

INSIDE: MAKE THE MOST OF OUR SNOWY WINTER. PAGE 13



OUR 121ST YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 24

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75 CENTS



ROGER DARRIGRAND/Staff photo

John Haak, center, is at home in the Haak's Nest with his fans and classmates at Andover High School. Cory Frerichs, 17, left back, Andrew Lebowitz, 18, Yogi Layne, 17, Tommy Busta, 18, front left, Matt "Fig" Newton, 18 and Chris Lippi are among the John Haak supporters.

Crafting the budget: Fee hikes, layoffs

By BRIAN MESSENGER
STAFF WRITER

If budget talks were to end today, town leaders indicate they would lay off the equivalent of 58 full-time employees and double the fee families pay to play a high school sport.

That's was the plan laid out Monday by Town Manager Buzz Stapeczynski and Superintendent Claudia Bach under Stapeczynski's recommended \$140 million budget for fiscal year 2010.

The town is collecting less revenue than it did an year ago and expects to receive an 8 percent decrease in state aid next year, Stapeczynski said.

As a result, town and school employees — including teachers, firefighters and police officers — may lose their jobs in an attempt to balance the \$139,951,407

budget.

But the leaders appear to hope Andover unions might be willing to make changes to their agreements in the interest of saving jobs.

"We just plain don't have the kind of revenue to sustain the types of budgets we've had," Stapeczynski said. "That means layoffs, unless concessions can be made with employee unions to save jobs."

In the conclusion to her preliminary budget, Bach also writes about working with the unions. Talking about possible ways to retain more things in her budget she wrote, "We might see an improved revenue picture. We could discover that inequities exist within the local funding distribution. We might be successful

Please see **BUDGET**, Page 2

Fan favorite

'Haak's Nest' squawks for quiet senior

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

What started as a joke a few years ago has spread like a pair of giant eagle wings in the stands at boys basketball games at Andover High School. Call it "Haak's Nest" fever.

The Nest is a noisy but lovable core group of fans who have been attending AHS boys varsity games. These diehards fans happily tailgate before games, travel with the team and wildly cheer on the hardwood Warriors many while wearing "Haak's Nest" T-shirts.

John Haak is an Andover High Warrior, and it's his name at the center of the excitement. There's irony there because Haak himself is almost the total opposite of the yelling Andover High basketball fans, some of whom paint their chests. He is a quiet senior who prefers to keep to himself.

"I don't really talk unless I have something to say," Haak said when asked to describe his personality. "I mean, why?"

Haak, No. 55, is a little different on the basketball court, and coach Dave Fazio calls him "the loudest communicator" on the team. But he's also selfless and that's what friends like most about him, Fazio said.



CAROL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover hoop fans "The Hawke's Nest Crew" cheering on the boys basketball team during a game against Central Catholic.

"It's about love for a peer and it's the real deal," Fazio said of the Haak's Nest. "He exemplifies what a student athlete is, and he deserves all this recognition."

The attention was a bit overwhelming in the beginning, but Haak has become

Please see **HAAK**, Page 2

Less money, fewer projects

Planning money, roofs top meeting wish list

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Town Meeting voters could be asked to pay for \$6.6 million in town government vehicles and projects, less than one-third the amount brought before them last year.

"It's a scaled-down list, in recognition of the times, but also in recognition of trying to be more efficient in what we take to Town Meeting," said Town Manager Buzz Stapeczynski.

Selectmen have yet to set the final warrant, so the list could be reduced further. Making the cut so far is a request for a truck the will help clean sewer lines, although requests for similar

trucks have failed in previous years. This year, Public Works' sewer division has requested \$250,000 for renting or buying what it calls "an infrastructure maintenance vehicle."

Voters will also be asked to pay to design for a new Ballardvale fire station, ball fields on Blanchard Street and a plan to redevelop the town yard near the Andover commuter rail stop. Construction money for these projects would be asked for in future years.

Voters also will be asked to pay for an ambulance, roof repairs and remodeling projects for several buildings including

Please see **MEETING**, Page 2

Candidates: What most ails the schools and how I'd fix it

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Andover School Committee candidates have different ideas about what is the biggest problem in the Andover schools. Managing spending, communicating

with the public, keeping up with changing education demands, and using technology are among the areas candidates see as needing improvement.

The Townsman asked the following three questions of the five candidates:

In one sentence, what do you think the Andover Public Schools do best?

In one sentence, what do you see as the biggest weakness of the Andover Public Schools?

How would you improve that weakness?

PAULA COLBY-CLEMENTS
System strength

Historically, we have done a great job hiring teachers and administrators who care deeply about education and our children.

System weakness

Relying for so many years on a steadily growing tax base to fund increased school budgets; with that growth now stagnant, like most households, we must buckle down and figure out ways to do more with less.

How would you improve that weakness?

Realistically, we can no longer rely on increased cash to close the budget deficit that faces us.

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In Education
A winter high note at High Plain Elementary. Page 5

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BUDGET: Layoffs and doubling of sports fees likely under proposal by district

Continued from Page 1

in generating additional income from investigations now underway. We could work with our unions to find other options to the reductions I propose here."

The \$60,433,157 school department budget is \$3.2 million short of being able to provide level services next year, she said.

To cover that deficit, Bach expects to cut \$2.4 million from the school department's payroll. "We're overseeing the

decimation of an excellent school district," School Committee member Arthur Barber said. "This is not comfortable for anybody."

In all, the equivalent of 41 full-time employees — or 55 people — face layoffs under Bach's budget, including more than 20 under the category of "teachers/media/guidance."

"We have the list," said Bach. "We know what precise positions we're talking about."

The payroll reductions would

be broken down as follows: \$528,000 from Andover High School; \$530,000 from the middle schools; \$608,000 from the elementary schools; and \$771,000 from central office staff.

Stapczynski expects he will have to cut \$874,000 from other departments' payrolls, the equivalent of 17.5 full-time employees.

That could include five employees from the police and fire departments, more than three from Plant & Facilities, two each from Memorial Hall Library and general government, and less than two each from Public Works, Community Development and Planning, and Elder, Community and Youth Services.

Bach said the school layoffs would result in increased class size and more study halls at middle school and fewer "non-core" classes at middle and elementary schools.

New fee rates could generate \$434,000. They include an increase in tuition for preschool and all-day kindergarten, and a doubling of the \$250 fee for high school athletics.

That fee would be capped at \$1,000 per family, Bach said.

"These are, for the most part, dramatic increases," said Bach.

Chris Bergeron, Andover athletic director, said athletic fees have been at \$250 per student for about five years, with a cap of \$500 per family.

"It's getting to the point where our user fees are not covering expenses. Something is going to have to change, but we're still exploring our options," said Bergeron. "We don't want to drive people away with too high of a user fee ... Rising costs, rising expenses are a concern, but we don't want to price anyone out of athletics." It is not definite that the \$250 fee will double, he said.

Bach plans to shut down all schools in the evenings during the winter except the high school to save money on energy costs. This would constitute a "major change" in how after-school activities are scheduled, she said. Longer winter school vacations

are also a possibility.

Bach also said the school department is in discussions with a number of other school districts to explore regionalization. Topics of discussion include sharing staff and programs and collaborating on purchasing and grant applications.

Last spring, officials said they agreed to provide a budget transfer for the school department in the event there was a deficit for out-of-district special education costs.

There is a \$900,000 deficit to date, and Stapczynski said he has built a \$500,000 transfer into his budget. Where the remaining money will come from remains to be seen, he said.

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Publisher

Al Getler

Editor

Neil Fater

Circulation Manager

Michelle McCarty

Reporters

Bethany Bray
Brian Messenger
Judy Wakefield
David Willis

Office Manager

Mary Ann Apperti

Reception/Classified

Corinne Towler

Advertising Assistant

Joyce Perillo

Account Executives

Pauline Fontaine Carol Glidden

E-mail Addresses

Neil Fater.....nfater@andovertownsman.com

Display advertising.....pfontaine@andovertownsman.com

Display advertising.....cglidden@andovertownsman.com

Classified.....classads@andovertownsman.com

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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.

MEETING: Sewer truck still in, but fewer projects sought

Continued from Page 1

the Veterans Memorial Auditorium at Doherty Middle School.

Last year's Town Meeting warrant articles totaled more than \$20 million, not all of which were passed. More than \$7 million was approved at 2008 Town Meeting for a single emergency article to continue capping and closing the Ledge Road Landfill.

Some of this year's articles will be scaled down this spring, said Stapczynski, as they must be approved by selectmen to be placed on the final Town Meeting warrant, but he believes most of the 46.6 million will be voted on at Town Meeting.

The list includes critical projects, such as the roof for the auditorium at Doherty Middle, said Tony Torrisi, the town's finance and budget director.

"The articles are for maintenance on town and school buildings that really can't wait," said Torrisi. "We've really tried to

WHAT DOES \$6,610,000 BUY YOU?

Here are the town-sponsored articles on the preliminary Town Meeting warrant:

- \$225,000 for an ambulance
- \$200,000 to design a replacement to the Ballardvale Fire Station
- \$850,000 for schools' roofs
- \$750,000 for water treatment plant roof
- \$650,000 for other town buildings' roofs
- \$650,000 to fix and improve Veterans Memorial Auditorium at Doherty Middle School
- \$425,000 to design ball fields at town land on Blanchard Street
- \$250,000 for renting or buying a sewer-division vehicle
- \$500,000 for water mains
- \$300,000 to replace chemical feed systems in the town's water system supply
- \$30,000 for a master plan to redevelop the existing Town Yard off Lewis Street
- \$1,780,000 to fund unidentified items in the 2010 capital projects fund

TOTAL: \$ 6,610,000.

Also on the preliminary warrant:

- up to \$500,000 for the accumulated employee benefit account, which pays retiring employees for unused sick and vacation days
- up to \$12,000 for an elderly and disabled transportation subsidy program

cut back this year, and the articles may be cut back further. Nothing extraordinary has been asked for."

The town has also reduced borrowing requests to \$3 million, which is less than usual, Torrisi noted.

HAAK: Fans rally around quiet player

Continued from Page 1

used to it. Asked how it feels to be at the center of all the commotion, he simply said it's OK.

He was a freshman when his good buddy Matt "Fig" Newton came up with the Haak's Nest scheme.

"It was kind of a joke," Newton said.

Four years later, the Haak's Nest is a large, devoted fan group with a very big collective heart, as two local organizations are benefiting from all those T-shirt sales.

Newton proposed his Haak's Nest T-shirt idea as a senior exhibition project. Seniors at

AHS are encouraged to go beyond the classroom and come up with ways to improve the world. Newton's project was approved by Principal Peter Anderson, and he's been flying high ever since.

Some 200 Haak's Nest T-shirts have sold so far for \$10 each. The money raised is being donated to Andover Youth Services and the Boys and Girls Club in Lawrence.

"It was a good laugh and now it's helping someone. That's cool," Haak said.

"It was just a joke to name the fan club after Haak. He's shy, reserved and humble, and

that's what's funny," Newton said. "Now, it's a way to show school spirit and we're all into that."

They sure are, and the grills were fired up hours before the Feb. 4 game against arch rival Central Catholic High School when it was barely 20 degrees outside.


"We've lost three games against Central, and this group stands behind us. They are not fair-weather fans. They come up to us after those games and tell us to hang in there," Fazio said. "In my 20 years I've seen a lot of support. But this year is the best."

Back to school night tonight

Andover High School will hold Back to School night for second semester classes on Thursday, Feb. 12, from 7 to 9 p.m. Parents will follow an abbreviated schedule of their child's classes. Students' schedules will be available in the cafeteria for parents that evening.

Chamber hosts spring job fair

The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce will present "Spring Into Business Expo and Job Fair" on Wednesday, April 1, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Michaels Function Hall, Alpha/River St., Route 110, Haverhill. Call 978-686-0900 for more information.



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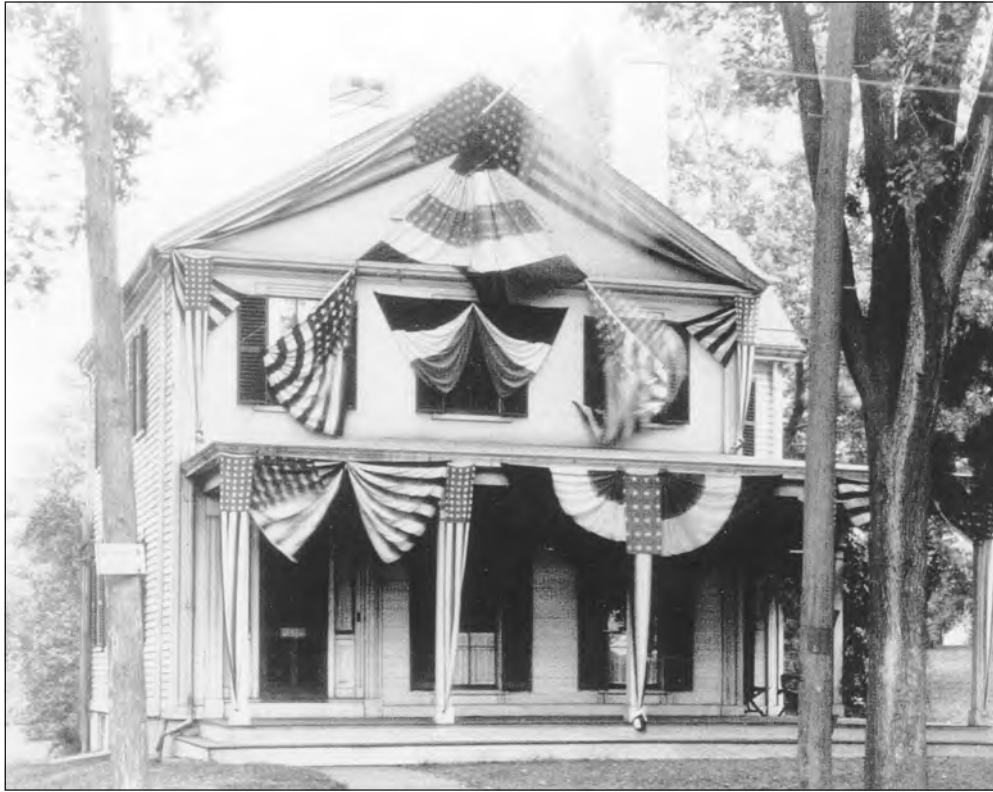


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In Brief

PAST & PRESENT



THEN: Built in 1832, the house at 106 Main St. belonged to Amos Abbott, prominent businessman, deacon, and one of the founding board members of the Andover National Bank. The house is shown here decorated for the Andover's 250th anniversary celebration in 1896.



NOW: 106 Main St., was built in 1832, and was owned by Amos Abbott, a prominent businessman.

Townsmen named among top weeklies in New England

The Andover Townsman received five awards Saturday from the New England Press Association, which named it the top weekly newspaper its size in the six-state region for headline writing and among the best in New England for its reporting on government, the environment, education and health issues.

NEPA is an organization of hundreds of New England publications, from the Boston Herald to small weeklies. In most cases the Townsman was competing against weekly newspapers up to 11 times its circulation size and alternative publications such as the Boston Phoenix.

The Townsman received a first place in New England for weeklies with a circulation above 6,000 for its headlines, which are written by editor Neil Fater.

Reporter Brian Messenger won a second place in New England award for Government Reporting, for articles explaining the salaries and benefits given to Andover employees. Judges said the stories' beginnings, along with "facts which lead to an informed public, and balanced views on the topic of teacher salaries, made this a valuable piece to the Townsman readers."

Editor Neil Fater and Andover resident Judith Holt shared another second place in New England award for Environmental Reporting for a series that followed the O'Brien family of Andover in its attempt to "go green." Fater wrote a kickoff story about the family and Holt wrote columns about their attempts and how others in town could live a greener lifestyle.

"What an original idea with great local appeal! I'll bet this series had families all over Andover looking for ways they could save energy," wrote the judges, in part. "Putting the series online was also a fantastic idea."

Messenger also received a third place in New England award for Health Reporting for what judges called "an extremely detailed series that pinpointed the key issues" around the closing of the town's landfill on Ledge Road. "The health and safety of the community was clearly the No. 1 priority in these articles. Each story was clean and crisp, well-deserving of an award," wrote the judges.

Messenger received another third place award for Educational Reporting for a story on how Superintendent Claudia Bach makes the decision to close schools during snow storms.

QUOTE, UNQUOTE ...



Our Bekins Van Line truck was stuck in Worcester so we spent our first night on the living room rug in our Andover home at 16 Ivy Lane. As I lay there, I wondered what the next day would bring. We had moved to New England, I had a huge responsibility to an entire community, and I was 34.

- Former Schools Superintendent Ken Seifert, on his first night in town. Seifert starts a new column on education and related issues this week, page 5.

My wife says she can't take me anywhere without someone saying something. She says I should get a T-shirt that says "Yes, I know!"

Actor Steve Wood, who looks like Abraham Lincoln and will portray the 16th president at the library next week. Story in Arts, page 8.



NEWS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, FEB. 12

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

School Committee breakfast meeting, Sanborn Elementary, 90 Lovejoy Road, 8 a.m.

Council on Aging, School Administration Building, third-floor conference room, 8 a.m.

Triad, Andover Senior Center, 36 Bartlet St., 9:30 a.m.

Andover High School Back to School Night for second semester classes. Andover High School, Shawsheen Road, 7 to 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 13

School Committee breakfast meeting, High Plain Elementary, 333 High Plain Road, 8 a.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 17

Town Yard Task Force, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7:30 a.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18

Board of Assessors, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., assessors conference room, 9 a.m.

Board of Selectmen meeting with Zoning Board of Appeals subcommittee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 19

Andover Contributory Retirement Board, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 8 a.m.

Board of Assessors, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., assessors conference room, 9 a.m.

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CANDIDATES: Offer their opinions on system

Continued from Page 1

Though the pending federal economic stimulus bill would provide money to the states for education, the final outcome is far from certain. We should be prepared to cope with difficult economic times in the same way family households are being forced to adjust. As a mother of three elementary-school children, I am deeply concerned about the future health of our schools. I'm committed to finding ways to build successful collaborations within the town and even with other districts so that we can successfully make it through these tough economic times and emerge with a stronger, more efficient school system that will be insulated from economic fluctuations.

ART BARBER System strength

Andover schools along with our parents and fellow citizens have been able to successfully create an environment where students at all levels are able to maximize their individual potential resulting in approximately 98 percent of our students enrolling in higher education.

System weakness

Our most significant weakness is our inability to move fast enough into the 21st century with our curriculum and programs while working within our budget and maintaining the values which makes Andover the special place which it is.

How would you improve that weakness?

Now is the time to be innovative, creative and respectful of each and every resource. Actions such as my co-founding of Andover Coalition of Education are needed now, more than ever. We cannot simply do things the way we always have. Conducting a strategic plan will help put us on track and ensure we are offering educational programs that allow us to compete locally, regionally and worldwide. A successful strategic plan garners the input of parents, students, administrators, business people and interested citizens. Through prioritization and careful professional analysis, the direction can be set, reset or adjusted as appropriate. If reelected, I will utilize my experience and training to see that a strategic plan is undertaken while insuring we spend each dollar as wisely as possible.

ANNIE GILBERT System strength

Our school system has excelled in recent years at introducing new programs to improve our student's 21st century skills, such as engineering at all levels.

System weakness

The Andover Public School system needs to communicate more often and more clearly with the entire community. How would you improve that weakness? Each year, much of what we hear from the school district relates to the budget process. We need to hear more about the primary responsibility of our schools: to ensure that every child in Andover receives an excellent education. On the School Committee I would make it a priority to ensure that accessible, regularly updated information about student curriculum and progress is delivered more effectively to our residents. We

must develop, with community input, a strategic plan based on well-articulated and measurable goals linked to student achievement – and we need to follow that up with annual performance reports so residents know what programs work, what programs don't, and how we can best allocate our tax dollars for better schools.

DIANE MCCARRON System strength

The Andover Schools have ensured consistent high performance from their students in the areas of standardized testing, graduation rates, and entry into higher education by paying attention to areas of weakness when they arise and working to improve those areas as necessary.

System weakness

The school system could make improvements in the areas of financial foresight and planning, coupled with better communication between the School Committee and superintendent's office with the Andover community.

How would you improve that weakness?

My work experience has been in an environment that encourages open, informed discussion where one must understand all the circumstances and be able to explain them to others to resolve matters in the best interests of all. My experience has also been working with financial data. These skills will be helpful as the Andover community tries to maintain services within tight budgetary constraints.

In facing the present economic challenges, discussion of all options available now would better prepare the Andover community and schools to deal with any tough decisions that may need to be made. Some of these options, such as potential contract amendments or addendums, will require considerable community discussion and support. Delaying this discussion may compromise and limit the community's future options.

DAVID BIRNBACH System strength

The Andover schools have done a good job at recruiting and cultivating a talented team of teachers, instructional assistants, and principals that foster a flexible and student-centric learning environment and encourage young minds to blossom to their maximum potential.

System weakness

The public schools need to better leverage recent advances in interactive classroom technology — to further improve the student learning process.

How would you improve that weakness?

Our students have different learning styles, and recent advances in interactive teaching technology — such as SmartBoards and Pramethan displays — empower our staff to easily tap into a wide range of current and past multimedia content to help students better learn the subject material. These technologies are being successfully adopted throughout the country, and have the power to significantly enhance student learning. The key to success, however, is to make sure we invest at least 20 percent of the technology budget in teacher training. Without a strong focus on training, these new technologies will have little impact.

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

QUESTION: What is your top priority for funding in town, considering the current economic issues? Which departments are at the top of your list?

WILL ENGLISH

"In tough times we can't overlook services to our most vulnerable citizens. Our seniors created a community we are proud of. We need to honor their contributions and support their services at a critical point in their lives, not price them out of the community they built. Nor should we cut Youth

Services, a vital safety net that services 5,000 kids and families. AYS fosters an extensive volunteer network and already raises the funds for nearly half its staff positions, adding tremendous value at minimal cost. Can we collaborate with other communities to share services like sewer trucks and street cleaners that are not in constant demand? We need to explore shared services before we cut services and jeopardize the people who foster our sense of community."

TED TEICHERT, incumbent

"When it comes down to prioritizing different departments,

schools and public safety, along with maintaining infrastructure (are my top priority). We also have to look for any duplication with departments, and analyze that (as a possible cost savings)."

"Everything else is on the table."

BRIAN MAJOR, incumbent

"My priorities are education and safety. More important than selecting specific departments, Andover's success and continued strength is through balancing the needs of our entire community. Our town and school departments are not mutually exclusive; they

depend upon one another to ensure efficient service delivery. Our outstanding school system is complemented with an excellent library, solid building maintenance, strong multi-generational programs and services from every other town department. The safety of our citizens begins with police, fire and rescue and includes secure bridges, safe drinking water, and outreach programs that support individuals and families in need from infants to seniors. In good and bad times, all departments working in unison to provide the most for Andover's citizens is at the top of my list."

POLICE LOG

ARRESTS

Tuesday, Feb. 3 — At 12:24 p.m., Anthony C. Benjamin, 18, of 59 Memorial Circle, was arrested and charged on a warrant for fines owed for possession of class D (marijuana).

At 3:43 p.m., Heather M. Vittorio, 28, of 20 Knox St. Apt. 10, Lawrence, was arrested and charged on a warrant.

At 7:31 p.m., Imrahotep Wallace, 17, of 159 North Main St. was arrested and charged on a warrant. Wallace was arrested again on Thursday morning and charged on a department of youth services warrant.

Wednesday, Feb. 4 — At 10:17 p.m., David A. Gentile, 23, of 71 Idlewild Road, Tewksbury, was charged on a warrant for driving with a suspended license and a number-plate violation to conceal identity.

Friday, Feb. 6 — At 10:11 a.m., Peter G. Stone, 27, of 100 West Way, North Andover, was arrested and charged with possession of class A substance.

At 1:16 p.m., five patrolmen and two detectives responded to a case of an alleged drug sale on North Main Street. At 1:34 p.m., Elias S. Sanchez, 24, of 19 Hancock St., Apt. 1, Lawrence, was arrested and charged with possession of a class A substance with intent to distribute, distribution of class A and possession of class B with intent to distribute.

Saturday, Feb. 7 — At 11:49 p.m., Suzanne C. French, 57, of 34 Drummer Boy Way, Lexington, was arrested and charged with a marked lanes violation and operating under the influence of liquor.

Sunday, Feb. 8 — At 7:16 p.m., Dominic Kim, 18, of 16 Lyons St., Lowell, was arrested and charged on warrants for assault and battery and possession of a

class D substance.

Monday, Feb. 9 — At 4:46 p.m., Nelson A. Rivas, 26, of 27 Garden St., North Andover, was arrested and charged on a warrant for driving with a suspended license.

THEFTS

Thursday, Feb. 5 — At 6:43 p.m., a person reported that someone had been using her identity.

Friday, Feb. 6 — At 3:27 p.m., a student from Andover High School, Shawsheen Road, reported that their cell phone was either stolen or lost.

Saturday, Feb. 7 — At 10:46 a.m., a case of identity theft was reported on Greenwood Road.

Sunday, Feb. 8 — At 5:22 p.m., Shawsheen Village Liquors, Poor Street, reported a person shoplifted a bottle of Absolut Vodka, valued at \$39.99. The thief left in a black Chevy Blazer.

Monday, Feb. 9 — At 1:36 p.m., a High Street resident reported identity theft.

At 6:50 p.m., an employee of Wingate Nursing Home, Andover Street, reported the theft of a wallet sometime that morning.

INCIDENTS

Wednesday, Feb. 4 — At 10:33 a.m., vandalism was reported on Barnard Street. Hot chocolate was poured in the doorway of a building and a sign was hung that read "going out of business."

At 8:04 p.m., an officer issued nine parking violations to illegally parked cars at the Collins Center at Andover High School.

At 11:34 p.m., a resident called with a noise complaint of some equipment that had been running for hours at the Tokyo Steak House, South Main Street. A responding officer found it to be snow removal in the parking

lot, which was just finishing.

Thursday, Feb. 5 — At noon, an employee from a Shawsheen Road school called to report they found a student with marijuana and paraphernalia. A responding officer issued two civil violations for possession of less than an ounce of marijuana.

At 7:57 p.m., a friend of an Andover resident called police because the resident called her and told her she had taken a bunch of pills. The resident was transported to the hospital via ambulance.

Friday, Feb. 6 — At 4:41 a.m., police received a 911 call from a resident because the power was out, and she did not know what to do, said the cop log.

At 4:10 p.m., a resident reported receiving a death threat in an e-mail.

Saturday, Feb. 7 — At 2:55 p.m., a caller reported an elderly female trying to cross North Main Street who seemed in danger. Lawrence police also called to report they were missing an elderly female who matched the description of the woman. A third caller reported picking up the woman on Stevens Street, and this caller was met by an officer. The woman was the missing person from Lawrence, and was reunited with family.

Sunday, Feb. 8 — At 7:04 a.m., a newspaper delivery person reported being followed by a suspicious male on Bullfinch Drive.

Monday, Feb. 9 — At 12:30 p.m., a person reported finding a knife in the snow in front of the library in Elm Square.

AUTO INCIDENTS

Tuesday, Feb. 3 — At 11:22 a.m., a Colonial Drive resident reported car tires being slashed sometime overnight.

Sunday, Feb. 8 — At 10:25 a.m.,

an officer gave a criminal complaint for a driver with a revoked registration, uninsured and operating after suspension. The drivers vehicle was towed.

Monday, Feb. 9 — At 7:34 a.m., a Red Spring Road resident reported their vehicle had been broken into overnight.

AUTO ACCIDENTS

Tuesday, Feb. 3 — At 8:33 a.m., a Harold Parker forest ranger contacted police about a school bus, with children aboard, that had slid off the road into a snow bank on Salem Street, near the North Andover town line. There were no injuries.

At 2:26 p.m., the water department reported that a town vehicle had been involved in a crash on Harold Parker Road, with no injuries.

At 3:27 p.m., a caller reported a hit-and-run crash. The caller followed the vehicle that had hit her to get its license plate number. The driver pulled over, approached her car and started yelling at her and pounding on her windshield, said the cop log.

Friday, Feb. 6 — At 9:47 a.m. a crash without injury was reported between a vehicle and a Merrimack Valley transit bus on Haverhill Street.

Saturday, Feb. 7 — At 8:57 a.m., Andover police were notified by Tewksbury police of an erratic vehicle coming into town on Route 133. A 911 call was received from a motorist reporting that the same vehicle had crashed into several vehicles and landed in a snow bank. An ambulance was called for the elderly male driver.

Monday, Feb. 9 — At 5:29 p.m., a tow truck aided a postal truck that was stuck in a snow bank, blocking part of the road.

— Compiled by Bethany Bray

More seniors need food help

Project Bread's hotline is assisting greater numbers of elderly. The elderly are applying for food assistance in greater numbers according to Project Bread, the state's leading antihunger organization.

From August to October, Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline prescreened 2,730 elder households for food stamps, which represented an 850 percent increase from the same period in 2007 when there were 321 senior prescreenings.

The average benefit for an elderly person is \$120 per month from food stamps — the federal program renamed SNAP.

The reasons for the marked increase in

calls from seniors for food stamps are many: Escalating food costs and worry about increased taxes are causing those on fixed incomes to seek help, aggressive outreach by Project Bread through the Massachusetts Councils on Aging; and the fact that the Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance and Governor Patrick's Administration have made the program more user friendly, according to a release from Project Bread.

The FoodSource Hotline, 1-800-645-8333, not only helps seniors complete their application forms but it answers questions about hunger and food relief in 160 languages.

ACT registration

The next ACT achievement test will be administered on April 4. Students who wish to take the college admission and placement exam must register by Feb. 27. Late registration deadline is available Feb. 28 to March 13 for an extra fee. Students may register online at www.actstudent.org, or pick up registration forms from high school counseling offices.

February health clinics

The Andover Health Department will offer mini clinics on Monday, Feb. 23, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Frye Circle. Senior-center clinics will be held 2 to 3 p.m. Feb. 18 and 25. No appointment is necessary.

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Education

Principal, students speak up for counselors



Courtesy photo

A group from Andover High School attended the School Counseling Leadership Forum at the Statehouse in Boston on Feb. 4. They are, from left, Aixa DeKelley, program advisor for the school's counseling department; juniors Jeffrey Grullon and Carrie Lizardo; senior Rebecca Morse; and Principal Peter Anderson.

School guidance counselors can be mentors and friends, showing students the path to success.

This message is important to Andover High School Principal Peter Anderson and Andover High juniors Jeffrey Grullon and Carrie Lizardo and senior Rebecca Morse — so much so that they spoke in front of more than 100 school counselors, educators and lawmakers at the recent School Counseling Leadership Forum at the Statehouse in Boston.

The forum, held on Wednesday, Feb. 4, was meant to show support for several bills working their way through legislation involving school counseling.

It may be timely, as many communities are considering eliminating positions to balance their budget. As Andover Superintendent Claudia Bach looks to reduce her

budget by \$1.6 million, she has included a possible reduction of the equivalent of 20.2 full-time employees in the realm of teaching, media and guidance, but has not specified how many, if any, positions are actually guidance counselors.

At the Statehouse forum, research was presented proving the benefits to students who have a counselor, especially as students are moving from one school to another and when students are applying to college, said AHS counselor Peggy Cain.

"The forum was held to advocate for counselors and increase awareness amongst legislators of what school counselors do, because the position has changed so much over the years," she said.

Cain, a former trustee for the College Board, attended the forum and said Anderson and the three students "were

wonderful in agreeing to speak, and did so poignantly and masterfully." The three students gave firsthand accounts of the beneficial role a guidance counselor has had in their lives, Cain said.

Andover has a great counseling program, with plenty of support from administration, and is an example for other districts, Cain said.

The School Counseling Leadership Forum was organized by the College Board, the Massachusetts School Counseling Association, the National Association for College Admissions Counseling and the New England Association for College Admissions Counseling. Andover State Sen. Sue Tucker attended the forum, said Cain, and also met with her afterward to discuss school counseling in Andover.

—Bethany Bay

A look back on the first day of leading Andover schools

Ken Seifert



Andover resident Ken Seifert was superintendent of schools from 1969 to 1991. Today, he starts a regular column in which he will answer educational questions, write about life, raising children, his time leading the Andover schools and, sometimes, compare events and approaches of the past to those used today. In this first column, he talks about his first day on the job in 1969.

It all started in June 1957. It was graduation day at Buffalo (N.Y.) State, and I was the first college graduate in the Seifert family. As my parents and I walked to the car, I made the prediction I would become a superintendent of schools by age 38. We all made such wild predictions that nobody listened to them. I think my dad laughed at the false modesty of his second-born.

Twelve years later, on Aug. 8, 1969, my young family and I finished a cross country journey in our Ford station wagon, traveling from Las Vegas to a town in Massachusetts called Andover where I would be superintendent. Our Bekins Van Line truck was stuck in Worcester so we spent our first night on the living room rug in our Andover home at 16 Ivy Lane. It was the first night of a journey that continues almost 40 years later.

As I lay there, I wondered what the next day would bring. We had moved to New England, I had a huge responsibility to an entire community, and I was 34. The next day I went to my new job. School Committee members Bill Doherty, Dick Katz, Ginny Cole, Dan Frishman and Bill King had selected me by a vote of 4 to 1.

My first official appointment was to have lunch with Bill Doherty. But we didn't have lunch; we drove around the town. He was an excellent historian and in that 90 minutes summarized what he thought was the reality of the town. As he pulled up to the Central School, now the Doherty Middle School and the superintendent's office, he revealed something. He said, "I'm the guy who voted against you."

Bill told me, "It was not because of you, but that I felt one should hire from within. I want you to know you are my superintendent and I will support you. Now get out of the car and do your job."

We became the very best of friends. We also had a common bond. Each had a handicapped child: Bill had Tommy, and Ken had Karen.

In the following weeks, after a conference with each School Committee member, I proceeded to talk to as many people as I could manage. I could see our children would enjoy our decision to live and grow in Andover. Norma, my wife, quickly developed a great group of friends.

Just before the start of the school year a few things became obvious. Most Andover people had a no-nonsense, practical view of life. Andover was moving from having a small-town to a big-town flavor. The "townies" enjoyed their way of life, and had good reason to feel that way. The newcomers were from the four corners of the country and brought their goals and dreams with them.

My doctoral thesis had been identifying community power structures and their impact on the schools. It was obvious to me there was a huge divide between the liberals and the conservatives. I knew in such a climate, at some point, the Hatfields and the McCoys were going to battle and the superintendent would be the common bull's-eye.

I'm glad I came from a family of seven children and grew up in the city of Buffalo, and on the south side in particular. Las Vegas had not been Camelot either, and as chairman of the Integration Committee I had been responsible for submitting a comprehensive plan to the federal courts. It was my administrative Vietnam.

I give this reference because it prepared me for the mid '70s in the quaint little New England town I call home.

Well, here we are in 2009. Some things in our town are much the same. Some things are different, but evoke vivid memories. A partial list of "then and now" categories worth comparing are community unrest, public discussion of educational issues, drugs in the schoolhouse, achievement assessment, the role of the superintendent, individualized instruction, unions, appropriate dress and the political scene.

As articles appear, I want the reader to understand I have a bias. There are always three sides to the story: my side, your side and the real side.

If you have a question for Ken Seifert, send it by e-mail to townsman@andovertownsmen.com with "For Ken Seifert" in the subject line, or mail it to 33 Chestnut St.



TIM JEAN/Staff photos



Young musicians perform

▲ At right, Jack Hartford looks out as he performs on the bass violin. He is in the strings section and was playing during the third-grade winter concert at High Plain Elementary School.

◀ Kyle Vumbaco, in front, dances like a robot to the funky beat of "Newyear" music between parts he and fellow third-grade recorder players performed during the winter concert.

▼ Lindsey Bicknell, left, and Sarah-Margaret Williams, both third-graders, play their violins.



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BY SUE ADAMS, ALLIED MEMBER ASID

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To add an elegant touch to any room, the decorative paneling known as wainscoting can be applied to the lower portion of the walls. Depending on the size of the room, wainscoting can be painted a dark color and the wall above a lighter color. The darker color of the wainscoting serves to visually anchor the floor to the wall. Otherwise, if the wall above the wainscoting is darker than the paneling below, the room may seem top-heavy. In any case, the colors between the wainscoting and the upper walls should be differentiated. Otherwise, the effort put into installing the wainscoting will be lost. When deciding on colors, take the room size, its lighting, and floor material all into consideration.

Wainscoting adds a distinctive touch that can turn a room from dull to delightful, from ordinary to extraordinary. Are you looking to add drama and new life to your living areas? It doesn't have to be a complicated affair. The first step is seeking the help of a professional decorator and a discussion of the style you want. At SUE ADAMS INTERIORS we won't tell you which "look" is best for you—we can help you achieve the "look" you like. Breathe a sigh of relief—put your decorating challenges in our hands.

HINT: It is definitely a good idea to match the color of the baseboards with that of the wainscoting.

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Milestone moment for parents: Kindergarten registration on horizon

Through the next few weeks, Andover public schools will register kindergartners for the 2009-10 school year.

According to Andover School Committee policy, children entering kindergarten must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2009.

Children entering first grade who did not attend kindergarten in Andover last year should also complete the registration forms. Children entering first grade must be 6 on or before Sept. 1, 2009.

■ A kindergarten registration packet

for 2009, and the full-day kindergarten application (offered at all six elementary schools), can be downloaded from the Andover schools Web site at www.aps1.net.

■ Parents who cannot download a packet should contact the assistant superintendent's offices at 978-623-8506, leave their names and mailing addresses, and packets will be mailed to them. People are asked to spell their last names when leaving the messages.

Kindergarten registration

- Bancroft Elementary, Bancroft Road
Wednesday March 4, 6 to 7 p.m.
Francine Goldstein, principal, 978-623-8880
- High Plain Elementary, High Plain Road
Thursday Feb. 26, 6 to 7 p.m.
Brenda O'Brien, principal, 978-623-8900
- Shawshen School, Magnolia Avenue
Tuesday Feb. 24, 6 to 7 p.m.

- Moira O'Brien, principal, 978-623-8850
- Sanborn Elementary, Lovejoy Road
Tuesday March 3, 6 to 7 p.m.
Patricia Barrett, principal, 978-623-8860
- South Elementary, Woburn Street
Thursday March 5, 6 to 7 p.m.
Colleen McBride, principal, 978-623-8830
- West Elementary, Beacon Street
Thursday Feb. 26, 7 to 8 p.m.
Liz Roos, principal, 978-623-8800

To register a child, parents must present:

1. The child's birth certificate.
2. Proof of residency in Andover, meaning either proof of home ownership (original deed or purchase and sale agreement), original lease/rental agreement or copy of latest mortgage payment.
3. Immunization records and health forms. Copies of these documents must be submitted at the registration session and will be made a part of your child's file.

ON CAMPUS

Kelly Driscoll of Andover, has been named to the dean's list in the University of Notre Dame's First Year of Studies scholarship during the Fall 2008 semester. Students who achieve dean's honors at Notre Dame represent the top 30 percent of students in their college. Kelly is the daughter of Len and Pam Driscoll of Andover.

■ ■ ■
The following Andover residents have been named to the dean's list at Providence College for the fall 2008 semester:

Koren Betty, a member of the Class of 2009;

Christina Conley, a member of the Class of 2011;

Christopher Coffe, a member of the Class of 2011; and

Kelsey Farrell, a member of the Class of 2009.

"To qualify for the dean's list, students must achieve at least a 3.55 grade-point average with a minimum of 12 credits.

■ ■ ■

Whether you are interested in postage stamp design, equality in the classrooms, presidential politics, or Shakespeare, Northern Essex Community College has an expert, who, as a member of the new NECC Speakers Bureau, is prepared to speak on the subject.

Close to two dozen faculty members and administrators are available, free of charge, to speak to nonprofit groups and organizations, including community service clubs, libraries, and public and private schools, on a variety of timely and exciting topics.

Some of the general areas of interest include business and the workplace, communications, deaf culture, education, human services, health, science and travel, social issues, technology, theatre, music, art, and literature. A few of the more

specific topics include: Postage stamp design for grades 1 to 6, How to advocate for yourself in the health care arena, Gender equality: Helping males succeed in school, Why Shakespeare matters, Entrepreneurship and the workplace, Latino culture and identity, and Presidential politics.

The speakers are available through the NECC Marketing Communications department. Each speaker's availability depends upon his or her personal and professional schedules. Presentations vary in length, but most are approximately 30 minutes long followed by a brief question and answer period. Each speaker receives a small honorarium from the college.

If the group requesting a speaker would like to give the speaker a small stipend, this is welcome but not required. To review the speakers, their biographies, to peruse the list of various topics, or to request a speaker, visit the NECC Speakers Bureau website www.necc.mass.edu/newsvents/speakersbureau or for additional information contact speakersbureau@necc.mass.edu or call 978-556-3862.

■ ■ ■
Muhlenberg College has announced its dean's list for the fall 2008 semester. Students must earn a minimum of a 3.5 grade-point average 4.0-scale to attain dean's list status.

Andrea Coiro of Andover, a member of the Class of 2009, is an environmental science and biology major. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis B. Coiro and is a graduate of Andover High School. Founded in 1848, Muhlenberg College is a highly selective liberal arts college in Allentown, Penn. It is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

For additional information about any of the concerts call 978-749-4263 or send an e-mail to music@andover.edu.

Business

Saying thanks with a textbook

The Ambassadors group at Marland Place on Stevens Street recently rewarded three local college students who work there with textbook scholarships.

All have worked at Marland Place for more than a year and received a \$150 textbook scholarship for the job they do. In addition, all three are doing just as well in the classroom, posting GPAs over 3.0, according to the group.

Danielle Richards of Andover works as an activity assistant and attends Quinnipiac College; Emily Welsh, also of Andover, is a resident services assistant and attends the University of Massachusetts Lowell; and Jose DeJesus-Gil of Lawrence is a waiter who attends Middlesex Community College.

—*Judy Wakefield*

BUSINESS BRIEFS

NECC employee honors

Three Northern Essex Community College employees, including Andover resident Marilyn McCarthy, received the college's Employee Performance Recognition Award for the fourth quarter of 2008.

Employees are selected each quarter based on recommendations from supervisors and co-workers. Recipients receive a \$100 certificate to the restaurant or mall of their choice.

McCarthy, an assistant professor in developmental studies and reading, has worked at NECC for 19 years including 12 years as a part-time instructor of philosophy and religion and college reading



Religious Studies from Merrimack College, and a Master of Arts in Theology from Andover Newton Theological Graduate School. She is also a certified developmental instructor granted by the Kellogg Institute.

Kristine DiFiore of Andover earned certification as a Professional in Human Resources as awarded by the HR Certification Institute.

DiFiore joined Mary Immaculate Health/Care Services in 2002. As Director of Human Resources, she is responsible for the overall administration, coordination and evaluation of the Human Resource function for all the

and seven years full time in developmental studies college reading. She was nominated by her colleague Patricia Schade, who wrote "As a newly hired faculty, I feel extremely lucky to have Marilyn as a mentor. Marilyn has been extremely generous, sharing her many years of experience and countless handouts she has made while teaching here at NECC. She goes beyond the call of duty and takes time to review the material or just converse frankly about student learning. I know teaching this new curriculum for me would be very difficult without her guidance."

McCarthy earned a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Humanities, and

Mary Immaculate companies.

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from Worcester State College and a certificate in Human Resources from Assumption College.

DiFiore is a member of the Society for Human Resource Management, the Merrimack Valley Human Resource Association and is on the Board of MassCare Self Insurance Group, Inc., which handles worker compensation activities for a consortium of members.

DiFiore earned a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Humanities, and

Ex-Strongman, All-American now exercise professor

Andover resident Art McDermott has been named an adjunct professor at the University of Lowell in the Physical Therapy Department.

McDermott is the owner of Matrix Strength and Fitness in Andover, which specializes in program design for training populations including sports teams, post-surgical, athletes, de-conditioned individuals and weight management trainees, general population and other specialty groups. His course will focus entirely on exercise prescription and program design and will be taught jointly with Dr. Sean Collins, head of the Physical Therapy Department at the university.

"I am very excited to get back into an educational setting again," McDermott said. "Over the past few years, business concerns have pulled me away from the hands-on academic activities that keep us all sharp in our respective areas of expertise. I believe my unique background in world class track and field will serve me well here. I have been quite fortunate to have worked with some of the best training minds in the industry due to my level of personal involvement in sport. This opportunity fits perfectly with educational-based business model Matrix is coming to be known for. I am very eager to share my experiences with the students."

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'My Sister's Keeper' hooks both genders

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After watching the inauguration recently and hearing multiple speakers talk about the importance of overcoming our differences, now is the perfect time to admit something: just recently I read a book that is generally regarded by my friends as "a book for girls."

And what's more... I think I actually enjoyed it.

The book in question is Jodi Picoult's "My Sister's Keeper." While I might not have enjoyed it as much as some of the girls in my homeroom at school, I still found it to be a high-caliber, gripping read.

The book tells the story of Andromeda "Anna" Fitzgerald, a young girl whose parents conceived her for a specific purpose — to be a perfect genetic match for her sister Kate who has leukemia, so that she can supply Kate with blood cells, bone marrow and even organs.

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BOOK REVIEW

to Anna like her parents are so caught up in "Anna the savior" that they forget about "Anna the daughter."

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Every single character in the family was so well defined and likeable that I found myself torn over who to support. On one hand, I wanted Anna to finally find her independence after her hard, pain-filled life. On the other hand, I wanted to side with the parents, because they really did love Anna and all they wanted was to have both of their daughters survive. I found myself switching sides multiple times throughout the book, unable to make a decision.

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the "totally surprising," "completely unexpected" and "amazing" ending that the girls in my class kept talking about. Yes, it was completely unexpected. But to me, it was completely unnecessary, and certainly not amazing. It did not add anything to the plot, and could have been easily omitted.

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Harry Wood is an Andover resident and high school student.

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by Bill Buck, Broker/Owner
ADDED INCENTIVE

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Greater Andover Chamber of Commerce

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February Feast 2009

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customers know they can rely on us for the best in expert advice and service, along with excellent follow-up services." Mary continues, "One of the many things that distinguishes Independent Tire, Inc. is the fact that our price quotes on tires include all services: mounting, high speed balancing, new valve stem, disposal of your old tire. There are never any surprise hidden costs. Our follow-up services are second to none. They include free lifetime flat repairs and lifetime rotations (every 5,000 miles). When you purchase snow tires, you receive free changeovers every season for the life of the tire, with only a charge for balancing."

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Milestone moment for parents: Kindergarten registration on horizon

Through the next few weeks, Andover public schools will register kindergartners for the 2009-10 school year. According to Andover School Committee policy, children entering kindergarten must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2009.

Children entering first grade who did not attend kindergarten in Andover last year should also complete the registration forms. Children entering first grade must be 6 on or before Sept. 1, 2009.

■ A kindergarten registration packet

for 2009, and the full-day kindergarten application (offered at all six elementary schools), can be downloaded from the Andover schools Web site at www.aps1.net.

■ Parents who cannot download a packet should contact the assistant superintendent's offices at 978-623-8506, leave their names and mailing addresses, and packets will be mailed to them. People are asked to spell their last names when leaving the messages.

Kindergarten registration

- Bancroft Elementary, Bancroft Road
Wednesday March 4, 6 to 7 p.m.
Francine Goldstein, principal, 978-623-8880
- High Plain Elementary, High Plain Road
Thursday Feb. 26, 6 to 7 p.m.
Brenda O'Brien, principal, 978-623-8900
- Shawshen School, Magnolia Avenue
Tuesday Feb. 24, 6 to 7 p.m.

- Moira O'Brien, principal, 978-623-8850
- Sanborn Elementary, Lovejoy Road
Tuesday March 3, 6 to 7 p.m.
Patricia Barrett, principal, 978-623-8860
- South Elementary, Woburn Street
Thursday March 5, 6 to 7 p.m.
Colleen McBride, principal, 978-623-8830
- West Elementary, Beacon Street
Thursday Feb. 26, 7 to 8 p.m.
Liz Roos, principal, 978-623-8800

To register a child, parents must present:

1. The child's birth certificate.
2. Proof of residency in Andover, meaning either proof of home ownership (original deed or purchase and sale agreement), original lease/rental agreement or copy of latest mortgage payment.
3. Immunization records and health forms. Copies of these documents must be submitted at the registration session and will be made a part of your child's file.

ON CAMPUS

Kelly Driscoll of Andover, has been named to the dean's list in the University of Notre Dame's First Year of Studies scholarship during the Fall 2008 semester. Students who achieve dean's honors at Notre Dame represent the top 30 percent of students in their college. Kelly is the daughter of Len and Pam Driscoll of Andover.

■ ■ ■
The following Andover residents have been named to the dean's list at Providence College for the fall 2008 semester:

Koren Betty, a member of the Class of 2009;

Christina Conley, a member of the Class of 2011;

Christopher Cofe, a member of the Class of 2011; and

Kelsey Farrell, a member of the Class of 2009.

"To qualify for the dean's list, students must achieve at least a 3.55 grade-point average with a minimum of 12 credits.

■ ■ ■

Whether you are interested in postage stamp design, equality in the classrooms, presidential politics, or Shakespeare, Northern Essex Community College has an expert, who, as a member of the new NECC Speakers Bureau, is prepared to speak on the subject.

Close to two dozen faculty members and administrators are available, free of charge, to speak to nonprofit groups and organizations, including community service clubs, libraries, and public and private schools, on a variety of timely and exciting topics.

Some of the general areas of interest include business and the workplace, communications, deaf culture, education, human services, health, science and travel, social issues, technology, theatre, music, art, and literature. A few of the more

specific topics include: Postage stamp design for grades 1 to 6, How to advocate for yourself in the health care arena, Gender equality: Helping males succeed in school, Why Shakespeare matters, Entrepreneurship and the workplace, Latino culture and identity, and Presidential politics.

The speakers are available through the NECC Marketing Communications department. Each speaker's availability depends upon his or her personal and professional schedules. Presentations vary in length, but most are approximately 30 minutes long followed by a brief question and answer period. Each speaker receives a small honorarium from the college.

If the group requesting a speaker would like to give the speaker a small stipend, this is welcome but not required. To review the speakers, their biographies, to peruse the list of various topics, or to request a speaker, visit the NECC Speakers Bureau website www.necc.mass.edu/newsvents/speakersbureau or for additional information contact speakersbureau@necc.mass.edu or call 978-556-3862.

■ ■ ■
Muhlenberg College has announced its dean's list for the fall 2008 semester. Students must earn a minimum of a 3.5 grade-point average 4.0-scale to attain dean's list status.

Andrea Coiro of Andover, a member of the Class of 2009, is an environmental science and biology major. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis B. Coiro and is a graduate of Andover High School. Founded in 1848, Muhlenberg College is a highly selective liberal arts college in Allentown, Penn. It is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

For additional information about any of the concerts call 978-749-4263 or send an e-mail to music@andover.edu.

Business

Saying thanks with a textbook

The Ambassadors group at Marland Place on Stevens Street recently rewarded three local college students who work there with textbook scholarships.

All have worked at Marland Place for more than a year and received a \$150 textbook scholarship for the job they do. In addition, all three are doing just as well in the classroom, posting GPAs over 3.0, according to the group.

Danielle Richards of Andover works as an activity assistant and attends Quinnipiac College; Emily Welsh, also of Andover, is a resident services assistant and attends the University of Massachusetts Lowell; and Jose DeJesus-Gil of Lawrence is a waiter who attends Middlesex Community College.

—*Judy Wakefield*

BUSINESS BRIEFS

NECC employee honors

Three Northern Essex Community College employees, including Andover resident Marilyn McCarthy, received the college's Employee Performance Recognition Award for the fourth quarter of 2008.

Employees are selected each quarter based on recommendations from supervisors and co-workers. Recipients receive a \$100 certificate to the restaurant or mall of their choice.

McCarthy, an assistant professor in developmental studies and reading, has worked at NECC for 19 years including 12 years as a part-time instructor of philosophy and religion and college reading



Religious Studies from Merrimack College, and a Master of Arts in Theology from Andover Newton Theological Graduate School. She is also a certified developmental instructor granted by the Kellogg Institute.

Kristine DiFiore of Andover earned certification as a Professional in Human Resources as awarded by the HR Certification Institute.

DiFiore joined Mary Immaculate Health/Care Services in 2002. As Director of Human Resources, she is responsible for the overall administration, coordination and evaluation of the Human Resource function for all the

and seven years full time in developmental studies college reading. She was nominated by her colleague Patricia Schade, who wrote "As a newly hired faculty, I feel extremely lucky to have Marilyn as a mentor. Marilyn has been extremely generous, sharing her many years of experience and countless handouts she has made while teaching here at NECC. She goes beyond the call of duty and takes time to review the material or just converse frankly about student learning. I know teaching this new curriculum for me would be very difficult without her guidance."

McCarthy earned a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Humanities, and

Mary Immaculate companies. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from Worcester State College and a certificate in Human Resources from Assumption College.

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Arts & Entertainment

EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, FEB. 12

YOUNG AUTHOR AND ARTIST NIGHT, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Memorial Hall Library. Andover students from the town's public schools will read from AppleSeed, the magazine with stories, poems, and drawings by children in grades 3 to 5. The public is welcome. For more information, call Beth Kerrigan, Children's Room, at 978-623-8401, ext. 40.

AUTHOR READING, Kenneth Tingle, "The Girl in the Italian Bakery," 7 p.m., story of growing up in a chaotic home in Lawrence, shuffled from foster home to foster home, harboring a wistful longing for the girl in the local bakery, Andover Bookstore, 89R Main St., Andover; 978-475-0143, free, all welcome.

MERRIMACK REPERTORY THEATRE OPENING, "Tranced" by Bob Clyman, 8 p.m., running through March 8, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell.

VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY, part of Northern Essex Community College's Life Long Learning program, along with the Haverhill Council on Aging and the Bethany Community, 2 p.m., in the Technology Center on the Haverhill campus, 100 Elliott St., Haverhill. A hot dog lunch and desserts will be served. This event is open to the public. Tickets are \$5. To make reservations, call Charlene Boucher at 978-556-3825, Kathy at the Haverhill C.O.A. at 978-374-2390, or Darlene at the Bethany Community at 978-374-2165.

ENJOY A GREEK MEAL, at Yia-Yia's Greek Kitchen, Nicholson Hall, 7 Harris St., Newburyport, 5 to 7 p.m. This evening's menu will be pork aristo, rice, zucchini, salad, with raveni (semolina cake with syrup) as dessert. The price is \$10 for Adults; \$8 for seniors and students; and \$5 for children under 12., benefits Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, 7 Harris St., Newburyport; 978-465-5757.

"SHOW AND TELL: THE ART OF THE NARRATIVE" OPENING, 7 to 9 p.m., \$10, The Revolving Museum, Lowell. Enjoy entertainment, fun, and light refreshments. Cash bar. The Revolving Museum gallery will feature narrative art for 2009. Throughout the year the Show and Tell exhibit will change and display work from local artists and youth groups. Frequent performances and events will also mark the calendar all year long.

FRIDAY, FEB. 13

VALENTINE LOVE SONGS, with Mark Rasmussen, 2:30 p.m., free, Marland Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover; 978-475-4225.

STUDENT CELLO RECITAL, featuring Bobby Chen, PA '10, performing works by J. S. Bach, Tchaikovsky, et. al. 7:30 p.m., free and open to the public, Timken Room at Graves Hall. For more information, call the Academy at 978-749-4263 or e-mail music@andover.edu.

KABBALAT SHABBAT UNPLUGGED SERVICE, 7 p.m., Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover, led by Rabbi Robert Goldstein, Cantor Donn Rosensweig and Assistant Music Director, Idan Irelander, accompanied by a variety of professional musicians. The service of soulful music and inspiring prose is open to all, regardless of age, affiliation or faith. Wine and cheese will be served prior to the service at 6:30 p.m.; www.templemanuel.net or 978-470-1356.

SATURDAY, FEB. 14

VALENTINE'S DAY SINGLES EVENT, gather around the fireplace for an evening of wine and cheese and stimulating conversation, Andover Bookstore, 89R Main St., Andover. Staff will present some of their favorite books in the cozy, fireside setting.

LIVE MUSIC, with Wildest Dreams, a multicultural ensemble with members from Surinam, Japan, Venezuela and United States. Their music is an irresistible blend of driven African downbeats, rollicking calypso, roots reggae and R&B. Crossroads Coffeehouse, 3 Great Pond Road, second floor in North Andover. Doors open 7:30, concert starts 8 p.m., tickets are \$14, www.crossroads-coffeehouse.org or at the door; 978-687-3960 or www.crossroads-coffeehouse.org.

MERRIMACK RIVER EAGLE FESTIVAL, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., all ages. The cold weather brings bald eagles back to the Merrimack to search for food in its open waters. The Eagle Festival will feature a live eagle show at Newburyport City Hall, van tours to search for eagles leaving from the Chamber of Commerce office, hosted by Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, free; www.massaudubon.org/eaglefestival.

SUNDAY, FEB. 15

WARD WINTER FUN DAY, Ward Reservation, Andover. The Trustees of Reservations and Ward Reservation Property Committee, in partnership with the Andover Trails Committee, Friends of North Andover Trails and Moor & Mountain of Andover, noon to 4 p.m., free event. Scheduled activities include a guided winter birding program at 12:30 p.m. and guided winter tree identification program at 2 p.m. Each program is one-hour and

Please see **EVENTS**, Page 9



HONEST, ABE VISITING SOON

Actor brings Lincoln to Memorial Hall

BY BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Memorial Hall Library, the hall of which was created to honor Andover soldiers who died from Civil War injuries, will host those men's commander-in-chief Monday.

Actor Steve Wood will portray the 16th president in "A Visit with Abraham Lincoln" on Wednesday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m., just after the nation celebrates the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth on Feb. 12.

The first-person historical interpretation will include anecdotes from Lincoln's life and rise to the presidency, closing with a recitation of the Gettysburg address.

"I try to portray Lincoln as a human, with all the human faults that we all have. Also his sense of humor," Wood said. "What impresses me the most about him is, very simply, what he was able to accomplish given the odds he had to face at the time. Our country was dismembering itself. By the time he was inaugurated, the southern states had declared their own country, own president, own congress. Had to face that as president from day one."

"His main goal was to keep the

country together, to preserve the union. We weren't even 100 years old as a country then. We were still this grand experiment as a democracy. Lincoln was obviously the right man at the right time during that cataclysmic time in our country's history," he said. "The more I read, and the more I find out how he was able to accomplish that, it's incredible."

The performance will be in Memorial Hall, on the top floor of the library, where the walls carry the names of the Andover Civil War soldiers who died.

"This is a Civil War memorial. It's the perfect location for such a program," community librarian Emily Classon said. "I'm sure the books we have on display about Lincoln will definitely go out."

After

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, PRESIDENT LINCOLN

What: "A Visit with Abraham Lincoln" with historical interpreter Steve Wood

When: Wednesday, Feb. 18, 7 p.m.

Where: Memorial Hall Library, Elm Square

Cost: Free; sponsored by the Friends of Memorial Hall Library

Information: 978-623-8401, ext. 31, or visit www.mhl.org

Wednesday's presentation at the library, Wood will step out of character to answer questions, he said.

Wood, of Claremont, N.H., bears a striking resemblance to Lincoln and is a member of the Association of Lincoln Presenters. He has been portraying Lincoln in first-person historical interpretations since 1995.

Wood is about the same height as Lincoln, 6 foot, 4 inches, and has won numerous Lincoln look-alike contests. Even when he's not dressed in his Lincoln costume and stove pipe hat, folks make comments, he said.

"I'm pretty much type cast. ... My wife says she can't take me anywhere without someone saying something (about his resemblance to Lincoln)," said Wood, chuckling. "She says I should get a T-shirt that says 'Yes, I know!'"

Wood, who has a background in community theater, has been portraying Lincoln full-time since retiring five years ago. He focuses on the two little-known trips Lincoln made to New England within his lifetime.

Lincoln visited Massachusetts in 1848, stumping for presidential candidate Zachary Taylor as an Illinois congressman, Wood said. In 1860, Lincoln visited New England again, visiting his son Robert, a student at Phillips Academy in Exeter, N.H.

As a Lincoln impersonator, Wood has been busy this year, he said. This week is Lincoln's 200th birthday. He was born on Feb. 12, 1809 in Kentucky. Lincoln has also been in the spotlight lately as Barack Obama, America's first African-American president was sworn in last month, using Lincoln's personal copy of the Bible.

Wood talks about Lincoln the man, rather than the legend.

"He had a funny, self-deprecating sense of humor. He would give bad news in a story, using an analogy where the person would get the point without being offended. He was very shrewd — very political in having a good understanding of human emotion and feelings, and able to get point across in

'Dawn' of new career: Former resident, 57, puts out album



BY BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

For musician Rick Pisano, the November 2008 release of his album "Dawn of a Waking Man" was a reawakening, an artistic renaissance, told through blues and rock and roll.

After trying to make it as a musician as a 20-something in the 1970s, Pisano, 57, says "Dawn of a Waking Man" came together at just the right time in his life - he still has the passion and dreams of his youth, but now with a lifetime of experiences to back it up.

Pisano, who lived in Andover before moving to Methuen in 1994, wrote, arranged and produced all 10 tracks on the album.

"It's produced to be an exciting recording, and capture that excitement and feeling of a live show," he said. "I put my whole soul into this album ... I hope it's entertaining, and people can feel the passion I bring to the table in this project."

This month, "Dawn of a Waking Man" was named by The Noise magazine, a publication on Boston music, as one of the top 10 independently produced

RICK PISANO SNAPSHOT

- Rock/blues musician, age 57
- Lived on North Main Street in Andover for 10 years
- Album "Dawn of a Waking Man" released in Nov. 2008
- Inspiration: Neil Diamond, the Rolling Stones, Allman Brothers, Doobie Brothers, Moody Blues, Bruce Springsteen, Bob Seger and the Beatles. "The Beatles were the reason I picked up a guitar," he said.
- His parents bought him his first guitar at age 13.
- Website: www.rickpisano.com



albums of 2008. Songs from the album have begun to get radio play around the U.S., said Pisano.

Each of the album's 10 tracks have a special connection to Pisano's life. The ballad "One Night in Montreal" is an ode to the city where he took his wife, Karlynn, on their honeymoon. The album's first track, "Ain't No Such Thing As the Boston Blues," is about his native city. Pisano grew up on Orleans Street in East Boston and the lyrics include references to Fenway Park, the Freedom Trail, Zakim Bridge and other Beantown

landmarks.

Pisano's voice goes from edgy to mellow, rough to smooth. On vocals, "I give you everything I've got," he said. "I don't leave anything home." "A Change To Love" had a folksong feel, and, for the album's last track "Good News For People Everywhere," Pisano is backed by a gospel choir.

For the album, Pisano is backed by a studio band, with guitars, drums, horns and a harmonica on a few tracks. He is working to form a permanent band, and hopes to start playing

gigs again, like he did in his 20s, he said.

In the 1970s, Pisano and his older brother, Fred, tried to make it as musicians, sending out demo recordings and knocking on doors of every record producer they could find.

"We would go and haunt the record labels. We were going door-to-door with a guitar, briefcase and a dream," said Pisano, chuckling.

He felt they were close to a deal with Capitol in 1972. "We were ready to get on a plane, and we got the telegram (to say the deal was off)," he said. "They passed on us because we were unknown, which was crushing to a 21-year old."

In the next three decades, Pisano made a career in sales and focused on his family, wife Karlynn and son Nick, 25, who also plays the guitar.

"I'm sort of a late bloomer ... it's a lifelong passion (to be a musician). It was never out of my mind," he said, smiling. "Here I am again, giving it my best."

Pisano is still close with his brother Fred who helped with "Dawn of a Waking Man," co-writing two songs.

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Opinion

Soaring spirit

There are schools where school spirit is as thin as the skim milk that sits unpurchased at lunchtime. Not so at Andover High School.

Over the years, students, staff and Andover High Principal Peter Anderson have built a school community of youths who, by-and-large, are connected and support one another. The latest example can be seen loud and clear — and in some cases shirtless and covered in body paint — at the boys basketball games.

A group called the Haak's Nest, named in support of senior player John Haak, has augmented the noise level at games. Haak is not a superstar, yet 200 Haak's Nest shirts have sold, with money going to youth causes. The support shown is making a positive impression on many of all ages who attend the games. Some of the high school basketball fans gather to tailgate before games, grilling in the parking lot, and they travel with the team. That kind of support and camaraderie is what the students will remember long after their diplomas are gathering dust in drawers and their memory of calculus has dipped. It is the type of action that will cause many to remember fondly their high school years.

We hope the spirit of the Haak's Nest stays strong long after the seniors most involved — and school-community architect Anderson, who will resign at the end of this year — fly the coop for other climates.

Outdoor dreams and reality

The thaw we've been experiencing this week has never been more welcome.

The snow cover that was laid down around Christmas just didn't want to go away. In fact, it seemed to keep growing as measurable snowfalls became a weekly event. And when it didn't snow, temperatures would plunge, turning the snow piles into impenetrable blocks of ice.

This week has provided a much-needed respite from the cold and snow. The robins and other birds hardy enough to stay the winter, or make an early return north, could be seen pecking at the bare spots that have appeared on some lawns. Seeing the sun higher in the sky and setting after 5 helps, too.

And on Sunday, Feb. 15, residents have a chance to get out into the white landscape and enjoy Winter Fun Day at the Ward Reservation. Whether you like skiing and sledding or prefer a nature walk and cup of hot chocolate, the event offers a chance to shake off the winter doldrums and try something new in the outdoors.

We know the cold and snow will return repeatedly before spring is here. Even that big Pennsylvania rodent Punxsutawney Phil thinks we'll have several more weeks of winter. Might as well get out there and enjoy the days when we can.

WEB QUESTION

What do you want to know about the candidates?

Last week's question: Candidate conundrum

On Tuesday, Feb. 3, the deadline passed to file paperwork to run for office in Andover. Last week, we asked you how you felt about the contested races for two seats each on School Committee and Board of Selectmen. With limited response, here's how you answered:

"I am committed to at least one candidate already" received 35.7 percent of votes

"I'm completely open and look forward to learning more" got 35.7 percent

"I don't vote in town elections" got 7.1 percent

"I don't support any of these candidates" got 7.1 percent

"None of the above" got 14.3 percent

No one voted for "I've selected my candidates already."

Results may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

This week's question: What's important to you?

As races heat up between candidates for selectmen and School Committee, what do you most want to know about the candidates?

■ More about their background, profession and family.

■ Their philosophy on spending and saving.

■ New ideas they have.

■ How they will work with the other members of the board.

■ How long they've lived in town.

■ Their views on specific projects, like repairing or replacing Bancroft Elementary.

■ How they feel about the town manager and superintendent.

■ None of the above.

To cast your vote, visit www.andovertownsm.com and scroll to the bottom of the page.

For lengthier answers, e-mail Editor Neil Fater at nfater@andovertownsm.com.

MESSAGE TO WARM YOUR HEART



A man passes by the "Think Spring" window display of Kabloom on Main Street. The message and red hearts for Valentine's Day adorn the window of the flower shop, sending a warm message this cold winter.

TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Newspaper group to tell industry's story

William B. Ketter



Newspapers and their online offspring combined are more popular than ever imagined and yet media reports nearly always paint a portrait of an industry gasping for air in the digital age.

This wrongheaded perception stems from the economic recession that's affected all advertising-based businesses, and from the myth that newspapers no longer attract the public support they once enjoyed.

But the biggest contributing factor to the distorted picture of the industry's condition just might be us, to paraphrase Pogo, the comic strip character.

With that irony in mind, a group of concerned newspaper executives has decided to fight back against the misrepresentation of newspapers and their continuing importance to the public, to the marketplace and to democracy. The name for the ad hoc crusade is the "Newspaper Project."

They've created a Web site — www.newspaperproject.org — that will feature stories and commentary about the value of newspapers, and share tips on how they can cope with the tough times.

The group has launch a series of print and online ads telling, among other facts, the story of how American newspapers and their Web sites daily reach 100 million people, more than watched this year's Super Bowl.

The ads will appear in major newspapers, including the New York Times and the Washington Post, and also in scores of community dailies, including the 89 owned by Community Newspaper Holdings Inc.,

which also owns the Townsman.

"The roar of misinformation swirling around newspapers is deafening," said Donna Barrett, CNHI's president and CEO. "We must cut through the noise to set the record straight."

The group's message, said Barrett, is straightforward: Newspapers are very much alive and growing when you consider the print and online audience together. And they talk to far more people than their radio, television and Internet competitors.

Newspapers have earned the public's trust because they employ professional journalists to verify news for truth, accuracy and context, and they are usually the first source of local news.

Advertisers continue to invest in newspapers because they deliver results. They still move goods and services more reliably than other forms of promotion.

Newspapers remain essential to our democratic system of government, serving as a watchdog against crime and corruption, and a guide dog for information that allows the public to make informed decisions on the issues of the day.

"Newspapers don't have an audience problem," said Barrett, who is also president of the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association. "Newspapers have a revenue problem, driven primarily by the recession."

In addition to Barrett, leaders of the public outreach campaign include Brian P. Tierney, publisher and CEO of the Philadelphia Inquirer and Daily News; Randy Siegel, president and publisher of Parade Publications, and Jay Smith, former president of Cox Newspapers.

"A lot of people, both in our business as well as media decision-makers, are frustrated with the lack of perspective and the inability to get the full story (about newspapers) out," said Tierney in an interview

with the Philadelphia Inquirer. "Because journalism is so essential for a democracy, we really need to tell this story ourselves in a more aggressive way. Rather than wait for everybody to get together, an insurgent group of folks decided to do it on our own."

In doing so, the group said, it is not diminishing the serious challenges facing newspapers, other media and every other business during the current economic ferment.

"We acknowledge the challenges facing the newspaper industry in today's rapidly changing media world," said Barrett. "However, we reject the notion that newspapers — and the valuable content that newspaper journalists provide — have no future."

Barrett said newspapers are adjusting to the economic and industry conditions, making changes aimed at keeping them profitable and informative.

There's no question newspaper content and appearance are being reexamined and rapidly overhauled to meet smaller budgets and the changing requirements of the public. Management structures and sales practices are also changing, with the emphasis on fewer executives and more soldiers in the trenches.

But what hasn't changed — and what the Newspaper Project wants to burn into the public psyche — is the primary function of newspapers: to inform and to connect readers to the world around them.

Nobody does that better than newspapers, and because of this crucial function, they expect to weather both the recession and the digital age, despite the media pundits who bellow otherwise.

William B. Ketter is vice president of news for Community Newspaper Holdings Inc., a Birmingham, Ala.-based information company with news outlets in 26 states, including the Andover Townsman.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pay-to-throw failed in North Reading

Editor, Townsman:

Please just raise my taxes. Of course I don't really mean that.

According to the Townsman's article last week, there is a petition circulating around the town to start a "pay as you throw" policy regarding the town's trash. As a former resident of North Reading, my family and I know first hand what an inconvenience this policy can be. In fact, it was such a hassle that the town of North Reading voted to repeal it in favor of a yearly flat fee.

Like the proposed Andover policy, North Reading had residents purchase something to indicate that they had paid for their trash to be picked up. In North Reading it was a sticker, while in Andover the proposal indicates a trash bag. Besides the fact that it was just a hassle to remember and make the effort to buy the sticker, frequently the places "guaranteed" to have the needed sticker were sold out of it. What are you supposed to do if you have trash but no way to have someone pick it up? The proposed policy sounds fair, but I suspect there will be the same problems showing up in Andover as in other towns like North Reading that repealed the policy.

In closing, I'll just say this.

Don't monkey around with the fees that residents have to pay and not call them taxes. Call them what they are — taxes. Your property taxes are income-tax deductible. Are these trash-collecting fees?

So, of course, I don't really want to raise taxes, but please don't bring on the hassle of a pay-as-you-throw policy.

HEIDI BORENSTEIN
10 Avon St.

regressive system than other fees that Andover has considered or implemented in the past. That said, in my former community, the fees collected were surprisingly small. The initiative is not about increasing fees; it is about reducing trash.

CHRIS WILLIAMS
12 Cherrywood Circle

Gilbert brings collaborative skills

Editor, Townsman:

I first met Annie Gilbert 12 years ago at a meeting at the cooperative preschool we both had children attending. She was president at the time, and on the agenda was a discussion involving a fundamental change to the school's program, over which parents were hotly divided.

Being new to the school, I sat and listened. What impressed me the most that evening was Gilbert's amazing ability to manage an extremely emotionally charged group of adults. She listened to all viewpoints, and when she spoke, her words were thoughtful and articulate, her delivery calm and respectful. She demonstrated superior skill in working collaboratively, and managed the meeting with fairness and intelligence, always maintaining a spirit of

community. I was so impressed that I made it a point to congratulate her on a well-run, productive meeting.

Since then, I have had the distinct pleasure of coming to know Annie not only as a friend, but as a collaborator on making Andover a better place for our kids. We co-chaired a very successful and lucrative townwide father-daughter dance sponsored by the Bancroft PTO, and most recently worked together on a fashion-show fundraiser for the Andover Coalition for Education, for which Gilbert is vice president. These are but a few examples of Gilbert's many contributions to Andover schools. Through them all, she has remained wise, well organized and thoroughly committed.

Because I have known her for so long, I feel well qualified to provide some insight into Gilbert's character. She is honest, hard working, loyal, incredibly smart, amazingly humble, witty, passionate about things she believes in, and full of integrity. I feel extremely fortunate to have her as a friend, and our town would be equally fortunate to have Annie Gilbert bring her remarkable talents to the School Committee.

SUSAN EKMAN
93 Salem St.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

There are promises to keep for our children

Editor, Townsman:

As we go about our everyday lives, we carry commitments and responsibilities to our families, friends, our work, to ourselves and to society. Today, I wish to speak about the commitments and responsibilities we have toward our children. We have promises to keep.

The U.S. Congress made a commitment several years ago to provide financial support to special education. They made a commitment to enable all of our children to reach their individual potential through educational opportunities. It is a promise that has not been fully kept.

Our state legislature has made a commitment to supplement federal funding for special education. That promise has not been fully kept.

Each year at Andover's Town Meeting, voters are asked to repay loans and debts for roads, buildings, renovations and repairs. The voters are also asked to support costs for retirement, health insurance and employee contracts. These commitments are top priorities in financing town government.

The citizens of Andover have another promise to keep: to fully support special education costs and a myriad of other unfunded and under-funded educational mandates imposed by our state and federal governments.

We have promises to keep, even in times of economic uncertainty. Let us begin by ensuring that our commitments and responsibilities to our children are fully reflected in the top priorities that our leaders establish in financing town government.

JOHN F. ZIPETO
14 Canterbury St.

Gilbert committed to schools and town

Editor, Townsman:

We have known Annie Gilbert and her husband, Bob, for well over a decade and can testify to the Gilberts' strong commitment to this town and Annie's dedication to the Andover schools. We cannot count the

number of times the Gilberts have declared themselves lucky to live in such a fine community and expressed the hope that Andover would be their family home for generations.

The Gilberts have demonstrated their dedication to the community in ways both professional and personal, and in so doing, have come to understand the character and needs of our town in a very concrete way. Together with Jeffrey, Bob is a partner in the Andover law firm Gilbert & Renton LLC, and he is the proud owner of a local business, Andover Liquors. In addition, Bob has spent years coaching soccer and helping to run the Andover Youth Soccer Association.

Annie, for her part, has devoted an enormous amount of energy to the Andover school system, volunteering with the Bancroft Elementary School PTO and School Improvement Council, the Doherty Middle School PAC, and the Parent-to-Parent Association, and serving as vice president of the Andover Coalition for Education.

In all of their endeavors, the Gilberts have brought to bear not only a high degree of intelligence and personal integrity but also a sense of creativity and a firm belief in the importance of collaboration — qualities that will be sorely needed as the School Committee works with selectmen and the Finance Committee to tackle tough budget issues. Fortunately, we can count on Annie Gilbert's knowledge and love of Andover to guide her efforts.

ANITA AND JEFFREY RENTON
78 Bellevue Road

How serious a threat is climate change?

Editor, Townsman:

The West Antarctic ice shelf is melting and disintegrating. In 2004 a section the size of Connecticut separated from the continent and calves icebergs as it moves northerly. The melting of the West Antarctic ice sheet alone — which is about eight times smaller in volume than the East Antarctic ice sheet — would raise global sea levels by more than 20 feet, according to

researchers from the British Antarctic Survey.

"Rates at which this ice (from Greenland and Antarctica) could become sea water are still highly uncertain, but 9 feet per century is possible; some think even faster is possible," says John P. Holdren, professor of environmental policy, Harvard University; director of the Woods Hole Research Center; and American Association for the Advancement of Science president. In his presentation "Meeting the Inter-twined Challenges of Energy and Climate Change," Holdren emphasizes we have only one or two courses of effective action regarding human-caused factors: mitigation or adaptation.

Americans use twice as much energy per capita as the British. More than one-fourth of our greenhouse gas emissions are from our homes and cars. The opportunity exists to start immediately to decrease America's carbon emissions by 12 percent by changing habits. Simple ideas: Turn off TVs, lights and computers whenever you leave the room; recycle; run the dishwasher and washing machine only with full loads; use only cold water in the washing machine; wear warmer clothes in the house and move the thermostat down further every time you leave; drive with a light foot, and combine three or four errands in each trip; car pool.

NORMAN VIEHMANN
16 Martingale Lane

(Editor's note: A longer version of this letter with attributions is available online.)

Save big money with simple changes

Editor, Townsman:

It's great to see that people are interested in the proposed SMART trash reduction plan ("Recycled idea: Fee for extra garbage," Townsman, Jan. 29).

I took a windshield survey last Tuesday - trash day in my end of town. The good news? The great majority of households are already using one barrel along with one or more blue recycling bins. In almost all cases, the houses with more than one trash barrel had no recycling at the curb.

A small shift in patterns that

LETTERS POLICY

The Townsman accepts letters to the editor from the community. Letters should be typed, no longer than 350 words and must include writer's name, address and phone number (numbers will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters for length, clarity and style. Deadline is Monday at 9 a.m. for the next edition.

Mail to:
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Fax to: 978-470-2819

E-mail: Neil Fater at nfater@andovertownsman.com. Please include the letter in the body of the e-mail, not as an attachment.

can free up close to a quarter of a million town budget dollars by adding a monetary incentive to recycle seems to me like a good thing. If Andover is as successful as most of the other 180 communities that have trash reductions programs have been, we could be redirecting tax dollars to preserving jobs and services. Our community programs and services are all at risk of major cutbacks as we look at the looming state and local budget shortfalls.

Andover cable TV is rebroadcasting last week's SMART forum (go to andovertv.org/lwv_meetings, click on Recycling 02/05/2009). It's time to get SMART about trash.

AMY JANOVSKY
6 Snowberry Road

Fond memories of time at SHED

Editor, Townsman:

It was such delight that I read about Shawshen Extended Day and its plans for its silver anniversary ("SHED to celebrate its silver year," Townsman, Feb. 5).

Our family continue to have fond memories of our daughters attending SHED, Springboard to Kindergarten and Camp Adventure. We often talk about the staff, including Sydney Bialo, Bette Lynch and Barbara Blanchette who made each of our very different daughters feel special (as if they were the only children in the program).

We see so much of SHED's philosophy and attitudes in our girls and we could not be more thankful for the role that they played in our girls' lives. In a world that feels so very busy, we are glad our girls had time to just

play, be curious and ask many, many questions of the staff. And we're glad for a staff that had the patience to cultivate their play, curiosity and learning.

We are firm believers that it takes a village to raise a child and we are grateful that SHED was/is part of our village.

TAMARA CADET
Rose Glen Drive

Across the board, it's Paula Colby Clements

Editor, Townsman:

Andover is fortunate to have five very qualified candidates on this year's ballot for School Committee. We have a homemaker, a business executive, an educator, a lawyer, and one who is all four. That candidate is Paula Colby Clements.

Clements brings a wealth of talent and experience to the race. A locally raised and educated mother of three, she has been deeply involved in Andover school programs for many years as a Bancroft Elementary School parent and past president of the Andona Society. She is well known as a tireless fundraiser and avid promoter of educational excellence throughout the town's entire school system.

Clements spent her early career as a successful Fortune 100 executive, managing multi-million-dollar budgets and tending to the diverse needs of customers large and small. Turning her skills to higher education, she is now director of admissions and professor of Research & Writing at Massachusetts School of Law. She is also a practicing attorney. There is an old adage that says when you need something done, ask a busy

person. That person is Clements. Clements has what it takes, across the board, to serve on School Committee. She is the right person at the right time for Andover. Clements deserves our support on March 24.

PETER J. COTCH
297 Salem St

School candidate Gilbert gets things done

Editor, Townsman:


I am always thankful for your coverage of local elections. This year, with five candidates running for two School Committee seats, there will be a lot of information to disseminate and big decisions for us all to make. I have already made mine: Annie Gilbert for School Committee.

First and foremost, Gilbert gets things done. While serving as president of the Bancroft Parent Teacher Organization, I worked with her for many years on a variety of projects, and was always impressed by her drive and skill at navigating the demands of competing interest groups. Her recent school-wide communications review and the subsequent redesign of the Bancroft Web site are perfect examples of her ability to identify problems, research the issues and provide timely solution. Her thoughtful deliberation and focus have made her an effective leader on Bancroft's School Improvement Council as well.

Furthermore, as vice president of the Andover Coalition for Education, Gilbert has helped build a powerful organization that works with private donors and community groups to implement curricular programs districtwide, including engineering labs at all three middle schools. Her commitment to excellence through teamwork has helped make ACE an organization that will enhance our school system for years to come.

I fervently hope Gilbert wins a spot on the Andover School Committee. My children will benefit from her experience, compassion and dedication to improving education in our town, as will all our children.

JENNIFER BENTLEY
64 Salem St.



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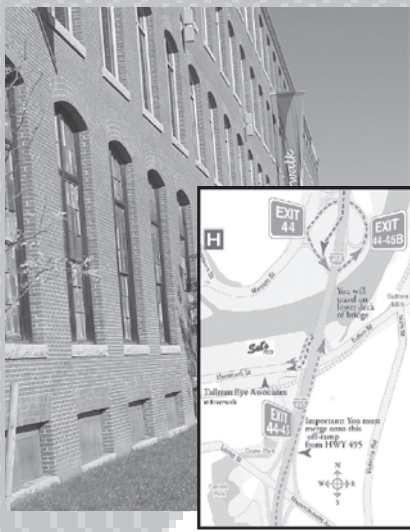
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- Recross river to Exit 44. Bear right, down the ramp to Merrimack St.
- Turn right onto Merrimack St. and enter the Riverwalk complex. Tallman Eye Associates will be located in building 9, entrance "I"

From the North Via Rte 495:

- Exit Route 495 at Exit 44
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- Turn right at bottom of ramp
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 Gillian J. Steward, O.D.	 Paulette Turco, O.D.	 Yianni Panagiotopoulos, O.D.	 Kristin Breed Tallman, O.D.
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FOR WEEK OF FEB. 8-14, 2009

Happy 200th Birthday, Honest Abe!

Who would guess that someone born in a one-room cabin, who had only 18 months of formal education, would be celebrated 200 years later?

This year we honor the memory of Abraham Lincoln, our 16th President.

To mark Lincoln's 200th birthday, the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. features a special Lincoln exhibit. President Barack Obama took his oath of office on Lincoln's Bible.

Abraham was born Feb. 12, 1809, in a log cabin near Hodgenville, Kentucky. His family moved to Indiana, then Illinois.

Abraham basically educated himself. He constantly borrowed books from neighbors. He loved reading more than working in the fields. That made his dad unhappy and they became distant.

His mother died when he was 10. His father married Sarah a year later. She and her three children joined Abraham and his sister in the Lincoln family. Abraham loved his stepmother and called her "Mother" throughout his life.

In 1831, Abraham set off on his own at age 22. He canoed down the Sangamon River to New Salem, Illinois, a town about 75 miles west of the state capital.

Abraham earned the nickname "Honest Abe".

He split rails for fences,

kept a store, surveyed and served as postmaster. He served in the Black Hawk War.

He ran for the state legislature. He lost once then won four terms. He also continued his studies and became a lawyer in 1836.

He met Mary Todd in December, 1839 in Springfield. They married three years later. Of their four children, only one lived to adulthood.

He won a seat in the United States Congress in 1846. After one term, he returned to Illinois to practice law.

He became famous for speeches which opposed expanding slavery into new states and territories.

He was elected president on Nov. 6, 1860.

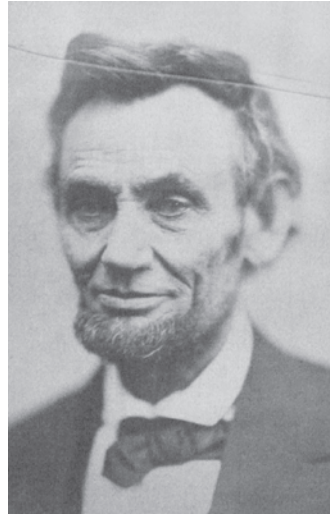
The slave states were upset by Lincoln's beliefs. Six withdrew from the United States even before Lincoln was inaugurated in March 1861. The American Civil War began in April.

Lincoln took an active role in the war, selecting his generals and visiting battle sites. His Emancipation Proclamation freed slaves in states fighting against the Union.

The war turned in the Union's favor and he was re-elected in 1864.

The Confederate states surrendered on April 9, 1865.

Lincoln enjoyed peace for just six days.



Alexander Gardner made this photograph of Abraham Lincoln two months before the president was killed. The glass negative cracked at the top. To many viewers, the crack suggests the break in the American union and Lincoln's tragic death.

On April 14, 1865, the Lincolns went to a play at Ford's Theatre in Washington. John Wilkes Booth hated everything the president stood for. During the performance, he shot Lincoln in the back of the head.

Lincoln died the next day. It was the first presidential assassination in America's history. The nation mourned his passing.

Abraham Lincoln is remembered for his role in ending slavery in the United States. This week, Americans say, "Happy 200th Birthday" to our 16th president.

Unscramble these words to reveal a phrase from the Gettysburg Address

MENTVOGERN FO HET PPOLEE, YB ETH OPPLIE,

ROF EHT PLEPEO, SLAHL TON PERHIS



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Newspaper in Education Activity

1. How old was Abraham Lincoln when he met Mary Todd?
2. How old was Lincoln when he became President?
3. How old was he when he died?
4. What year did Abraham and Mary Todd get married?

Leaders look to downtown's future

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

The owner of a Grieco Jeweler's, a small jewelry store downtown, has signed a five-year lease to stay at his Park Street shop.

On Main Street, another tenant, who did not want to be identified, opposed a proposed rent increase and came to terms with the building owner on a lower rent that will allow the shop to stay.

With several downtown businesses closed or set to close soon — including visible corner retail anchors Kaps and Alpers Fine Art along Elm Square — landlords seem to be interested in what can be done to keep the downtown attractive.

"I'm hearing about (rent) negotiations and landlords working with tenants," said Lisa Schwarz, town planner. "Just the fact that the two are communicating and there is dialogue is a good thing."

To get feedback from those in the know about the downtown, Schwarz invited building owners to a meeting at Butler Bank last Wednesday, Feb. 4, and was stunned when 20 of them showed up. She was expecting half of that number.

Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski also attended the meeting and said it was a good exchange between building owners and the town.

"They have our support," he said of downtown building owners, while emphasizing that local government can't do anything to fill their vacancies.

"It's cyclical. Downtown Andover went through a similar downturn in 1990 and came back. What's going on is nothing new," Schwarz said.

Schwarz said the Main Street reconstruction project was discussed, with businesses anxious for the project to wrap up this spring. Schwarz said it is about 75 percent complete, with

Elm Square due to be the most affected come spring when the work resumes.

"Some asked why we couldn't do the project in July ... That wasn't up to us, it's the contractor's schedule," Schwarz said. "Really, there's never a good time for this sort of project."

"When the economy comes back and the project is done, it will be great," Stapczynski said.

Schwarz plans to hold a follow-up meeting for downtown building owners in April.

"Yes, we have large spaces vacant right now, but each left for a different reason. Downtown Andover is still a great place to start your business," she said.

Business people attending the meeting also talked about the downtown's strengths, such as its walkability, with business owners expressing a desire to include details such as flowers along the street when the spring weather arrives.

To India, with love Andover kids donate coins to school-lunch effort

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

You've probably heard of elementary school students having pen pals overseas. Now, scores of Andover students have valentines in India.

Four elementary schools in town are thinking of less fortunate children in India this week with a special Valentine's Day project that involves them donating their spare change.

Local students at Bancroft, Sanborn and South elementary schools and Shawsheen School decorated containers for the Akshaya Patra Foundation and are collecting coins. The money will be donated to the foundation, which cooks and delivers meals to under-nourished Indian schoolchildren. The foundation's staggering numbers show it feeds 966,000 children daily in 5,600 schools from 16 kitchens in six different states in India.

"The idea is to make a child from India your valentine," said former South School Principal Eileen Woods, who has helped organize the school effort. "Especially now, with the way the economy is, we wanted it to be a very concentrated time around Valentine's Day. And I think it teaches the kids to think globally."

"It's a very nice, gentle concept on Valentine's Day," said Andover resident Madhu Sridhar. "They will know about children in India, [and think] 'they are our peers, and we can make them our valentines also.'"



Courtesy photo

Sanborn Elementary School fourth-graders Zach Rivard, 10, and Bruce Waters, 9, hold collection jugs for the Akshaya Patra Foundation.

Sridhar and fellow Andover residents Gururaj "Desh" and Jaishree Deshpande help run and support the U.S. office of Akshaya Patra, which operates the largest nongovernmental school-meal program in the world.

Some 40 percent of India's school-age children drop out before the sixth grade. Meals provide an incentive to children to come to school and stay in school. For many Indian children this is their only complete meal of the day, according to the foundation.

Akshaya Patra uses local food stocks and innovative technology to keep costs low enough to feed

a child for an entire year for \$28. "When you think about what it costs to feed a child for the entire year, \$28 isn't bad," said Woods. "It's amazing."

"For 12 cents, they can get a meal," said Sridhar.

Akshaya Patra's mechanized kitchens are designed by engineers to run inexpensively. The kitchens use local food to reduce costs associated with transportation and food spoilage while supporting the local economy.

The Foundation's goal is to feed one million students by 2010.

Interviews by Neil Fater contributed to this article.

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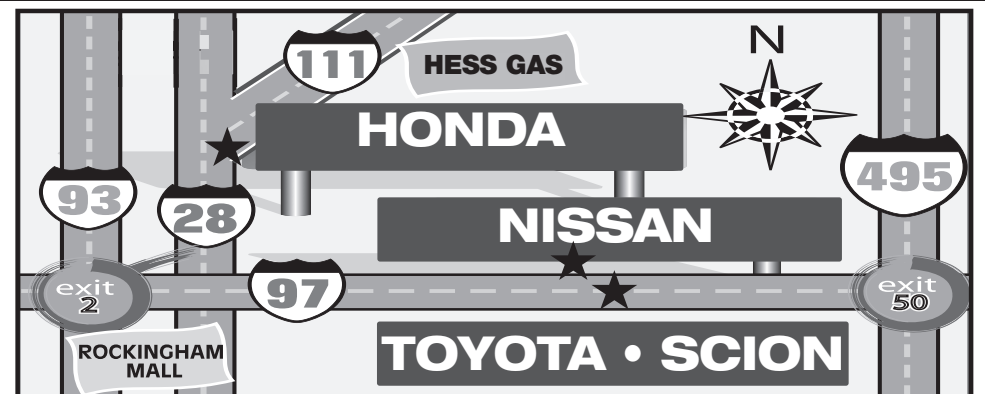
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Townspeople

“The Jewish people have always been very environmental and growing parsley was a way to tie into celebrating Tu B'Shevat.”

Emily Andreano, director of Temple Emanuel's religious education program



ANGIE BEAULIEU/Staff photos

Channel 5 weatherman Dave Epstein helps Michael Carleton, center, and other children at Temple Emanuel in Andover plant parsley seeds in celebration of Tu B'Shevat. They will use the grown parsley in a Passover Seder plate.

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Focus on the great outdoors on Sunday

Winter Fun Day highlights town's open space

It may be the dead of winter, but there will be no reason for residents to sit inside bored this Sunday. The Ward Reservation will be buzzing with activities and events for Winter Fun Day, Feb. 15.

Ward Reservation is a 695-acre conservation property with 13 miles of trails in both Andover and North Andover. From guided snowshoe treks to a winter birding program, the afternoon holds events for nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts of all ages, during the first weekend of school vacation week.

Free and open to the public, Winter Fun Day will run from noon to 4 p.m. and will be held regardless of whether snow still covers the ground.

Ward Reservation is maintained year-round by the Trustees of Reservations and has the highest point in Essex County, the 420-foot Holt Hill, and from the top of it one can see the Boston skyline. Directions are available at the Trustees Web site, www.thetrustees.org.

Winter Fun Day has been organized by the Trustees of Reservations and Ward Reservation Property Committee, in partnership with the Andover Trails Committee, Friends of North Andover Trails and Moor & Mountain of Andover.

For more information, call the Trustees of Reservations at 978-921-1944 ext. 8815, or e-mail NEducation@ttor.org.

Winter Fun Day schedule:

- Introduction to orienteering courses throughout the afternoon. Orienteering is a "map and compass sport," say organizers.

- Cross country skiing, snowshoeing, sledding, refreshments and warming fire will be available throughout the day. Limited instruction for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing will also be available. Moor & Mountain in Andover will have snowshoes and ski equipment available for

Please see **WINTER**, Page 14



ROGER DARRIGRAND/Staff photo

Mike Tighe of North Andover treks through the woods at Ward Reservation in Andover during last year's Winter Fun Day.

Temple puts twist on tradition

Children plant parsley seeds to celebrate Tu B'Shevat

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

Ancient Jews, most of whom were farmers, were very aware and sensitive to climate cycles. Those ancient farmers are honored each year with a Tu B'Shevat (the Year of the Tree) celebration. Last week, an Andover temple put its twist on the old tradition.

Children in Temple Emanuel's after-school religious program last Thursday afternoon planted parsley seeds in individual containers, and those seeds should sprout in time for the children's Seder dinners at Passover on April 9.

"We already made Seder plates and now we get the parsley, too," said fourth-grader Daniel Bailey of Greymbirch Road.

"It's going to be pretty good because we even get to eat the parsley," added his twin brother, Jonathan Bailey.

Channel 5 meteorologist David Epstein, a volunteer for the Jewish Big Brother organization, talked to the kids about weather and saluted their Tu B'Shevat celebration.

"If you put [plastic] wrap over your container, it acts like a greenhouse. Keep the dirt moist and you'll see sprouts soon. As soon as you do, take the plastic off," Epstein told the kids, who promised not to over-water their plants.

Epstein enjoys gardening and bopped from table to table with the parsley seeds. He said it was just plain fun to be involved with a



Andrew Samost, 10, left, and Jonathan Bailey, 9, plant parsley seeds in celebration of Tu B'Shevat.

hands-on project that honors a Jewish tradition.

Preserving Jewish tradition in today's world is a challenge, but Epstein wowed the kids with his approachable manner and kid-friendly project.

Event organizer Emily Andreano, director of the Haggets Pond Road temple's religious education program, called the celebration a hit, as students learned

about the history of Tu B'Shevat while planting parsley they can use today.

"It's important to celebrate one of the Jewish holidays in a new way in the curriculum," Andreano said. "The Jewish people have always been very environmental and growing parsley was a way to tie into celebrating Tu B'Shevat... We hope the kids will always remember this."

HISTORY OF TU B'SHEVAT

Over the years, the celebration of trees has evolved:

- 1,500 trees planted by settlers of Yesud Ha'Ma'la in 1884.
- The first avenue of trees in Tel Aviv was planted by schoolchildren in 1910.
- Several forests have been planted by the Jewish National Fund since then.

Source: www.tradcong.org/tubshevat.htm

Indian Ridge School: When kickball ruled — and three ran the school

Bill Dalton



Stefani.

This rattan was the rattan switch, or cane, that in days past was used for corporal punishment. Robert, who attended Indian Ridge School in the mid-

1940s, says, "There was always a faint threat it would be used on those that acted up in class."

Indian Ridge School existed from 1893 to 1952 and the structure was torn down in 1958. Walking from Shawsheen Road, it was on the top of the hill on the right, where the playground now exists. The brick school building was set back from the street and Robert believes, but is not sure, that there were four classrooms on the first floor, and the second floor was used for assemblies. The building was architecturally similar to Bradlee School (now condos) at 149 Andover St. in the 'Vale, although Indian Ridge was smaller.

Mr. Stefani says Indian Ridge was a neighborhood school: "Kids came from as far away as North Main across from the shopping center, and from all over Abbot Village and the Red Spring Road area." He adds that although he lived across the street from the school, he was notorious for being late to class.

There were three teachers when he went there: "Miss Brown, a tough Vermonter, who was the principal; Mrs. Dodson, a widow (you had to be a widow or unmarried to teach in those days), and Miss Kyle." Earlier in the 20th century, as many as six teachers taught at the school. The building was heated by

coal and you could smell the coal dust when you used the bathrooms in the basement. Robert says, "Miss Brown stood in the doorway to the bathroom as a monitor for the boys and, believe me, there was no writing on the walls in that bathroom."

The bathrooms of many of the schools during that era were in the basement of the schools. In fact, when we raised our hands in class to go to the bathroom, we asked if we could "go to the basement."

Robert endeared himself to the older kids when he found the only softball, which had been lost for weeks in the mucky swamp behind the

school. As a reward he was allowed to play kickball with them at recess. Kickball was a fine game. It was played like baseball or softball, only a large ball was kicked and the defense could get an out by hitting a base runner with the thrown ball.

Two people who went to Indian Ridge are mentioned by Robert as being well-known in Andover. One was Hector Pattullo, the father of our current police chief, Brian Pattullo, and a respected police officer himself. Robert says Mrs. Dodson "freaked out" when she asked Hector what he wanted to be when he grew up, and he responded he wanted to be a

truck driver. Robert mentioned Phil Christie went there as well. Phil became a well-known radio personality and still uses his soothing voice to make a living. Phil was a great help in setting up Andover's first youth center in 1960-61. It was located in the Grange Hall, which was to the right of West Parish Church.

I'd enjoy hearing from anyone else who went to the old schools in Andover, including Indian Ridge.

Bill Dalton writes a weekly column for the Andover Townsman and invites your stories and comments. His e-mail address is billdalton@andover-townie.com.

ENGAGEMENTS



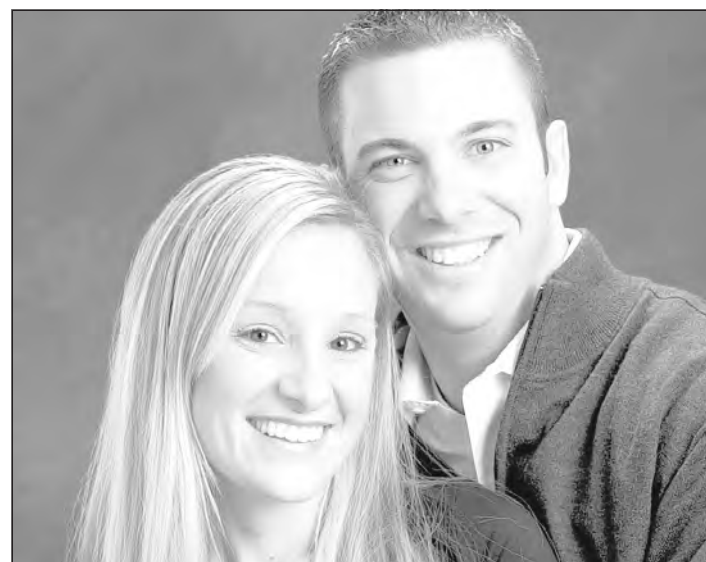
Topp and Mills

Arno and Cheryl Topp of Andover are proud to announce the engagement of their son, Joshua J. Topp, to Heather Elizabeth Mills, daughter of David and Kim Mills of Milford, Conn.

Mr. Topp attended Andover High School and graduated from Worcester Academy in 2001. He received his bachelor's degree in management from the University of Hartford in 2005 and is currently a financial adviser with Wachovia Securities in Boston.

Ms. Mills attended Central Connecticut State University and received a bachelor's degree in social work in 2006. She is currently in the master's program at Wheelock College for social work and will graduate in May.

The couple plan an Aug. 8 wedding.



Burnett and Spirou

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Burnett of Andover announce the engagement of their son, Michael David Burnett, to Kelly Ann Spirou, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stan Spirou of Manchester, N.H.

Mr. Burnett is a graduate of Andover High School and Saint Anselm College, Manchester, N.H. He is a special agent with the United States Secret Service.

Ms. Spirou is a graduate of Manchester Central High School, Manchester, N.H., and the University of New Hampshire. She is a network contract manager with Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare.

The couple plan a June 27, 2009, wedding.

BOOMERVENTURE OFFERINGS

■ **Energize With Exercise:** Great aerobic workout without going to the gym. No prior experience required. Thursdays, Jan. 8 to Feb. 26, from 6 to 7 p.m. The cost is \$50.

■ **Serenity Yoga:** Two levels: beginner and moderate yoga. Gentle, basic yoga practice with individual correction for safety and personal instruction. Thursdays, Jan. 8 to Feb. 26,

beginner: 6 to 7 p.m. moderate: 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. Cost is \$50 for eight-week series. Bring a yoga mat, towel and pillow. Class size is limited.

■ **BoomerBridge:** Part 1: Getting started: bidding and responding. Thursdays, Feb. 12, 19 and 26. Cost is \$110 per six-week series. Terry Kay Bargar is an accredited bridge instructor.

WINTER: Trustees host Fun Day at reservation

Continued from Page 13

rent at \$11 for Sunday; \$22 for the weekend; \$31 for 3-day. For specifics on pick-up and drop-off times, call 978-475-3665. Rentals are first-come-first-served.

■ **Birding with Bob,** led by Bob Sherman of the Trustees, at 12:30 p.m.: Enjoy a leisurely stroll looking and listening for common winter birds such as chickadees, nuthatches and woodpeckers. Binoculars are recommended

but not necessary.

■ **Winter tree identification,** led by Adam Rollfs of the Trustees, at 2 p.m.: Go for a pleasant hike around the Ward Reservation and learn to distinguish trees like maple, birch, pine and elm during the winter months.

■ **The bird-watching and tree programs** are one hour each and visitors are encouraged to attend both while enjoying a hot chocolate break in between.

SENIOR NOTES

■ **Rhode Island flower show trip:** Thursday, Feb. 19, \$37, price includes both admission and transportation from the center. The theme of the Rhode Island Flower Show is "Gardens Of The World." It will be a visual journey to distant and exotic places.

■ **America in story and song:** Tuesday, Feb. 17 and 24, cost is \$15, advance registration is necessary, instructor is Terri Kelley, she is a professional pianist, organist, vocalist and teacher. Well known in the Merrimack Valley area, Terri is a lecturer and performer with the White Fund Enlightenment Series, the author of two books, a cable TV host and last year's recipient of the Eartha Dengler award for her efforts in bringing classical music to the city of Lawrence. Come join us as we explore the history of the American music scene from "Sea To Shining Sea."

■ **Tax preparation:** AARP tax preparers will be available at the senior center in February and March. These volunteers have been trained and certified to assist with simple tax forms only. To schedule an appointment, contact the senior center.

■ **Winter photography class:** Two session class, Monday, Feb. 23, and Monday, March 2, \$10. Advance registration. The first session will take place in a field at a local AVIS property. Workshop is suitable for either film or digital cameras. The second session will take place at the center and the focus will be on image editing and processing instructor is award winning photographer, Jack Holmes.

■ **Exercise registration:** Registration for the spring semester exercise classes will take place at the center the week of Feb. 17. This will be registration for both

senior center and "Y" collaborative classes. Classes will include strength training, water workout, Nordic walking, modified yoga, cardio flex, tap dancing, aerobics, men in motion, senior spinning and water yoga.

■ **Men's breakfast:** Friday, Feb. 20, at 8:30 a.m., \$4, pre-registration is required. Journey to Alaska. Come and meet author and Alaskan expert Debbie Miller, who has lived in the land of the Midnight Sun for the last 30 years. Miller has an extraordinary slide show that focuses on the wilderness and wildlife surrounding her home in Fairbanks and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. She is also the author of numerous books on the Alaskan wilderness.

■ **Candidates Forum:** The Council On Aging will host a candidates' forum at the senior center on Friday, March 5 at 9:30 a.m. Come

meet the candidates running for various town positions before you cast your vote on March 24. Moderator will be Stefani Traina Goldsheim, president of the Andover and North Andover League Of Women Voters. A complimentary continental breakfast will be served, and the community is most welcome to attend. Pre-registration would be appreciated so that we can plan our space needs appropriately.

■ **St. Pat's Party:** Tickets cost is \$3.50 are now on sale for our St. Pat's party which will be held on Thursday, March 12 at 1:30 p.m. Our favorite Irish singer, Brian Corcoran, will be back with Irish music and laughs, so put your green on and come enjoy some food, fun and lively entertainment. Please note that reservations for our corned beef and cabbage luncheon that will be held prior to the show, must be made separately.

The Andovers Hottest Bachelor Contest Girls Night Out

MEET THE BACHELORS!



The first-ever Andovers Hottest Bachelor Contest is well underway, and the nominations are pouring in. Now you have the chance to 'meet' the sexy six on Thursday, Feb. 26, at 8 p.m. at Glory Restaurant, 19 Essex St., Andover. The evening will include a fashion show, plus prizes and plenty of surprises. Bring a non-perishable food item to the party for a local food pantry and receive an extra chance at our raffle. Make your Hottest Bachelor

preference known and see if he came out on top in the May 1 edition of The Andovers. And, ladies, don't be wallflowers and miss the party. Because you heard it here first: They're not just hot in Hollywood. To learn more about the nominees, pick up the latest copy of The Andovers. Voting closes March 1. To vote, mail in an official ballot from The Andovers magazine, or e-mail rford@theandoversmagazine.com.

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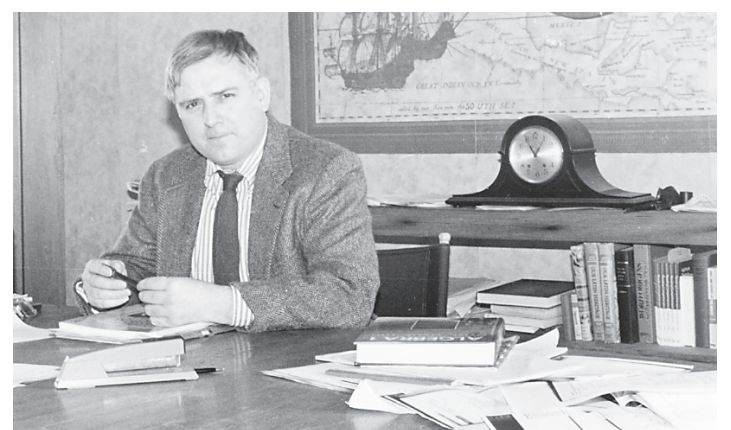
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RELIGION

Free Christian Church, 31 Elm St., Andover, invites couples to come to "The Marriage Party" on Thursday, Feb. 12, at 6:30 p.m. at Dylan's Bar and Grill, 18 Park St., Andover. They will enjoy a candlelit meal together, listen to a talk on enhancing their marriage, and learn about "The Marriage Course," which will be hosted at Dylan's on Thursday evenings between Feb. 26 and April 9. The Marriage Course provides couples with tools to strengthen their marriage over seven sessions and is recommended for every married couple who wants to invest in their relationship, whether newlyweds or celebrating a golden anniversary and anywhere in-between. Each evening, couples enjoy a gourmet dinner together, listen to a talk and then discuss it together privately. Developed by Nicky and Sila Lee in London in 1996, "The Marriage Course" now runs in thousands of locations in more than 60 countries. Free Christian Church is offering the course for the third time, and for the first time at Dylan's. The cost of the party is \$35 per couple. Anyone interested should call Free Christian Church, 978-475-0700 for more information or to register, as places are limited. Judy Daggett of Andover who took the last course, said "The course helped improve our communication as a couple and I really looked forward to it each week, it was like a special date night."

On Friday, Feb. 13, at 7 p.m., Temple Emanuel of Andover will hold a Kabbalat Shabbat Unplugged Service, led by Rabbi Robert Goldstein, Cantor Donn Rosensweig and assistant music director, Idan Irelander, accompanied by a variety of professional musicians. The service of soulful music and inspiring prose is open to all, regardless of age, affiliation or faith. Wine and cheese will be served prior to the service at 6:30 p.m. Temple Emanuel is at 7 Haggets Pond Road, Andover. Please visit the website at www.templemanuel.net or call the Temple Office at 978-470-1356.

On Friday, Feb. 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Project Home Again will hold a community-wide collection day at Temple Emanuel of Andover in the Main Lobby. Bring in new or in good condition sheets, blankets, dishes, pots and pans and cooking utensils. Help to provide basic home necessities to families throughout the Merrimack Valley. Project Home Again is a program of Temple Emanuel of Andover. For more information about Project Home Again, visit www.projecthomeagain.us. Please visit the website at www.templemanuel.net or call the Temple Office at 978-470-1356.

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, on Thursday, Feb. 26, at 3:30 p.m. at Merrimack College, Cascia Hall, 315

Turnpike St., North Andover 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 our personal vocations, and moving forward in a society that cannot go back to the presumed economic and peaceful stability of its past.

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

On Friday, Feb. 27, at 5:30 p.m., Temple Emanuel of Andover, will hold a special abbreviated "TOT Shabbat" Sabbath service, for toddlers, preschool, and school aged children. Rabbi Robert Goldstein will lead the child-centered liturgy and tell a story. Cantor Donn Rosensweig will lead the singing. This service is open to the public. Service will be followed by a Shabbat dinner at 6 p.m. Reservations are required by Friday, Feb. 20, for the dinner. Temple Emanuel is at 7 Haggets Pond Road, Andover. Please visit the website at www.templemanuel.net or call the Temple Office at 978-470-1356.

On Friday, March 6, at 7 p.m., Temple Emanuel of Andover will hold a Kabbalat Shabbat Unplugged Service, led by Rabbi Robert Goldstein, Cantor Donn Rosensweig and assistant music director, Idan Irelander, accompanied by a variety of professional musicians. The service of soulful music and inspiring prose is open to all, regardless of age, affiliation or faith. Wine and cheese will be served prior to the service at 6:30 p.m. Please visit the website at www.templemanuel.net or call the Temple Office at 978-470-1356.

Join Temple Emanuel for its Annual Purim Celebration the week of March 8. Sunday, March 8, at 1 p.m., the Temple will hold its fabulous Purim Carnival with games, raffles, crafts and prizes for all the children. On Monday, March 9, come at 5 p.m. for pizza and soda \$3, followed at 6 p.m. by a Purim Service with Megillah reading and Purim Spiel. Listen to the music of 60s cover band The Memphis Sun. Bring a box of macaroni and cheese for your grogger and then leave it to donate to the Merrimack Valley Foodbank. There will be hamentashen for everyone at the Oneg Shabbat. The Temple Sisterhood will offer a Kosher Wine Tasting with the option to order wine beginning at 5 p.m. Children may feel free to dress in costume for all Purim events. These programs are open to the public. Visit www.templemanuel.net or call 978-470-1356.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Chronic disease

Chronic disease self management is for anyone living with an ongoing medical condition such as arthritis, asthma, cancer, chronic back pain, chronic fatigue syndrome, diabetes, fibromyalgia, heart disease, high blood pressure, lupus, Parkinson's disease or stroke. Sponsored by Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley and Lowell General Hospital. Meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 1 to 2 p.m. in Hanchett Auditorium. For more information, call 978-937-6038.

Down syndrome

"Celebrating Our Special Gifts," a Down syndrome LGH Support Group provides support and education for the parents of children with Down syndrome. Parents encourage and strengthen each other, sharing experiences, knowledge and understanding, to enrich the lives of their children so they may reach their fullest potential. Meets the third Monday of each month, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Clark Auditorium at Lowell General Hospital. Parents of children of all ages are invited. (Children welcome.) For information, call group leader Linda at 978-459-6854.

HIV/AIDS

AIDS Action of Andover Mothers Group, for mothers and other family members of people who are HIV positive or have AIDS, twice

monthly; 978-470-2626.

Lyme disease

Lyme disease support group, offering information and support, second Tuesday of the month, 7 to 9 p.m., Heritage at Danvers, 9 Summer St., Danvers; Kay Lyon 978-468-6336; www.lymesite.com.

Mental health

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI), Greater Lawrence, meets every third Thursday of the month, 7 to 9 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 57 Peters St., North Andover; 978-475-0875.

Multiple sclerosis

There are three support groups for multiple sclerosis in the area: Dracut — TWS Pub, 10 a.m., second Wednesday of month, call Lori 978-441-0515 or Carolyn 978-459-7531; Atkinson, N.H. — Atkinson Community Center, 10 a.m., third Wednesday of month, call Helen 603-382-1222; and Methuen — Nevins Nursing Facility, 10 a.m., fourth Monday of month, call Marcia 978-474-0075.

Parents Anonymous

Meets weekly in Haverhill, Lowell and Lawrence, no fees or dues; 1-800-882-1250.

Diabetes

Diabetes support group meetings: third Wednesday of the month, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Mary Breen 603-898-5023.

Deborah I. Couture, 49



Haverhill — Deborah I. Couture, 49, of Haverhill, formerly of Andover, passed away in her sleep of meningitis on Monday, Jan. 19, 2009.

She was born in Brookline on Oct. 15, 1959. She loved spending time with her children and grandchildren. She had her own pet sitting business and loved skiing, gardening and going to the beach.

Her survivors include beloved children, Roger Couture of Malden and Elizabeth Couture of Lawrence; three adoring grandchild-

dren, Jordan Couture Christian Furtado and Justice Furtado. She will be sorely missed by parents, Jack and Julia (Guggenheimer) Turesky of Andover; her loving brothers, Scott Turesky of San Diego, Robert Turesky of Boston; and several nieces and nephews.

ARRANGEMENTS: Funeral services will be private. There are no calling hours. Burial in West Parish Garden Cemetery. Contributions can be made to the Salvation Army, 250 Haverhill St., Lawrence, MA 01840 or MSPCA, 400 Broadway, Methuen, MA 01844. For more information go to: www.burkemaqliozzi.com Burke-Magliozi Funeral Home, 390 N. Main St., Andover, MA 978-475-5200.

Elizabeth Moore, 99

ANDOVER — Mrs. Elizabeth (Curtis) Moore, 99, of Andover, passed away peacefully, Jan. 31, 2009 at the Southwood Nursing Home in Norwell.

Born in Farmington, Maine on July 10, 1909, she was the only child of Carl and Helen (Merrill) Curtis. After graduating from Lewiston Maine High School, she attended Vesper George School of Art in Boston. She taught art in the Lewiston Maine public school system.

In 1931 she married Leonard Moore of Athens, Pennsylvania, after he showed up at her doorstep selling silk stockings and swept her off her feet.

Eventually they settled in Andover, where they lived for over 30 years. She never had an idle moment as she spent her days painting portraits of animals and people, putting puzzles together, playing the piano, and doing her many projects. She had an unusual capacity to see colors when reading the black and white newspaper.

Her love of colors influenced her coordinated clothing and helped her make her home a bright and beautiful place. She was an active member of the Andovers Artists Guild and enjoyed giving art lessons to her grandchildren. Her infectious laugh and loving nature made her a joy to be around.

She was predeceased by her husband Leonard and she is survived by her daughter and her husband, Marilyn and Al Harvey of Andover; her son and his wife Curtis and Beverly Moore of Quincy; five grandchildren, Jeffrey Lewis of Haverhill, Garry Lewis of Atkinson, N.H., Laurie Monsell of Brentwood, N.H., Deane Moore of Duxbury, and Renee Smith of Oregon; and 11 great-grandchildren.

ARRANGEMENTS: In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Andovers Artists Guild, P.O. Box 254, Andover, MA 01810. Funeral services were private and under the direction of the Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover. To offer online condolences, please visit www.contefuneralhomes.com.

Mary Jo Quinlan, 46



ANDOVER — Mary Jo (Reilly) Quinlan, 46, of Andover, formerly of Lowell, passed away Sunday, Feb. 8, 2009 at the Brigham & Women's Hospital,

Boston after a courageous 12 year battle with cancer. Mary Jo was born in Methuen, and was the daughter of John F. Jr. and Elaine (Ganem) Reilly, both of Lowell. She was raised and educated in Lowell and was a graduate of Lowell High School, Class of 1980 and received a Bachelor of Arts from the College of the Holy Cross in 1984.

Mary Jo was a dedicated wife and mother. Her whole life revolved around her beloved husband and children.

Besides her parents, she is survived by her loving husband of 24 years, Peter F. Quinlan of Andover; her three children, Mathew J. Quinlan, a junior at Colby College, Jennifer M. Quinlan, a freshman at Quinnipiac University and Michael P. Quinlan, a freshman at Andover High School; sisters, Susan Szum and her husband John of Walpole, Patricia Daniel and

her husband William of Los Alamitos, Calif. and Kathryn Bolduc and her husband Donald of Falmouth, Maine; her twin brother, Michael S. Reilly and his wife Lorraine of Andover and her younger brother, John C. Reilly and his wife Maria of Andover; her father and mother-in-law, Garrett and Mary Quinlan of Lowell; brothers-in-law, Garrett Quinlan and his wife Meg of Lowell and Joseph Quinlan and his wife Laura of Clinton; sister-in-law, Susan Morrisey and her husband Gerald of Tyngsboro. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews whom she loved very much.

ARRANGEMENTS: Relative and friends are respectfully invited to attend a funeral Mass of Christian burial on Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009 at 10 a.m. at St. Augustine's Church, Essex Street, Andover. Private interment will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery, North Tewksbury. Visiting hours were Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2009 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Cataudella Funeral Home, 126 Pleasant Valley St., Methuen. Memorial contributions may be made in her memory to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, 10 Brookline Pl. West, Floor 6, Brookline, MA 02445-9924. For directions and condolences, please visit our website at www.cataudellafh.com.

New mothers

LGH New Mothers Support Group is a drop-in support group for new mothers. Provides a place to come with questions and concerns or to meet other new mothers. Meets in the Lowell Room every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon. Free and registration is not necessary. LGH Registered Nurses/Lactation consultants lead this group. Call Doreen Gallant or Laurie Sanz at 978-937-6334.

ADD/ADHD

Support group, meets third Thursday of every month, Belleville Church, 300 High St., Newburyport; Lisa Figliola 978-948-7310.

More S.T.E.P.

A follow-up peer support group for those who have completed the S.T.E.P. program, 9:15 to 10:45 a.m., the second Wednesday of each month, South Church, 41 Central St.; Gretchen Keohane 978-475-5711, or Janice Holden 978-475-8293.

Merrimack Valley Mothers of Twins

Meets monthly on the third Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., in the Forest Street Church, Forest Street, Methuen; Lisa 978-475-4192 or visit the Web site www.merrimackvalleymmota.org.

Obituaries

Robert T. Dixon Sr., 75

METHUEN — Mr. Robert T. Dixon Sr., 75, of Methuen, died Thursday, Jan. 29, 2009 at his home.

Born in Lawrence Mr. Dixon has been an area resident all his life. He is veteran of the Korean War, where served in the United States Marine Corps and attained the rank of Corporal. The son of the late James and Diana (Roberts) Dixon and father of the late Thomas and Kevin Dixon, he is survived by three daughters, Danielle and her husband Larry Graf of Florida, Patricia Dixon of N. Andover, Kris-

tine Dixon of N. Andover; one son, Robert Dixon Jr. of N. Andover; one sister, Joan Nartiff of Methuen; two brothers, Daniel Dixon of Salem, N.H. and William Dixon of Methuen. There are seven grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

ARRANGEMENTS: Funeral services will be at the Racicot funeral home. Burial will follow at Elmwood Cemetery in Methuen. Family and friends are invited to call on Friday from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Edgar J. Racicot Inc. Funeral Home, 256 Broadway, Lawrence. www.racicotfuneralhome.com.

Mary T. Donahue, 85



LAWRENCE — Mary T. Donahue, 85, a lifelong resident of Lawrence, died Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009 at Wingate of Andover.

She was the daughter of the late James and Katherine (McCarthy) Donahue of County Cork, Ireland, and the sister of the late Kathleen F. (Donahue) Remmes.

Mary was a graduate of Saint Patrick High School in Lawrence, Salem State College, and Boston University. She was a special education teacher for over 40 years, and retired from the Andover School Department in 1987.

Mary attended Saint Patrick Church, and was a member of Saint Patrick Church Sodality in Lawrence. She was also a life member of the Caritas Holy Family Volunteer Auxiliary in Methuen.

Mary is survived by her niece, Kathleen A. Remmes, of Haverhill, nephew Arthur J. Remmes and

his wife, Lana, of Plainfield, N.H., niece Maryellen Davis and her husband, Robert, of Hudson, N.H.; nephew James J. Remmes and his wife, Marlene, of Haverhill, and nephew Joseph S. Remmes and his wife, Elizabeth, of Bradford, four grand-nieces Kristen, Kathryn, Deanna, and Jessica; and five grand-nephews James, Stephen, Daniel, Robert, and Matthew.

ARRANGEMENTS: A funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009 at 11 a.m. in St. Patrick Church in Lawrence. A burial will follow in the Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Lawrence. Friends may call on Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2009 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the John Breen Memorial Funeral Home Inc., 122 Amesbury St., Lawrence. For more information or to send an online condolence please go to www.breenfuneralhome.com. Mary's family is truly grateful to the exceptional Wingate Staff for the loving and compassionate care they provided their dear aunt. Donations in Mary's memory can be made to the Wingate Activities Fund, Wingate at Andover, 80 Andover St., Andover, MA 01810.

Carl Mariano, 89



METHUEN — Carl Mariano, 89, of Methuen died Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009 at Caritas Holy Family Hospital surrounded by his loving family.

Carl was born in Lawrence on Jan. 8, 1920 to Vincent and Marietta Mariano. He attended Lawrence schools and graduated from Lawrence High School. He was employed at Bolta Rubber in packing and shipping until his retirement.

Carl was a member of the Hamlet Health Club and played clarinet in the Italian Colonial Band. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. During his service with the Army, he rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant. He was awarded the prestigious Bronze Star Medal by Major General Leonard Wing for his heroism in military operation against the enemy at Rosario, Luzon, Philippines on Feb. 5, 1945. He was also awarded the Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, the Asiatic Pacific Theater Campaign as well as the Philippine Liberation Ribbon.

Carl is survived by his wife Mary (Fusco) Mariano of Methuen, his two sons Richard Mariano and his wife Francine of Danville, N.H. and David Mariano of Methuen and his fiancée Joanne Lydon. Also among his survivors are his two sisters Josephine Pellegrino of

Methuen and Florence Patti of Utah, his three brothers Dominic Mariano and his wife Mary of Andover, Robert Mariano of Haverhill and John Mariano and his wife Rose of Methuen. He was predeceased by a brother Mario Mariano and a sister Rose Patti. Carl is also survived by his grandchildren, Stephanie, Justine, Cheryl and James as well as his four great-grandchildren, Jake, Brandon, Julianna and Brienne, and several nieces and nephews.

ARRANGEMENTS: Funeral services were held on Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the Kenneth H. Pollard Funeral Home, 233 Lawrence St., Methuen. Burial followed in Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Lawrence. Family and friends called on Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 20 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701. For directions or to offer condolences please visit www.pollardfuneralhome.com.

Medical Connection by Bill Daly, M.D.

MARFAN SYNDROME

Marfan syndrome is an inherited disorder in which the body's connective tissue is weak. Since connective tissue holds the body together, Marfan syndrome symptoms are widespread. Ligaments and joints may loosen and are subject to injury. Nearsightedness and lens dislocation commonly affect the eyes. Air sacks in the lungs may swell, and stretch marks often mar the skin. In serious cases, aortic tissues can stretch and tear, and heart valves may malfunction. Marfan syndrome has no known cure, but medical advances have brightened the outlook. Lifestyle adaptations along with medication and sometimes surgery can lengthen a patient's lifespan and ease the burden of the illness.

With any genetic illness, it is most important that you have plenty of time with an experienced physician who is willing to help you understand the condition and its implications, answer all your questions, and offer referral to a genetics expert. It is also important to have a physician who will help you deal with the emotional implications of the diagnosis. For more information, please browse my website, or call 978-470-0001 for a complimentary "meet and greet" appointment. P.S. People with Marfan syndrome need regular exams with a good cardiologist, ophthalmologist and orthopedist.

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Sports

■ ROUNDUP

Cooney shuts down star

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Andover coach **Jim Tildsley** couldn't say enough about the performance of center **Shannon Cooney**.

"She was ready," said Tildsley. "I'm so happy for her. She was ready for that task. She was the key to the game."

Behind the efforts of the senior, Andover topped Central Catholic 61-54 last Tuesday.

Cooney finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds, but more importantly, helped contain 6-foot-3 Boston College-bound center **Katie Zenevitch**.

Guard tandem **Natalie Gomez-Martinez** (17 points, 10 rebounds, 9 assists) and **Nicole Boudreau** (game-high 24 points, 5 treys) also stood out.

■ ■ ■

Despite 11 point for **Alex Alois**, Andover fell to rival Lowell 49-47 last Thursday. **Nicole Boudreau** added 17 and **Natalie Gomez-Martinez** scored 10 for the Warriors.

Scarpa earns 'Fortnight'

Andover 3-point marksman **Alicia Scarpa** was last week's "Player of the Fortnight" award winner.

"Alicia is a junior guard who excels in her role for this team," said coach **Jim Tildsley**. "She is a great practice player with a terrific attitude. She plays hard, and is a good 3-point shooter. She's a great asset to us."

BOYS BASKETBALL

Defense comes alive late

Andover coach **Dave Fazio** desperately looked for anyone that would play defense, and the search was a success.

After allowing 40 points in the first half, the Golden Warriors limited Lowell to just 13 in the second half and earned a 54-53 victory over the Red Raiders on Saturday.

Jimmy Johnson played the hero, capping the comeback with an offensive-rebound hoop to give Warriors their only lead of the second half, 54-53, with 45 seconds left.

"I thought I could attack the backboard against them," said Johnson, a junior swingman who tossed in 10 points and grabbed 11 boards on the night. "I saw (Lowell's Nate) Simpson, and I know he's a shot-blocker, so I just up-faked, took a dribble and used the hoop as a shield."

Josh Torres frustrated surefire all-conference choice Simpson, helping hold him to just two second-half points, and his Warrior mates fed off the energy.

Now 11-6 (10-6 as it relates to tourney seeding), Andover has officially qualified for the postseason.

■ ■ ■

Despite 12 points and stand-out defense from **Kevin Polanco**, Andover again fell to arch-rival Central Catholic 55-45 last Wednesday. **Connor Arnold** added 11 for the Warriors.

SWIMMING

Hunter, Andover take crown

Paul Hunter won the 200 freestyle (1:46.97), the 100 freestyle (48.72) and swam on the winning 200 medley relay and 200 freestyle

relay as Andover placed second at the MVC championship on Friday with 411 points. **John Belanger** took the 200 IM and 100 backstroke and swam on the winning 400 freestyle relay, and **Nick D'Innocenzo** sailed to victory in the 50 freestyle and 500 freestyle along with two relay wins.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Mattison, Quirnbach lead Andover to MVC title

Finally healthy, **Rachel Mattison** won the floor exercise with a 9.4 and the all-around with a stellar 36.3 as Andover ran away with the MVC Meet title with 142.8 points. Second best was Chelmsford with 121.05 points. **Jenn Quirnbach** added a victory in the vault (9.25) and was fourth in the all-around (35.35) and **Kristen Coney** was fourth in the vault (9.0).

■ ■ ■

Steph Marble won the bars with a 9.0 as Andover downed Methuen 148-129 last Thursday. **Jenn Quirnbach** continued her dominance with wins in the beam (9.0) and all-around (35.8) and **Rachel Mattison** won the floor (9.3) for the Warriors.

BOYS HOCKEY

Smith vaults Warriors

Cam Smith scored a season-high two goals and assisted on two others as Andover downed Chelmsford 6-3 last Tuesday. **Paul Russell**, **Matt Eriksen**, **Riki Retelle** and **Dan Colombo** each added a goal and **George Flanagan** assisted twice. **Kyle Berthiaume** made 35 saves for the win.

■ ■ ■

Despite two more goals from red-hot forward **Paul Russell**, Andover fell to Tewksbury 5-3 last Wednesday. **George Flanagan** added the other Warriors goal and a helper, while **Matt Eriksen**, **Joe Kuta** and **Riki Retelle** each had an assist.

GIRLS SKIING

Andover cruises

Andover took four of the top 10 spots as the Golden Warriors downed Haverhill 113-22 last Tuesday. **Jackie Guy** was second overall (24.49), **Erin Christopher** was fourth (24.33), **Sara Heath** (24.68) was seventh and **Jessica Kearns** (25.18) was tied for ninth for the winners.

■ ■ ■

Jessica Kearns (22.29) and **Kate Kearns** (23.05) placed eighth and ninth, as Andover downed Bishop Fenwick (116-19) but fell to league champion Masconomet 79-56 last Thursday. Despite an illness, **Jackie Guy** still managed a 12th, and **Patricia Conrad** was 13th for the Warriors.

BOY SKIING

Warriors remain perfect

Andover placed four skiers in the top 10 as the Golden Warriors remained undefeated by besting Haverhill (113-22) and Bishop Fenwick (129-6) last Wednesday. **Nick Sherman** (21.77) was third, **Eric Heath** (21.98) was fourth, **Matt Cummings** (22.45) was seventh and **Nick Binder** (22.59) was ninth for the winners.

Please see **ROUNDUP**, Page 17



ALLEGRA BOVERMAN/Staff photo

Andover's Chris Chu performs on the pommel horse at the Boys Gymnastics Coaches Invitational on Monday. Despite leaving gymnastics as a 12-year-old, Chu has emerged as a star for the Golden Warriors.

ALL-AROUND STANDOUT

Andover gymnast Chu an emerging star

By DAVID WILLIS
STAFF WRITER

THE CHRIS CHU FILE

Age: 17
Height: 5-11
Weight: 130
Class: Junior
On the mat: In third year on varsity team, has emerged as Golden Warriors' top performer. Excelled in all-around, leading Andover in all meets.
In the classroom: Ranks in the top 20 percent of his junior class. Takes Advanced Placement European History.

ANDOVER — Chris Chu believed his gymnastics career was over.

"I stopped competing when I was 12," Chu remembered. "I didn't think I would ever be doing gymnastics again."

Back then, Chu would not have imagined he would one day emerge as the top gymnast for Andover High, a title he has earned this season. The Golden Warriors junior continued his stellar campaign on Monday, earning two medals — including a fifth in the all-around — at the Massachusetts Gymnastics Coaches Invitational hosted by Andover.

But just five years ago, he made the decision to walk away from the sport.

"I did gymnastics for four years," he said. "It just didn't click for me. I really wasn't enjoying it."

So Chu moved on to other activities. But, once he entered Andover High School, his interest in the sport was peaked once again.

"I think he just grew out of it," said Andover coach Steve Sirois. "He wanted to try something different. But he came by practice, took one look into the gym and was drawn to it. He jumped right in and has done very well."

Despite early reservations, Chu did take to the high school team.

"High school opened up new opportunities for me," he said. "The team made it a lot better for me. I thought, if I have the talented (for gymnastics) I wanted to be able to help my friends. I push myself a lot more now, and I really like being a part of the team."

After lettering as a freshman, Chu continued to emerge last season. Then, with the team hit hard by graduation after last year, the junior knew he

would have to take on a larger role this season.

"I was aware of it," he said. "I was excited. It was nice to know I had that kind of responsibility, and I have done my best to fulfill it."

To prepare of the season, Chu worked out with his teammates and on his own at Legends Gym in North Andover, where he also works part-time. And that effort has paid off, as he has delivered a breakout season.

During the regular season, Chu notched team-high scores in the vault, pommel horse and all-around in all seven dual or tri-meets. He averaged an 8.0 final score on the vault, a 6.1 on the pommel horse and a stellar 36.9 in the all-around, a combination of his scores in other events. Those according to numbers reported by the team.

In a victory over Lowell, Chu recorded wins in the vault, high bar, pommel horse, floor, rings and all-around.

The 5-foot-11, 130-pounder again impressed in Andover on Monday. At the Coaches Invitational, Chu placed fourth overall in the vault (8.2) and was fifth overall in the all-around (36.85).

"I really enjoyed this meet," he said. "I was able to use all of my new moves

and leave it all out there. I may not be as fancy a gymnast as I used to be, but I have pushed myself to learn new things. I am much more self-motivated than I used to be."

Chu has certainly earned the respect of his teammates.

"He's a team player all the way," said co-captain Billy Mara. "He is always there for practice and always listens. He will make a very good captain next year."

His coaches are also excited to have Chu back for another year.

"He is an outstanding tumbler," said Sirois. "He has outstanding body awareness about where he is. And, in his job at Legends, he is coaching the future (of the program)."

All-around student

Chu is also a standout in the classroom. He ranks in the top 20 percent of his junior class and takes Advanced Placement European History. He says he studies approximately two hours a night.

Looking to the future

Led by the efforts of captains Mara and Jeff Sirois, the Golden Warriors saw a spike in interest for the team this season.

"In our final days, we want to make sure the team will do well without us," said Jeff Sirois. "That we've instilled the values in them and keep it going."

Beginning after February vacation, the Golden Warriors will hold gymnastics clinics for middle school students on Saturdays starting at 10 a.m. Those interested should coach Steve Sirois at 978-474-0056.

■ ■ ■

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

■ SPORTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

First-place finishes

Alanna McDonough, a sophomore at the Governor's Academy in Byfield, led the girl's varsity cross country team to first-place finishes in both the Independent School League and Division III New England Prep School Championships. A first time runner, she was named MVP of the cross country team, All-ISL and All New England.

This past spring, she was part of the Governor's Academy track-and-field team, which placed second in both the ISL and New England Championships. As part of the track and field dteam, she

competed in the triple jump, and 100-meter hurdles. She was also a member of the 4 X 400 relay team, which set a new school record during the New England Championships.

Athletic awards

The Governor's Academy in Byfield has announced the following Andover residents received athletic awards at a recent banquet:

Jill Conway, a sophomore was given all league honorable mention in varsity field hockey for the fall season 2008.

Alanna McDonough, a sophomore, was named most valuable player, all league and all new england in girls varsity cross country for the fall season 2008.

Women athletes

The following athletes from Andover High School were chosen to participate in the Massachusetts celebration of National Girls and Women in Sport Day at Faneuil Hall in Boston, held Friday, Feb. 6:

Melissa Knapp, track, and **Shannon Cooney**, cross country and basketball.

This ceremony, which is sponsored by New Agenda Northeast and the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association, is held annually to honor female athletes in the Commonwealth. These athletes were chosen because they are positive, contributing members of both their teams and their school.

Jackie MacMullan, Boston-based sports journalist, was the keynote speaker. The MIAA Girls and Women in Sport Committee presented the Massachusetts Women in Athletics Distinguished Service Award to: **Jean Fedak**, Algonquin Regional

High School, and **Molly Foster**, Peabody Veterans Memorial High School. The following student athletes read their winning essays: first place, **Fallon Bushee**, Mystic Valley Regional Charter School; second place, **Tiffany Mui**, Newton North High School; and third place, **Stefani McGrath**, Boston Latin School.

Soccer champs

On Sunday, Feb. 1, the Andover Warriors girls high school team won the finals of the high school indoor soccer league at Sports World Center, Tewksbury. The

Warriors, who are all freshmen, held their own against Woburn, Stoneham, Chelmsford, Lowell and North Andover.

The Andover team includes **Lauren Pien**, **Shannon Tully**, **Gabrielle Cappello**, **Kaley Ricciardelli**, **Lindsey Vivian**, **Hannah LeBlanc**, **Maggie Mullins**, **Jordane Smith**, **Shannon Murphy**, **Tara Benson**, **Meredith Anthoine** and **Daisy Ranwell**.

All of the girls are freshmen at Andover High School, except Anthoine who attends Central Catholic High School. Team coaches are **Tim Tully** and **Mark Benson**.

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■ **ROUNDUP**

■ *Continued from Page 16*

■ ■ ■
Nick Sherman (20.34), **Eric Heath** (20.56) and **Matt Cummings** (20.65) took places 3-5 as Andover again downed defending champs St. John's Prep 80-55 and Bishop Fenwick 41-26 last Monday. **Kurt Geffken** tied for ninth and **Nick Binder** was 11th for the Golden Warriors.

GIRLS HOCKEY

Paonessa sets up win

Heather Paonessa dished out three assists to help lead Andover to a 4-1 win over Algonquin on Saturday. **Sarah Oteri** (assist), **Nicole Giroux**, **Danielle Paonessa** and **Katie Shields** each added a goal and **Laura Cahill** had a helper for the winners.

■ ■ ■

Sarah Oteri scored a goal, but Andover still lost to Chelmsford, 2-1. **Laura Cahill** assisted on the goal.

GIRLS TRACK

Shields' efforts for naught

Emily Shields won the 50-yard dash (6.6), but Andover dropped a 47-39 decision to Central Catholic last Wednesday. **Melissa Knapp** won the 300 (40.0), **Colleen Shannon** took the 1,000 (2:53.4) and **Maggie Mullins** won the mile (5:31.8) for the Warriors.

WRESTLING

Micelli, Warriors surge to win

Behind a pin at 215 by **Gianni Micelli**, Andover topped Cambridge 44-20 last Wednesday. **Josue Davilla** (heavyweight), **Josh Devine** (160), **Stephen Dargie** and **Reinold Brito** each added a pin for the winners. **Sean MacDonald** added a win by tech fall at 135.

BOYS GYMNASTICS

Parker stands out in loss

Damian Parker won the high bar with a 5.8, but Andover lost to Attleboro 148-134 last Thursday. Andover's **Chris Chu** was second in the pommel horse and all-around and third on the vault and floor.

Girls Basketball

Andover 61, Central Catholic 54

Andover (61): Fazio 2-0-4, Gomez-Martinez 8-0-17, Cooney 4-2-10, Boudreau 8-3-24, Alois 3-0-6, Cataldo 0-0-0, Scarpa 0-0-0, Bill 0-0-0, Totals 25-5-61.
Central Catholic (54): Miller 3-1-7, Polce 4-3-11, Evangelista 1-1-3, O'Connor 6-4-16, Zenevitch 6-5-17,



Courtesy photo

Andover's Reinold Brito is clearly in command against Needham. The 125-pounder won by pin against Cambridge last week.

Desrosiers 0-0-0, Mikus 0-0-0, Martin 0-0-0, Totals 20-14-54

3-pointers: A — Boudreau 5, Gomez-Martinez; CC — none
Andover (14-2): 19 8 16 18 — 61
Central Catholic (12-3): 13 16 11 14 — 54

Lowell 49, Andover 47

Lowell (49): Rogers 2-0-5, B. Wilson 9-2-20, Wallace 1-0-2, W. Wilson 6-0-12, Rivagli 5-0-10, Totals 23-2-49
Andover (47): Fazio 0-0-0, Gomez-Martinez 5-0-10, Cataldo 2-0-5, Cooney 2-0-4, Boudreau 6-0-17, Alois 4-3-11, Totals 19-3-47

3-pointers: L — Rogers; A — Boudreau 5, Cataldo
Lowell (15-2): 10 16 15 8 — 49
Andover (14-3): 5 16 17 19 — 47

Boys Basketball

Central Catholic 55, Andover 45

Central (55): Michael Garcia 2-0-0-4, Benny Fernandez 0-4-7-4, Jose Pena 1-0-0-2, Billy Marsden 5-3-4-14, Carson Desrosiers 9-3-4-23, Jimmy Zenevitch 2-4-6-6, Tim Wheeler 0-0-0-0, Michael Alvarez 0-0-0-0, Luis Puelo 0-0-0-0, Matt Torrisi 0-0-0-0, Totals 19-14-21-55

Andover (45): Sean Ehlbeck 1-0-0-3, Joe Bramanti 1-2-2-5, Brian Miller 2-0-0-4, Jimmy Johnson 2-0-0-5, D.J. Fazio 2-0-0-5, Connor Arnold 2-6-6-11, Kevin Polanco 5-1-3-12, Spenser Rose 0-0-0-0, Josh Torres 0-0-0-0, John Haak 0-0-0-0, Totals 15-9-11-45

3-pointers: CC - Marsden, Desrosiers 2; A - Ehlbeck, Bramanti, Johnson, Fazio, Arnold, Polanco
Central Catholic (14-1, 11-0 MVC): 10 13 16 16 — 55
Andover (10-6, 6-4 MVC): 15 6 11 13 — 45

Andover 54, Lowell 53

Lowell (53): Alex Mitchell 1-3-4-5, Nate Simpson 3-7-9-13, Luis Sandoval 4-3-4-13, Julian Scott 2-2-3-7, Xiomar 2-0-0-5, Jeremy Driscoll 1-4-4-7, Steve Wahome 0-1-2-1, Derek Driscoll 1-0-0-2, Totals 14-20-26-53

Andover (54): Kevin Polanco 2-2-4-6, Joe Bramanti 2-4-5-9, Sean Ehlbeck 4-0-0-10, Jimmy Johnson 4-2-4-10, Brian Miller 1-3-7-5, D.J. Fazio 2-4-6-9, Connor Arnold 1-2-4-4, Josh Torres 0-1-2-1, John Haak 0-0-0-0, Totals 16-18-32-54

3-pointers: L - Driscoll, Sandoval 2, Scott, Xiomar; A - Bramanti, Ehlbeck 2, Fazio
Lowell (13-4, 9-3 MVC): 18 22 7 6 — 53
Andover (11-6, 7-4 MVC): 16 11 16 11 — 54

Boys Ice Hockey

Andover 6, Chelmsford 3

Goals: A — Cam Smith 2, Paul Russell, Matt Eriksen, Riki Retelle, Dan Colombo

Assists: A — Smith 2, George Flanagan 2, Retelle, Russell, Eriksen, C.J. Boillard, Colombo
Saves: A — Kyle Berthiaume 35; C — Ryan Prentice 32

Andover (10-3-1): 2 1 3 — 6
Chelmsford (3-8-4): 0 1 2 — 3

Tewksbury 5, Andover 3

Goals: A — Paul Russell 2, George Flanagan
Assists: A — Matt Eriksen, Joe Kuta, Flanagan, Riki Retelle

Saves: A — Derek Wakefield 20, Kyle Berthiaume 15; A — Buckley 30
Andover (10-4-1): 3 0 0 — 3
Tewksbury (12-3-1): 3 0 2 — 5

Girls Ice Hockey

Chelmsford 2, Andover 1

Goals: A — Sarah Oteri
Assists: A — Laura Cahill

Saves: A — Megan Pettoruto 23; C — Ashley Egan 18
Andover (10-3-1): 0 0 1 — 1
Chelmsford (9-1-2): 0 1 1 — 2

Andover 4, Algonquin 1

Goals: AN — Sarah Oteri, Nicole Giroux, Danielle Paonessa, Katie Shields

Assists: AN — Heather Paonessa 3, Oteri, Laura Cahill
Saves: AN — Megan Pettoruto 11; AL — 38
Algonquin (7-7-2): 1 0 0 — 1
Andover (11-2-1): 1 2 1 — 4

Girls Indoor Track

Central Catholic 47, Andover 39

Winners:
50 yard dash: Emily Shields 6.6; **300:** Melissa Knapp 40.0; **1,000:** Colleen Shannon 2:53.4; **Mile:** Maggie Mullens 5:31.8; **1/2:** Jess Salley 4-11; **4x400:** Andover 4:32.5

Wrestling

Andover 44, Cambridge 20

Andover winners: 119: Mike Tiwari dec. 6-3; 125: Reinold Brito pin; 135: Sean MacDonald tech. fall; 140: Stephen Dargie pin; 152: Brian Martin pin; 160: Josh Devine pin; 215: Gianni Micelli pin; HVY: Josue Davilla pin

Boys Gymnastics

Attleboro 148, Andover 134

Andover placers:
Vault: 3. Chris Chu 8.0; **High Bar:** 1. Damon Parker 5.8; **Pommel horse:** 2. Chu 6.1; **Floor:** 3. Chu 7.6; **Rings:** 2. Jeff Sirois 5.8, 3. Parker 5.6; **All-around:** 2. Chu 37.9

Girls Gymnastics

Andover 141, Methuen 129

Area placers:
Vault: 2. Rachel Mattison 9.2; **Bars:** 1. Stephanie Marble 9.0, 2. Jenn Quimbach 8.9, 3. Jennifer Coneeny 8.7; **Beam:** 1. Quimbach 9.0, 2. Mattison 8.9; **Floor:** 1. Mattison 9.3, 2. Kristen Coneeny 9.0, 3. Coneeny 8.8; **All-around:** 1. Quimbach 35.8

MVC League meet

Team Scores: Andover 142.8, 2. Chelmsford 121.05, 3. Central Catholic 138.4, 4. Billerica 138.1, 5. Methuen, 6. Lowell 129, 7. Dracut 120.35, 8. Tewksbury 100.5

Area placers:
Vault: 1. Jen Quimbach 9.25, 3. Rachel Mattison 9.1, 4. Kristen Coneeny 9.0; **Bars:** 5. Steph Marble 8.85; **Beam:** 3. Mattison 9.1, 5. Leah Tsoinos 8.9, 6. Marble 8.8, 6. Quimbach 8.8; **Floor:** 1. Mattison 9.4, 4. Jenny Coneeny 9.15; **All-around:** 1. Mattison 36.3, 4. Quimbach 35.35

Boys Skiing

Andover 80, St. John's Prep 55

Meet Results: Masconomet 87, Haverhill 48; Masconomet 103, Fenwick 32; North Andover 109, Fenwick 26; Andover 93.5, North Andover 41.5; Andover 80, St. John's 55; St. John's 105, Haverhill 30

Top 15: 3. Nick Sherman 20.43, 4. Eric Heath 20.56, 5. Matt Cummings 20.65, Kurt Geffken 21.06, 11. Nick Binder 21.14, 14. Adam Carrington 21.22
Records: Haverhill 1-6, Masconomet 4-3, Fenwick 0-7

North Andover 4-3, St. John's 5-2, Andover 7-0

Warriors sweep

Team Scores: Andover 113, Haverhill 22; Andover 129, Bishop Fenwick 6; St. John's Prep 127, Bishop Fenwick 8; St. John's Prep 104, Masconomet 31; North Andover 85, Masconomet 50; North Andover 90, Haverhill 45

Meet Results:
Top 15: 3. Nick Sherman 21.77, 4. Eric Heath 21.98, 7. Matt Cummings 22.45, 9. Nick Binder 22.59, 14. Adam Carrington 22.86

Girls Skiing

Andover 0, Austin Prep 0, Haverhill 0, Masconomet 0, North Andover 0

Team scores: North Andover 98, Haverhill 37; Masconomet 88, North Andover 47; Masconomet 104, Austin Prep 31; Andover 113, Haverhill 22

Meet Results:
Top 15: 2. Jackie Guy 24.29, 4. Erin Christopher 24.33, 7. Sara Heath 24.68, 9. Jessica Kearns 25.18, 11. Rose Ganley 25.41, 14. Kate Kearns 25.60
Records: Masconomet 8-0, Andover 7-1, North Andover 4-4, Haverhill 4-5, Austin Prep 1-7, Bishop Fenwick 1-5

Swimming

MVC championship

Local winners:
200 medley relay: 1. Andover (Paul Hunter, Nick D'Innocenzo, Peter Belanger, Yubo Liu) 1:42.79; **200**

freestyle: 1. P Hunter 1:46.97, 2. Mike Bakies 1:51.80; **200 IM:** 1. John Belanger 2:06.07, 3. Colin Trepicchio 2:17.65, 6. Abe Iyengar 2:19.61; **50 freestyle:** 1. D'Innocenzo 21.51; **100 butterfly:** 3. P Belanger 59.07, 6. Trepicchio 1:02.86; **100 freestyle:** 1. P Hunter 48.72, 2. Bakies 49.61; **500 freestyle:** 1. D'Innocenzo 4:33.69, 4. Dave Hunter 5:14.44; **200 freestyle relay:** 2. Andover (Bakies, J. Belanger, Liu, P Hunter) 1:32.44, 3. Haverhill 1:40.24, 4. Andover (Iyengar, Dave Iannallo, D. Hunter, Adam Millerick) 1:40.51; **100 backstroke:** 1. J. Belanger

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**Free Tuesdays must be combined with three other consecutive days of golf. Free Tuesdays do not include cart, tax or lodging. Free Tuesdays do not include play at Ross Bridge or Lakewood Golf Club. In order to reserve a tee time at Lakewood Golf Club, a corresponding room night at the Grand Hotel is required. There is a \$10 surcharge for each round on the Judge at Capitol Hill. Reservations must be arranged at least 15 days prior to arrival. Some restrictions may apply. Valid March 1, 2009-May 10, 2009.*

1-10 Announcements

Happy Ads Celebrate Place a happy ad in this section to wish a special someone a Happy Birthday, Anniversary, Retirement, Thinking of You, or Just Wish Them a Nice Day.

3A Lost & Found

FOUND CAT black & white, about a year old, friendly, found around Juliette St., Andover, Lawrence line. Call (978) 807-4978.

FOUND CAT in January on Railroad Ave., Salisbury. Short-haired tiger & white adult female, friendly. Call MRFRS for more info on Ursula, 978-462-0760.

FOUND CAT late January, Salisbury. Short-haired gray & white adult male. Call MRFRS for more info on Rambo, 978-462-0760.

FOUND CAT, Linden Road South Peabody. All gray adult male (Neutered) domestic short hair cat. Friendly disposition. Call 617-295-3678 to identify.

FOUND CAT, male, orange has collar, Berkeley Street, Lawrence, Feb. 06, 09. Call MRFRS for more info on Boris, 978-462-0760.

FOUND CAT on Feb 3 at PowWow Villa, Amesbury. Short haired adult male, brown tabby, friendly. Call MRFRS for more info on Chester, 978-462-0760.

FOUND CAT on Feb 4 on Forest Rd., Salisbury. Hanging around for 5 mos. Large, short-haired adult male, orange tabby. Call MRFRS for more info 978-462-0760.

FOUND: Dog purebred young female Husky, red & white. Topfield 1/29/09 To claim or adopt (978) 465-8555

FOUND: Envelope with money at Supercuts, Newburyport. Must identify the dollar value & the day it was lost. Call (978) 462-9262 ask for Manager.

FOUND: Havenhill's High School class ring, year 1964. Has inscription inside. Call 978-374-8150.

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3A Lost & Found

FOUND KEYS for car. In woods of Holt Hill Reservation, Andover. Please call (978) 749-0645.

FOUND: KEYS

FOUND - Large male cat, mostly dark gray with white, has been in the cellar for about a month or so. I live on Hampden Hill, Gloucester. Call 978-524-7248 to claim

FOUND - Male Boxer on East Whiterhill St., Lawrence. Color brindle. Call (978) 794-5856

FOUND WALLEY at Hatties - Car Wash in Havenhill on Feb. Call (978) 682-4053.

KEYS LOST between West Gloucester & downtown. Please call (978) 423-7826.

LOST CAT, black short hair, white feet, stripe on nose, vicinity of Washington St. Fuller Street Havenhill. 978-994-0649 or 978-374-4631.

LOST CAT Oct. 15, Lexington Ave., Magnolia area, large neutered male, 7 years old, microchipped, declawed front paws, black & brown tiger, white paws, white chest, white blaze on nose. Reward: (978) 525-3511.

LOST, Diamond tennis bracelet on Jan. 14, vicinity Tripoli's Bakery on Lawrence. (978) 685-2038

LOST DOG - Black Lab mix, about 60lbs, male. Red collar. Needs medical attention for heart problem. Missing since 2/5/09 from Groveland MA. (978) 387-5619

LOST DOG Molly Female Black and Tan about 24lbs very shy last seen on Scobie Pond Rd. Derry NH. Wearing blue collar with dolphins HELP Call 603/770/0598 or 603/770/5535 PLEASE

LOST DOG, small black mut, looks like Chihuahua/Terrier mix, no collar, vicinity of Essex & Western Ave., Gloucester. Reward. (617) 304-9273

LOST DOG - Yorkie, male, Fern St. area Lawrence. REWARD. If found call (978) 258-0471

LOST, heavy, gold signet ring engraved with a lion. Homestead, NH area, reward offered. Call 603-378-0279

LOST: Jan 24th Ladies sapphire and diamond ring, possibly in vicinity of Cape Ann Museum or Beverly Hospital/Ledgewood. REWARD. Call Elton at 978-356-5925

LOST Parrot - green - mid-sized. Name is Pasche. Lost from Old Point Rd. on Plum Island over weekend. Very friendly. If you may have found him call and speak with Scott 247 617-780-7235. Reward offered.

LOST: Ribby 4" angle grinder and 750 power inverter vicinity of Bridge St. & Wheeler Ave in Salem, NH Feb. 1st fell off truck. REWARD Call (978) 688-4733

LOST: Two yellow male cats, 1 long & 1 short haired, in vicinity of Howe & North St., Methuen. Reward if found! Call (978) 686-4028.

IST PLAYERS CLUB Come in 7th of Feb. Country Rock every Tues. DJ every Thurs. & Fri. 20 Rockingham Rd., Londonderry, NH

11-17 Financial

NOTICE Some advertisements running in this category may require an investment

18-24 Instructions

20 Private Tutoring

ACCREDITED Educational Therapist, Elementary-adult Phonics, reading comprehension, writing composition, hand writing, math, organization, SSAT MCAS. Miriam Smith M.S.Ed. Orton Gillingham + MA cert. 978-683-6129

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GUITAR - BASS Instructor Now accepting new students Berklee graduate 35 yrs. experience. All ages levels and styles. Your home or mine. Reasonable rates. Rentals available. References supplied. 978-975-0335

CONTRACTOR'S LIC. EXAM Course at North Shore Tech. Starts Jan. 14th 1-800-221-0578 contractorsuccess.com

GC/Builder's License Course YOU PASS or WE PAY* No. Andover starts Feb. 19; Havenhill starts April 20; Danvers starts April 27; Call CCI: 888-833-5207 www.statecertification.com *Call for \$\$ SPECIAL*

REAL ESTATE SALES LICENSE COURSE - New class starting now. 978-373-2859 ABCrealestatetraining.com

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31MA Homes MA

By Owner DID THIS AD catch your eye? Why not put a bold headline in your ad to catch attention? Call our Classified Dept. today, 978-946-2300.

31MA Homes MA

JOHN MCINNIS AUCTIONEERS Mortgagee's Sale of Real Estate AUCTION MOBILE HOME on 1/2 ACRE OF LAND! 32 SEABROOK ROAD ~ SALISBURY, MA Thurs. Feb. 19th @ 11 am PREVIEW: Drive by Recommended Auction Day: 1st for you to date GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR FIRST TIME HOME BUYER! 6 Rooms-4 Bedrooms-1 Bath 935 sq ft of living space on its own land! Legal Reference: 19813-84 Mo Lic# 770 FOR MORE INFO AND COMPLETE TERMS: mcinnisauctions.com 802-822-1417 76 Main St. ~ Amesbury, MA

31NH Homes NH

DERRY, NH: Buy my 2 Bedroom, 1 bath Ranch on 1/4 acre with beach rights for no money down. Owner financing available. Rentals available. Refer to Way below market value!! Call Dustin 978-361-7820

34NH Mobile Homes NH BRAND NEW - \$59,000 1 & 2 bedroom manufactured homes. Convenient Salem, NH Park. \$79,500 Brand new 14x70 Newton, NH. Deck, shed, Appliances. Financing available. SALEW MANUFACTURED HOMES ~ 603-898-2144

DANVILLE NOBODY CAN BEAT THESE PRICES! Quiet adj. park, nicely landscaped yards, 2 car parking, community pool, 1 bedrooms \$30,000 + financing available. Call(603) 382-5267

42B Realtors REAL ESTATE BUY OR SELL Foreclosures, financing. YAMEEN R.E. 978 682-1435

51-75 Rentals

52MA Houses For Rent MA ANDOVER, 8 room, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2 fireplace, 2 car garage, private yard, large deck, \$2600, pictures available. (978) 475-7119

52NH Houses For Rent NH DERRY - 3 bedroom Ranch, large master, dead-end street, private yard, no pets. \$1200. 603-432-3277; 603-434-1654

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52NH Houses For Rent NH

SALEM, NH Rent to own. 2 bedroom \$1300/mo. 3 bedroom \$1700/mo. Both nice rears. Call John (603) 893-8431.

53MA Condos/Townhomes/Duplexes MA

ANDOVER: 1 Bedroom Washington Park Condo located next Market Basket Plaza. Walk to commuter rail/bus. \$900/mo. includes heat & hot water. Call (978) 683-4101.

BRADFORD 2 bedroom condo Pool, parking, A/C, laundry, \$1,100 includes heat/hot water-storage. Near 495/3 rail. (978)837-3230 or (603)887-6982.

HAVERHILL Jefferson Estates - 2 or 3 bedroom Townhouse with garage under. All updated. Hardwood floors. Pool. \$1,395. (508) 633-0610

33NH Condos/Townhomes/Duplexes NH LONDONDERRY, NH, 2 bedroom 2 bath luxury garden style condo, lots of amenities, walk to Boston Express Bus. \$1395, 978-886-3221

44MA Mobile Homes MA SALISBURY: New 16x74, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1,200. plus utilities. 1st. last. \$500. security. No pets. 603-760-2503

55MA Rentals MA AMESBURY: *Amesbury Landing* 1 bedroom apartments, quiet riverside location. \$725 mo., no utilities included. No dogs. 978-688-8880

AMESBURY - Lake view! 1/2 Month Free! 1 bedroom from \$750; 2 bedroom from \$825; Quiet Country setting, Near town, some Sr Discounts 978-887-8856

ANDOVER 1 bedroom \$750. NO. ANDOVER 2 bedroom, new kitchen/bath, \$900. Both large yards, parking, gas heat, no utilities. 603-893-4624

ANDOVER Intown • Large 6 room, Victorian flare, 2 bedrooms, washer/dryer \$1250+; • 6 room, 3 bedroom in row house, basement/office space, bus line \$1100+. 978-475-2539

ANDOVER, MA Downtown, in building, 1 Bedroom, \$625; Large 1 bedroom with parking \$725. Wall-Ivill, modern Kitchen/bath, available now, near T. Call 617-783-1024 X218

ANDOVER, MA Downtown, • Large Studio apartment for rent \$850/mo. • bedroom also for rent, \$870. 1st & last. Reference required. Good credit, no pets. Utilities NOT included. 978-465-8238.

ANDOVER studio, eat in kitchen, downtown location, parking. No pets/smoking. \$775. Stephen 978-475-0400.

BEVERLY - 1 bedroom, near beach & town. \$950/mo., heat & hot water included. Call 978-774-6674.

BEVERLY - 2 bedroom Townhouse, \$1,250 + utilities, parking. No pets, no smoking. 1st, last, security. 978-927-8825.

55MA Rentals MA

First Run BEVERLY - 3 bedroom, includes living & dining room, hardwood floors, washer/dryer, parking, nice location, \$1,050. Call (978) 927-8956.

BEVERLY COMMONS

Studios 1 & 2 bedroom apartments becoming available. Rents include heat, gas, and hot water. Clubhouse, gym, pool and much more! No pets please. Visitors welcome Mon-Sat., 10am-6pm And Sundays, 12-5 Please call us for our WINTER SPECIALS 978-927-2055 (Rte. 128 to exit 20A, to Tozer Road) Beverly www.corcoranapts.com

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BRADFORD: 2 family, beautiful, large 1 bedroom, hardwood floors, washer, dryer in unit, deck. No pets or smoking. \$895. plus. (978) 807-5001

Forest Acres

BRADFORD elegant 2 level, 1 bedroom in brick Victorian overlooking Bradford Common. Exposed brick walls & beams, decorative beehive oven, hardwood floors, appliances. Available now. \$625-\$875. Some include heat. Only 1/2 month deposit. No dogs. 978-372-4167; 508-633-1445.

BRADFORD - Presidential Gardens Apartments seeks applicants for a 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath unit. \$1,305 per month, heat, hot water and electricity included (seasonal a/c fee not included). Please call (978) 373-2543 for more information. EOH.

GEORGETOWN 2 bedroom in quiet building. Washer/dryer. Private storage. Parking. Cable. Country setting near stores. \$995 includes heat. Call 978-352-7358.

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BRADFORD: 2 bedroom, great apartment, parking, hookups, caring landlord. No pets/smoking \$950/mo + utilities Call (978) 372-3313

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BRADFORD Bright 2 bedroom, 2nd floor, off street parking, fridge, washer/dryer hookups, fans & porch, \$950 + utilities. (978) 474-9909

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BRADFORD 2 bedroom, 2nd floor, off street parking, fridge, washer/dryer hookups, fans & porch, \$950 + utilities. (978) 474-9909

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BRADFORD: 2nd floor, sunny 2 bedroom, newly renovated, appliances, parking, nice deck. \$975+ NO PETS. NO SMOKING (978) 372-9199

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BRADFORD 2nd floor, sunny 2 bedroom, newly renovated, appliances, parking, nice deck. \$975+ NO PETS. NO SMOKING (978) 372-9199

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GEORGETOWN 2 room studio apartment, storage space in quiet brick building. Good location. Washer/dryer. Parking. Cable TV. \$825 includes heat. 978-352-7358.

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GLoucester - 2 bedroom, washer dryer hook-ups. One small pet ok. Section 8 approved. \$995 month. Available 2/15. Call 781 844-5912.

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GROVELAND 2 bedroom includes heat & hot water, hardwood, storage, deck, pool, parking. \$995. 978-340-2576

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HAVERHILL: 1, 2, or 3 bedrooms. Available now. \$625-\$875. Some include heat. Only 1/2 month deposit. No dogs. 978-372-4167; 508-633-1445.

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HAVERHILL - 1 bedroom, 1st floor, completely renovated, includes hot water, parking, coin-op. No pets. \$775 + utilities & security. 508-662-2101.

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HAVERHILL 1 bedroom \$675, 3 bedroom \$900, includes hot water. Downtown condo 2 bedroom \$875. 978-372-5456.

55MA Rentals MA

HAVERHILL 1 month free, White St. \$575+ utilities, very affordable 1 bedroom, very clean, fresh paint, convenient to shopping. 978-479-2216

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HAVERHILL: 1st floor 2 bedroom, deleted, off street parking, stove, fridge, laundry hook-up, no pets, available now. \$850/mo. 978-372-0691.

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HAVERHILL - 3 bedroom, \$950/mo. + utilities. 3 bedroom, \$1,200/mo. + utilities. Certified deleted, no dogs. 978-912-7263.

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HAVERHILL 5 bedroom, 1.5 bath, new carpets/point/updated bath/hook-ups porch, yard, parking, Section 8 approved, references. \$1400. 978-373-0999

55MA Rentals MA

First Run HAVERHILL: 1 bedroom, available at Auburn Apartments. \$795 month includes heat & hot water. Call Barry, 603-441-2163

55MA Rentals MA

First Run HAVERHILL - 1 - bedroom, combined living/kitchen, storage, freshly painted, new carpets/hardwood. Near 495. \$800 heated. (781) 322-0691.

55MA Rentals MA

First Run HAVERHILL: 1st floor 2 bedroom, deleted, off street parking, stove, fridge, laundry hook-up, no pets, available now. \$850/mo. 978-372-0691.

55MA Rentals MA

HAVERHILL - 3 bedroom, \$950/mo. + utilities. 3 bedroom, \$1,200/mo. + utilities. Certified deleted, no dogs. 978-912-7263.

55MA Rentals MA

HAVERHILL 5 bedroom, 1.5 bath, new carpets/point/updated bath/hook-ups porch, yard, parking, Section 8 approved, references. \$1400. 978-373-0999

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2002 FORESTER L AWD 1 Owner Includes 2 Year / 74,000 Miles \$8902 #V538A	02-05 ESCAPES XLS, XLT, FWD, 4X4, MOONROOF MORE... \$7902 #K7408A

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SSMA Rentals MA

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• Studio - \$805
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First Run

HAVERHILL-Beautiful/Bright 1 bedroom, cathedral ceiling, great area on No. Broadway, parking, 1st/2nd floor. 978-946-5172 before 4pm

HAVERHILL DOWNTOWN CONDOS 1 bedroom, \$700 + utilities. Walk/walk, central air, dishwasher, disposal, microwave, laundry, parking. Near train. No dogs! 617-783-024 X216

HAVERHILL: ERA Brooks WE HAVE RENTALS! 1-3 bedrooms, \$750-\$1200 (978)-374-0144 (978)-372-1561

HAVERHILL Large 2 bedroom, great neighborhood, completely renovated, new kitchen & baths, off-street parking \$980/mo. 978-664-3364.

HAVERHILL - Large 2 bedroom half house, 1st floor washer dryer hookups. Storage. 2 car parking. No pets. \$1100 + utilities. 978-771-0019

First Run

★ HAVERHILL ★ Must see bright cherry 2 bedroom basement apartment, newly renovated, beauty, hookups, \$550. 978-372-6592.

HAVERHILL Nice 2 bedroom apartment, \$775 + utilities. ALSO Large 3 bedroom, \$900 + utilities. Both deeded with parking. 603-661-6066.

HAVERHILL Nice 3 bedroom, 2nd floor, deeded, laundry hook-ups, quiet area, parking. Section 8 welcome. No pets. No yard. \$1050. 978-372-2742.

HAVERHILL - Northside 1 bedroom, fully appointed, central vacuum, AC, includes heat/hot water, no smoking, no pets. \$800. (978) 372-7536.

HAVERHILL - Northside 2 bedroom unit, \$985 + deposit & heat & hot water. No dogs. Call (978) 373-3024 ext. 10.

HAVERHILL, private entry, 1st floor 1 bedroom, modern kitchen, bath, deck, \$795, no utilities. (978) 618-4112

HAVERHILL: Riverbend Condo 2 bedroom, 3rd floor, includes heat, hot water, gas for cooking \$950/mo assigned parking Call (978) 661-8881

First Run

HAVERHILL: Spacious 3 bedroom, hardwood floors, hook-ups, off street parking, no smoking, 1st & security. \$1200/mo. 978-504-1473.

First Run

HAVERHILL, waterfront 2nd floor, 2 bedroom, hardwoods throughout, heat & hot water included, no pets. Security. \$1100. (978) 372-9618

LAWRENCE: 1 bedroom, 1 bath loft condos. \$800-\$925+. Garage, dishwasher, storage, hook-ups, elevator. Section 8 approved. 781-979-9199 ext. 204

LAWRENCE: 1 bedroom, large, beautiful, heat & lights included, parking, \$725. R. Guerrero RE, 978-685-6143

First Run

LAWRENCE 6 rooms, 3-4 bedroom, Hall St. 1st floor. Parking for 2 cars, hookups, section 8 approved \$875+up. Income of \$2700+ mo. 978-590-7213

LAWRENCE Apartment: 2 bedroom \$925. Includes heat, hot water, parking, coin-op laundry. Call 978-590-6220.

LAWRENCE, MA 1 Month Free 2 bedroom \$750/mo rcs-llc.com 617-625-8315

LAWRENCE Modern 1 & 2 bedroom apartments. Professionally managed with responsive staff. Laundry facility and parking on site. Convenient to 495 and 93. Rems start 1 bedroom \$695+; 2 bedroom \$910+ includes heat/hot water. For more details 978-976-2300

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LAWRENCE, So. & North, beautiful 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms, renovated, same with utilities & hookups, \$775-\$1150 Section 8 approved. 978-822-8334

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SSMA Rentals MA

LAWRENCE, studios, starts at \$550. ALSO: Furnished room, \$110/week. Call for details (978) 779-0139

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Look what Lowell has to offer! 1 & 2 bedroom apartments, (your average rent for 1 year for 2 months free rent special)
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Income guidelines apply
Offer good December & January

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METHUEN 5, 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2 car off street parking, hardwood floors, laundry hook-ups, storage. \$1050. 978-361-6696

METHUEN CENTER 1 bedroom, off street parking, no pets, \$700/mo. Gallant Associates, (978) 686-7931

METHUEN Colonial Village, 2 bedroom, fully appointed, deeded parking, close to highways & The Loop. No pets. \$950 + utilities. 978-685-0773

First Run

METHUEN - Cozy 1 bedroom with eat-in kitchen, overlooks fenced in yard and wooded area beyond. Private parking. Laundry facilities on site. \$880/mo. Includes heat & utilities. No pets, no smoking. Call 978-686-6784.

METHUEN "Lowell Arms" 1 Bedroom Special \$500 OFF First months rent! \$900/mo. heat, hot water & gas cooking included. Call for an appointment 978-470-8282 www.pricentonproperties.com *offer valid thru 2/14/09

METHUEN, MA ELM CREST Estates All Utilities Included \$800. Security deposit & references. \$870 monthly. (978) 682-4891 www.torrent.com/elmcrestestates

METHUEN Modern 1 bedroom on top floor, eat-in kitchen, parking, \$825/mo includes heat/hot water. No pets. 617-850-2700

METHUEN, Roseland St. 1 bedroom with garage, private sunporch, residential area. Laundry room, fridge, stove, all utilities included. No pets. Security deposit & references. \$870 monthly. (978) 682-4891 www.torrent.com/elmcrestestates

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NEWBURYPORT, MA and region.

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PLAISTOW - 2 bedroom garden style condo. Newly renovated, appliances, hookups, \$1100. No utilities, hot & hot water. Call 603-382-1715

PLAISTOW - 2 Bedroom, private yard, washer/dryer hookups in basement, parking \$1100. No utilities, no pets. 603-887-8420 or 603-770-1779

SALEM: 1 bedroom, laundry on site, 1st floor, plenty of closet space. Heat, hot water included. No pets. Available now. \$850/mo. (781) 245-8640

SALEM 2 bedroom garden style condo, washer/dryer hook-up, central air, no utilities. No pets. \$1100. Call 603-894-6300

SALEM \$500 Off 1st Month 3 bedroom unit available. Includes heat/hot water. New carpet, fully appointed, extra storage. Starting at \$1300. Fantastic location. Very clean, no dogs. (603) 458-1884

SALEM Adam Square - 2nd floor, 2 bedroom apartment in small, quiet 55+ community. \$975 a month, includes heat & hot water. No pets. Call 603-898-1086

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SALISBURY SQUARE, MA 1 bedroom efficiency, on 2nd floor. No pets. \$625+; 1st, last, \$300 security 603-760-2503

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SEABROOK 2 bedroom apartment, hot water included, pets okay \$1000. 1st mo. is free Call Harbor, 781-598-3200

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57MA Commercial Property MA

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First Run

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METHUEN - Historic Red Tavern Bldg. professional office suites 250 -1,000 sq. ft. all utilities included. \$300 - \$600 Call Coco Carly & Associates 978-375-4245

First Run

SALEM, Canal St. office/retail, free standing building. Parking, 900 month. Call George of Tache Real Estate 978-375-6150

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HAVERHILL, from 540 to 1800 sq. ft. office space, prime location! Parking, 1 month free (978) 887-8856

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SALEM, Prestige location. 30 Federal St., Reception, storage, conference room, 4 offices. Sunny, newer, entire floor, off street parking. Next to courthouse. Has oil! \$1350 monthly. Call George at 978-375-6150 TACHE R.E.

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67 Motels/Hotels

Getting Divorced? Live of the Salisbury Inn. From \$160/week. 978-465-5584

68MA Roommates/Housing To Share MA

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ANDOVER, MA, share 2 bedroom house with professional male. Washer, dryer, cable, deck, parking. Quiet neighborhood. No smoking. \$650. 1st & last. Security 978-729-4599

BEVERLY: \$600 includes all. Responsible person seeking Roommate. Nice neighborhood, washer, dryer, parking, yard, deck, no drug/smoking. 978-257-2705

ROCKPORT: Female, 41, share 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, large room, small yard, off street parking, hardwood floors, washer/dryer. Walk to town/1st beach. No smoking, \$675 +. 617-549-3777

ROCKPORT in village. 1st floor, living room, bedroom, both, share kitchen & laundry. Off-street parking. Ocean views. Includes all utilities. \$800/mo. + security deposit. Call (978) 546-9584.

First Run

SALEM: 2 bedroom apartment to share, \$500/mo. + hot utilities. Close to T. Pets Okay. 978-854-2051

SALEM, Derby St. Professional female non-smokers seeks 3rd roommate to share 7 room historic home 3 room bedroom, fireplace, living room, modern kitchen, washer/dryer, quiet neighborhood, gas utilities, walk to T & Beaches. No pets. \$525+ 978-738-2351

SALEM, MA DOWNTOWN, 2 bedrooms apartment to share quiet area sunporch, includes each \$600 mo + deposit, & references Call 978-373-4890

SALEM, MA, share house, good size room, laundry, dishwasher & cable included. No pets. Available 3/1. 978-714-7002

68NH Roommates/Housing To Share NH

CHESTER, NH roommate wanted, non-smoker, no pets, to share 3 bedroom house in country, above pool, deck, grill, privacy garage, everything included, except phone. \$225/mo. (603) 887-5461.

First Run

MAGNOLIA, MA: Share large Victorian near ocean. No pets. No smoking. \$125/wk. Includes utilities. 978-252-2082

MAGNOLIA, share house by the beach with professional female, 2 cats, hardwood floors, \$600, 978-525-3336

MARBLEHEAD: \$140/wk. All utilities included. Wireless internet, cable TV, use of kitchen, no guest. 1st & last plus 1 wk security. Call 781-771-4360; 781-990-3325.

First Run

MERRIMAC professional seeks same to share townhouse. \$150/wk. includes everything, \$600 in advance. Available now! 978-346-9232.

METHUEN - share 2 bedroom condo minutes off Rt 495, half hour to Boston, \$650 + half utilities. Bob, 978-688-7637

METHUEN: Share large furnished house with mature non-smoker, no pets, has gym room, cable/internet, car port. Utilities included, \$175/week. Near 93 / 495. Background check required. 978-852-4064.

METHUEN Spacious & clean furnished 1 room in a shared spacious apartment, off street parking, washer/dryer, \$400/mo +. 978-590-2244.

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68MA Roommates/Housing To Share MA

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METHUEN Sa. area. Large room, utilities & cable included. parking. \$150/week. 978-852-0539.

MIDDLETON. Bedroom, furnished, no smoke, no pets, no alcohol. Single family, shared home

149-150 Pets & Livestock

AKC ROTWEILLER PUPS Vaccinated, health certifi- cates. Home raised. Mom & Dad on site. \$950 Ready 3/10. Now accepting deposits. 603-702-2916

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AQUARIUM, Marine land eclipse hexagon 5 gallon fully integrated kit, with all accessories. Excellent condition. Sells for \$100, asking \$25. (603) 362-5729

CAT/DOG CAGE, 48x30x35, like new \$95; BIRD CAGE with playpen on wheels \$1x18x17 mint condition \$105. (781) 974-5726

CAT FREE to good home, orange, not spayed, 1 year old female, very affectionate & playful. Alison, (978) 777-1607

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS www.vonransensershepherds.com. (978) 609-4459.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES AKC Golden pups champ. lines, black heads call parents \$650.00 Call Carrie 603-778-1594

COCKAPOO PUPS, hypoallergenic, non shedding, great with kids, 1st shots & worming, lifetime guarantee. \$650 and up. (603) 479-4870

ENGLISH/EUROPEAN BULL DOG 2 months old, with papers, \$3300/best offer. (978) 578-8078.

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ATTENTION! Beware of anyone replying to your ad offering to send you a check for shipping and you sending them back the difference.

BOXER, male 12 month old, wonderful disposition. \$499 firm. Serious inquiries only. Call Pam at 978 521 1442 or cell 978 423 4883.

CHIUAHUA PUPPIES Two cute little puppies, have first shot, deworming and come with Vet health certificate. Come with Pedigree papers on both parents. The male and female are about eight weeks old and are light Tan with White markings and are ooper trained. Price each is \$350.00 Paul @ 978-463-9875

FREE TO GOOD HOME, BLACK GERMAN Shepherd female 3 years old, papers & all shots. (978) 683-4241

IRISH JACK RUSSELL TERRIER PUPS, short legged, smooth coated, up to date on all shots & worming. Ready to go. Call (978) 273-0893.

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POODLE PUPS, standard, AKC, Male, black or brown. 8 weeks, \$700, 1st shots. Call (978) 208-7025.

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ANDOVER - \$499,900 Location! Terrific 8 room Split Entry features granite island kitchen with new cherry cabinetry & SS appliances, all HW, 2 updated baths, FFs in LR & walkout lower level FR. Ask for Donna Shay

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OPEN SUNDAY 1-3 ANDOVER - \$525,000 New Price! Totally updated! Open plan 9 rms, gran & mahogany kitchen, cath. ceil, FR, 2 BA, tile floor sunrm, office, 3 BRs + 16' guest rm, Trex deck. New school dist. Level acre, 1 mi. from Rte 93. Ask for Mary Beth Cosgrove

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ANDOVER - \$529,000 Walk to park, shops & library from this 7 room Cape with fireplace living room, formal dining room, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, gas heat, partially finished lower level and 1 car garage. Ask for Joan Ponti

ANDOVER - \$529,000 Walk to park, shops & library from this 7 room Cape with fireplace living room, formal dining room, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, gas heat, partially finished lower level and 1 car garage. Ask for Joan Ponti

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Rain tapering off	Mostly cloudy; windy	Colder	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny; breezy	Clouds and sun	Mostly sunny
High: 47°	Low: 26°	High: 34° Low: 19°	High: 39° Low: 21°	High: 36° Low: 21°	High: 34° Low: 20°	High: 32° Low: 18°	High: 32° Low: 15°

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TOWN TALK

Seniors give dishes, toasters, linens, heart

As soon as Gladys Catterton heard from her daughter, Andover resident Amy Janovsky, that Project Home Again was in desperate need of donations, she got to work.

Through a donation drive on Feb. 3, Catterton, a resident of Edgewood Retirement Community in North Andover, collected dishes, small appliances and other household items from her friends and neighbors at the retirement community, for the nonprofit organization run by Andover's Temple Emanuel.

Through its Lawrence warehouse, Project Home Again connects social workers with furniture, housewares and anything that would help set up a new home for local people starting their life over. Edgewood residents brought towels, blankets, pots and pans, dishes and small appliances, including coffee makers and an electric frying pan.

One person asked if Project Home Again would take some bedsheets she was donating if they weren't ironed, said Catterton, chuckling.

Another Edgewood resident has made arrangements with Project Home Again to donate furniture from their apartment.

A work of art



Courtesy photo

Jillian Powers, 9, built this snowman earlier this month with a little help from her dad, Mark Powers, and sister, Jen.

"I think all of us can do more than we're doing (to help others). We're so fortunate," said Catterton. "It (the donation drive) was fabulous. Edgewood really likes to contribute to the community, and everyone was glad to donate."

When Nancy Kanell, director of Project Home Again, came to load the donations into her car last week, she quickly realized she needed to send a truck as well, said Catterton.

Catterton said the project was a "win-win situation," because Edgewood residents were able to reorganize their apartments, shedding items they didn't need, passing donations on to those who need them the most.

Project Home Again will host a townwide collection on Feb. 27 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road. For information, visit www.projecthomeagain.us or call 978-470-1356.

— Bethany Bray

Important 'Moment'

Hard Rock Cafe in Boston is hosting the local teen band, One Step Away, which boasts three of four members from Andover, for a two-hour concert on Sunday, Feb. 22 from 5 to 7 p.m.

A 2008 winner of the Boston Music Festival Alternative Rock Genre and Famecast Rock Stage last month, the band is off to a rocking start with their new song, "In This Moment." More than 200 copies were sold within seven days of release and Terry Nuzzolo reports the song has had 100,000 MySpace plays and 100,000 YouTube hits.

Band members are vocalist Adam Carrington, bassist Mike Nuzzolo, drummer Greg Rickenbacker, all of Andover, and Terence Healy, lead guitarist, of Wilmington. Watch the

Townsmen next week for a story on the band.

— Judy Wakefield

A true Valentine

Kendall Wipff is a beauty queen with a big heart this Valentine season. The Miss Massachusetts Junior National Teenager 2008, who lives in Andover, has set up boxes at local businesses to collect canned goods for Neighbors in Need.

"With the economic downturn, food banks are more stressed than ever," she wrote in an e-mail. "Heating, gas, and other utility costs are making the need for food even more critical."

Her large pretty-in-pink boxes are heart-covered and can be found at several businesses, including Market Basket, Whole Foods and John Anton Cleaners.

— Judy Wakefield

Politically speaking

Selectman candidate Will English spent last Saturday knocking on doors as he hoped to secure some votes for next month's election. Dressed in an overcoat and winter hat that said "Andover" and armed with a voting list, he visited neighborhoods in Precinct 1. English said his goal was simple — he just wanted to introduce himself to voters. His red, white and blue business card is

doing double duty as it lists his Website and cell phone number for campaign inquiries.

— Judy Wakefield

Merrimack Valley YMCA Itty Bitty Baseball

Registration is now open for the 2009 season of the Merrimack Valley YMCA's Itty Bitty Baseball. In this T-ball/coach-pitch program, kids learn the fundamentals of baseball while having fun. The program runs Saturday mornings beginning May 2 at the Frost School on the Lawrence/Andover town line. Gloves and cleats will be provided to those in need. To register, stop by the Andover/North Andover YMCA at 165 Haverhill St., Andover.

A take on Tony winner

Three Lawrence Academy productions of "Urinetown" this week will feature Andover resident Shannon Muscatello, Bernie Leed and Tim Caron. Bernie, playing a corrupt policeman, is the tongue-in-cheek narrator of the story. Shannon, appearing as the daughter of the miserly moneygrubber who exploits the poor, plays a character conflicted by her affection for the young man leading the revolt against

him. Tim's character is a greedy, cowardly senator who is supporting and benefiting from the oppression.

Performances of the musical, which was nominated for 10 Tony Awards in 2002, will take place in the Richardson-Mees Performing Arts Center on the Lawrence Academy campus in Groton at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 12, 13, and 14. Admission is free. Reservations are not required, but may be made by calling 978-448-1601.

Agency honors Tucker

Homes for Families, a grassroots agency working to end family homelessness through collaborative policy making, is honoring Sen. Sue Tucker of Andover with its 2008 Inspiring Leadership Award.

The group is applauding "her lifelong commitment to advocacy and community service and her key membership on the Commission to End Homelessness. She has been a champion for the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program, and sponsored both the 2008 MRVP Cookie Day and an amendment for increased funding to help low income working families, the disabled, seniors and others experiencing housing uncertainties."

— Judy Wakefield

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