I remember thinking it was a setback from everyone else. But I can read lips somewhat, so when people talk I will look right at their mouth so I don’t miss anything. If I miss something, I’ll just ask the person to say it again.”

The budding track star first began to notice something was different when she was in kindergarten.

“I remember I couldn’t understand what the teacher was saying,” said Cronin. “I just couldn’t understand or learn as quickly as the other kids did, and I had trouble with the pronunciation of certain words.”

The reason for her struggles was uncovered during her hearing test for first grade. It was discovered that her hearing was partially impaired (the term the Cronins use to describe it).

“We were really surprised because her speech is so clear,” said mother Kate Miller. “She failed the hearing test, and we went down the diagnosis path. They said it is from nerve damage. But we don’t know what it is the result of because she was never sick as a child.”

The always-positive Cronin would not let the diagnosis slow her down. Before fifth grade she began wearing hearing aids that she continues to wear to this day. But while some high school girls may feel self-

conscious about this, she has never been embarrassed.

“I remember when I got to the fifth grade I started telling everyone,” she said. “Everyone asked if they could try them, but I said no. It was my special thing. I’m not self-conscious about them. They are no different from wearing glasses.”

Cronin does remove her hearing aids when she begins to display the athletic ability she has possessed since childhood.

“When she was a little kid I drove her to a gymnastics party for one of her friends,” remembered father Paul Cronin. “I was talking to one of the parents when someone tapped me on the shoulder. Moira had never done gymnastics in her life, but grabbed one of the ropes and had climbed right to the ceiling. I was terrified, but she was fine. You could tell she would be an athlete.”

Athletics — and height — run in Cronin’s family. Her father (6-foot-2) played basketball and tennis at Boston Latin, and her mother (5-foot-11) was a track star for her high school in North Syracuse, holding the school record in the 100 and 220.

As a child, Moira participated in every sport, from dance (ballet, tap, Jazz) to soccer to tennis, which she says has contributed to her coordination and agility. She also participated

in recreational and AAU basketball. But track held a certain place in her heart early on, from admiring her mother’s trophy.

“Her trophy has been on top of the refrigerator in our basement for as long as I can remember,” said Cronin. “I have always admired it. My mom running track was a big influence on me. I thought I could do it.”

Once she entered high school, Cronin played volleyball in the fall and freshman basketball in the winter. Once the spring arrived, she went out for track. But it took time to attract the attention of coaches.

“We evaluate all the freshman in different events for a week,” said Golden Warriors coach Peter Comeau. “In a group it can be a while until they actually make their way to varsity workouts. But around April vacation she really started to emerge.”

Cronin finished her freshman season as a Merrimack Valley Conference All-Star in the high jump after tying for third in the MVC meet with a 5-0. But that was just a preview of what was to come.

After playing volleyball in the fall, Cronin elected to follow her heart and forgo basketball to participate in indoor track this year. And it didn’t take her long to make her mark.

At the Freshman-Sophomore Large School Meet at the Reggie Lewis Center on Jan. 3, Cronin won the high jump with a 5-4. That tied the Andover High girls record for indoor and outdoor track, both set in 1982 by Cindy Surret, according to Comeau.

That jump also ranks second in Massachusetts this season, behind only Janelle Clarkson of Seekonk (5-5).

“I had no idea it would happen,” said Cronin. “I wanted to do at least 5-2. It felt amazing. One of the coaches taped it, and my face was priceless.”

“I love the high jump. When you pull off a really good height, it is such an adrenaline rush. Once I take off I am trying to get up enough speed to take off a jump. It is an awesome feeling.”

LOCAL SPORTS ROUNDUP

Boudreau, Gomez-Martinez light up Central

GIRLS BASKETBALL

After starting for a state championship finalist last year, **Natalie Gomez-Martinez** can see talent. And the sophomore knows she is sharing the backcourt with another standout in freshman **Nicole Boudreau**.

“It takes so much pressure off you,” said Gomez-Martinez. “Once you give her the ball, she just creates.”

Boudreau delivered another stellar outing, knocking down a whopping nine 3-pointers to lead Andover to a surprisingly lopsided 77-54 victory over archrival Central Catholic last Wednesday. Boudreau finished with a game-high 30 points, shooting a stunning nine of 11 from 3-point range. After each make, she backpedaled up the floor on her tip-toes.

“She’s very smooth,” coach **Jim Tildsley** said. “She gets herself open. The kids look for her.”

Gomez-Martinez also stood out. She finished with 17 points and a game-high 11 assists while leading the lethal Andover fast break.

■ ■ ■

Despite 15 points from **Natalie Gomez-Martinez**, Andover fell to rival Lowell 42-32 on Saturday. The Golden Warriors struggled from the free throw line (two of 10).

■ ■ ■

For the week, senior **Shannon Cooney** was given the “Player of the Fortnight” award. “Shannon is a captain, and she’s giving us great leadership,” said coach **Jim Tildsley**. “She’s playing very well, giving us great defense and rebounding. She’s a very important and positive part of this team”

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Mattison, Andover win on emotional night

Rachel Mattison once again dominated, winning the bars (9.1), the floor exercise (9.4) and the all-around (35.8) as Andover defeated Tewksbury 139-93 last Thursday. Before the meet, the Golden Warriors dedicated the season to former Andover gymnast **Kristin Kearins**, who died due to injuries sustained in a Sept. 2008 bike accident. **Jenn Quirnbach** added a win in the vault and **Jenny Coneeny** took the beam for the winners.

SWIMMING

Hunter’s three wins vault Warriors

Paul Hunter won the 200 freestyle (1:55.84), the 100 backstroke (59.78) and swam on the winning 200 medley relay team as Andover bested Reading 95-80 last Tuesday. **Peter Belanger** won the 100 butterfly and teamed with Hunter, **Mike Bakies** and **John Belanger** to take the 200 medley relay. Belanger and Bakies also swam on the winning 200 freestyle relay with **Yubo Liu** and **Adam Millerick**.

■ ■ ■

Yubo Liu took the 50 freestyle (25.54) and teamed with **Paul Hunter**, **Peter Belanger** and **John Belanger** to win the 200 medley relay (1:48.48) as Andover downed Lowell 97-83 on Friday. Hunter added wins in the 200 freestyle and 100 backstroke and **Mike Bakies** won the 100 freestyle and 200 freestyle relay along with the Belangers and **Adam Millerick**.

BOYS ICE HOCKEY

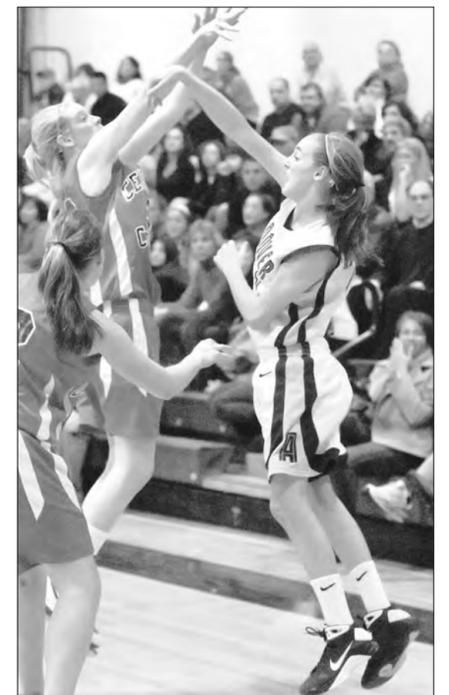
Russell’s big day gives Andover win

Paul Russell scored two goals, his first multi-goal game of the year, as Andover crushed Westford Academy 4-1 on Saturday. **Cam Smith** and **Alex Patti** each added a goal and an assist and **George Flanagan**, **Joe Kuta** and **Matt Eriksen** each had an assist for the Warriors (5-2).

■ ■ ■

George Flanagan scored two goals, upping his season total to 10, as Andover bested Coyle Cassidy 3-2 last Wednesday. It was Flanagan’s third straight multi-goal game, while **Joe Kuta** added the other goal, **Paul Russell** had two assists and **Riki Retelle**, **Cam**

Please see **ROUNDUP**, Page 10



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover’s **Nicole Boudreau** fires up a shot against Central Catholic last week. The freshman hit nine 3-pointers as Andover bested the Raiders 77-54.

Please see **CRONIN**, Page 10

CRONIN: Tied 27-year-old record

Continued from Page 9

Cronin has also shined in the 55-meter hurdles, taking third at the Freshman-Sophomore meet with a 9.28, and she is vying for a spot on Andover's relay teams.

"I really like hurdling," she said. "My legs are much longer than most hurdlers. I just have to make sure I get out of the blocks fast enough."

But it is in the high jump that Comeau is most excited.

"You can find 5-2 high jumpers," said Comeau. "But 5-4 puts you in a class of very few girls. She'll jump 5-6 by the end of this year, and where is the ceiling? Look at her progress. She could be jumping 6-feet as a senior."

Cronin has no intention of settling.

"There are the expectations

of my parents and coaches and teammates," she said. "But my expectations are the highest. I want to do better."

HELPING THE EARTH

Along with sports, another passion of Cronin's is recycling. She is a member of the Andover High Environmental Club, and is quick to put her friends on the right track.

"I am a recycling freak," she said with a laugh. "I just don't know why people just can't throw their bottles in a recycling bin. It is just across the cafeteria. I have friends that don't have them at home, and it bugs me to death."

Join the discussion. To comment on stories and see what others are saying, log on to andovertownsmen.com.

ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 9

Smith and Joe Lamagna each added one helper for the winners.

BOYS TRACK

McConnell keeps dominating

Chris McConnell just continues to wow. The star junior won the 55-meter dash in 6.42, the best time in the state this year, and teamed with Mark Vetere, Brenden Crawford and Kerrick Stevens to take the 4x200 relay in 1:32.65 at the Winter Festival at the Reggie Lewis Center on Saturday. Rob Martin added a win in the 600 (1:26.26) with Vetere finishing second, Adam Vetere was third in the 1,000 (2:41.65) with Chris Goodwin placing eighth, Scott Waller was eighth in the mile and Nick Schumacher was eighth in the mile.

The 4x800 team (Adam Vetere, Goodwin, Waller, Simon Voorhees) placed second and the 4x400 team (Matt Somma, Connor O'Neil, Brian Knapp, Rob Martin) was fourth.

GIRLS TRACK

Relays roll on

Vanessa Singleton, Emily Shields, Eve Bishop and Melissa Knapp teamed to win the 4x200 relay in 1:48.72 and Laura Cody, Moira Cronin, Jessica Salley and Colleen Shannon won the 4x400 relay in 4:12.91 for Andover at the Winter Festival at the Reggie Lewis Center on Saturday. Shannon chipped in with a fourth in the 1,000 (3:06.11) and ninth in the long jump, Maggie Mullins was fifth in the mile (5:38.22), Singleton was seventh in the 300 (43.97) and Cronin was ninth in the 55 hurdles (9.47) and fourth in the high jump.

BOYS SKIING

Sherman leads win

Nick Sherman placed third overall in 20.31 as Andover took four of the top eight places on its way

to besting Masconomet 93-42. Eric Heath was fifth (20.48), Matt Cummings was seventh (20.69) and Adam Carrington was eighth (20.74) for the winners.

GIRLS SKIING

Warriors cruise in openers

Jessica Kearns (20.87), Jackie Guy (21.33) and Sarah Heath (21.59) were No. 4-6 overall as Andover opened its season by downing Bishop Fenwick 115-20 and North Andover 96-39. Kate Kearns (12th) and Erin Christopher (13th) added top-15 finishes for the Warriors.

GIRLS ICE HOCKEY

Macheras paces Andover

Lea Macheras scored twice as Andover drubbed Algonquin 5-0 on Saturday. Heather Paonessa tallied a goal and an assist and Jill Manning and Sarah Oteri each contributed one goal for Andover (6-1-1). Katie Shields added two assists and Nicole Giroux and Clearra Riendeau each had one helper.

Laura Drew scored her first goal of the season as Andover played Chelmsford to a 1-1 tie last Wednesday. Megan Pettoruto made 12 saves for the Warriors.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Warriors again edged by Central

For the second time in five days, Andover hung tough before falling to archrival Central Catholic, this time 67-52 last Tuesday. Joe Bramanti once again led the way with 18 points, Kevin Polanco chipped in with 12 points and seven rebounds and Connor Arnold scored 10 points for the Golden Warriors, who cut the lead to six with 2:08 left.

Despite 27 points from Joe Bramanti, Andover lost to Lowell 72-65 on Friday. Kevin Polanco added 17 points and Brian Miller scored nine for the Warriors (5-3).

BUSINESS GROWTH THROUGH MARKETING DURING A DOWN ECONOMY

To Our Valued Customers

Many of the local businesses and service professionals in our community are having a difficult time in the current economic downturn, which unfortunately may continue for awhile.

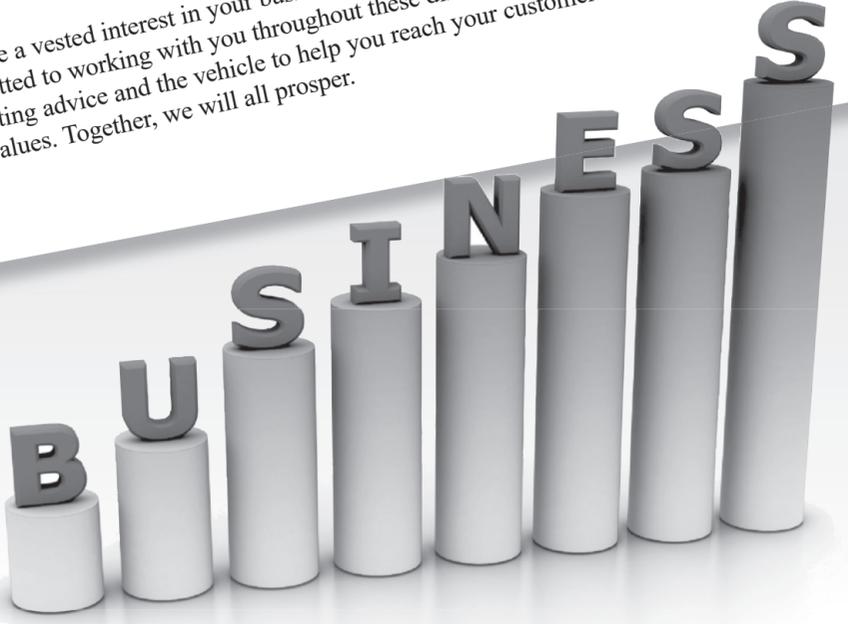
What will you do to maintain and grow your market share?

Now is not the time to be complacent. Merely protecting what you have will not bring customers through your door - marketing your business will. When this economic event is over, you will need to be poised to take advantage of the upturn.

You have the opportunity now more than ever before to grow market share - not just survive, but thrive in this economy. Consumers don't stop buying when the economy is in a down cycle - they look for the best value. Continued assurances to your customers that you have the value they seek will keep them coming back.

Now is the time to strengthen your brand to gain the competitive advantage. Continue to market your products and services, but do so with vigor. Be aggressive. Marketing your business is the last thing that should be sacrificed during these times, and if that course is taken, it may be difficult if not impossible to revive the business when the economy turns around.

We have a vested interest in your businesses' current and future well-being, and we are committed to working with you throughout these difficult times. We are here to provide marketing advice and the vehicle to help you reach your customers and for customers to find values. Together, we will all prosper.



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Andover School of Ballet

With over 25 years of experience and service, Andover School of Ballet can help you or your child reach their dance goals, offering classes in "Mommy & Me", PreBallet, Classical Ballet, Pointe, Modern Dance, Jazz, Tap, Lyrical Jazz, Hip-Hop and "Stretch 'N Tone" dance/exercise. As a non-competitive school, Andover School of Ballet is able to concentrate on the education of each student. Dance training helps to develop grace, coordination, rhythm, and a strong body as well as creativity and artistry. Students experience self-confidence and a feeling of accomplishment through dance classes. They learn to respect others as well as themselves and develop sound work habits. "Throughout our graded curriculum, we emphasize correct dance technique and body mechanics, to assure the best education for our dancers," says director Kristina Liversidge. Andover School of Ballet also offers fun, educational summer dance programs for the younger student and summer dance classes for the committed intermediate dancer who wishes to keep working on dance technique.

Andover School of Ballet

Andover School of Ballet's professional faculty is highly trained and carefully selected for their abilities, knowledge, and experience in teaching dance to children and adults. Director Kristina Liversidge took over ownership of The Andover School of Ballet in 1998. She says, "Our faculty have trained, taught, and performed with such well-known companies and schools as Boston Ballet, Dean College, Granite State Ballet (now Northern Ballet Theatre), Hartford Ballet, Northern Essex Community College, University of Utah, U-Mass Amherst and Windhover Performing Arts Company. We all love to dance and to teach and we share that with the students in every class," Liversidge says. "Our instructors are all professional, caring and enthusiastic with many years of teaching experience."

Andover School of Ballet's second semester begins January 17th. Call 978-475-5919 for information or visit our website at www.andoverschoolofballet.com. Andover School of Ballet is located at 14 Park Street in Andover, telephone 978-475-5919.

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Opinion

Standard procedure leaves public largely in dark

The superintendent and not the School Committee runs the school department, the nearly \$60 million enterprise that educates thousands of Andover children. So the School Committee's decision on who should run the schools and for how long may be the most important decision any member makes. Knowing how a School Committee member views the current direction of the system lets voters know if the person they have elected believes in the same things they do.

On Jan. 6, the same day the committee signed a new agreement that will keep Superintendent Claudia Bach as the system's leader through June 2010, Chairwoman Debra Silberstein announced the decision. She did so briefly.

Back on Sept. 23, in a closed-door session, the committee had voted 3-2 to pursue extending the superintendent's contract, changing an automatic rollover provision. This information about the individual members' views — important information for residents, particularly those who vote — was never mentioned at a public meeting.

The record of this meeting was approved on Nov. 18, said Silberstein. But the only way for anyone to have seen this documentation of how individual members voted would have been to look for a document they didn't know existed. It should be noted that when the School Committee evaluates Bach each year, committee members also do not release their individual evaluations. Instead, a blander, consensus School Committee evaluation is released as a public document.

Unfortunately, this is standard operating procedure for most committees. Technically and legally, the committee may have done nothing wrong. But it seems appropriate that our elected officials should let us know immediately when they make important decisions, such as voting that they want to change the superintendent's contract. Sure, the financial nitty-gritty details will need to be worked out, but the public should know the committee's intent and desire. Since the committee and Bach both have known for months that the committee wanted her to stay, why wait to tell the public, who will pay the bill and whose children's education will be shaped by the decision?

In this case, when contacted by the press, the committee members have talked about the reason for their individual votes. But as usual, the record of the Sept. 23 closed-door meeting offers little in the way of additional substance. The 50-minute discussion is described in this way: "School Committee discussion about superintendent contract provisions." It also states the motion and adds, "Committee directed chair to contact Attorney Stonberg regarding draft contract or addendum to contract." The single page record then lists how the five members voted.

At the least, more complete records of closed-door meetings would let the public know about important comments made at those meetings that will otherwise remain secret.

WEB QUESTION

Will you watch Obama's inauguration?

This week's question: Any inauguration plans?
Next Tuesday, Jan. 20, Barack Obama will be sworn in as the 44th president of the United States, becoming the first African American to be commander-in-chief. How, if at all, will you watch the inauguration?

- I'll catch highlights on the news after it's over.
- I'm not going to watch, I voted for the other guy.
- I'm just not interested. I have other things to do.
- I'll be watching over the Internet.
- I'll be watching it on television.
- Other.

To cast your vote, visit www.andovertownsmen.com and scroll all the way down to the bottom of the page. For lengthier answers, e-mail Editor Neil Fater at Nfater@andover-townsmen.com

- I'm going in person.
- I'll take a few minutes to watch at work, with colleagues.
- I will watch it at school, with classmates.
- I plan to record it and watch it later.

PRETTY AS A BUTTERFLY



Jacqui DeBonis, 3 of Andover has her face painted by volunteer Lysanne LaPierre of Andover at the Shawsheen Primary School "Winter Blast" family fun night last Friday. CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Charge fee for extra trash

Editor, Townsman:

We respectfully request that selectmen consider all options for closing the budget gap, including a revised program for solid waste and recycling collection. We recommend Andover adopt a trash limit allowing:

- One bag or barrel of trash per household per week at no additional charge
- Unlimited amounts or recyclables collected at no additional charge; and
- Bulky waste collected at the rate of one item per week at no additional charge

The only change would be in instances where there is more than one barrel of trash per household per week. In that case, the additional trash would be required to be in a designated bag, the \$2 cost of which would offset that bag's collection and disposal. Bags would be available in rolls of five at grocery, hardware and convenience stores in town.

Comparing Andover-similar towns (Natick and Hamilton, among others), we estimate conservatively that Andover can reduce its trash tonnage 20 to 30 percent. Andover is in a shrinking minority of towns that pay for trash without any fees. The trash limit would generate an immediate savings of 2,000 to 3,000 tons for which we will pay \$64/ton next year, with a net savings of \$128,000 to \$192,000. There also would be some additional revenue from the sale of bags for a total projected benefit to the town of approximately \$250,000. There doesn't have to be any cost to residents who don't want to pay more. It is a financial incentive to get serious about sorting recyclables. It is time for Andover to adopt a trash policy that is SMART (Saves Money and Reduces Trash).

RON AND CANDY DANN
4 Rock O'Dundee Road
REBECCA BACKMAN
19 Pomeroy Road
STEFANI TRAINA GOLDSHEIN
6 Raulston Circle

Editor's note: 20 other people signed this letter.

Not secret

Editor, Townsman:

Recently the Townsman reported that the School Committee met in secret session to renew the superintendent's contract. Just to clarify, there is no such thing as a "secret session." All elected bodies meet in executive session to negotiate contracts and deal with grievances and litigation. State laws spell out a list of issues which are discussed in such a manner. No issues are discussed which are not approved for executive session. Once the agenda items are finished and no further discussion or continuation is required, then the minutes are made public. Even though the Townsman calls this "secret," there is nothing secret about it.

I would like to congratulate the School Committee for making the wise decision to extend the superintendent's contract. Dr. Claudia Bach has been a consistent, professional and exemplary leader

of a school system that continues to outperform its counterparts with similar budgets.

The superintendency is quite complex. It is rare that parents come forward to laud the job or system when their children excel and move on to top universities and careers, which would not be possible without a solid primary education. When you step back and look at the success of this very large school district during Dr. Bach's tenure, it would be impossible to argue that she is not one of the most successful superintendents in this state.

There seems to be little or no talk about the devastation that our town budget is about to face. In addition, we have had a recent turnover in several principal positions this year. There is nobody better to help guide us through these turbulent times than Dr. Bach. Her experience, judgment, and perseverance will see the schools through the most drastic budget cuts in our lifetime.

DAVID S. SAMUELS
7 Ridge Hill Way

Editor's note: The writer is a former School Committee member.

Questioning legislators vote for DiMasi

Editor, Townsman:

Andover's state Reps. Barry Finegold and Barbara L'Italien recently voted to return Sal DiMasi to office as Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, notwithstanding the indictment of DiMasi's close political ally, Richard Vitale, and a pending State Ethics Commission investigation into DiMasi's own activities. That investigation is looking into large payments made to associates of DiMasi in connection with the awarding of state contracts and the passage of legislation by the House, and DiMasi's role in awarding those contracts and passing that legislation.

As voters, we should question our elected representatives about their decision to turn a blind eye to "business as usual" on Beacon Hill. We are bound to learn much more about the State Ethics Commission investigation in the coming months, and we should remember that Finegold and L'Italien threw their support behind DiMasi even as scandal swirled around him. If we do not, we have nobody but ourselves to blame for the cynical disregard for the will of voters on Beacon Hill.

BRANDON BIGELOW
21 Pine St.

No delay of Town Meeting?

Editor, Townsman:

I am surprised School Committee member Tony James is "flabbergasted" by the Board of Selectmen's decision not to delay Town Meeting. I would think by now he would know that to expect cooperative decision-making from that august group has become tantamount to expecting Bernie Madoff to say he is sorry. Many in town have learned to expect

little that might indicate either capitulation or a willingness to take action above and beyond the "safe and steady course."

Wow. Our Town Meeting, in a year of financial crisis unlike no other in our lifetime, can't be delayed (which the law allows) to permit the maximum level of information to be garnered, disseminated, and studied, because parking or rescheduling for the Collins Center might be a problem? Much of what the selectmen do pales in comparison to the long-term implications of decisions and actions that are mandated by a school budget (talking here about the lives of our children). But we did get our brick crosswalks, didn't we!

That the School Department's portion of the town budget is, today, inadequate (maybe OK pre-No Child Left Behind - but not now) is a given. That we, as a town, will not collectively face that fact, as well as other educational mandates, is a disgrace, and a pox on our town, but not a surprise given the lack of willingness to make such an easy decision as to delay Town Meeting. So, Tony James, don't be flabbergasted. Expect little and be occasionally surprised. Maybe next year Santa will come to Town Hall.

Keep your spine, Tony. It is a breath of fresh air.

WILLIAM L. GIBSON
125 Argilla Road

Charges show term limits are needed

Editor, Townsman:

A new guy will shortly occupy the Oval Office. Not my first choice, but the winner, elected by the voters of our country. My best to him; he deserves a chance to jump start a stalled nation. Where we are as a country scares me, and I'm old! What really scares me is what we are about to leave my grandchildren: a staggering debt, a "me first" mentality, a firm belief by many that "big government" will do everything for you. It's an entitlement ethos, a belief that "PC" is more important than correct or just.

In reading the papers recently, I have become particularly disheartened by the actions (and many cases, inactions) of our elected officials, our employees. Indictments, arrests, influence peddling, generally over-feeding at the public trough without any concern for us common folk. Yes, I know the quick rejoinder I'll hear: "Innocent until proven guilty." I firmly believe that, but I also believe you can measure a person by his actions and his friends. This is NOT measuring guilt, but worthiness for elected office.

I find many politicians not worthy, but they remain "home-steaded" for 30 years and more. Many have never held a real job and appear to lack the understanding that one would have provided. We put them there and NEVER hold them to their promises. We hardly think about them, or they us, until the next election cycle. Read the papers, make a list of the elected officials you'd invite into your home — the

length might surprise you.

Does "term limits" sound good to you? Does it sound logical? Look where we are, then look at who got us there. Do you now think they can (or will) change what they have been doing for years? There was a piece by Charlie Reese (Orlando Sentinel) entitled "545 People" — too long for here, but I urge that you "Google" it and read it. Reese speaks of federal politicians, but we have a few in this state we'd do well to replace.

News flash — your Congressional employees just elected Sal DiMasi as their captain again! I know, "Guilt must be proved." I said that would come up and it did. What about, "Where there's smoke, there's fire"?

CALVIN G. PERRY
25 Timothy Drive

Challenges and opportunities

Editor, Townsman:

As we look ahead in 2009, we see fiscal challenges of unprecedented proportions for Andover. Dwindling state revenue, lower property assessments, and reduced local revenue expectations have contributed to a sobering picture. With no change in the level of municipal services, the budget shortfall for 2010 is expected to be about \$4 million.

Even with this dismal outlook, there is reason for hope as our leaders look to move our community forward. Town leaders are approaching the budgeting process, not from a perspective of business as usual, but with an expectation of change in how we conduct business. Already, they are confronting the budgetary challenges as a united group, recognizing that balance and collaboration will be the only ways to reach an accord for next year's budget. The town manager and the superintendent of schools have demonstrated their commitment to working together and ironing out budget disputes. This is a welcome and necessary breath of fresh air considering the circumstances we face as a community.

While burdened with the challenges, town officials are seeking opportunities to consolidate and regionalize with surrounding communities and to take a fresh look at long-held assumptions about budget priorities. Town officials have been meeting with their counterparts in area communities to break down barriers, real or imagined, that have prevented collaboration across many areas of municipal services.

Inevitably, there will be some hard choices to make. This is a time to put the best interests of the town as a whole first and to continue to work together for a common solution, which has the best possible results for all. We are hopeful the transparency of the budgeting process will enable Andover residents to see that our town officials have recognized the challenges before them and have responded by establishing budget priorities and by finding opportunities to utilize our tax dollars in the most effective ways possible.

DIANE COSTAGLIOLA
Belknap Road
JOHN ZIPETO
Canterbury Street

Andover Townsman
Established 1887

Publisher
Al Getler

Editor
Neil Fater

Published Thursdays by Andover Publishing Co.
33 Chestnut St., Box 1986, Andover, MA 01810
978-475-7000 • Ad fax: 978-475-5731 • News fax: 978-470-2819
E-mail nfater@andover-townsmen.com
www.andovertownsmen.com

Cupcake shop on move; new shoe store opens

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

Changes in the downtown are continuing this new year and shoppers will soon see a new name.

Daher's Shoes at 45 Main St. is now a J.L. Coombs Shoe Store, a high-end shoe store that prides itself on its collection of comfortable walking shoes.

It has Uggs, Merrells, Keens, Frye and Patagonia walking shoes to name just a few. Company spokesman Bob Pearl said he's tying up renovations this week and the company's sign will go up shortly.

"We're excited to be in Andover," said Pearl, noting

that this is the company's sixth store. The others are in Newburyport, Portsmouth, N.H. and Maine.

Across Main Street, Sharon Breighner, owner of The Cupcake Boutique on Post Office Avenue, is closing that location at the end of the month, but said she will sub-lease at another downtown address. Her business has been on Post Office Avenue for the past two years. The slowing economy and a rent increase prompted her decision.

"Like a lot of small businesses downtown, I am reinventing my business," said Breighner who will continue to serve as president of Andover's downtown business group, Andover

Business Center Association.

"I'll still be downtown," she said, although her new location has not been finalized so she could not yet say where she is going.

Breighner said her landlord, State Rep. Barry Finegold, was easy to work with and she applauds his commitment to downtown businesses. But when the rent rose to \$3,700 a month, she had to rethink before she signed on.

"I thought about this for a very long time," she said. "Small businesses are suffering and I had to make some hard decisions."

Breighner expects more small businesses in town to follow in her reinvented footsteps.

"But we'll weather the storm," she said. "Hopefully, the economy will turn around."

Back at J.L. Coombs, new business excitement prevails as Pearl said focus groups were held and the company determined Andover was a good fit for his shoes. Ironically, one focus group meeting was held at The Cupcake Boutique.

J.L. Coombs welcomes feedback from residents on the new look and the selection at the shoe store. Last year, J.L. Coombs bought Daher's, which had been a family business operation on Main Street for years.

"It's exciting that it's finally happening," Pearl said of the new store's unveiling.

STUDENTS: Geary reminisces with former teacher

Continued from Page 1

So, a bit of geography made it into this lesson.

"I really like working with kids and I never get to do it at college," said Geary. "That was fun for me."

Remembering her time as a 5-year-old Bancroft student was fun, too, she said, and Nichols happily strolled down that memory lane paved from 1995 to 1996. She even remembered Geary's birthday.

"Mrs. Nichols also remembered that my favorite workshop was the writing station. I didn't remember that, but I do like to write," said Geary, who graduated from Andover High School in 2008.

This daughter of Ann and Mark Geary of Morton Street may be undecided about her

college major now, but English is getting lots of attention.

Geary had to apply to be selected for the "Bucknell Brigade." It was like revisiting the college-admission process because she had to write an essay, get recommendations and fill out an application.

"So I'm really happy that I was accepted," she said.

This will be the first time Geary embarks on such an adventure. She will be in Nicaragua for eight days.

She said the Contemporary World Issues course at Andover High started her thinking about how she could help those less fortunate.

"I'm just so excited about this," she said.

"A lot of my family and friends in Andover responded to my letter, like the Bancroft kids. It's been great."



ANGIE BEAULIEU/Staff photo

Bancroft kindergartners, from left, James Ventre, Smita Michaels, Aiden Lareau and Tommy Tavenner help pack boxes for Devin Geary, 18, right, a former Bancroft student who will be traveling to Nicaragua in March.

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Tarsha with Joyce Delaney, RN, CCM in 2007

Tarsha after successful bariatric surgery in 2008

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"As a single mom, I want to be there for my kids. Losing the weight has made all the difference. It's like a miracle."

Tarsha, Dracut, MA

A single mom of three, 35-year old Tarsha was feeling the strain of being 100 pounds overweight everyday. Already suffering from high blood pressure and high cholesterol, she found herself tired, out of breath and unable to keep up with her twin five-year old girls.

She decided on gastric bypass after consulting with the experienced weight loss specialists at the Center for Weight Management and Bariatric Surgery. "It is a decision you really have to think about, there is a lot to consider," she says. "But I'd do it again."

A year later, and 100 pounds lighter, Tarsha is off all medication, her blood pressure and cholesterol are normal, and she has more energy than ever.

Now, not only can she play with her children, she feels confident that weight-related health problems will not take her away from them in the future. For Tarsha, losing weight has made a life-saving difference for her entire family.

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POKRESS: Warrant articles motivated by frustration

Continued from Page 1

call the Andover Taxpayers' Bill of Rights," he said. "There are other areas that require attention to protect the rights of taxpayers from a budget and financial view. We tend to be taken for granted in the budget process."

Pokress said he has years of experience on a School Committee in Little Silver, N.J., has run several businesses of his own, and knows what makes financial sense and what doesn't.

"The town is the municipal equivalent to what GM and Chrysler have become, by making bad decisions," said Pokress. "We're in just as bad shape. The same thing has come home to Andover."

Allowing employees to roll-over sick days and agreeing to contracts with sick time buy-back is "abusive of the public's goodwill," said Pokress, and much more generous than accepted practices in the private sector. On the floor of 2008 Town Meeting, Pokress suggested rejecting a request for this money to pay that year's retirees and the suggestion almost gathered enough support to win. Officials at the time said it sent them a strong message.

Now, Pokress' five articles would:

- Keep town or school departments from entering into contracts that guarantee payment of unused sick time. For contracts agreed to before the bylaw, payment of accumulated sick time would have to be submitted as part of the overall operating budget voted upon at Town Meeting, and not part of a separate article.
- Call for contracts that allow for no more than 15 sick days per

year. If an employee is ill more than 15 days in one year, they will be covered by long-term disability insurance. Employees with contracts grandfathered before this year must use their accumulated sick time within 10 years.

- Keep the town or schools from entering into multi-year contracts that obligate the town to pay cost escalations in future years. Multi-year contracts would have to be approved by voters at Town Meeting, or contracts would need to be one-year deals. Annual funding crises happen, he said, because the town creates financial contract obligations that greatly inflate each year's budget.

- It's effectively equivalent to charging something to a credit card, and having to pay it off later ... it's the equivalent of a financial gun being put to our heads," said Pokress. "We should be getting the approval, as voters."

- Require the Finance Committee Report, sent out annually in advance of Town Meeting, to include a year-by-year, five-year projection of all expected budget expenses.

- Require each resident receive a breakdown of the precise dollar amount their property taxes will increase if warrant articles are approved.

Pokress has never submitted an article for Town Meeting before, he said, but was prompted to do so this year after "observing an accumulation of 24 years of bad practices, and frustration over getting very incomplete information (from the town)."

Pokress is co-founder and CEO of Image Fortress, a Westford-based high-tech business.

The deadline to submit private warrant articles for Town Meeting is tomorrow, Jan. 16. Each warrant must be submitted with 10 signatures of support from registered Andover voters, and are due to the town clerk's office, 36 Bartlet St., before 4:30 p.m.

Town Meeting is scheduled for April 29, 30 and May 4 and 5.

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STONE WALL Real Estate Corner

by Bill Buck, Broker/Owner

HOME SWEET HOME

At the heart of the American Dream, homeownership represents both the largest financial investment most of us will ever make and a significant lifestyle choice. Thus, whether you are selling or contemplating the purchase of a home, you have a vested interest in being well informed about the wide range of issues surrounding home ownership. Market conditions, lifestyle considerations, legal and tax issues, buying and selling strategies, financing and the various structural, mechanical and cosmetic aspects of the property are all important. Whether you are a seller, buyer, landlord or renter, dealing in single-family homes, condominiums, co-operatives, commercial real estate or apartments, this column will provide you with useful real estate information in the weeks that follow.

STONE WALL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS welcomes the readers of the *Andover Townsman* to our new bi-weekly column. In the weeks ahead, we will be presenting you with informative real estate topics. Our friendly, experienced, and dedicated staff will advise you as to the best ways to sell your home or buy the home of your dreams. We are located at 89 N. Main St. Our outstanding reputation has been built on complete client satisfaction. Please call (978) 815-1336. *Specializing in the Andover, North Andover, and the Greater Merrimack Valley region, we've provided friendly and experienced professional service for over 7 years.*

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CARL RUSSO/Staff photos

Andover High School gymnastic senior captain Leah Psoinos, left, and assistant junior captain Kayla Baldwin, right, wear special green ribbons along with their teammates during a ceremony in memory of Kristin "Krit" Kearins, AHS graduate who was captain of the 2000 gymnastic team and a diver on the swim team. Kearins was tragically killed in a bike accident in Boston. The team dedicated their season in Kristin's memory during the ceremony before the start of their first home meet against Tewksbury.

Church to hold unity brunch

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

In the spirit of equality and brotherhood preached by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Andover Baptist Church will host its annual unity brunch next Monday, Jan. 19.

Last year, 160 people of all faiths attended the congregation's first Martin Luther King Jr. Day brunch, including people from all walks of life, and families with young children.



Beverly Morgan-Welch lies with young children.

This year, the morning's theme is the scripture reference "with God, all things are possible," said Lance Bryant, the church's minister of music.

"We have come a long way since Martin Luther King's day. It's something to celebrate, what's possible with God," said Bryant. "We've come a long way, especially in regards to the new president-elect (Barack Obama)."

"We were all pleasantly surprised at the turnout and response last year. There was a real electricity in the air, it was very exciting. It just seemed like this area was hungry for it," he said.

This year's free, public brunch will occur one day before Obama's inauguration.

The keynote speaker will be Beverly Morgan-Welch,

Please see **BRUNCH**, Page 14

BRUNCH AND BROTHERHOOD

- WHAT: Martin Luther King Jr. Day Unity Brunch
- WHEN: Jan. 19, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- WHERE: Andover Baptist Church, 7 Central St., corner of Central and Essex streets
- Free and open to the public; donations accepted to cover the cost of food
- Guest speaker will be Beverly Morgan-Welch, Andover resident and executive director of the Museum of Afro-American History in Boston
- For information, call the church office at 978-475-0166
- R.S.V.P. appreciated, but not required, so organizers can have an idea of how much food to make

Season dedicated

AHS girls gymnastics team remembers Krit Kearins

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

There's usually a sea of blue and gold when any Andover High sports team competes. Last Thursday's gymnastic meet against Tewksbury was different.

Adorning the Andover High School's girls gymnastics sweatsuits during the first meet of the season were green ribbons and bracelets. The girls gymnastics team has dedicated this season to Kristin "Krit" Kearins, the former AHS gymnastics captain who died last September in a bicycle accident in Boston.

Green was her favorite color. The bracelets also are decorated with her initials and another favorite of hers, butterflies.

"It's just so sad and we wanted to do something," said senior team captain Kristin Coneeny. "She was just like us...she really was...and we think of her a lot."

"We just thought it might be a way to put a smile on her family's faces," Coneeny said.

This gymnastics team of 10 girls did exactly that as Kearins' sister, Kasie Sullivan of Reading, said the family is "just amazed at how the town of Andover has responded."

"The outpouring of support has just been amazing," said Sullivan, who attended the dedication with her mother,



Andover High School gymnastic assistant junior captain, Kayla Baldwin hugs Kristin "Krit" Kearins' mother, Pam Sheehy of Andover, as senior captain Kristen Coneeny greets Kearins' sister Kasie Sullivan, far right, of Reading during a ceremony in memory of Kearins, who was killed in a bike accident in Boston. The team presented a check to her mother as part of scholarship in her name.

Pam Sheehy, and sister, Mia Sagan.

In addition to the season dedication, the team presented the family with a \$500 check for a scholarship fund established in Kearins' memory. Typically, team seniors split the \$500

donated by the boosters club. This year is different as the team's two seniors, Coneeny and Leah Psoinos, agreed to donate the money instead, according to coach Kristen Vadala.

"It's just a great team of girls this

year," said Vadala.

Sullivan, now married and a mother of three, said her family was heavily involved with gymnastics while growing up in Andover. Athletes compete as individuals until high school, when gymnasts like Krit join the team, she said.

"She loved being on the team, just loved it," Sullivan said of her sister who captained the 2000 group that won Andover's first state title in gymnastics. Kearins was also a standout on the school's diving team and was on that team when it won a state title.

Sadly, Sullivan said her family is not quite sure what caused her sister's bike accident, which resulted in a severe head injury. She said the accident is still under investigation.

Kearins was just 26 and on her way home from her job as a nursing assistant in the emergency department at Children's Hospital in Boston when the accident happened. It was dark and rainy that night and there were no witnesses, Sullivan said.

Kearins' family is planning a town-wide five-kilometer road race in her memory. The race will start and finish at Andover High School and is set for Sunday, June 7, the day after Krit's birthday.

The gymnastics team won its first meet, and Vadala reports her team is off to a great start as scores were higher than usual.

Saddle up for a yarn about the 'Prospect Hill' cowboys

By Bill Dalton



Hill. I think it's the prettiest place in Andover, and I sure do have a lot of fond memories of it.

My dad loved the hill, and we'd visit it several times a year. Back then, Boston's skyline wasn't so great, but it was still a vast view, and you got a sense of where you were in relationship to Boston and the ocean. Dad would always bring at least one of us kids and often all three. We'd walk up the hill, look at the view, and then we kids would climb the fire tower. (Dad didn't like high places and didn't go up the tower.)

The climb was a little daunting the first time I did it, especially

since I was probably no more than 7. Sometimes there were fire watchers in the tower and we'd knock on the trap door and they'd let us in. The last steps into the tower cabin were steep and scary, but the men welcomed us and pointed out landmarks. You could see Salem and Marblehead, and you realized that it was mostly trees between here and there. Once, they pointed out a fire about 10 miles away toward the coast.

When we returned to the ground, Dad would take us through the trails between Holt Hill and Boston Hill. He liked walking in the woods and was very good at identifying trees and bushes. He was always on the lookout for an American chestnut tree, a tree that was wiped out by a blight in the early 20th century. He never found one, but he never gave up either. It was exciting to look for an extinct tree. Those walks taught me to enjoy the woods, and I still like to wander in them.

Often, my school friends and I would play cowboys and have

WILD, WILD WEB

Bill Dalton writes about favorite movie, TV and radio cowboys. See what he thinks and chime in with your beloved and least favorite cowboys at andovertownsmen.com

"gun fights" on the trails. We were about 10, most of us lived near the town's center, and it was an easy bicycle ride to Prospect Road. On a good day there might be 10 of us, and we'd bring our best cap guns. I suppose it's hard to buy a cap gun today. Caps were little round pouches of gun powder on red paper that would make a noise like a ladyfinger firecracker. You'd buy rolls of caps and load up a gun. I don't know how many caps there were to a roll but it was plenty to "shoot" everyone on the other team. Gunpowder was a pretty common smell in those days.

You didn't have to have caps; you could make one of several noises with your mouth to imitate a gun shot. Caps weren't

always dependable, but mouth noises were.

There were all kinds of cap guns and rifles, everything from derringers and authentic looking Colt 38s to carbines. The authentic-looking, six-shooter revolver had special caps that fit on the rotating revolver. You'd only get six shots, but the gun was a favorite because it was so realistic. It was the kind of gun that Tom Mixx, Red Ryder, Hopalong Cassidy, Gene Autrey, Roy Rogers or the Lone Ranger used. We'd have a lot of arguments about who was the best movie cowboy. (I looked on the Internet for old cap guns and realized I should have saved the best ones — they sell for a good price, especially if the holsters are with them.)

Bad guys in cowboy movies and TV shows that were made for kids never got killed; they only had the guns shot out of their hands or were wounded. We would have preferred their getting killed. The big exception to the "no one dies" rule was the famous opening chapter to how the Lone Ranger

became the "Lone" Ranger. In that story, which was replayed once a year, our hero and his fellow Texas Rangers were ambushed and all were killed but him. He was wounded but found and saved by Tonto.

In any case, we Prospect Hill cowboys weren't very merciful and when someone was shot, they were killed. Surprisingly few arguments erupted over being shot.

Since there wasn't evidence of actually being hit, like in today's paint ball games, you had to accept being shot. The best way to shoot someone was in an ambush. If you surprised someone and got off the first shots, the shot guy was supposed to fall down and play dead. If there was an argument over who was killing whom, the gun battle would go on for awhile. Sometimes members of one group were sent around to outflank the other group.

Falling and playing dead was an art form in itself. Doing it well was some compensation for getting shot. It involved a loud sound

of pain like "arggh" followed by a dramatic crumpling to the ground. If the ground was wet, the crumpling was less dramatic.

The area around the top of Prospect Hill was large with lots of trails. Our battles often involved several gun fights and would go on for two hours or more, depending on how much of the woods we used. Of course, when the game ended we climbed the tower before going home.

For the most part, we stayed within a few hundred yards of the top of the hill and mostly on the north and east sides of it. We sure got to know those trails. I doubt if a bunch of kids firing cap guns would be much welcome in that peaceful place today.

Next week I'll further discuss the Ward Reservation and Holt Hill. Until then, Hi-yo, Silver, awaay.

Bill Dalton writes a weekly column for the Andover Townsman and invites comments and stories. He can be reached at billdalton@andovertownie.com.

BRUNCH: Event brings people together

Continued from Page 13

executive director of the Museum of Afro-American History in Boston. Morgan-Welch is an Andover resident and widow of the Rev. Mark Welsh, former pastor of West Parish Church in town.

Brunch will include a spread made by the members of the Andover Baptist men's ministry — who have reputations as excellent cooks — including hot and cold items from cereal, yogurt and muffins to ham, eggs and deep-fried turkey.

After an hour of good food and fellowship, attendees will head upstairs for the program. Besides Morgan-Welch's address, the program includes prayer and plenty of singing and music by the church's choir and jazz quartet, said Bryant.

Also, church member Cornelius Bledsoe will recite King's "I have been to the mountain top" speech. Martin Luther King Jr.

delivered this speech in support of striking sanitation workers at Mason Temple in Memphis, Tenn., on April 3, 1968, the day before he was assassinated.

The Jan. 19 breakfast will be a family-friendly event, say organizers, and children who are home from school for the holiday are welcome.

The first brunch in 2008 was spearheaded by Andover Baptist Church Pastor Lyndon Myers, a champion for community and brotherhood in his own right.

Myers suffered a heart attack on Dec. 28 and is still recovering in the hospital. Although he would love to attend, he will "be there in spirit," said Denise Wynn, a church member.

"I'm looking forward to using (the brunch) as a celebration. There are so many things to be grateful for, and at the top of the list is our pastor, and his recovery," said Wynn. "We want to celebrate our joy that we all feel,

and his recovery through all of this, with the entire community. For me, it's about celebration, and praising."

The entire morning is about coming together, despite people's differences, said Bryant. Last year, one of the highlights of the day was meeting so many residents from around the area and forming new relationships, he said.

After attending last year's brunch, Temple Emanuel Rabbi Robert Goldstein invited a group of Andover Baptist members to his synagogue for a Friday night dinner, said Bryant.

With a committee of about 10 people, Myers began planning for Monday's brunch several months ago.

"Like with everything that has happened over the past few months, it has fallen into place," said Wynn. "(The event) is very appropriate for the things happening not just in the church, but in the world."

RELIGION

Free Christian Church offers Grief Share a 13-week support group for those who have experienced a loss. Weekly meetings start on Saturday, Jan. 17, from 10 a.m. to noon at The Parish House of Free Christian Church, 28 Elm St., Andover. The cost is \$12 for a workbook. Contact Joanne at 978-372-0816.

Renowned speaker, writer and pastor Dr. Martin Marty will present this year's "City of God" lecture as he discusses "Traveling with a travelin' man: St. Augustine's Revised Vision for Us."

The annual lecture is presented by the Augustinian Center for Study and Legacy at Merrimack College, and is made possible by the Joseph A. and Rose M. Lorusso Visiting Augustinian Scholar Endowment Fund. The event is free and open to the public.

Professor Martin Marty, renowned interpreter of religion and culture, will address the very contemporary experience of being in constant motion while seeming to get no where, of working harder and longer with apparently less and less to show for our efforts, of striving for peace and security while sensing ever more danger and conflict, of deeper longing for spiritual serenity while feeling more distant from God.

In this lecture, he will draw upon the wisdom of St. Augustine about traveling the way, developing personal vocations, and moving forward in a society that cannot go back to the presumed economic and peaceful stability of its past.

The lecture is on Feb. 26 at 3:30 p.m. at the Cascia Hall, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover.

For more information, contact the Augustinian Center at Merrimack College at 978-837-5217.

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WEDDING



Leslie Janet Nichols and Christopher Joseph Ford

Leslie Janet Nichols and Christopher Joseph Ford were married July 26, 2008, at Jacob's Church in New Tripoli, Pa., where the Rev. Thomas H. Meyer of Putnam, Conn., a longtime friend of the bride's family, officiated. A reception followed at Magnolia's Vineyard in Orefield, Pa.

The bride is the daughter of Arthur and Pamela Nichols of Andover. She is a 2001 graduate of Andover High School and a 2005 graduate of Kutztown University, Kutztown, Pa. She is a legal videographer at Veritext Court Reporting in Philadelphia.

The groom is the son of Mark and Joanne Ford of New Tripoli, Pa. He is a graduate of North Western High School, the Antonelli Institute of Art in Philadelphia, Pa., and Bloomsburg University in Bloomsburg, Pa. He is a youth marketing director at Marketing Partners in Bethlehem, Pa.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Arthur Nichols.

Matron of honor was friend of the bride Heather (Aucterlonie) Thorsell, formerly of Andover and now of Charleston, S.C. Bridesmaids were the bride's sister-in-law, Lisa (Chang) Nichols, formerly of Andover and now of Virginia Beach, Va., Lauren Eagle of Bangor, Pa., and Meredith Taylor of Augusta, Ga. Flower girls were the bride's niece, Sarah Nichols of Virginia Beach, Va., and the matron of honor's daughter, Anna Thorsell.

Best man was Mark Ford, of New Tripoli, Pa., father of the groom. Ushers were friend of the groom Brandon Billig of New Tripoli, Pa.; bride's brother David Nichols, formerly of Andover and of Virginia Beach, Va.; Joe McVey of Chadds Ford, Pa., and Nick Manson of Philadelphia, Pa.

After a honeymoon trip to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, the couple live in New Tripoli, Pa.

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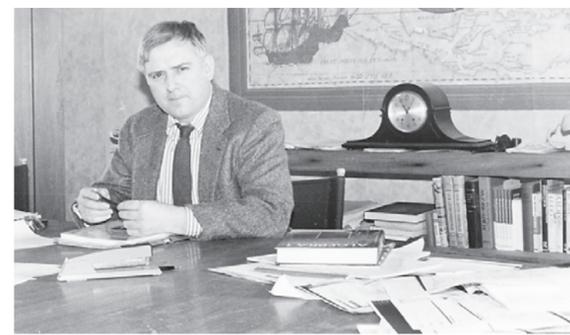
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Business

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

YMCA provides support

As part of the new Armed Services YMCA and Department of Defense Outreach Initiative, Merrimack Valley YMCA will provide military families with access to youth development, family strengthening, and health and well-being programs at community YMCAs nationwide, including at the Andover/North Andover YMCA. Membership fees will be underwritten by the Defense Department and administered through Military OneSource, an information and referral service for military families.

"The Merrimack Valley YMCA is happy to help meet the critical needs facing families of deployed military service members," said Elizabeth A. Covino, director of Community Relations & Development at the Merrimack Valley YMCA. "Families are the most affected when a loved one gets deployed, so we are deeply committed to providing them with the support they need."

Those eligible to participate in the new initiative include:

- Interested families of joint deployed National Guard and Reserves of all military branches.
- Families living in newly established Joint Base Realignment and Closure bases.
- Active Duty Independent Duty station personnel and their families
- Relocated spouses and family members of deployed Active Duty personnel.

"The YMCA has a long history of supporting military service members and their families since the Civil War so it was natural for us to join this initiative," Covino said. "During this time of conflict, it is more important than ever that we continue providing services and support to these families in the absence of a deployed spouse."

Warnock joins one80 Sport & Fitness

Andover resident Art McDermott, owner of one80 Sport & Fitness at 226 Andover St. in Wilmington, announces that Larry Warnock, LMT, has joined the staff as resident massage

therapist. "Doc," as he is known by high school and college athletes, is a licensed clinical and sports massage therapist with more than 20 years experience helping athletes perform better and remain injury-free. In addition to area high schools, he has worked with athletes from Harvard, Tufts, Bentley, University of New Hampshire, Merrimack, University of Mass. and others. He has worked with Olympians and professional teams as well, according to a company release.

Warnock is also a nationally recognized expert in trigger point therapy, orthopedic massage and myofascial release, all effective modalities in helping people heal from chronic conditions such as sciatica, lumbar back problems, shoulder pain, industrial injuries such as repetitive stress injuries and many other chronic conditions, according to a release.

Warnock is a professor at Tufts University in Medford, where he teaches courses in complementary therapies and is a member of the Wellness Team in the University's Health Service. He has taught counseling at the Graduate School at Assumption College and has enjoyed a career in counseling, rehabilitation and sports psychology.

Andover resident joins massage studio

Elements Therapeutic Massage, a membership based massage franchise with over a dozen studios in Massachusetts, has named Andover resident Patricia McGinnis as massage therapist for its Stoneham studio located at 200A Main St. McGinnis is a certified licensed therapist.

"McGinnis is so passionate and dedicated to making a difference in our clients' lives," notes Stoneham co-owner Lisa Swanson. "We are pleased to have her as part of our seasoned team."

McGinnis received her education and certification in massage therapy from the New Hampshire Institute for Therapeutic Arts in Hudson, N.H. To make an appointment with McGinnis or any of the staff at Elements Therapeutic Massage studio in Stoneham, visit www.touchofelements.com or call 781-438-4110.

Credit union opens branch at tech school

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

In a move they feel makes dollars and sense, Andover Federal Credit Union and Greater Lawrence Technical School have combined forces, opening a credit union branch in the River Road high school.

On Monday, Jan. 5, school and credit union officials cut a bright orange ribbon hanging across the credit union's counter, opening the branch for business. School Superintendent Judy Ann DeLucia was the first in line to open an account.

"It's worked out well, it's been a nice venture. We were very anxious to get here (and open)," said AFCU manager Peter Iacobucci.

Opening an in-school branch came naturally, said Iacobucci, as the school and credit union have several strong ties. Gerald Silverman, Andover resident and GLTS committee member, helped form the credit union in the 1960s and is member number 0001. Marilyn Fitzgerald, a GLTS administrator, is secretary of the credit union's board of directors.

Also, Iacobucci's father, John Iacobucci, taught electronics at GLTS from 1962 to 1996, he said, and is manager of the AFCU board of directors.

"The credit union really fits in here. We wanted it as an option for our students as a career. It's very exciting," said DeLucia. "Customers can go to lunch, have their hair done and bank (all at GLTS) now. What more could you want?"

The new credit union branch, which was partially built and painted by technical school students, is down the hall from the Great Looks Today Salon and



CARL RUSSO / Staff photo

Greater Lawrence Technical High School superintendent Dr. Judy Ann DeLucia is the first customer to open an account at the Andover Federal Credit Union branch located in the school. Technical High School senior Ewing Concepcion, a marketing major who works in the branch, helps the superintendent as Peter Iacobucci, Federal Credit Union manager, looks on. Concepcion will receive the Merrimack College Presidential Scholarship and attend Merrimack College next year.

Four Winds Dining Room, which are also open to the public and run by students and staff.

GLTS seniors Willmarie Rodriguez and Ewing Concepcion, who have been training at AFCU's Lupine Road location for several months, will staff the new branch as tellers in a learning co-op. The school branch has an ATM and is full-service, with a manager on staff who can process loan applications and handle other customer-service needs.

Concepcion took DeLucia's transaction, opening her account last Monday.

As exciting as it was to wait on the superintendent, it's equally exciting to be working in a new branch in his high school, said Concepcion, 17.

"I've always wanted to work

at a bank. I like math, numbers and dealing with money," he said, breaking into a smile. "It's my first job, and I like it. At first it was confusing (learning the computer system and banking concepts), but now I know everything, and I know all the customers too."

He will work at AFCU's Lupine Road branch over the summer, as well as next year, when he's on breaks from attending Merrimack College. It's a job he feels lucky to have at his age, said Concepcion.

AFCU is a nonprofit financial institution owned and operated by its members, and membership is open to municipal and school employees of the town of Andover, Phillips Academy, the Greater Lawrence Technical School and a few other local

organizations. The institution's main office — its only office before the GLTS branch opened last week — is on Lupine Road, about a minute by car from downtown Andover.

"(GLTS) is considered West Andover, and the new branch will be more convenient for customers on that side of town," said AFCU manager Peter Iacobucci. "It's also a real good service to the faculty at the school. Teachers can now go down on their lunch break (to do transactions)."

The credit union's new branch will be open only during school hours on school days. Customers can park in the front visitor's parking lot, and go in the front door without signing in at the security desk.

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Becoming President is a moving experience

January 20 will be a very moving day for outgoing President George W. Bush and President-elect Barack Obama.

For the first time, an Afro-American will take the oath and become the President of the United States of America.

The theme for the 2009 Inaugural is "A New Birth of Freedom." The theme honors the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth.

The words come from Lincoln's Gettysburg address. Lincoln hoped that the sacrifice of those who died to preserve the United States would lead to "a new birth of freedom" for the nation.

About 240,000 people will have tickets to the event. However several million people will be in Washington D.C. to observe the inauguration and celebrate. The crowd will spill onto the National Mall. There, they can see the event on jumbo television screens lining the mall.

The speeches will be packed with words and phrases for future history books.

At about 11:45 a.m. Joe Biden will be sworn in as the Vice-President. Shortly before



A stage platform has been built on the west side of the US Capitol for the inaugural ceremony.

Photo by Presidential Inaugural Committee

noon Obama will take the presidential oath. He will become the 44th United States President. The constitution states that the new president must be sworn in by noon.

A departure ceremony will also be held for President George W. Bush and Vice-President Dick Cheney.

Something is happening behind the scenes while speeches are made at the capitol building and the parade moves up Pennsylvania Avenue. The White House staff is

moving the Bush family out and moving the Obama family in.

The move begins the moment President Bush leaves for the swearing-in ceremony. A group of workers will box up and move out the Bush family belongings.

By the time the Obama family arrives after the inaugural parade, their belongings will be unpacked and in place. The new First Family can walk into the mansion at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue and feel right at home.

The celebration will continue into the night at many balls being held to honor the new President. But when the new First Family members are ready call it a night, they just might find spending their first night at the White House a moving experience!

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Newspaper in Education Activity

In this week's Kid the word "moving" was used in two different ways. "Moving" was used to describe an emotion some people might feel during the inaugural activities. "Moving" was also used to describe a change of location of homes for the Bush and Obama families. Search your newspaper for words that can be used in more than one way. Make a list and discuss it with your class.



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Swenson Granite Works Join our team: we are accepting applications for Assistant Manager in our Rowley MA location.

85 Medical
CAT SCAN TECHNICIAN
Busy multi-physician surgical practice seeks experienced part-time CAT scan Technician. Previous experience preferred.

87 Business
First Run Business
The Philips family of companies has the following job opportunities available (various levels/types) in Andover MA:

91 Sales
First Run FT Time Early Morning Customer Service
Mon. through Fri. LATITUDE Sports Clubs Call (978) 462-5662

91 Sales
First Run Furniture Sales
Experience preferred. FT/PT. Fax/email resume 978-372-2764 Newmann28@aol.com

91 Sales
First Run Auto Technician
Experienced. FT for busy & full service shop. Excellent diagnostic skills, own tools, valid drivers license & references.

91 Sales
First Run Auto Technician
Experienced. FT for busy & full service shop. Excellent diagnostic skills, own tools, valid drivers license & references.

BRADFORD, FURNISHED ROOM.
Off 495 & 125, \$550/month. Includes utilities. 1st & 2nd last month. (978) 857-8775.

METHUEN, Room for rent, 54 yr old male, non-smoking, non drinking, seeks same to share beautiful home in good location. Includes all utilities. \$650/mo. 978-270-0786.

EAST HAMPTSTEAD NH clean, safe, sunny, quiet, room with cable, laundry, parking \$140/wk. includes utilities. 603-382-8531

85 Medical
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Busy multi-physician surgical practice seeks experienced part-time CAT scan Technician. Previous experience preferred.

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SOLD in 2008!

1 Presidential Way * 19 Riverview St. * 60A Seven Springs Ln. * 4B Colonial Dr. #9 * 122 Dutton Rd. * 8 Brienvood Crcl. * 16 Francella Rd. * 1 Riverview Blvd. #6-205 * 16 Balmoral, #412 * 380 Merrimack Ctr. * 3 Lindseys Way * 7 Meadbrook Dr. #450 * 58D Seven Springs Ln. * 102 Sunset Rock Rd. * 177 E Pleasant Valley St. * 7 Arbor Glen Ln. * 5 Sally Sweets Way, 123 * 15 Windkist Farm Rd. * 6-16 Hancock St. * 12 Cornish St. Ext. * 32 Shawshoan Rd. * 2 Heritage Farm Rd. * 498 Prospect St. * 176 High Plain Rd. * 2 Kathleen Terrace * 69 Winding Pond Rd. * 180 Chickering, #308C * 88 Redspring Rd. * 91 Sumner St. #7 * 12 Magnavista Dr. * 5 Sally Sweets Wy. #140 * 3 Riverwood Dr. * 13 Sevilla Rd.

1 Langley Ln. 25 West Dr. 17 Crescent St. 36 Osgood St. 25 James St. #11 * 3 Hampton Ln. * 123 Greene St. * 175 Tyler St. * 48 Lovjoy St. * 68 Glencrest Dr. * 12 Sunnyside Ave. * 18 Anderson Dr. * 6 Pembroke Dr. * 35 Stevens St. * 15 Stoneybrook * 20 Dana St. * 18 Dale St. #3C * 20 Lois St. * 85 Sumner St. * 11 Kirkland Dr. * 191 Barker St. * 31 Middlesex St. * 31 Stoneybrook * 80 Osgood St. * 357 Forest St. * 15 Center St. * 26 Lucerne Dr. * 21 Pelham St. * 31 Jefferson St. * 8 Harvard Rd. * 7 Faith Dr. * 5 Wood Ln. * 8 Carriage Way * 14 Thomas Rd. *

19 Mall St., #1 * 7 Windmill Ln. * 12 Smith St. * 65 Champton Rd. * 36 Haseltine St. * 273-277 Salem St. * 61 Rollins St. * 10 Jefferson St. * 37 Glen Ave. #17 * 36 Chandler Rd. * 46 Columbia Park * 46-48 Spruce St. * 88 Hay Meadow Rd. * 76-78 Clifton St. * 8 Florence St. #1 * 31 Wright St. * 7 Crescent Dr. #6 * 20 Westward Crcl. * 7 Acorn St. * 30 W. Beacon St. * 91 Sumner St. #6 * 115-119 Oxford St. * 25 Pinewood Rd. * 148 Main St. #322 * 95 Colgate Dr. * 42 High St. * 37 Lowell St. * 337 Sumner St. * 14 Linton Ave. * 26 Wyoming Ave. * 18 Linden St. * 70 Central St. * 3B Stevens St. * 25 Vardley Rd.

227 Summer St. * 8 Ravens Bluff * 120 Maple St. * 111 Woodcrest Dr. * 88 Wesley St. * 115 Lake St. * 28 Concord St. * 1 Heritage Ln. * 12-14 Kondazian St. * 26 Brundrett Ave. * 93-95 Sunset Ave. * 515 Boston St. * 7 Mortimer Dr. * 12 Trifinity Ln. * 80 Woodcrest Dr. * 53 Wareham St. * 7 Larchmont Crcl. * 18 Summer St. #3 * 3 Sugar Pine Ln. * 11 Winthrop Ave. * 18 Summer St. #5 * 1 1/2 Caulkins Ct. * 1 Whispering Pines Dr. * 122 Edgelawn Ave. #3 * 350 Great Pond Rd. * 453 Waverly Rd. * 1401 Great Pond Rd. * 46-48 Niesmith St. * 16 Balmoral, #305 * 91 Sumner St. #1 * 199 Merrimack Meadows * 78 No. Pepperell Rd. * 1 Riverview, #104 *

7 Noel Rd. 44 Haigh Ave. 7 Randam Ln. 7 Cardwood Rd. Cortland Dr. #11 33 Highland St. 11 Genetti Crcl. 53 Blanchard St. 12-14 Kondazian St. 26 Brundrett Ave. 93-95 Sunset Ave. * 515 Boston St. * 7 Mortimer Dr. * 12 Trifinity Ln. * 80 Woodcrest Dr. * 53 Wareham St. * 7 Larchmont Crcl. * 18 Summer St. #3 * 3 Sugar Pine Ln. * 11 Winthrop Ave. * 18 Summer St. #5 * 1 1/2 Caulkins Ct. * 1 Whispering Pines Dr. * 122 Edgelawn Ave. #3 * 350 Great Pond Rd. * 453 Waverly Rd. * 1401 Great Pond Rd. * 46-48 Niesmith St. * 16 Balmoral, #305 * 91 Sumner St. #1 * 199 Merrimack Meadows * 78 No. Pepperell Rd. * 1 Riverview, #104 *

89 Trades/Industrial
First Run
Due to continuing growth in our machining and fabrication business, we are expanding our manufacturing team. The following positions are currently available:

HomesNorth AutosNorth JobsNorth
The largest classified advertising marketplace north of Boston. Reach up to 355,000 shoppers with one call!

97 Work Wanted
ANDOVER: Female quadriplegic needs PCA/PCA, 4-10 p.m. every other weekend. \$10.84 per hour. Not private pay. Call after 1:30 p.m. 978-725-8145

98 Caregivers
PCA OR CNA, needed in Marblehead for elderly woman with Alzheimers. Non smoker, no perfume, must communicate well & like dogs. 8:30 pm - 9am one or two nights on Saturday or Sunday & some fill-ins 8:30am - 2:30pm, \$20 per hour. Experience required. Subject to criminal background check. \$100 SS card needed. Reply with resume & references to: PO Box 1015, Marblehead, MA 01945

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RE/MAX Partners Participated in sale

COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage 305 North Main St., Andover, MA 978-475-2201

www.NewEnglandMoves.com www.OpenHouse.com

NO ANDOVER - \$279,900
Built in 2004.5 room, 3 BR, 2.5 bath Cape with many upgrades! Gleaming HW floors, C/A, gas heat and gas FP in the LR. Fenced yard, neighborhood near town & schools. Ask for Joan Pelletier

NO ANDOVER - \$349,900
Great value! This 7 room Split entry is located walking distance to schools, shops and library in established neighborhood. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 2nd family room, deck overlooks fenced lot. Ask for Jeannette Belben

NO ANDOVER - \$479,900
Sprawling cape on lovely 2 acre lot near Old center. Quality constructed gracious home with 2 FPs, great details, updated granite kitchen, cathedral FR, 3-4 BRs, ideal for one floor living. Ask for Rhonda Goff

ANDOVER - \$609,900
Choice location for this 8 room, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath Colonial on cul-de-sac walking distance to Sanborn School, near Rte. 93 and town center! FR and playroom, C/A, security system. Ask for Nuala Boness

ANDOVER - \$874,000
3800 square foot home on acre plus lot abutting AVIS land. Extremely energy efficient home with high efficiency heating units. 3.5 baths, finished 3rd floor, walk-out basement. South school district. Ask for Maureen Keller

NO ANDOVER - \$569,000
Old Center location for this delightful 8 room Cape with 3 BRs, multiple baths, gleaming HW, cathedral ceiling 3-season room, FP FR, light & bright interior, C/A, and move-in condition! Ask for Donna Shay

NO ANDOVER - \$959,000+
New 3-4 BR single family homes with 2 car attached garage in 37 lot cul-de-sac neighborhood. Dramatic floor plans, gas FP, granite kitchens, hardwood floors, A/C, 3 models to view. Ask for Valerie Duffield or Roger Richard

ANDOVER - \$999,000
Magnificent 10 room Tudor Colonial with 3 fireplaces and 3 car garage! This home has it all! Bose surround sound, every amenity! Gorgeous grounds abut conservation land. Ask for Joan Ponti

NO ANDOVER - \$762,500
Location! 10 room colonial with 3 car garage features 1st floor office, playroom over garage, cathedral ceiling fireplaced great room, granite kitchen, pool, all the bells & whistles! Ask for Coletta Fanelue

ANDOVER - \$874,000
3800 square foot home on acre plus lot abutting AVIS land. Extremely energy efficient home with high efficiency heating units. 3.5 baths, finished 3rd floor, walk-out basement. South school district. Ask for Maureen Keller

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102 Articles for Sale

LIFT CHAIR "Pride". Brand new. Used only once. Beige. \$450. Debbie 978-374-9777. SKATES, Bauer, Precision In-line Skates, hardly used, size 10, \$200.

103 Household Goods

ALWAYS BUYING & SELLING www.TheCatch-All.com Open 7 Days /Wk. 978-462-3300. ***** APPLIANCES ***** \$100 & UP. SHOWROOM: 46 FOSTER ST., PEABODY delivery available 978-538-1300.

103 Household Goods

KITCHEN TABLE, hard rock maple, formica top, with extra leaf, excellent condition. \$35. (978) 745-1640. LENNOX Temperware dishes, blue & yellow flowers on cream background. 5 piece place setting service for 8. \$30. Solid birch complementary pieces \$10. 978-373-4095.

103 Household Goods

STOVE, Electric, Hot Point, self-cleaning, 3 years new. \$300. Call (978) 282-9318. STOVE, Magic Chef, 30", beige, set up for propane, hardly used, very clean. \$175. (978) 682-3639.

104 Antiques/Collectibles

PORCELAIN DOLLS (4) Amish Children, Danbury Mint, originally \$320, selling for \$100. 978-478-7251. WARDROBE/ ARMOIRE/ Entertainment Center: Antique oak, 76" h x 42" l x 14.5" w, 1 drawer bottom, \$230. (978) 470-0274.

107 Fitness/Sports

GOLF Pull Cart excellent condition, \$10. (978) 372-5467. GOLF SHOES - Womens, Brand new, size 9-10 medium, brown alligator pattern from the Europa collection, \$40. (603) 893-4003.

110 Building Materials

Allpro Torpedo kerosene heater \$200. Boston ladder 36" \$250. 978-352-4014. ANDERSEN WINDOW 90" X 60" wood casement picture window. very good condition. \$200.00. Frank 978-375-6407. Bret 987-375-6408.

118 Electronics

SURROUND SOUND Cambridge Soundworks surround speaker system. \$250. (978) 469-9779. TV 61" TOSHIBA HDTV Excellent condition. 1080i. \$300. 603-437-1680.

121 Fuel

Absolute Oil Co., Inc. Call for todays low price 24 hour burner service Cleanouts & installations. 978-535-2839. ATTENTION FUEL CONSUMERS:

121 Fuel

Low, Low Prices Call 24 Hours 978-921-0702; 877-688-7667. PAYLESS OIL (prices subject to change).

103 Household Goods

***** BEDDING ***** Star Mattress & Box. Orthopedic, Euro-top, New In Plastic/Warranty. Cost \$1100. Sell Queen \$300; Full \$275; King \$450. Can deliver. 603-427-0001. BEDROOM 10 Piece. Solid Cherrywood Sleigh, Dresser/Mirror, Chest, 2 Nightstands with Pillowtop Mattress & Box. New In Boxes. Cost \$4,000. Sell \$1700. 603-430-1164.

103 Household Goods

MOVING: attractive like new sofas (2) \$800 - \$1000 each. Rich wood dining table & cane back chairs \$200. 2 Wing chairs \$250 each. 978-283-0498. MOVING: oak corner china cabinet \$299, maple kitchen table & 4 chairs \$200. 978-283-0498.

103 Household Goods

ORIENTAL RUG \$300, cream/blue/pink, pastel colors. 8ft. x 12 ft. (978) 470-0382. ORIENTAL RUG 9X11, navy meditation style, \$50. Call (978) 373-4095.

103 Household Goods

ORIENTAL RUG \$300, cream/blue/pink, pastel colors. 8ft. x 12 ft. (978) 470-0382. ORIENTAL RUG 9X11, navy meditation style, \$50. Call (978) 373-4095.

106 Bicycles/Mopeds

LITTLE BOYS BIKE Has Training wheels in good condition. \$15.00 firm 978-681-8396. RALEIGH Ladies 3 speed bike, 9000 condition, \$75-\$100. Best offer. (978) 465-7475.

107 Fitness/Sports

ARCHERY: 2 Stands from Release, \$65 each. 1 package of 3 broadhead 10 pack, \$25. Flambeau hard case for bow \$25. 978-394-1180. ARCHERY: Truglo single pin fiberoptic sight, \$60; 3 pin fiberoptic sight by North American Archery \$25. 978-394-1180.

112 Office Equipment

DISPLAY CASE, 6', like new, glass with gold, like new. Paid \$500, sell for \$175 (978) 688-6657. SKI BOOTS Salomon - Womens size 8-8.5 - Evolution 7.2. Very Good condition. \$30 or best offer. 603-382-4315.

112 Office Equipment

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103 Household Goods

SNOW BLOWER - Craftsman 5 HP, 24" inch dual stage. Freshline track. Runs Great. \$250. 603-895-1134. SNOWBLOWER, Craftsman, 7 h.p., 24", electric start, runs great, \$450. Artie's snowblower, 6 h.p., 24", electric start, runs great, \$400. Call after 7 p.m., 603-898-9239.

103 Household Goods

BOSE HOME THEATRE Speakers, hardly used, \$1599. Sony DVD player, \$25 (978) 390-5116. BUFFET HUTCH, walnut, glass doors, excellent condition, \$85. Camp chair, with shoulder strap cover, new. \$10. Lawn sprinkler used on golf course \$10. 978-741-0052.

103 Household Goods

PROANE GAS FIREPLACE good condition NEVER used 30,000 BTU'S 250.00 978-373-1271. QUEEN SIZE BED, \$300; mahogany finish wood coffee table \$75; (978) 283-0498.

103 Household Goods

TV - 55" Samsung Projection, high definition TV, \$500/best offer. 603-275-5498. TV ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, fits up to 27" TV, pocket doors, swivel shelf, 44x36x12, solid pine, \$550/best offer. (978) 682-0540.

107 Fitness/Sports

FLUIDITY PILATES As seen on TV - Fluidity Pilates System includes integrated bar and mat that fold down for easy storage, plus 4 instructional videos. Like new! \$125.00 Contact: 978-470-0798. FREE WEIGHTS - 50 cents per pound. Call (978) 373-0180 ask for Rick.

110 Building Materials

ANDERSEN French Patio Doors. New framed. 5'11 1/4" x 6' 10 3/8". High performance tempered glass. Factory applied satin nickel hinges. White. Comes with screens & gliders. Brand new. Original price \$2,500. Asking \$1,500. (978) 879-4634.

112 Office Equipment

CAR AUDIO SYSTEM 2X12/1200w Sub w/Box, Sony Xpload 1200w Amp & 2X350w spkrs. \$200/obo. (978) 304-7850 mike44149@aol.com Call or email for more info. \$200/best offer.

118 Electronics

CAR SUB SYSTEM: 12" Subs, Sony Xpload AMP, 2x350w speakers. (978) 304-7850 mike44149@aol.com Call or email for more info. \$200/best offer.

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103 Household Goods

SNOWBLOWER Toro, runs excellent, 5hp, electric start \$250/best. Tractor Craftsman, 12.5hp, runs excellent/mower works. \$300/best. (978) 204-8179. SONY PLAY STATION 1, with all hook-ups & 4 games, needs controller, \$15. (781) 334-6755.

103 Household Goods

CARPET - I have access to several thousand yards of plush & Berber carpet. Carpet your living room & hall with pad for \$495 based on 30 sq. yds. John 781-862-9099. CHAIRS: wood chairs with arms, black/green upholstery back and seat, 75 available, \$5 ea. any other (978) 535-5143.

103 Household Goods

COMPUTER DESK, corner style, like new, light wood, black veneer, paid \$125, asking best offer. (978) 682-0540. COMPUTER DESK solid honey oak, 62"x25.5", excellent condition, cabinet door on one side, 3 drawers on other. \$275. (978) 372-5770.

103 Household Goods

WASHER \$25, Dryer-\$30. Call 978-886-7735 leave message, will call back. WASHER & DRYER - Maytag Neptune - \$350 for both. Call (978) 834-0941.

107 Fitness/Sports

WING CHAIR light/dark gold, brand new was \$269, only one month old, asking \$100. Sofa, chair, burgundy print, good shape \$300. (978) 769-3097. WOODSTOVE in good shape. Works well. Good for shop or home. With some pipe. \$125/best. Rick (978) 372-2920.

110 Building Materials

WOOD STOVE - Vermont cast iron. Defiant Parlob furnace 16 x 32 front load 2 door, side load 1 door. Asking \$600/best. (603) 647-4909. 36" SPEAKERS handmade pine wood 300.00. 978-373-1271.

112 Office Equipment

WOODSTOVE: Franklin, with flue great condition, front load, holds up to 18" pieces. \$200. 978-399-8487.

118 Electronics

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103 Household Goods

TICKETS Red Sox Spring Training tickets (1st March 22nd VS Phillies, Standing Room \$10.00 each. Call (603) 362-4945. TRAIN SET, GEO trac, complete set, includes airport, clocktower, 5 trains, \$200 or best offer. (978) 374-2146.

103 Household Goods

DESIGNER TABLE Basket large handmade woven *Kattadi Bowi* (India) filled with large light colored hand made silk vegetables a must see \$40/best (978) 475-8480. DINING ROOM 11 piece cherry wood, table with 2 leafs, 8 chairs, lighted china hutch & server. Brand new in boxes. Sell \$1300. Call 603-427-2001.

103 Household Goods

SOFA, camel back beige \$125 oversuffed chair, ton \$75, recliner mauve \$75, gas driver Kenmore \$150, round front black curio cabinet \$140. (978) 388-6000. SOFA & MATCHING CHAIR Rust & green plaid, comfortable, good condition both \$175 617-924-2978.

103 Household Goods

SOFA SLEEPER - Wine colour, full size, 6 1/2 L, perfect condition, \$300/best. Triple dresser, fruitwood finish, good condition, \$100/best. You must move. (978) 927-0156. SOFA with 2 matching cushioned rockers, beige, good condition, originally \$875, asking \$135. 978-476-9977.

104 Antiques/Collectibles

DOLL PLATES 6 Franklin Mint, gold trim, paid \$250, sell for \$100, 978-478-7251. LADDERBACK CHAIRS, Antiques: 7 side, 1 arm, 1 rocking. Moke offer on one or all. 603-382-3522. LUSTERWARE set, 5 plates, 5 cups & saucers, teapot, cream & sugar, nice blue & gold with flower & bird pattern. \$40. (978) 475-2713.

107 Fitness/Sports

FREE WEIGHTS - 50 cents per pound. Call (978) 373-0180 ask for Rick.

110 Building Materials

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118 Electronics

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103 Household Goods

WALKER - Folding, adult with height adjustment. \$100. (603) 224-2640. WHEELCHAIR Guardian, fixed arm, swing away foot rest, carbon steel frame with chrome. \$380 firm. Call (603) 224-2640.

103 Household Goods

WOODSTOVE 24 X 48 Used in workshop \$450.00 (603) 898-4135. WOOD STOVE - Air-tight, window view, heavy steel construction, 20" log, 6 inch flue with damper. New fire brick, excellent condition, will load. \$295. 603-502-0070.

103 Household Goods

WOODSTOVE, Franklin. Like new, Black, Refurbished. \$100. (978) 374-1813.

103 Household Goods

X BOX GAMES 15 used games, asking \$150 or best offer. (978) 399-8487. XBOX with controller & 4 games, \$95. (603) 382-3248.

102A Free Articles

FREE BABY GRAND PIANO and bench. You take it away, will need tuning. Call (978) 973-5979. Free Computer Desk with matching printer stand and chair. Good condition. Call 978-314-8771.

103 Household Goods

ENTERTAINMENT TV & STEREO UNIT, maple plenty of storage, holds 27" tv, 48x60, excellent condition. \$100. (978) 372-4202; 978-771-4553. FARMHOUSE TABLE & 4 LADDER BACK CHAIRS, WHITE WOODGRAIN TOP, \$100. (603) 434-7132.

103 Household Goods

FRENCH DOORS four - brand new, Mahogany. \$250 for all. Call (978) 834-0941. FURNITURE: cherry, Pennsylvania House. S D BOARD & ROLLING TABLE \$300. Bedroom set; double bed, 2 dressers, mirror, side board. \$600/best. 978-388-9159.

103 Household Goods

GENERATOR Briggs & Stratton Commercial 1500 - runs excellent \$300/best. (978) 204-8179. GREAT GIFT FOR Dad, new wooden work bench or picnic table. Can be used also as country table or kitchen island. 6' long x 36" wide x 3" deep; \$50. (978) 372-7927.

103 Household Goods

AIR BED, New, \$175. BEDS! ALL NEW!! Twins \$140, Fulls \$160, Queens \$185, Kings \$299. 5-pc Cherry Bedroom set New in Boxes \$599. 603-566-3840.

103 Household Goods

HOSPITAL BED Hospital bed electric with side bars, excellent condition. 650.00 delivered. Frank 978-375-6407. JOTUL STOVE (gas) in excellent condition, white, good source of heat. \$300 or best offer. Call (603) 434-6725.

103 Household Goods

HEADBOARD BRASS full size \$50. Exercise equipment, Volt gravity rider, \$20; Coffee tables (2), \$20 each; Lamps (2) stain glass like, \$20 each. 978-994-2865. Home Company solid wood 48" round x 30" H conference table Henna Cherry vernier \$300 best offer (978) 255-1386.

103 Household Goods

MA Mortgage Broker #4520. Licensed by the NH Banking Dept.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF ANDOVER PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given that the Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on January 26, 2009 to discuss adopting regulations for outdoor dining pursuant to Article XI Section 9 of the General Bylaws of the Town of Andover.

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SADDLE Black, synthetic, western. Asking \$300. (978) 857-9682

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PET HOODED RATS Tan and white, small, hand raised, very gentle and smart. Ready for good homes please. Dre # (603)893-0403 ofter 10:00 am

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THURSDAY	THU. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
A bit of snow	Mainly clear; frigid	Bitterly cold	Not as cold	Snow or flurries	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny
High: 14°	Low: -2°	High: 10° Low: 6°	High: 23° Low: 12°	High: 23° Low: 13°	High: 26° Low: 12°	High: 27° Low: 19°	High: 35° Low: 26°

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TOWN TALK

A community says goodbye to Fr. Morgan

Hundreds and hundreds of not thousands of mourners visited St. Augustine Church on Essex Street last Friday, Jan. 9, to say goodbye to Fr. George Morgan. The popular priest served the local Catholic community in many ways. He was the associate pastor at the church for years, chaplain at Lawrence General Hospital and active with Merrimack College where he was ordained in 1966.

His body lay in state for six hours last Friday at the church. Services for the 69-year-old were held Saturday, Jan. 10 and a large smiling picture of him graced the altar for all weekend Masses.

"Our community experienced the impact of one man, and his illness," said parish spokeswoman Katie LeBlanc. "Fr. George Morgan impacted so many in our parish."

— Judy Wakefield

New owners for part of Shawsheen Plaza

The part of Shawsheen Plaza that includes Market Basket and Rite Aid has been sold. Actually, records on file with the North Essex Deeds show the company Guys of Andover LLC bought the Market Basket location quietly last October and paid about \$12.7 million.

The company also bought the commercial spaces that currently house Andover Liquors, Rite Aid and a Citizens Bank branch for another \$18.9 million, according to the deeds records on file.

The purchase makes the Salem-based real estate company a clear player on the local commercial real estate scene as it also owns the building housing Grassfield's Restaurant and Arrow Floor Carpet One, also located in Shawsheen Plaza.

A representative of the new owners denies a several-years-long rumor that refuses to die: that another supermarket is moving into the space to replace Market Basket.

"It's not true and we're even wondering how the rumor started," said Terry Desjardins of Guys of Andover LLC. "All of the tenants are in leases and no one is leaving."

Market Basket's public affairs department did not return a call.

— Judy Wakefield

Hall ball: Rice finally joins Williams, Yaz

Red Sox slugger Jim Rice followed greats Ted Williams and Carl Yastrzemski as a keeper of Fenway Park's left field and its iconic Green Monster. Now, he will follow them into the Hall of Fame.



Jim Rice

The Andover resident, a former leftfield/designated hitter and eight-time All-Star, was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame on Monday in his 15th and final year of eligibility.

From 1977 to 1979, during a time of limited offense, Rice collected at least 200 hits and 35 homers, becoming the first player to do so. He collected more hits and runs batted in than any other player between 1975 and 1986, his heyday.

"It's like a 200-pound gorilla is knocked off my shoulders," Rice reportedly said Monday. "I cried when I got the call."

Seminar on college admission process

Andover High School Counseling Department invites people to attend the "College Admission Process," a program for Andover High School juniors and their parents on the college search and application process.

John Mahoney, director of admission for Boston College, will kick off this series as the guest speaker. His session will be Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 7 p.m. in

the Collins Center for Junior parents and students.

The second session, a nuts-and-bolts seminar, will be Monday, Feb. 2, at 7 p.m. in the Collins Center, for parents only.

Home Again needs donations

The cupboards are bare at Temple Emanuel's social agency, Project Home Again. The downturn in the economy has increased the number of families in need, resulted in the closing of several social agencies that provide similar services, and has brought an unexpected reduction in donations. "We are asking people to please take a few minutes to look in their linen closets, kitchen drawers and cabinets, and storage areas. A frying pan, a few old dishes, a Pyrex, and an extra spatula will help a family without cooking utensils prepare their meals. An old set of sheets and a blanket stored for the summer house on a to-do list will make a great bed for a needy family," said Aileen Peters.

In addition to normal warehouse hours, PHA is running two Community Collection Days during February: Sunday, Feb. 8, from 1:15 to 3:30 p.m. and Friday, Feb. 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the foyer at Temple Emanuel.

It's time to sign up for lacrosse season

By GLENN WILSON
ANDOVER YOUTH SERVICES

The Andover Youth Services is offering online registration for Andover Youth Spring Lacrosse through Sunday, Jan. 18.

AYS accepts registrations for boys and girls in grades 1-8. Visit www.ayslacrosse.com and follow the instructions provided. Answers to questions can be found on this Web site.

Andover Youth Spring Lacrosse is a volunteer-run program, designed to maximize the skill development of kids at each level in progressive fashion. The 2009 season runs from April to mid-June. Space is limited on all teams.

Youth Pre-Season Lacrosse

The AYS pre-season lacrosse session began Sunday, Jan. 11, and will continue for four more Sundays. If you want to play lacrosse in the spring or would like to learn the skills of lacrosse, this session at the AHS field house is for you.

The session is open to all boys and girls in first through ninth grades. Residents may register

right at the field house. Girls session runs from 2 to 4 p.m. and the boys session runs from 4 to 6. The boys will be directed by AHS varsity coach Wayne Puglisi and girls by AHS varsity Coach John McVeigh.

This session is designed to meet the needs of both the experienced player and the beginner. Participants will be instructed in all the necessary skills applicable to every lacrosse position. Focus will be on skill development, passing, catching, cradling, dodging and stick work. Game management and specific defensive and offensive schemes will be covered. Each participant will bring their lacrosse to the next level with innovative drills, game situations, stations and fun.

The dates for future session are as follows: Jan. 18 and 25, and Feb. 1 and 8.

Participants are asked to bring the proper equipment. For boys: a stick, mouthpiece, helmet, gloves, shoulder and elbow pads; for girls: a stick, mouthpiece and goggles. For more information, visit www.andoveryouthservices.com.

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