

INSIDE: WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO ANDOVER? PAGE 11

OUR 121ST YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 29 30 pages

MARCH 19, 2009

75 CENTS

Town election: 4 leaders to be chosen Tuesday

By BRIAN MESSINGER
STAFF WRITER

Consolidation, regionalization and public-private partnerships have all been identified by the five candidates running for School Committee as ways to save money and preserve school services. Incumbent Art Barber and challengers David Birnbach, Paula Colby-Clements, Annie Gilbert and Diane McCarron each outlined plans to create savings at recent candidate forums.

Now, it's time for residents to chose which ideas and which candidates they support. The Annual Town Election will be held on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. All precincts will vote at the Andover High School Field House, 80 Shawsheen Road. In the contested races, voters will chose two of five candidates for School Committee and two of three candidates for Board of Selectmen.

In the selectmen race, Williams English is challenging incumbents Brian Major and Ted Teichert. (For more on selectmen, see pages

4 and 5.)

Candidates are in the home stretch, appearing at forums hosted by the Council on Aging on March 6 and the Service Club of Andover this Monday, among others.

A three-term School Committee member, Barber said he is certified in the state as a teacher, principal and superintendent.

He said he spends days reading through each line item of the superintendent's budget

Please see FORUM, Page 5

CAMPAIGN COVERAGE

- **Selectmen race:** Pages 4, 5
- **School Committee race:** Pages 6, 7
- **On the Web:** Past Q &As with candidates
- **Video:** Check out andovertownsman.com on Thursday morning for a link to footage of Wednesday, March 18, League of Women Voters forum

Stunt rider delivers special message



ANGIE BEAULIEU/Staff photo

Chris Poulos, winner of 85 gold medals in worldwide competition and the 1991 Bicycle Stunt World Champion, delivered an important message about living positively and treating others with kindness to third- through fifth-graders at South Elementary on Tuesday, March 17, while entertaining them with some exotic bicycle tricks.

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New AHS principal made mark in Texas

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Andover High School's next principal will come from the Lone Star state.

Superintendent Claudia Bach has selected Jonathan Harris, an educator working in the Austin, Texas, public schools, as the next principal of Andover High School.

Harris will take over for outgoing Principal Peter Anderson on July 1. In an ironic twist, one of the schools Harris has worked at in Texas is named Anderson High School.

There, he was elected by the students and staff as Campus Teacher of the Year for 2001-02. He was also Texas' first National Board certified teacher in science.

Harris flew up from Texas to visit AHS on Monday, March 9, when a

snowstorm hit Andover and students were being released early due to the weather. Even with a shortened day, AHS students really made an impression on him, said Harris. "The presence of a student voice (stood out to me). The student's commitment for a great school and their interest in selecting the next principal and leader," said Harris. "I'm excited, and ready to move forward with the position. I'm looking forward to working with students, teachers and parents, eager to make the transition."

The first thing he'll work on when he comes to Andover in July? "Establish relationships, trusts and open door communications with all members of the community," said Harris. "And begin working on unifying a vision of where we want to go in the future."

Harris has been working in Austin for 12 years as classroom teacher, principal and administrator. He is fluent in Spanish and has a background in biochemistry, molecular biology and biophysics.

In a letter to AHS parents dated March 17, Bach said her site visit to Harris' Austin workplace made him stand out from the other finalists. Both teachers and students commented on how Harris forges strong relationships with colleagues and students, she said.

"As many of his colleagues in Austin reported, Jonathan Harris is — whether teaching students or adults — a truly gifted teacher," wrote Bach in the letter. "I am confident that under his leadership, Andover High

Please see HIRED, Page 2

"How many times have you had 500 people ask you for a fee?"

Candy Dann,
supporter of SMART
trash-fee plan

Trash-fee vote is expected this month

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Selectmen are expected to vote soon on whether to adopt a new trash-fee plan that supporter Candy Dann claims will save and raise an estimated \$294,000 per year.

Clark Road resident Bill Pennington also has said he is considering drafting an article to bring the SMART plan before Town Meeting for a vote if necessary.

The SMART (Saves Money and Reduces Trash) plan would charge residents for every bag of trash they put to the curb beyond what can fit in one barrel. It was conceived by the town's recycling committee and League of Women Voters. Dann is a member of both groups, and led a PowerPoint presentation on the plan's merits at the Monday, March 16, selectmen's meeting.

All three candidates for selectmen in next Tuesday's election have said they will not support the trash fee this year. Selectmen chairman Ted Teichert said the board plans to vote on whether to adopt the SMART plan at their next meeting on March 30.

Selectmen and Town Manager Buzz Stapeczynski agreed that if the selectmen vote to approve the SMART plan on March 30, a Town Meeting warrant for the plan's approval would become void.

"Andover already has a high rate of recycling, but it's like playing in the minor leagues. Now, we're ready for the big leagues," said Dann. "Residents are ready to meet the challenge. This is what we, as residents, can do to help the budget."

The SMART plan saves the town money by reducing trash tonnage that needs to be hauled away, and earns revenue by charging residents, by the bag, for surplus trash, said Dann.

"It's much more than an transfer of money," she said. "It creates a positive advantage for residents to do the right thing. It's way more than just adding fees, it's a behavior change."

Under the SMART plan, special bags for extra trash could be purchased at one of several stores in town. The retailer, in turn, would send the purchase price — roughly \$2 — back to the town. Unlimited recycling and one large bulky item per week would be collected for free, curbside, under the plan.

Supporters of the plan — wearing pins that read "Yes, one can!" and "Get SMART" — filled the selectmen meeting room Monday.

Please see FEE, Page 2

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2 Thursday, March 19, 2009 THE TOWNSMAN

Hired: New high school principal spent 12 years in Austin

Continued from Page 1

School will continue the exemplary programs that the school now has in place, and new programs and directions will emerge in the spirit of collaboration and collegiality. I believe Mr. Harris will honor the work this excellent faculty has accomplished, and celebrate the many achievements our outstanding students have attained under the very able leadership of Mr. Peter Anderson. In the coming years we will see an excellent school becoming even better."

Bach did not return requests for comment before Townsman press deadline.

"As co-president of the PAC, I am excited about the prospect of Jonathan Harris as the new principal of AHS," said parent Diane Costagliola, who was involved with the principal search committee. "He is a proven leader and I am hopeful that he will bring a new perspective and new ideas to the high school. We will miss Principal Anderson and appreciate all he has done for

SNAPSHOT: JONATHAN S. HARRIS

- Harris has been part of the Austin Independent School District in Texas for the last 12 years, most recently as senior associate in the district's office of strategic compensation and curriculum
- For three years, he was the director/principal of the Austin Academy of Scientific Inquiry and Design, part of a larger high school created specifically to serve low-income, underachieving students. The Austin superintendent had asked him specifically to take this position.
- Before that, he was associate principal at Anderson High School, an affluent, high-achieving school of close to 2,000 students. From 1996 to 2004 he was a science teacher and department chairman at Anderson, where he taught biology, physics and anatomy and physiology. While at Anderson, Harris led a team of university and high school faculty at the University of Texas, reviewing statewide science tests for online courses in biology, physics and chemistry, and designing curriculum aligned to the science TAKS test (the equivalent of the MCAS test).
- Harris began his teaching career as a member of Teach for America and was assigned to the Houston Public Schools where he taught science classes at Milby Senior High School.
- Named Campus Teacher of the Year (elected by the students and staff) at Anderson in 2001-2002)
- Texas' first-ever National Board Certified Teacher in science
- One of four teachers in 2003 in Texas to win the Milken Family Foundation Educator Award
- He has also taught at the University of Houston's Upward Bound program and at Texas A&M

the students at AHS."

Harris is a Chelmsford native, and throughout the search process has said he is looking to

relocate to be closer to friends and relatives in Massachusetts.

Harris is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts with a bachelor's degree in biochemistry and molecular biology, and holds a master's from Texas A&M University in biochemistry and biophysics.

He is working on his doctorate in Education and Leadership from Columbia University's Teacher College, and hopes to finish in August.

Harris and the other two finalists for the position — Philip Conrad, assistant principal at Hamilton-Wenham High School and Brian Salzer, principal of Newton South High School — met with students, staff and parents at "meet the candidate" forums through last week.

The search process began when Anderson announced his intention to resign in early January. Resumes were collected for one month and a search committee of AHS parents and staff narrowed the pool to the three finalists.

FEE: Trash plan could be decided by Town Meeting

Continued from Page 1

"This is an opportunity to take a step ahead. As a senior citizen, I ask for your support of SMART," said Barbara Moody. "I'm concerned about the legacy I leave, for my grandchildren. This is the right thing to do."

Moody's granddaughters, South Elementary students Carolyn and Katie Holden, spoke in support of the plan with their mother, Janice.

Katie said the plan "is important to the environment, and reduces pollution."

Carolyn, a fourth-grader, said "It will help kids in the future. We need to take care of the environment."

Janice Holden said there is a nickel fine in her house every time something recyclable is put in the trash barrel.

"We want to use our resources to the maximum," said Holden, a mother of three and Girl Scout

leader. "I'm dismayed to see Andover homes without recycling bins out front (on trash collection day). We can all do better."

Dann's presentation compared Andover with Hamilton and Natick, two towns with trash policies in place similar to the SMART plan.

In fiscal year 2008, Andover collected 10,500 tons of solid waste and 3,700 tons of recycling. If the SMART plan reduced those numbers by 25 percent and residents bought an average of eight bags for extra trash each year — which is what happened when Natick and Hamilton adopted trash reduction policies — Dann projected the town would gain \$294,000.

"The only fear I have is going into a (trash) reduction up front, and not meeting our goal," said Jack Petkus, public works director.

"I'm sold on this, even if the

numbers turn out to be half of that. That's \$150,000 in savings to the town, and we haven't seen anything else that compares (to that figure) in cost reduction," said Selectman Jerry Stabile.

From a financial perspective, there really is an upside to this."

Stabile admitted "we were huge trash offenders in my house. We used to put out four barrels every week, but now we're down to one" after making a conscious effort to recycle.

Tewksbury Street resident Bob Willard said the SMART program is "easier to take" than previously proposed trash-fee plans. With a family of five, Willard said, he recycles everything he can, yet still has between two and six bags of trash every week.

If adopted, the plan should specify which type of trash bags can be used, said Willard, keeping the one barrel or

bag rule from being subject to interpretation.

Lynn Eikenberry, a member of the League of Women Voters, presented selectmen with the results of a petition the League circulated, collecting 554 signatures in favor of SMART.

"How many times have you had 500 people ask you for a fee?" Dann said to selectmen. "(SMART) is the right program, it's the right time, and yes we can, with one can."

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In Brief

PAST & PRESENT



THEN: A view down Carisbrooke Street in "White Shawsheen," where the wooden-framed homes were built for the American Woolen Co.'s executives. Shawsheen Village was developed by William Wood in the 1920s.



NOW: This is what Carisbrooke Street looks like today.

Rail updates to improve service

Massachusetts Bay Commuter Railroad Company announces updated schedules on the Haverhill commuter rail line. There are several changes being made to improve service on Haverhill line. Peak schedule changes are as follows:

Monday through Friday-inbound

Train 258, the 7:40 a.m. train from Reading will depart 10 minutes earlier at 7:30 a.m. and arrive at North Station at 8 a.m.

Train 212, the 7:20 a.m. train from Haverhill will depart 10 minutes later at 7:30 a.m. and arrive at North Station at 8:39 a.m. The train will now run via the Lowell Line and stop at Wilmington Station instead of North Wilmington Station.

Train 262, the 8:36 a.m. train from Reading will leave six minutes earlier at 8:30 a.m. and arrive at North Station at 9 a.m.

Train 222, the 1:16 p.m. train from Andover will now run via the Lowell line, stopping at Wilmington Station instead of North Wilmington Station.

Monday through Friday-outbound

Train 233, the 5:52 p.m. train to Haverhill will leave 17 minutes earlier at 5:35 p.m. and arrive in Haverhill at 6:49 p.m.

Train 281, the 5:30 p.m. train to Reading will leave 25 minutes later at 5:55 p.m. and arrive at Reading at 6:25 p.m.

Train 235, the 6:15 p.m. train to Haverhill will leave five minutes later at 6:20 p.m. and arrive in Haverhill at 7:32 p.m.

Additional changes have been made to off peaktrains. Full schedules can be downloaded at: www.mber.net/schedules/Haverhill_web.pdf.

New schedules were effective Feb. 16 for the Haverhill line.

QUOTE, UNQUOTE ...

I was able to explain who this really cool guy was to the student body...It was really neat to see someone that has taken the Andover education and really put a good use to it. He's done a lot of good for the world.

Andover resident and Phillips Academy-Andover student Celia Lewis on Bill Drayton, a giant in the realm of social activism and the CEO and founder of Ashoka: Innovators for the Public. Lewis was chosen to present Drayton with the Fuehs Award, the most distinguished award for Phillips alumni. Story in Townspeople, page 18.

"[It's] a peek at the art of Margaret Pustell and the cool, outstanding women in her family tree."

Margaret Pustell's daughter-in-law, Jeannie Pustell, on an exhibit featuring 180 years of art by Pustell women. Story in Arts, page 11.

■ NEWS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

Housing Authority, 100 Morton St., Andover, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 23

Tri-board meeting of Selectmen, Finance Committee and School Committee, School Administration Building, School Committee room, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

Town Election day: polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., with all precincts voting at the

Andover High School Field House on Shawsheen Road.

Board of Assessors meeting CANCELED (was at 9 a.m.)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

Joint Meeting of Selectmen and Finance Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

School Building Committee meeting, with update on Bancroft Elementary and

discussion about the possible combining of Shawsheen and Bancroft schools; Memorial Hall Library conference room, 7 p.m.

Ballardvale fire station building committee, Public Safety Center, 32 North Main St., fire chief's third-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

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

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■ NEWS IN BRIEF

Public meeting today regarding I-93 ramp

and peace of mind even as their needs for various kinds of support increase, according to supporters.

As a follow-up to the community forums held in the fall, TAVAH will hold an informational session and introduction of its charter membership program on Sunday, March 29, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library in Andover. There will be a brief presentation and questions and answers. A brochure and other written materials will also be available.

Music to celebrate St. Patrick's Day

On Sunday, March 22 at 2 p.m., come celebrate St. Patrick's Day in the chapel at West Parish Garden Cemetery, 129 Reservation Road in Andover. The free concert features Brian Corcoran of Memories in Music (www.memoriesinmusic.net) who will play Irish Music and other great songs from the era of the greatest generation. Songs include Try to Remember, Sentimental Journey, and others. The concert is part of the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Chapel at West Parish Garden Cemetery. Donations for the upkeep of the chapel are appreciated.

Health Department slates April clinics

The Andover Health Department will offer mini clinics on Monday, April 13, from 2 to 3 p.m. at Andover Commons, and on Monday, April 27, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Frye Circle. Senior clinics will be held 2 to 3 p.m. each Wednesday, April 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29. No appointment is necessary.

Chamber presents public safety breakfast

The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce will present a public safety breakfast forum titled "What You Need to Know for Your Business and Home," on Friday, March 20, from 7:30 to 9:15 a.m. at Wyndham Andover Hotel, 123 Old River Rd., Andover.

Mass. Secretary of Public Safety Kevin Burke, District Attorney Jonathan Blodgett, and Essex County Sheriff Frank Cousins Jr. are confirmed speakers. Andover Police Chief, Brian Pattullo, Haverhill Police Chief, Allan DeNaro, Lawrence Police Chief, John Romero, Methuen Police Chief, Kathy Lavigne, and North Andover Police Chief, Richard Stanley are invited guests.

A full breakfast buffet is included. The cost is \$22 for members and \$35 for non-members. For more information call 978-686-0900.

Alex's Team slates annual fundraiser

The "Alex's Team" Foundation will host its' sixth March Madness Celebration fundraising

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David Boulanger	Walter MacNamara	Steve Knepper	John Nicosia
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Adelina Coppola	Elizabeth Nicosia	Elizabeth Herlihy	Kevin Byrne
Valerie Samuels	Lisa Hubschman	Yvonne Roycroft	Karen Sullivan
Kristin Ardini	Marlene Aznoian	Richard Licciardi	Patrice Pierce
John Bularzik	Harold Aznoian	Katie McGowan	Paul Donovan
Ron Abraham	John Campbell	Ashley Samuels	Peter O'Kelly
		Jeanne Scarpa	Ellen Bedrosian

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Town Elections: Selectmen's Race

QUESTION	WILL ENGLISH	BRIAN MAJOR	TED TEICHERT
1) Nine department heads agreed to a 1 percent pay cut for next year to help close a deficit. Should town and school employees do the same?	YES	YES	YES
2) Is Open Town Meeting a good way for Andover to make decisions?	YES	YES	YES
3) You are all against the SMART trash-fee proposal for this year. Is it possible you'd support it sometime during your term?	YES	NO	NO
4) Must Andover begin building a new school, fire station and sports fields in the next three years?	YES	YES	YES
5) On average, how do you see town employees' salary and benefit agreements?	ABOUT RIGHT	TOO GENEROUS	ABOUT RIGHT

Selectmen were given up to 100 words to further explain any of the answers at left.

WILL ENGLISH

1) Town leadership made a gesture, but more needs to be done. The town manager and superintendent should take commensurate pay cuts to send the right message to the unions and other constituencies.
 2) Yes, when it is well attended. Otherwise, for a town of our size a Representative Town Meeting that meets several times a year may be more cost effective.
 3) The condition of Bancroft School and the closing of Deymond Field means these projects must be completed in the near future. However, if it means cutting jobs to complete these projects, we should delay them as long as possible.

BRIAN MAJOR

1) Today's economy demands that private and public sector employees sacrifice to keep people employed.
 2) Town Meeting is the purest form of democracy providing every citizen an equal voice.
 3) Trash collection is a foundation service already paid for in your property taxes.
 4) Bancroft is expensive to maintain and must be replaced. Ballardvale Fire Station is over 100 years old and its one stall does not permit the introduction of EMS. The new ballfields will replace the Deymond Fields that must come off-line for recapping.
 5) Pay for unused sick time must be eliminated for future employees.

TED TEICHERT

1) It would help minimize layoffs.
 2) Individuals can advocate their ideas and beliefs.
 3) We have not exhausted all options to reduce trash and improve recycling.
 4) Replacements for Bancroft and the playing fields being closed at the land fill will be needed. Planning should be done now for the fire station.
 5) Town employees' benefits are generous in comparison with the private sector. They are the cumulative result of many years of contract negotiations with the unions. Significant progress was made in the last round of negotiations in reducing health-insurance and accumulated benefits costs. Future negotiations will provide an opportunity for more savings.

WILLIAMS ENGLISH

Candidate for selectman

Age: 24

Address: 25 Essex St.

Family: Planning a 2010 wedding with his partner, Jenn, he said.

Profession: Working as a bartender. Graduated in 2007 from King's College in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, with a history and philosophy major. Aspires to find a job in nonprofit fundraising.

Related experience: Held five elected offices in college and was president of student government. After college, he worked for the John Edwards campaign in the Iowa caucuses. He serves on the town's fair housing committee and Andover Youth Foundation. Former youth representative for the Andover Youth Foundation, active in Andover Youth Services and at Christ Church.



What do you think Andover town government does best? (No more than 50 words)

I think our town does a great job of providing human services. Unique programs like Andover Youth Services, senior services, and DCS provide amazing opportunities that make our town a great place to live for residents of all ages.

What area of town government or services needs the most improvement? What will you do to change it? (No more than 100 words)

I think our selectmen could be more approachable and our

government could do a better job of engaging our citizenry and communicating what is happening in town. If elected I would hold staggered office hours to provide citizens with easy access to their government. I would work to build an opt-in e-mail list for the selectmen in order to inform more people about issues and events. I think there could also be much more collaboration between the selectmen and other town boards. We need to set aside past disagreements and focus on current challenges.

Would you support spending taxpayers' money on a new youth center during the next three years if the Andover Youth Foundation can't raise the money? Please explain. (No more than 75 words.)

As a member of the Youth Foundation I believe we will raise the money without bringing the

Please see ENGLISH, Page 5

BRIAN MAJOR

Incumbent, completing fourth three-year term

Age: 43

Address: 11 Odyssey Way

Family: Wife Margaret and four children: Rachel, 11, Danielle, 8 and twins Brendan and Nicole, 6

Profession: Master black belt for Phillips Health Care. He is a process improvement expert; the "black belt" term is a level of certification.

What do you think Andover town government does best?

Energy conservation – Andover is an innovation leader across Massachusetts. We converted all school buildings to dual source heating (oil & natural gas) to take advantage of annual price fluctuations. Andover has also constructed cool roofs to reduce heating/cooling costs, installed energy efficient lighting, and taken actions to reduce gasoline consumption.

What area of town government or services needs the most improvement? What will you do to change it?

Consolidation of similar school and town departments – specifically IT and Finance. This will enable the elimination of duplicated head count, standardization of communications and reporting, as well as the implementation of best practices. Likewise, we must



identify opportunities to share personnel and capital equipment with neighboring towns. Andover, like other towns, was set up to be self-sufficient, acquiring and supplying the resources and tools to provide the services required by our residents. Resource sharing will enable Andover to maintain specialized services although at a lower opportunity level (examples include: plumbing, electrical, gas, sanitarian and building inspection).

Would you support spending taxpayers' money on a new youth center during the next three years if the Andover Youth Foundation can't raise the money? Please explain.

AYF is proposing to construct The Cormier Center – a center for all ages – which I completely support. This private-public partnership is a

Please see MAJOR, Page 5

TED TEICHERT

Incumbent, completing third three-year term

Age: 47

Address: 5 Dufton Road

Family: wife Jeanne, and daughters Stephanie, 20, Julianne, 9, and twins Allison and Valerie, 6

Profession: regional sales manager for Bubba Burger

What do you think Andover town government does best?

Andover's government provides a full range of high quality services to residents and businesses - schools, public safety, library, water and sewer, snow removal, trash disposal and recycling, youth services, facility maintenance, services for senior citizens, recreation, etc. It is hard to select the best because so much of what we do is done very well.

What area of town government or services needs the most improvement? What will you do to change it?

We need to find ways of maintaining quality while at the same time lowering the cost to the taxpayer. Reorganization and regionalization must be explored.

Would you support spending taxpayers' money on a new youth center during the next three years if the Andover Youth Foundation can't raise the money? Please explain.

I have supported the need for a youth center for the past nine



years. A community building should be built where all generations and organizations can benefit. The state of economy will play a role on how much the town can afford to pay.

Other than the fire station, Bancroft School and playing fields, is there another large project for which you support spending taxpayers' money during the next three years? What is it?

We really need to do something about the Town Yard. Conditions are deplorable. An appropriate facility is critical for the departments charged with maintaining the town's infrastructure.

Personality question: If you were on American Idol what song would you sing, and why?

I don't think you want to hear me sing... But since you asked, "Listen to the Music" by the Doobie Brothers.

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Town Elections: Selectmen's Race

WILLIAMS ENGLISH

■ Continued from Page 4

issue to Town Meeting, but I would support using tax dollars for the Cormier Center if need be. The center would allow for so many new programming opportunities for AYS, DCS, and Senior Services. Right now AYS and DCS rely on school space and Old Town Hall availability for programming, which limits what they can do.

Other than the fire station, Bancroft School and playing fields, is there another large project for which you support spending taxpayers' money during the next three years? What is it? (No more than 50 words.)

In our current situation we should focus on building the facilities we cannot do without. However, the town yard needs to be replaced and its relocation would open up opportunities for our downtown core, especially with the proposal for

an additional train track and added parking for commuters and shoppers.

Personality question: If you were on American Idol what song would you sing, and why? (No more than 25 words.)

"The Times They Are A-Changin,'" because this is clearly a new time and we need new leadership, new enthusiasm, and new ideas to face it.

BRIAN MAJOR

■ Continued from Page 4

great opportunity to support the programming needs of youth, community, elder and veteran services. AYF proposes to privately raise at least half of the construction money by offering room and area naming rights within the facility. Constructing this facility for 50 cents on the tax dollar is a great bargain.

Other than the fire station, Bancroft School and playing fields, is there another large project for which you support spending taxpayers' money during the next three years? What is it?

The Town Yard is in deplorable condition and must be upgraded. A task force is studying whether to reconstruct the facility on-site, relocate the facility (or parts), or lease these facilities from a

private party. I am unsure if this project could be construction ready within three years.

Personality question: If you were on American Idol what song would you sing, and why?

Lee Greenwood's "Proud To Be An American" – one of my favorite songs that I sang at my brother's retirement from the Army last year.

FORUM: Candidates have their say Wednesday

■ Continued from Page 1

each year before sending her multiple pages of questions, and regularly asks Bach tough questions at meetings.

"If reelected, you can count on me doing that again," he said.

Barber said he hopes to explore opportunities to regionalize services with neighboring towns and review the cost-effectiveness of the block schedule format at Andover High School.

Barber also said he helped found the Andover Coalition for Education, which works to raise private money for the public schools.

"That's outside money we didn't have," said Barber.

Colby-Clements said she expects that the town's revenues will shrink in the next three to five years. User fees, like those charged to play high school sports, are already too high, she said.

"I think we have a responsibility as a committee, as a school board, to make sure we spend every dollar wisely," she said.

Colby-Clements said she would support more partnerships with local colleges, with college students possibly serving as classroom aides in exchange for college credit.

"I think there are creative things we can do if we collaborate," said Colby-Clements, who has created opportunities for local students at Mass. School of Law where she works.

Colby-Clements has focused on the importance of negotiating contract negotiations during her campaign, saying future teacher contracts must offer more options for the school department in the event money becomes a problem, as it will be next year.

"We have to make sure that this time there is some flexibility

built into that contract," said Colby-Clements.

McCarron said she decided to run for office after following the budget process last year, when she became increasingly concerned over Andover's finances.

"I have big-picture thinking and can consider the needs of the entire community," she said.

McCarron said she has two decades experience working with financial data.

McCarron said the School Committee must work with school department employee unions and agree to either salary reductions or changes to health insurance plans to save money next year. As a member of a public employee union for 17 years, she said she understands the importance of teamwork at the bargaining table during difficult economic times.

"I would like to bring that culture to Andover," said McCarron. "You're definitely going to need the employees and the managers to work together."

As vice president of ACE, Gilbert said she has worked to help raise roughly a quarter million dollars for the public schools in recent years.

"My first priority is to continue what we've been doing with ACE, and that involves partnership," said Gilbert.

Involved in the Andover public schools since her 16-year-old daughter was in pre-school, Gilbert said she is ready to commit full-time to the School Committee.

"I think that's what this job needs," said Gilbert. "Not just big ideas and talk, but hard work."

Gilbert said the schools must operate leaner, and the next round of contract negotiations with school unions must reflect that fact.

During the budget process, she said she would ensure there is an "unprecedented level of

explanation to the community about what every dollar represents."

"We need to do a better job communicating with the whole town, because the school budget affects everybody," said Gilbert.

Birnbach said he would work to increase in-classroom funding by consolidating and regionalizing school administrative and support services.

He used Andover's town and school finance directors and technology departments as examples of where consolidation is needed.

"We're not that big of a town and we don't need two people managing the books for the town of Andover," said Birnbach.

The work of curriculum coordinators could also be consolidated between nearby towns, he said.

Birnbach said he supports performance-based pay for teachers.

While serving on the Andover School Committee from 1985 to 1988 and from 1995 to 1998, Birnbach said he advocated to "do more with less" and would do that again.

"Day one, I could be productive and impactful right away,"



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6 Thursday, March 19, 2009 THE TOWNSMAN

Town Elections: School Committee Race

ART BARBERIncumbent, completing
second three-year term**Age:** 57**Address:** 3 Sparta Way

Family: two college-aged daughters, Lauren, a senior at UMass Dartmouth, and Leslie, a student at UMass Amherst, currently on an exchange study at the University of Kentucky; wife Connie Barber is kindergarten teacher at South Elementary

Profession: Member of the adjunct faculty in a degree-granting program at the Portsmouth (N.H.) Navy Shipyard.

Barber has a doctorate degree in education, and is licensed as a teacher, principal, superintendent and assistant superintendent, he said.

1) Would you take any of the following off the table as part of a solution to next year's budget shortfall: layoffs, renewed contract negotiations, increased class sizes, cuts to arts courses, cuts to health or other non-core courses? Why or why not? (No more than 100 words.)

I will work diligently to NOT increase class size in our schools. Everything else is on the table.

We will look at all cost saving measures and ways to raise revenue such as when I co-founded ACE.

Layoffs and renewed contract negotiations are being considered and acted upon in all sectors of our society. The financial pressure on all of us requires appropriate review and action.

Non-core programs do not have to be eliminated. The delivery schedule, delivery mechanism and frequency could be modified. Students could receive the benefits of the curriculum if we apply creativity to the challenge.

2) Most of the school system's budget pays for salary and benefits, What, if anything, should be done differently in future negotiations?

Please see BARBER, Page 7

DAVID BIRNBACH**Age:** 48**Address:** 86 Osgood St.

Profession: Chief executive officer at Vaultus Mobile Technologies

Family: Wife Beverly Birnbach and son Jacob, 6

Related experience:

Andover School Committee member, 1985 to 1988 and 1995 to 1998. Member of MIT Sloan School's executive education assessment committee, and mentor in MIT's Venture Mentoring Service, a program that assists MIT students in starting new ventures.

1)Would you take any of the following off the table as part of a solution to next year's budget shortfall: layoffs, renewed contract negotiations, increased class sizes, cuts to arts courses, cuts to health or other non-core courses? Why or why not? (No more than 100 words.)

No. Once we determine the final shortfall, we should:

1. Creatively find ways to immediately lower administrative/operational costs outside the classroom.

2. Assess all facets of our classroom activities - and then for high school, middle school, and elementary school, rank what's most important in three buckets: "must haves," "should haves," and "nice to haves" (i.e. class sizes, core courses, special initiatives, etc). Then work to fund as many of our classes and programs as possible, based on the prioritized rankings.

2)Most of the school system's budget pays for salary and benefits. What, if anything, should be done differently in future negotiations? What role, if any, would you play? (No more than 75 words.)

My training's from MIT's Sloan School of Management and I'm well versed in union negotiations. Since two committee members are unable to participate due

Please see BIRNBACH, Page 7

PAULA COLBY-CLEMENTS**Age:** 40**Address:** 119 Chestnut St.

Profession: lawyer and professor at the Mass. School of Law in Andover

Family: Husband Gregg and three children Jordan, 8 Emily, 6 and Jack, almost 4

Related Experience: Past president of the Andona Society. Through working at the Mass School of Law, Colby-Clements also works with college and high school kids through recruitment for the school, and has insight of how the operation, budget process and writing grant proposals works for a school, she said.

1)Would you take any of the following off the table as part of a solution to next year's budget shortfall: layoffs, renewed contract negotiations, increased class sizes, cuts to arts courses, cuts to health or other non-core courses? Why or why not? (No more than 100 words.)

Leave everything on the table. The answer to our budget shortfall won't be found in a single place. More likely, a combination of the above will yield the best solution. For instance, though small class size at the lower grades is vital to student learning, there's no reason seniors in high school shouldn't be exposed to some larger, lecture hall classes. Also, with salaries and benefits accounting for approximately 80 percent of the budget, it's clear there will need to be cuts or a salary freeze. If those things aren't enough, we may have to look at non-core course adjustments.

2) Most of the school system's budget pays for salary and benefits. What, if anything, should be done differently in future negotiations? What role, if any, would you play? (No more than 75 words.)

Teachers will be required to accept a pay freeze or lose co-workers. Any

Please see COLBY-CLEMENTS, Page 7

ANNIE GILBERT**Age:** 44**Address:** 12 Gray Road

Profession: Stay-at-home-mom

Family: Husband Bob Gilbert, and children Elizabeth, 16, Daniel, 13, and Henry, 10

Related Experience:

First time running for town board; vice president of Andover Coalition for Education (ACE), member of Bancroft school council, Bancroft PTO board, Andover Parent to Parent board

1)Would you take any of the following off the table as part of a solution to next year's budget shortfall: layoffs, renewed contract negotiations, increased class sizes, cuts to arts courses, cuts to health or other non-core courses? Why or why not? (No more than 100 words.)

The hard truth about this fiscal crisis is that realistically, there is nothing we should take off the table. The preliminary school budget has just been released this week; it represents a starting point. The next step is for the School Committee to undertake an unprecedented level of budget scrutiny and open dialogue with the community as we work towards what I believe is our primary goal: protecting direct services to students at all costs. Every choice will involve trade-offs. Our job is to minimize their impact while we work to restructure our educational delivery services going forward.

2) Most of the school system's budget pays for salary and benefits. What, if anything, should be done differently in future negotiations? What role, if any, would you play? (No more than 75 words.)

I want Andover to attract and retain quality teachers. However, the current economic crisis is unprecedented, and requires a seismic shift in how we do business. Every detail — salary, benefits, working conditions — must be

Please see GILBERT, Page 7

DIANE MCCARRON**Age:** 44**Address:** 1 Napier Road

Profession: Tax attorney

Family: Husband Robert Carleo, Jr.; stepson Bobby, 22; daughters Caitlin, 8 and Sara, 6

Related experience:

Member of the West Elementary School Council and classroom volunteer

1)Would you take any of the following off the table as part of a solution to next year's budget shortfall: layoffs, renewed contract negotiations, increased class sizes, cuts to arts courses, cuts to health or other non-core courses? Why or why not? (No more than 100 words.)

Due to the enormity of the deficit, layoffs can only be avoided if the union agrees to a contract amendment. I would like to take cuts to 'non-core' courses off the table. Health and physical education are vital to psychological and physical well being today. Music and art enable children to express themselves. Instead of study halls we should offer electives in alternative energy, science and technology to give our high school students a leg up in this difficult economy. Since it was no fault of theirs, I hope we will not shortchange our children at this critical time.

2)Most of the school system's budget pays for salary and benefits. What, if anything, should be done differently in future negotiations? What role, if any, would you play? (No more than 75 words.)

The School Committee should utilize financial projections and should not sign contracts it cannot afford unless concessions are made or cost efficiencies are implemented. My unique combination or work experience includes 20 years working with financial data and negotiation of well over one hundred contractual settlements. I also participate in a union that works closely with its employer to

Please see MCCARRON, Page 7

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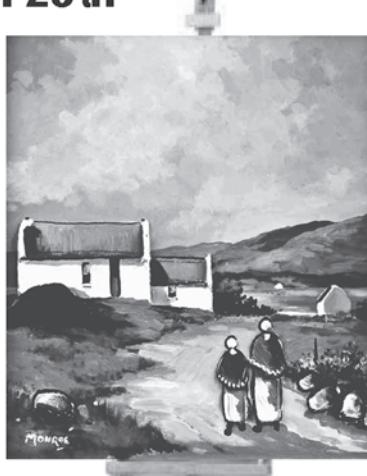
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ELECTIONS

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Andover High, 80 Shawsheen Road

ART BARBER

■ Continued from Page 6

What role, if any, would you play? (No more than 75 words.)

I actively participate in all negotiations except with the Andover Education Association as my wife teaches at South School. Her employment provides me with a unique perspective not readily available to others members. The committee utilizes the services of a well experienced negotiator for legal guidance and all aspects of contract negotiations. I want to see this practice continue. Ultimately we must be fair to the employees and the taxpayers, while being in-line with competitive districts.

3) How do you feel about school-based versus system wide decisions and improvements? (For instance, an educational approach being used at one middle school, but not the others; or, due to parental gifts, one school having new technology that another school does not.) Should the School Committee set a policy or take any role in this area? (No more than 75 words.)

If one building receives a gift or pilots a new program/technology, it is our responsibility to insure the others will benefit from what was learned. This is a standard practice for introducing curriculum to the system. Engineering is an example. Let's encourage, not hinder PACs, PTOs, ACE and others. Their gifts and partnerships allow us to learn and develop best practices. A strict, non-yielding policy is not needed, common sense is required.

Personality question: If you were a contestant on "American Idol," what song would you sing, and why? (No more than 25 words.)

"I Love this Town" by Jon Bon Jovi is my top pick. Also "I'm Proud to be an American." Both involve civic pride.

QUESTION	ARTHUR BARBER	DAVID BIRNBACH	PAULA COLBY-CLEMENTS	ANNIE GILBERT	DIANE MCCARRON
1) Would you support increased fees (sports fees, bus fees, other) as part of the solution to next year's school budget?	NO	NO	NO	UNDECIDED	YES
2) Would you support additional one-year contracts for a superintendent?	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES
3) Do you believe school leaders communicate effectively with the community?	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
4) On average, how do you see school employees' salary and benefit agreements?	ABOUT RIGHT	ABOUT RIGHT	ABOUT RIGHT	ABOUT RIGHT	TOO GENEROUS

Each candidate was given a total of 75 words to further explain any of their answers. This is what they wrote:**ART BARBER**

- 1) I would only support increased fees as a last resort.
- 2) Assuming the current superintendent is performing well, wants to continue and the availability of solid candidates remain weak, I would want a three-year commitment from a new superintendent.
- 3) Communications can always be improved and I will continually work on this.
- 4) School employee compensation is "about right" in comparison to other districts.

DAVID BIRNBACH

■ Continued from Page 6

to conflicts of interest, I'll play a vital role in future contract negotiations, and will bring an experienced, business-oriented, fresh perspective to the table. As we bring new technology into the classroom, we should work with our union leaders to co-invest with us in teacher training and staff development.

3) How do you feel about school-based versus system wide decisions and improvements?

We should definitely be taking a firm role in this area. We want to foster innovation and a good way is to conduct pilots and do associated research - to flush out whether a new/promising educational approach actually improves the learning process. If a pilot is successful, then it should be pursued only if we have the financial resources to implement it systemwide. It's vital that we have equity and parity throughout our schools.

Personality question: If you were a contestant on "American Idol," what song would you sing, and why?

"Leap of Faith," by Kenny Loggins. It's a fun, feel-good song, with great lyrics and a magical acoustic guitar solo.

DAVID BIRNBACH

- 1) Instead, we should push to lower administrative costs by combining school & town support functions, and collaborating with other school systems.
- 3) We can use technology to further improve communication by proactively getting monthly feedback via interactive email-based parent surveys. This would give us more in-depth feedback from parents in an easy, efficient manner.
- 4) Going forward, we should work collaboratively with our union leaders to find cost-effective solutions to historically difficult contractual items.

PAULA COLBY-CLEMENTS

■ Continued from Page 6

contract needs to build in enough flexibility to award raises based on available revenue and ideally, merit. I acknowledge the need to retain our best teachers. But mandated, across the board increases are unsupportable. Taxpayers deserve to have their money spent wisely. I pride myself on being a skilled negotiator and I'll bring those skills to bear in forging a no-nonsense contract.

3) How do you feel about school-based versus system wide decisions and improvements?

Every child should receive the same high quality education no matter which school in the district she or he attends. We need to capitalize on the enormous talent of our school leaders to build consensus surrounding pedagogical and technological changes that benefit all students across the board. The school committee must help in facilitating that process. The committee sets the budget, so it is imperative that it is knowledgeable of curriculum changes in our schools.

Personality question: If you were a contestant on "American Idol," what song would you sing, and why?

"I Won't Back Down" by Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. I'll stand my ground against anything coming between our children and a first-rate education.

PAULA COLBY-CLEMENTS

- 1) Activities fees already are too high. Parents shouldn't be expected to shoulder even more.
- 2) It is essential to find the very best person for that job. If one year contract extensions facilitate the process, I'm all for them.
- 3) Generally speaking, there is significant room for improvement.
- 4) However, with salary and benefits consuming approximately 80 percent of the school budget, we need to develop a more economical solution going forward.

ANNIE GILBERT

- Continued from Page 6
- 1) Parents should not be burdened with higher fees. However, the goal of protecting direct services to students requires examining every available option and its trade-offs.
 - 3) Communication from school leadership should be delivered more frequently, transparently and credibly.
 - 4) A quality education requires quality teachers, and Andover's salary and benefit agreements are commensurate with those of our educational peer communities. Going forward, substantial restructuring will be required in order to keep our services fiscally sustainable.

ANNIE GILBERT

■ Continued from Page 6

open for review in upcoming contract negotiations, so we can work collaboratively toward an agreement that is fair and fiscally sustainable. As a committee member with no conflicts of interest, I'd be able to fully take part in all union negotiations.

3) How do you feel about school-based versus system wide decisions and improvements?

Decisions about curriculum offerings should be made systemwide, so that students receive the same education no matter which school they attend. However, it's also important to encourage innovation, and to have a mechanism that allows the piloting of promising new programs like middle school engineering. These ideas might originate with principals or teachers in a particular school, but a reasonable timeline must be set for rolling successful pilots out to the rest of the district.

Personality question: If you were a contestant on "American Idol," what song would you sing, and why?

"Sweet Caroline," hoping there'd be fellow members of Red Sox Nation in the audience who would chime in and drown out my pathetic singing voice.

DIANE MCCARRON

- 1) I do not support school fees but since the budget shortfall is significant there may be no alternative.
- 2) I see no problem with one-year contracts for an incumbent but would want longer contracts for any new superintendent.
- 3) The committee needs to communicate more information earlier to facilitate public discussion and generate ideas.
- 4) The FY10 3.5-percent salary increase is too generous as many employees are getting zero percent and/or hoping to retain their jobs.

DIANE MCCARRON

■ Continued from Page 6

provide effective public service. If elected, I would like to bring this culture to Andover.

3) How do you feel about school-based versus system wide decisions and improvements?

School-based or systemwide each has its own place. For example, it's fine to test an alternative educational approach at one school and if it works move it to other schools. Proven educational approaches should be implemented systemwide where possible. However, with government funding, sometimes you have to get it while you can even if you can't get it for everyone. The School Committee could develop a formal technology-acquisition plan to guide fundraising efforts.

Personality question: If you were a contestant on "American Idol," what song would you sing, and why?

The Beatles' "We Can Work It Out" to encourage the AEA leaders to do the right thing for the sake of our children.

Join us in supporting Brian!



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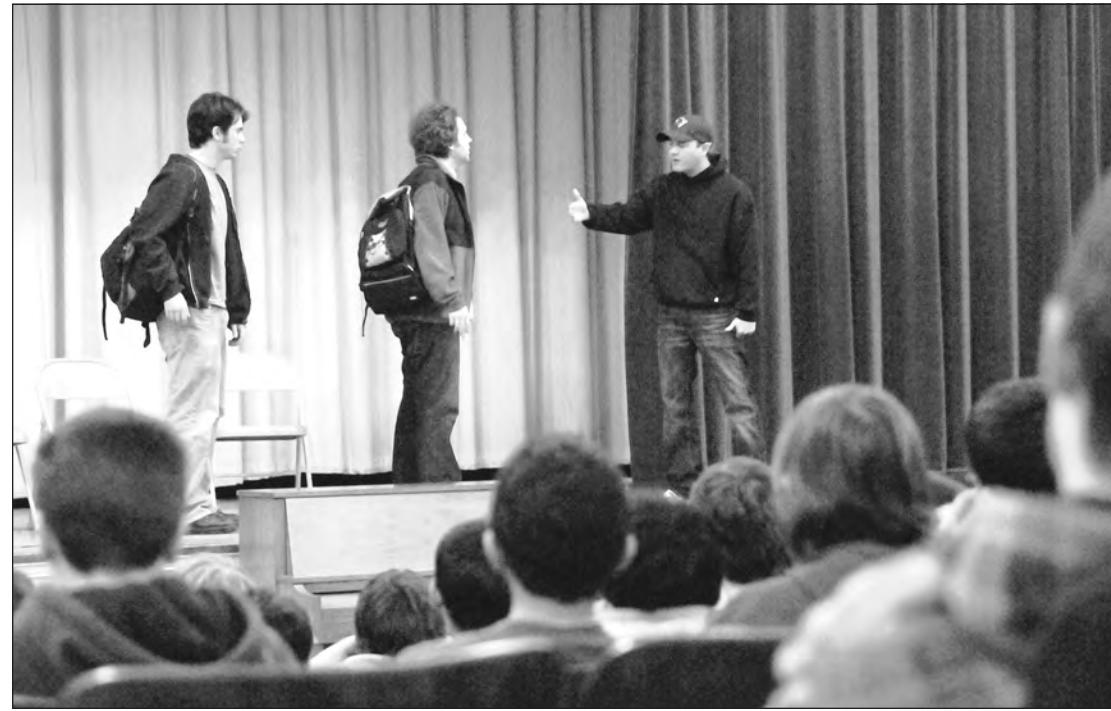
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Education



TIM JEAN/Staff Photos

Students at Doherty Middle School were split into male and female groups last week for special performances by Deana's Educational Theater troupe on issues of self-esteem, bullying and violence. At left, Meaghan Willis, center, hangs her head as she is teased about her clothes by troupe member Amie Brehm, left, during "Girl Chat" for the female students. At right, members of the group put on a performance of "Step Up" for a packed auditorium of boys.

Group acts early to put an end to school bullying

BY BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Middle school — filled with cliques, crushes and teenage angst — can be a tough time. This month, a program came to Andover to help young students deal with being a middle-schooler, especially one who is being bullied.

Deana's Educational Theater, a Wakefield-based group that aims to prevent violence through drama productions, visited Wood Hill, Doherty and West middle

schools. The middle school students were split up by gender as DET actors performed "Girl Chat" for females and "Step Up" for male students.

Both shows dealt with bullying and teasing, said Brian McNally, program coordinator for health education programs in Andover Public Schools, with actors portraying a bully, a victim and a friend caught in the middle.

"The message we're trying to get out is what would you do if you were one of these three? Who could you talk to?" said

McNally. "There are some similarities in bullying between boys and girls, but with either one, it's just as painful if you're the victim."

The DET dramas were brought to Andover middle schools as part of health curriculum, he said, and jointly funded by the health education department and the Parent Advisory Councils of the three middle schools.

Bullying in Andover's middle schools is no worse than in other towns, said McNally, but it still takes place.

"Middle school is a real time of transition in people's lives," he said. "We're hoping (the anti-bullying message) is something that will permeate the entire school, and create dialogue that will change behavior. We know students are being victims of bullying, being teased. We want students to know that it's not OK, and what to do to get help."

Middle school bullying is exaggerated by the technology now available and used by teenagers, especially cell phones, text messaging and the Internet, said McNally.

"We all feel — both teachers and administration — it's something that we want to address well beyond a health classroom. We all want our students to feel comfortable and safe in our schools," he said.

In a separate program, South Elementary was visited by Deana's Educational Theater on Monday, March 16. DET actors performed the show "All Starz," a show about bullying and respect geared for younger students. DET's visit to South was part of a PTO-funded month of character education programming.

BOOK REVIEW: 'PRIDE AND PREJUDICE' Austen fan left vaguely disappointed

BY MARI MIYACHI
WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

"Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen is an all-time play. favorite novel of mine. I have enjoyed multiple readings, and romantic plot twists so and revel in Austen's wit endearing in "Pride and Prejudice" are equally important in this in mind that I embarked "Sense and Sensibility." How to read some of her other ever, while "Pride and Prejudice" fills the reader with an

"Sense and Sensibility" by exceptional feeling of fate Jane Austen, like "Pride and in the final scenes, the closing of Sense and Sensibility hood and love. Following the was merely satisfactory, and death of their father, Elinor vaguely disappointing. and Marianne Dashwood are I would give "Sense and left without a home and with- sibility" a 7.5 out of 10. While out a fortune, settling in a the ending of the story is per- cottage on a distant relative's has a good embodiment of the title, it did not leave me with

It is there where Elinor, a any lingering happiness. I love woman nearing the age of a "Pride and Prejudice" for its spinster, pines for the seem- grand gestures and upliftingingly unattainable Edward conclusion.

Ferrars, and where the young These qualities, while still and reckless Marianne falls in present, were diminished in "Sense and Sensibility."

As the story progresses, Austen's strength lies in her the prudent Elinor and the projection of the emotional, passionate Marianne struggle and in this novel, there was to balance the forces of sense simply too much sense and sensibility.

Jane Austen excels at portraying the whims, follies and truths of 19th Century society. Her writing possesses lips Academy.

Oui, it's almost foreign language week

The foreign language department at Andover High School is preparing for Foreign Language Week next week, a celebration of different cultures and the importance of language study. One of the highlights of the week is World Cultures Day when students and parents from the community, who were born in or lived in another country, or who use another language at work, share their experiences in mini-lessons

with foreign language classes. A mini-lesson might include the food, history, dance, music, daily life of your native culture and can be presented in English, French, Spanish, German, Chinese or ASL.

Among the activities planned next week are:

■ Monday, March 23: World Cultures Day, where students and parents speak about their native

■ Thursday March 26: Foreign Language Cabaret, a yearly show of dancing and singing from 1-2 p.m.

■ Friday, March 27: Throughout the day, teachers will offer mini-workshops on a variety of topics from Russian language to Greek dancing.

The department has invited any member of the Andover community who would like to share his or her experiences in a foreign

country with the students to do so. Those interested in participating can contact Ellen Gaudiano at 978-623-8614 or by email at egaudiano@aps1.net. Volunteers are asked to indicate what language/culture they would be interested in speaking about and what time of day they would be available (8a.m. to 2 p.m.). Those interested in participating who are not available on World Cultures Day can add their name for a future visit.

Brother, can you spare 1 percent?

Ken Seifert



I am a retired superintendent of schools. I agree the superintendent and town manager should get a wage freeze this year. Maybe even the next two.

Having said that, allow me to present a view from inside the schoolhouse.

My proposal is this: Every American who has adequate food, clothing, shelter, and some medical insurance should be thankful. He lives in the greatest country on earth.

To show such gratitude, we need money to distribute good will to the needy. The budget would be derived from contributions, public and private, from all of us not in need as described above.

I am not in poverty. I would guess that some senior citizens in Andover

and Lawrence would say I am a fat cat. They may be right.

I am willing to contribute 2 percent of my income if I am guaranteed each penny will go those in need.

If you have a surplus of dollars this year maybe you could contribute a buck or two to the cause.

In addition I would like the Internal Revenue Service to publicly print the income tax returns of all the people who will file this year. It could be a town by town list, displayed on ThisIsWhatIEarnedThisYear.com.

It doesn't hurt. For over 20 years, every citizen who read the papers knew what I earned and my fringe benefits. That was fair, they were paying my salary.

I do see a game that disturbs me. Some people in our town are spin experts. They believe if they focus attention on public service employees, we won't notice their three cars, two beach houses and the fact they eat out four times a week.

Oh yes, I remember the boom days when

AT&T, Raytheon and Avco had annual reports that would make Bill Gates look like a shoe salesmen. I never heard them say, "Give the educators a break, we have more money than we know what to do with."

About those workers from Town Hall who made a contribution, choosing to take a 1 percent pay cut next year. I know most of them and I can assure you they did it not for political gain. It was from the heart.

Maybe they were saying, "Ask not what the public employees can do for our country, ask if you have a dime or two for the cause."

Let's, all of us who have a little extra, tighten the belt, and give the underdog a lifejacket to weather the storm. It's just a helping hand, not charity.

Ken Seifert is a former superintendent of Andover schools and town resident, and offers a weekly opinion column about Andover, education and raising children.

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10 Thursday, March 19, 2009 THE TOWNSMAN

Students work hard to cut lunch waste

Many Andover schools participated in a "Waste Free Lunch/Water Bottle Recycling" campaign last week, March 2 to 6.

The schools promoted the week by explaining how students should properly recycle their water bottles brought from home into the appropriate bins placed around schools.

South Elementary School's Go Green Team of 40 students meets every other week before

school for 45 minutes to discuss important ways they can help make changes for the better within their school, at home, and in their community, according to parent Michelle Thibodeau.

The students worked hard to come up with two skits they could perform and with Principal Colleen McBride's encouragement, a schedule was set up for grades 1-5 to see the skits by grade level.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

Here's what is available for lunch in the Andover public schools next week, March 23-27:

Elementary schools

Monday: Fish and chips, Rib-A-Q on a roll, jumbo pretzel and yogurt, oven-baked fries, coleslaw and fresh fruit.

Tuesday: Soup and turkey-salad sandwich, veggie or cheese whole wheat pizza, corn and green bean casserole, strawberry shortcake and juice.

Wednesday: Spaghetti with meat or marinara sauce, garlic bread, crispy chicken, caesar salad, bread stick, broccoli with garlic and herbs, melon and juice.

Thursday: Taco salad with nacho chips, chicken nuggets, dips and roll, corn, mashed potatoes, chilled peaches and cream and fresh fruit.

Friday: Cheese or sausage pan pizza, roast turkey wrap, pretzels, creamy vegetable soup, veggie sticks and dip and kiwi.

Middle schools

Monday: Crispy chicken on a roll, Rib-A-Q on a roll, American sub, pasta salad, cucumber sticks, pudding and topping and juice.

Tuesday: Bacon burger, french fries, cheese or sausage whole wheat pizza, caesar salad, soup, pearls and juice.

Wednesday: Spaghetti, meatballs, garlic bread, hot roast beef sub with cheese, pretzels, yogurt, string cheese, green beans, fresh

fruit and juice.

Thursday: Cheese or veggie pan pizza, soup and grilled ham and cheese sandwich, veggie sticks and dip, Greek macaroni salad and fresh fruit.

Friday: Taco pie, chicken fingers, rice pilaf, bread stick, tuna pocket, chips, garden salad, fresh fruit salad and juice.

Andover High School

Monday: Crispy chicken with lettuce, tomato and bacon, french fries, broccoli salad and fresh fruit.

Tuesday: Roast pork dinner, biscuit, mashed red bliss potatoes, glazed carrots and fruit cup.

Wednesday: Taco pie, garden salad, chilled pineapple and cookie.

Thursday: Pasta bar, assorted pasta, meatballs, chicken parmesan, garlic bread and fresh fruit.

Friday: Manager's choice.

■ ■ ■

Also available a la carte daily at the elementary and middle schools: bottled water and 100-percent juice; low-fat ice cream and yogurt; bagel with light cream cheese; yogurt; fresh fruit of the season; and milk. At Andover High School there is a wrap/deli bar with sandwiches made to order, plus a daily sandwich offering, daily specials, and panini specials.

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

Fresh Air seeks homes for New York City visitors

The Fresh Air Fund's Andover area committee is preparing for summer 2009. To ensure that this summer is special for Fresh Air children, the fund is seeking volunteer members and host families to sign up now. Each summer, close to 5,000 New York City children, ages 6 to 18, enjoy two-week vacations with volunteer host families in suburban and rural communities across 13 Northeastern states and

Canada. Local Fresh Air Fund volunteers recruit and interview host families, arrange travel and coordinate fun activities in their communities. For more information on how you can join your local Fresh Air volunteer team, call Mary Carroll at 978-975-4182, or The Fresh Air Fund at 1-800-367-0003. You can also learn more about the Friendly Town program by visiting the fund's Web site at www.freshair.org.

Message on two wheels



ANGIE BEAULIEU/Staff photo

Chris Poulos, winner of 85 gold medals in worldwide competition and the 1991 Bicycle Stunt World Champion, delivered an important message about living positively and treating others with kindness to third through fifth-graders at South Elementary on Tuesday, March 17, while entertaining them with some exotic bicycle tricks.

ON CAMPUS

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.

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.

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/news/events/speakersbureau or for additional information contact speakersbureau@necc.mass.edu or call 978-556-3862.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison has recognized students named to the dean's list for the fall semester of the 2008-09 academic year.

Andover students Ryan James Beechinor in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, Carly Sarah Holstein in the College of Letters and Science, and Rachael Corey Westgate in the College of Letters and Science were named.

Students who achieve at a high level academically are recognized by the dean at the close of each semester. To be eligible for the dean's list, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester.

Schools or colleges typically require students to rank in the top 10 percent of their class or achieve a grade-point average of 3.75 or higher in order to receive this honor.

Courtney Lyons Harkins, a sophomore English and journalism double major at the University of Colorado, Boulder, has made the College of Arts and Sciences dean's list for the 2008 fall semester. The dean's list requires that a student hold a

3.75 or better grade-point average and be enrolled in at least 12 graded credit hours of coursework for the given semester. This achievement ranks Harkins among the top students. She is a graduate of Concord Academy and is the daughter of Michael and Caryn Harkins.

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 of 4.0 to attain dean's list status.

Cara Lemire of Andover, a member of the Class of 2012, is an undeclared major. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gary J. Lemire and is a graduate of The Pingree School.

The following Andover students were named to the dean's list at Salem State College for the fall 2008 semester:

Julie Benjamin, Stephanie Callahan, Nicole Fluet, Faye Gianopoulos, Carlene Holloway, Maxanne Holman, Gracie Jackson, Elizma Marais, Tina Milanova, Lydia Pustell, Abigail Reilly, Danielle Riendeau, Patrick Robarge, and Marc Turiano.

Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn., has announced that James Gaffney of Andover has earned dean's list honors for the fall 2008 semester.

To receive this honor, a student must achieve a 3.6 grade-point average, based on a 4.0 scale.

Fitchburg State held its annual winter commencement on

Friday, Jan. 23, in the college's recreation center. This year, 600 students graduated, including 260 undergraduate and 340 graduate students.

Students from Andover include: Cindy Brown, curriculum teaching, and Elizabeth A. Dunlavy, elementary educational education. President Robert V. Antonucci gave the commencement address. Student Trustee Scott Pryor spoke on behalf of the student body, and Board of Trustees Chairman Gregg P. Lisiotti and State Rep. Stephen L. DiNatale also presented greetings.

Wentworth Institute of Technology announces John Bertorelli of Andover has earned dean's list recognition for the fall 2008 semester.

Wentworth Institute of Technology founded in 1904, Wentworth Institute of Technology is an independent, co-educational nationally ranked institution offering career-focused education.

The University of Connecticut announces the following students from Andover attained the dean's list for the fall 2008 semester:

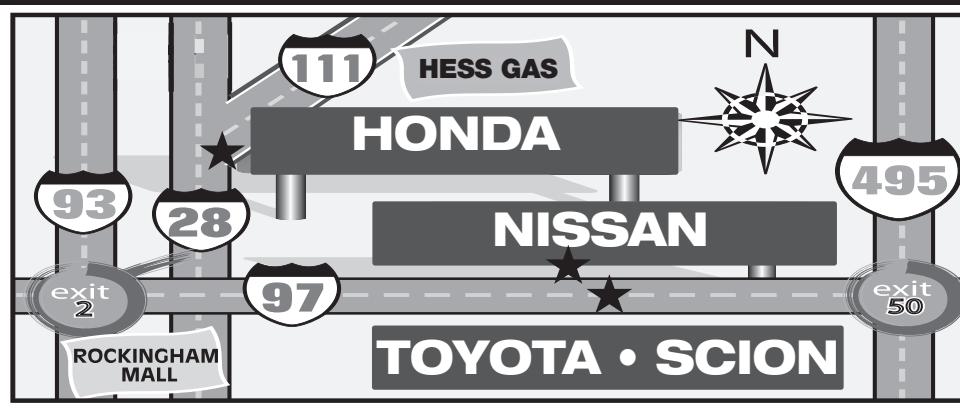
Patricia Collins, Meghan Currier, Michael Gianopoulos, Lauren Grobicki, Alyssa Perry, and Matt Turiano.

To make the dean's list, students must be taking at least 12 credits, finish the semester with a grade-point average that is among the top 25 percent of students enrolled in their school or college, and have no grade below a C.

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Your best ally can be a primary care physician who takes time to listen carefully to each of your symptoms, and consider whether those problems may be adverse effects of prescription or over-the-counter preparations, or lifestyle habits such as caffeine toxicity or inadequate water intake. By stopping the offending drug we not only solve the problem, but avoid unnecessary diagnostic testing, and inappropriate additional medication. Please browse my website for more information, or call 978-470-0001 for a complementary "meet and greet" appointment.

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Arts & Entertainment

EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

PARENT TALK, Are You a Helicopter Parent?, Susan Alexander, dean of students at Wheaton College, will discuss ways that parents can "let go" as their children head off to college. Hosted by Andover Parent to Parent, 7:30 to 9 p.m., free, Memorial Hall Library in Andover; andoverp2p.com for information.

LIVE THEATER, Theresa Rebeck's hit comedy, "Bad Dates," opens at Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St. in Lowell, 8 p.m., running until April 12.

AUTHOR READING, with David Lovelace author of "SCATTERSHOT: My Bipolar Family," in which he tells about growing up in a family where the whole family, except for one sister, is bipolar, Andover Bookstore, 89 Rear Main St.; 978-475-0143. Free and all are welcome.

ADDISON GALLERY EVENT, Close Encounters series present "Photographs of the West" with Alison Kemmerer, curator of photography and art after 1950, 11 a.m. to noon, School Room, Abbot Hall, Abbot Campus, Phillips Academy in Andover; 978-749-4023.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

ANDOVER HIGH SCHOOL DANCE SHOW, 7:30 p.m., Collins Center. Show features original student choreography of various dance styles ranging from ballroom to hip-hop, Indian folk to Irish Step Dance. Public welcome. Tickets cost \$5 and are sold at the door.

AMERICAN GIRL TEA, with Kit Kittredge, all dolls welcome, Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St., 12:30 p.m., \$15 per child, \$10 per adult; 978-475-2236.

CLUBHOUSE IDOL AUDITIONS, Merrimack Valley YMCA's North Andover and Andover branch, open auditions, 6 p.m., 165 Haverhill St. in Andover; 978-685-3541 or e-mail orosano@mymca.org for more information.

OPENING RECEPTION, new exhibit, Durable Goods, Lorica Artworks, 6:30 p.m., with live music and refreshments, 90 Main St., Andover; 978-470-1829.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

TWINS MEETING, Andover Sister Towns Association (ASTA) discuss its mission to promote good will, mutual understanding, and friendship between Andover and North Andover, 2 p.m., Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St. Prizes will be awarded for the best program suggestions; Joan Conroy 978-475-5476.

ANDONA'S CASINO NIGHT, the Wyndham Hotel in Andover, 7:15 p.m., games, music, light food, drinks and a silent auction.

BEACH CLEAN UP, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, Plum Island, meet at Refuge Parking Lot 1, bring gloves, trash bags supplied.

LIVE FOLK MUSIC, with Garnet Rogers, New Moon Coffeehouse in Haverhill, 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$20. Blues-tinged folk musician Pat Wictor opens the show; www.newmooncoffeehouse.org, 978-459-5134.

EXHIBIT OPENING, the Andover Historical Society's newest exhibit, From Near & Far: 350 Years of Making Andover Home, free, 10 a.m. to noon, 97 Main St., Andover.

SUNDAY MARCH 22

LECTURE AND BOOK SIGNING, with Holy Cross Professor and Historical Columnist for Irish Echo Edward O'Donnell, Lawrence Heritage State Park, 1 Jackson St. in Lawrence, free; 978-794-1656.

GARDEN PARTY WITH LIVE MUSIC, Brian Corcoran of Memories in Music will play Irish music and other great songs, 2 p.m., free, part of the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Chapel at West Parish Garden Cemetery, donations for the chapel's upkeep are welcome.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

MY LIFE, MY HEALTH, begins its six-week series for people with chronic conditions or for those who are living with people with chronic health conditions, 9:30 a.m. to noon, \$25 for the six-week session, which includes the textbook and a CD, Marland Place; Ann Sico, Engage Life Director,

A family tree rooted in art



JUDY WAKEFIELD/Staff photos

At right, Andover artist Margaret Pustell displays the oldest piece in the exhibit now at the Andover Senior Center, a cross-stitch sampler made by her great-grandmother, Margaret Ann Parker, in 1829 when she was just 11. Above, she is surrounded by the family's current artists, from left, great-granddaughters Melissa and Elizabeth Corso of Connecticut and Virginia Pustell of Andover.



Exhibit highlights 180 years of Pustell women's creations

BY JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

Surrounded by some of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, local potter and artist Margaret Pustell smiled as she posed with her work, part of a new exhibit tracing her family's art over 180 years.

"There are a lot of memories here," said Pustell, who couldn't choose a favorite among her pieces, since she said each represents a different part of her life. "I like them all."

Pustell, an accomplished potter who dabbles in sketching and painting with watercolors, comes from a long — and continuing — line of skilled artists. A new exhibit at the Andover Senior Center represents art by six generations of Pustell women, from Pustell's

great-great grandmother to her 4-year-old great-granddaughter, Melissa Corso of Connecticut.

"She has passed the joy of creating down to her children and grandchildren," said daughter-in-law Jeannie Pustell of Andover.

Now, the public can see Margaret Pustell's talent and artistic family roots. The 40-piece exhibit of various art forms is on display this month as part of the Women in History Month celebration at the center. The display includes pencil sketching, pen and ink work, watercolors, oil and acrylic painting, crewel embroidery, quilting, tatting, crocheting, photography, tile mosaic and needlework.

This mixture of art forms, which Jeannie Pustell framed for the show, includes works from 1829 to present day. The oldest piece in the exhibit is a cross-stitch sampler made by Pustell's great-grandmother, Margaret Ann Parker, in 1829, when Parker was just 11 years old.

"That's when women had to be handy with a needle," Pustell said.

There are beautiful handmade Christmas stockings made between 1948 and 1954 by Pustell's mother for each of Pustell's five children.

"Margaret's mother, Margaret Edson Carman, had diverse skills. She introduced her children to puppetry with marionettes that she made by hand, meticulously crocheted fine thread doilies and enjoyed weaving on her own loom that is still in the family," Jeannie Pustell said about the artistic roots of the family she married into.

"And that is only the beginning of the list. Margaret's list is not a short one either."

An avid conservation buff,

Margaret Pustell became involved with the Andover Recycling Committee as soon as she moved to town with husband, Bob Pustell, and their kids about 35 years ago. Pustell made posters for the group in the late 1970s and those posters hang in the exhibit.

Works by the current generation of Pustell women includes a family quilt made by Jeannie Pustell, works by granddaughter Virginia Pustell, 13, of Andover and works by great-granddaughters Melissa and Elizabeth Corso of Connecticut.

Jeannie Pustell called this exhibit "a peek at the art of Margaret Pustell and the cool, outstanding women in her family tree."

Viewers can peek at the exhibit through the month of March. Call the Andover Senior Center at 978-623-8321 for more information.

Wood Hill students to stage 'Wizard of Oz'

BY WILL EWING
WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

For the last few weeks nearly 100 kids at Wood Hill Middle School have spent their afternoons rehearsing, trying to bring the classic movie "The Wizard of Oz" to life in their auditorium.

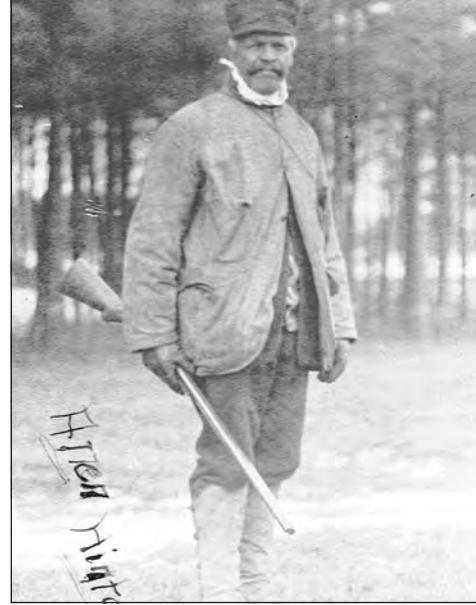
"The kids know the movie, and are excited about doing it," said Katie Bent, the director of the production, on the selection of the play. "They're doing really well with it."

What really makes this play special is that the students are the ones who make it happen. "Over 80 kids alone auditioned this year," Bent said. They spend most afternoons

rehearsing from 2 to 5 p.m. Not only do the students act all the parts but they are responsible for all the behind the scenes work such as set design, stage management and musical accompaniment, she said.

For many students this will be their third year doing the school play. "Last year we did 'Seussical.' This year I'll be helping direct and playing Glinda," said Anna Burkhardt, one of the student directors. "I'm excited."

Performances will be Friday, March 20, and Saturday, March 21, at 7 p.m. Tickets will be available for \$7 online at www.aps1.net/whm/ and \$9 at the door.



Courtesy photo
Allen Hinton's success as founder of Andover's first ice cream business is among history covered in the Andover Historical Society's newest exhibit.

Exhibit explores the lure of Andover

On Saturday, March 21, the Andover Historical Society will host a community open house for its newest exhibit, "From Near & Far: 350 Years of Making Andover Home."

The free event will run from 10 a.m. until noon. Guests are invited to tour the exhibit and share their stories.

The exhibit explores the reasons people have chosen to make Andover their home by looking at economic opportunity, education and faith communities. Andover's rich farming soil has attracted farmers through the ages, from the first British settlers in the 17th century to refugees escaping the Armenian genocide in the early 20th century.

Proximity to the "goodly river of Merrimack" and the "Shawshin" river drew industrialists who tapped the water's power to run textile mills.

"Andover's reputation for quality public school grew in the mid-20th century with education reforms that resulted in a uniform townwide curriculum. From the first Puritans who came to Andover to build a 'city of God in the wilderness' to the construction of the Chinmaya Maruti center, Andover has been home to many faith communities — each of which has contributed to the distinct character of the town," according to exhibit organizers.

"From Near & Far" will be on display at the Historical Society through Oct. 31. The society and the exhibit are open free of charge Tuesdays through Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Special exhibit-related programs and events are being planned. For further information about upcoming programs, visit www.andoverhistorical.org/blog or call 978-475-2236.

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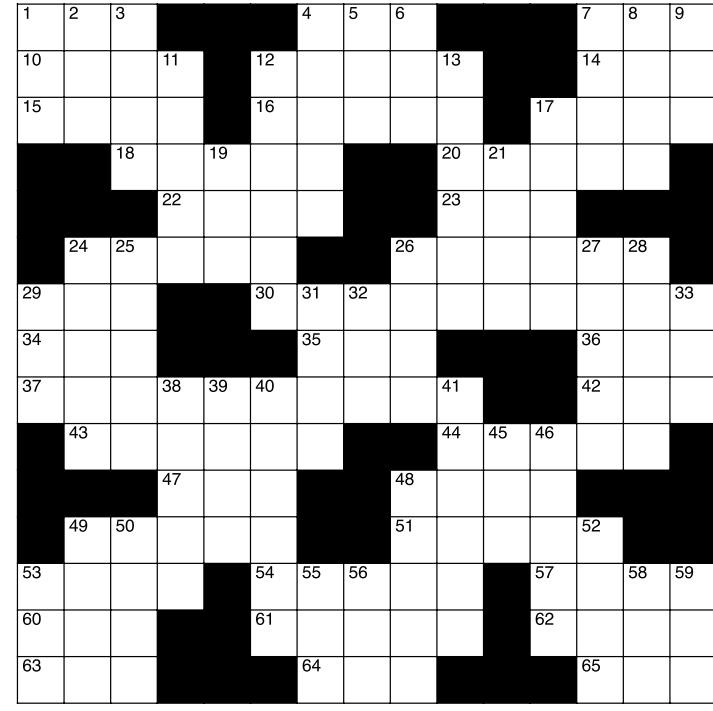
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the reflective designer

12 Thursday, March 19, 2009 THE TOWNSMAN

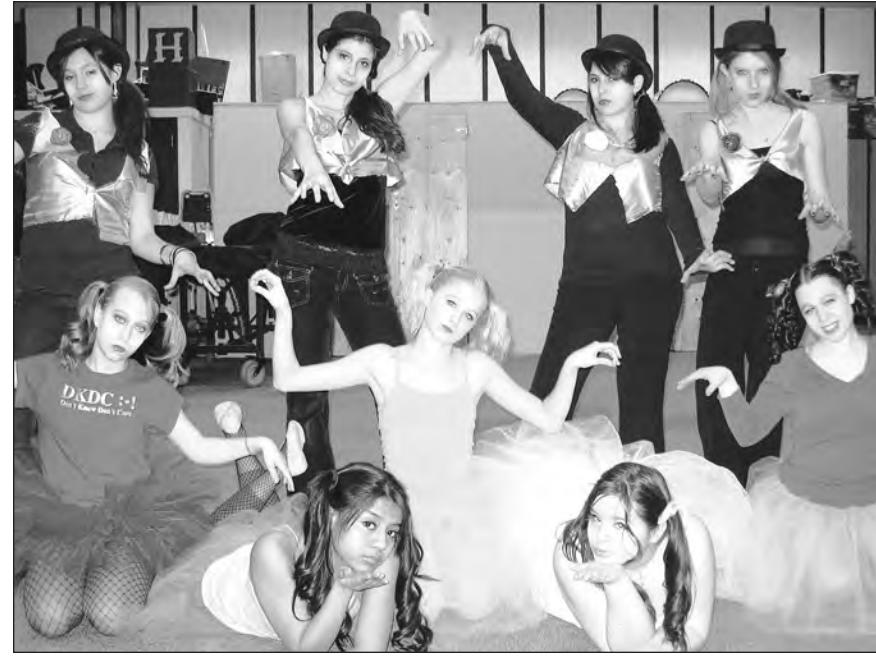
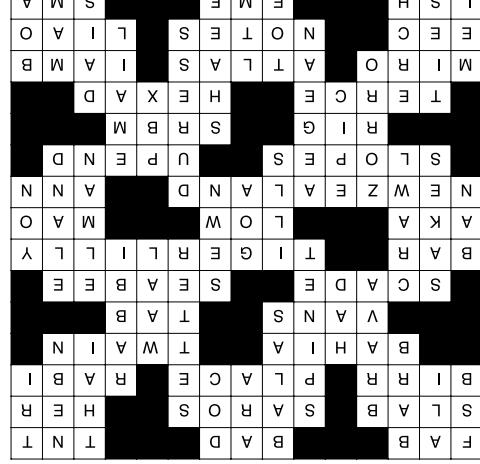
Crossword puzzle

**CLUES ACROSS**

- The ___ Four (Beatles)
- Not good
- Explosive
- Thick piece of something
- Gulf of, in the Aegean
- Of she
- Ethiopian monetary unit
- 2nd to win
- Islamic month of spring
- N.E. Brazilian state
- Huck's author Mark
- Trucks
- Restaurant bill
- Ca___: waterfall
- Member of U.S. Navy
- Drinking establishment
- Pan's Indian princess
- Alias
- Not high
- Leader Zedong
- Wellington is the capital
- Mitt's wife
- Inclines
- Set to end
- Trailer truck or semi
- Nuclear near reach weapon
- The third hour, about 9 a.m.
- A group of 6
- Spanish surrealist Joan
- Greek Titan
- Unstressed-stressed
- Old world, new
- Brief letters
- Chinese dynasty
- Similar suffix
- Electromagnetic force
- Senior officer

CLUES DOWN

28. African antelope
1. A federally chartered savings bank
2. Boxer Muhammed
3. A cutting remark
4. a.k.a. Spinel ruby
5. Macaws
6. Medical practitioner
7. Siamese
8. One point N of NE
9. Denotes three
10. Opera praise for female performance
11. Compact piano
13. English, Irish or Gordon
17. Jewish spiritual leader
19. Possessed
21. So. branch of the lower Rhine
24. Interests, behalfs (pl.)
25. Move very slowly
26. Stitched
27. Legendary violinist Mischa
28. African antelope
29. Cast out
31. Ailments
32. Indian city
33. Distant
38. Don Diego de la Vega
39. A long narrative poem
40. Sea between Greece and Turkey
41. Coercion
45. Telephone switch
46. Electronic communication
48. Allied H.Q. (abbr.)
49. Men's neckwear
50. P___: bird resting place
52. Speaker's platform
53. Japanese apricot tree
55. Foot digit
56. Your store of information (abbr.)
58. ___bo: Latin dance
59. A tropical constrictor

Solution

10th anniversary show for AHS Dance Club

Andover High School's dance club offers its 10th Anniversary Dance Show this Friday, March 20, at 7:30 p.m. in the Collins Center. The show features original student choreography of various dance styles ranging from ballet to hip-hop, Indian folk to Irish step dance. The public is welcome. Tickets are \$5 and available at the door. At left, members of the club prepare for last year's performance.

Courtesy photo

EVENTS CALENDAR

Continued from Page 11

978-475-4225.

TEA WITH HARRIET BEECHER STOWE, March Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover, 2:30 p.m.**SPIRITUAL TALK**, "An Evening With Matthew Flickstein," author, meditation teacher and executive producer of the upcoming documentary "With One Voice: The Meeting Point of All Spiritual Traditions," North Parish Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 7 p.m., upstairs in Old Center Hall, 3 Great Pond Road in North Andover, (across the street from North Parish U.U. Church), suggested donation \$15; lemire@

mlemire.org or call 978-975-5602.

DRUMMING FOR JOY, led by storyteller/drummer Jane Gossard, Rolling Ridge Retreat Center in North Andover, 7-9 p.m., dessert and coffee to follow. Drumming experience is not necessary. Drums will be supplied, or bring your own. The cost is \$15 with pre-registration or \$20 at the door. For more information, call 978-682-0010 or visit online at www.rollingridge.org.**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25****BOOK READING**, with author Brunonia Barry, who will read from her 2008 novel, *The*

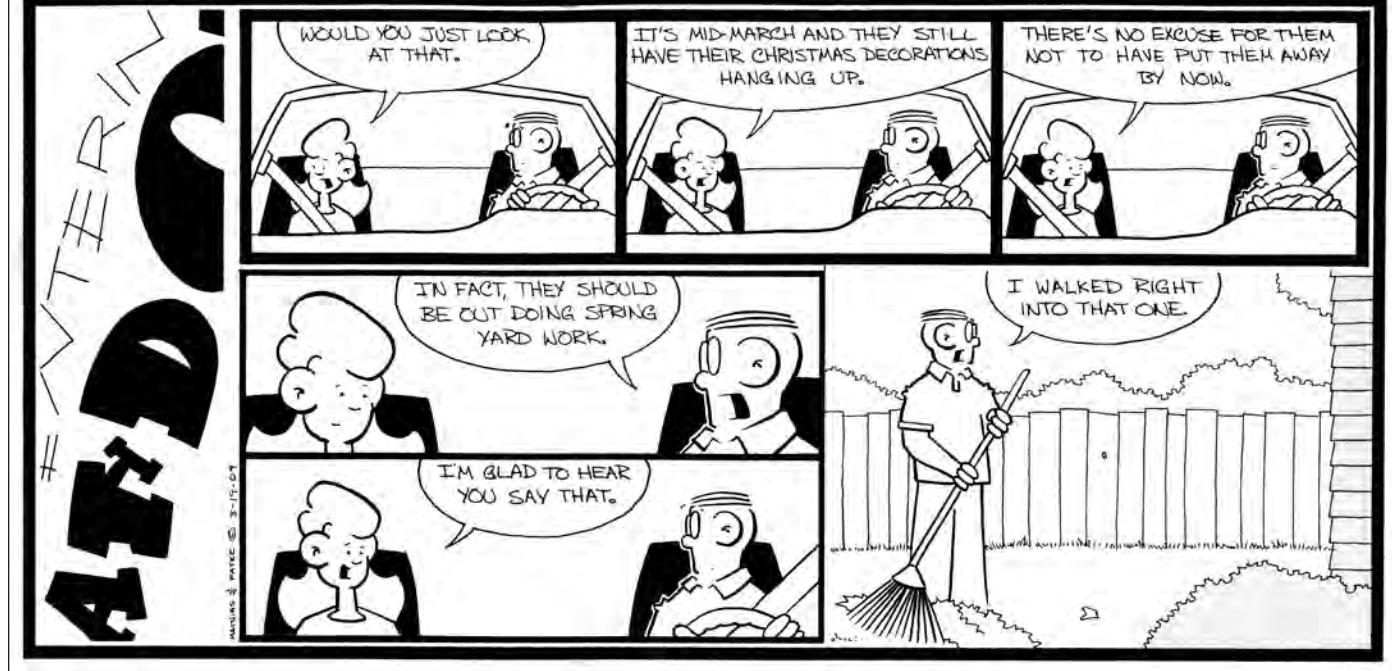
Lace Reader, noon-1 p.m. Northern Essex Community College, the Technology Center on the college's Haverhill Campus, 100 Elliott St., free and open to the public.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26**LIVE THEATER**, The OnStagers Dramatic Society of Merrimack College - a student run theatrical group - is bringing the satiric musical "Urinetown" to the stage of the Rogers Center for the Arts, 8 p.m., tickets cost \$5 to \$12; 978-837-5355. Also being performed March 27 at 8 p.m. and March 28 at 2 p.m.

and 8 p.m.

AUTHOR READING, Denise Landis will be talking about her book, "Dinner for Eight." Landis knows what makes a good dinner party and how to compose a menu that will impress guests, while leaving the cook free to enjoy the party, 7 p.m., free, Andover Bookstore, 89 Rear Main St.; 978-475-0143.**RECEPTION**, for 2008 Citizens Who Care Traveling Exhibit, 4-6 p.m., Butler Bank, 16 N. Main St., Andover; Rosemary Radulski, 978-623-8000 ext 303, or rradulski@butlerbank.com.

ENTERING ANDOVER by Don Mathias



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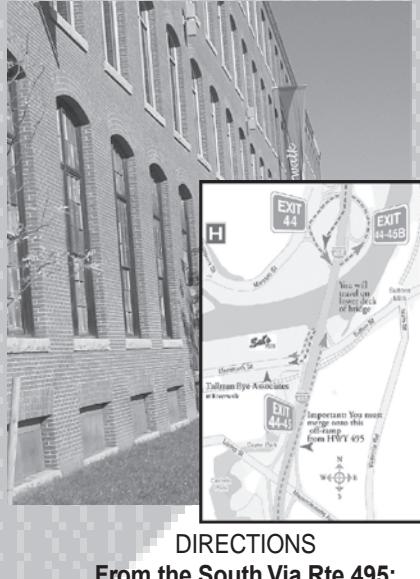


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• Recross river to Exit 44. Bear right, down the ramp to Merrimack St.
• Turn right onto Merrimack St. and enter the Riverwalk complex,
Tallman Eye Associates will be located in building 9, entrance "I"

From the North Via Rte 495:

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• Cross river and bear right onto Exit 44
• Turn right at bottom of ramp
• Turn right into Riverwalk complex
• Follow signs to our building

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HAVERHILL, MA
62 Brown Street, Ste. 205
978.521.5653

Opinion

Wealth of electoral options, but we choose two

No town, including Andover, has the money to continue business as usual. With more than 75 percent of Andover's operating budget tied up in salary and benefits, the top job for town leaders elected on Tuesday will be renegotiating existing contracts if possible, and negotiating much more sustainable contracts in the future.

Given the challenges ahead, Andover needs strong, articulate people who comprehend the problems, can participate fully in time-consuming negotiations and have shown an ability to offer new solutions to complex problems.

For School Committee, Andover also needs people with a knowledge of the entire system, kindergarten through grade 12. It needs innovators with a proven record of delivering new ideas and partnerships to support education without saddling all taxpayers with unaffordable expenses. Fortunately, Andover has more than two people running for the two open School Committee seats who could meet this daunting job description.

Two of these School Committee candidates seem particularly ready to begin grappling with the challenges ahead without struggling through the typical learning curve.

Annie Gilbert has worked with educators throughout the system, seen the needs and helped create solutions. As vice-president of the non-profit school-fundraising group Andover Coalition for Education, and in her roles on other school boards, she's helped draw together groups of people to help pay for important projects such as engineering labs for each of the middle schools. Gilbert has said repeatedly she will treat the School Committee as a full-time job. Given the attention the school budget needs, that level of commitment would be a godsend. The pledge appears to be more than words. Throughout the campaign, Gilbert has met with all school principals and with a number of others to further educate herself about the K-12 issues she must tackle if elected. As the only candidate to directly answer the campaign-trail question about whether she could support more one-year contracts for the current superintendent, she also has shown herself as the rare leader willing to honestly express her opinions concerning difficult matters. In the months ahead such straight talk and hard work is what Andover needs.

David Birnbach has twice served on the School Committee already, where he developed a reputation as someone eager to suggest and try new ideas to heighten student learning and lower tax burdens. During this year's campaign he made it clear he is interested in sharing resources with other towns and consolidating duplicative departments, which some on the committee have resisted previously. His previous time on the committee and involvement with MIT's Sloan School of Management mean he's prepared to dive into the pressure cooker of union contract negotiations. With Birnbach, there should be little ramp-up time, a key element in his favor with Town Meeting pushed until May and the school department seeking solutions to close the budget gap.

We'll know next Tuesday which two School Committee candidates voters support. We hope those who are not selected this year will run again. This has been one of the strongest fields in recent memory, so strong that any of this year's candidates might have been a top vote-getter during another election. Andover is fortunate to have such a field to choose from during this difficult and critical time.

For selectman: Major

For the Board of Selectmen, we believe residents should cast one of their two votes for **Brian Major**.

Major has been a consistent voice speaking out against unsustainable spending and against the almost annual calls to raid emergency funds to increase operating budgets. The incumbent's comments may have ruffled some feathers over the years, particularly among those seeking more money for the schools, but his beliefs on yearly spending have been sound.

Major can participate fully in all contract negotiations and brings a knowledge of the budget process, contracts and other Andover issues that will be needed now more than ever during this generation.

WEB QUESTION

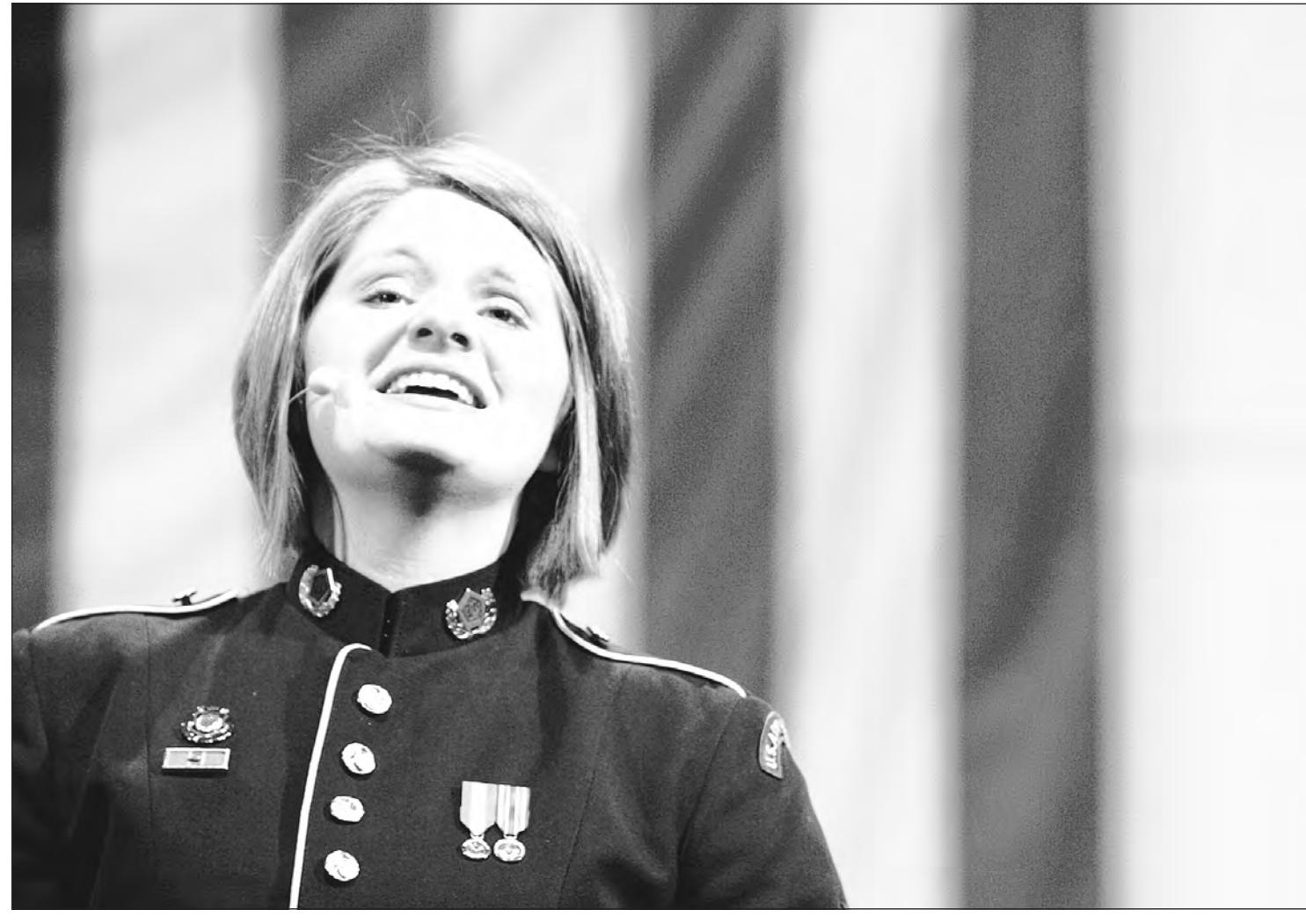
If you found \$400, what would you do?

One percent is a good start

This month, nine town department heads volunteered to take a 1 percent pay cut for fiscal year 2010, as a way to help close a \$874,000 budget deficit. Last week, we asked you how you felt about the pay cut, and with 32 people responding:

- "Other town and school employees should follow their example" received 31.25 percent of votes
- "One percent is just an empty

PATRIOTIC PERFORMANCE



ANGIE BEAULIEU/Staff photo

Tracy Labrecque performs during a patriotic concert by the United States Army Field Band and Soldiers' Chorus at Andover High School's Collins Center on Monday, March 16.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Close Town Offices, keep library open

Editor, Townsman:

I've read that Town Manager Buzz Stapeczynski is planning to recommend a cut in Memorial Hall Library's 2010 budget, along with that of other town services.

I agree that in the face of diminished state aid, inflation and depressed property values, town departments must make serious cuts to balance the budget. Freeze the wages of all town employees; cut down on the number of trips the street sweeper makes each week; repair Fire, Police and Public Works department vehicles in place of buying shiny new ones this year; and reduce the number of hours Town Offices is open, encouraging us to use the town Web site for most of our questions.

But I strongly object to cutting hours and reference-desk services at Memorial Hall Library. With the economy in a tailspin, now is the time when the library services are most needed for many reasons. I mention just a few:

- For employment help: when the jobs of many dads and moms are being threatened or lost, Memorial Hall Library business references, on paper and computer, are an indispensable resource.

- To save money: with less disposable income, families borrow more movies and music CDs and they rely on the museum passes for an economical outing.

- Basic needs: people who can no longer see to read, use recorded books. Older people who can no longer afford to subscribe to newspapers, read them at the library.

- A safe place for our children: teens meet at the library for after-school help and parents rely on story hours and special events to introduce their toddlers to the joys of reading.

Memorial Hall Library is not just another town department. It is the heart of our town, a shining asset. Despite heavy demand, the library staff, beginning with Director Jim Sutton, is invariably helpful and courteous to the hundreds who use their services seven days a week. Librarians at the reference desk

are a special breed, patiently answering endless questions and skillfully directing all to MHL's fabulous resources.

Mr. Stapeczynski, certainly tighten the town's belt, but keep the library operating at full strength, now and forever.

CHRISTINE YOUNG
60 Whittier St.

Basic problem: More workers than affordable

Editor, Townsman:

Is a 1 percent pay cut a sacrifice or an empty gesture (March 13 Townsman Web question)? The offer made by the town department heads is a fine good-will gesture. However, the fundamental issue with the town budget is structural as Brian Major and Buzz Stapeczynski have underscored in recent months. This is a tactful way of saying we have more school and town employees than town revenues will support.

Implementing small across-the-board pay cuts, turning off cul-de-sac lights, conserving paper products and other recommendations, while worthy, will not solve the structural problem this year or in the future. We need to get back to basics, focus on needs and eliminate luxuries we can no longer afford. Regrettably, this will require layoffs, but it is necessary in order for the town to remain solvent.

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STEVEN ADAMS
Berkeley Lane

Woman returns money, gives faith in humanity

Editor, Townsman:

Last week, I went to the bank near Panera in North Andover to get \$400 to purchase a bunch of items for some upgrades to my house. Within minutes, the money fell out of my pocket (as I bent down to pick something else up) and the money was gone. I realized this at home in only 15 minutes, raced back to Panera, only to find nothing.

I was looking around, trying to see if it might be under some cars and an elderly woman, with some experience in these

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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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Box 1986, Andover, Mass. 01810

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.

and saw snowmen lined up in all shapes and sizes. I opened a thermos for a small child whose hands were too small to do so. I opened a book and read a story to a child with a fever waiting for Mom to arrive. Thanks to SHED, my days are filled with opening things, but the most important things that have been opened are my heart and my mind.

Next to staff information on the bulletin board behind my desk you can find fuse bead creations. These were painstakingly designed and executed by the kindergartners to decorate my work space and make me smile. (They do!) The front of my desk houses an art gallery and my desk top holds many things, but including a duck, handed down from my own son, dressed in whatever the season calls for.

I have watched children paint with their toes and paint while lying on their backs like Michaelangelo, a dragon parade, and musical and theatrical presentations that Broadway would applaud. I've witnessed momentous events - like "presidential elections" and someone learning to tie his or her shoes. I have "visited" the White House, Australia and a veterinary clinic, and observed the conquering of Mount Everest - all without leaving the building where I work.

In the spring I am privileged to witness the "birth" of butterflies, lovingly protected by 5- and 6-year-olds until they are ready to brave the world outside SHED. Summer opens up a whole new realm of possibilities filled with clubs, swimming, field trips, barbecues and a sense of timelessness.

SHED: we like to think the letters stand for "Something Happens Every Day." (They really stand for Shawsheen Extended Day.) SHED is where children are celebrated, challenged, nurtured, and appreciated for the individuals they are. As we approach SHED's silver anniversary, I realize how fortunate I am to be able to work in such an environment with people whose love for children is paramount. My benefits package includes hugs, laughter and so much more than dental insurance.

BARBARA A. BLANCHETTE
Administrative Assistant
SHED, Inc.

A tribute to working at SHED, hopes for more

Editor, Townsman:

Recently, at work I opened a package and found owl pellets. I opened the refrigerator, and next to my lunch was a bowl of "plasma" fashioned lovingly by little hands to simulate what they had learned about blood in their health and wellness class.

I opened the back door of SHED

DAN O'TOOLE
Enmore Street

Editor, Townsman:

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Recently, at work I opened a package and found owl pellets. I opened the refrigerator, and next to my lunch was a bowl of "plasma" fashioned lovingly by little hands to simulate what they had learned about blood in their health and wellness class.

I opened the back door of SHED

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Unwritten rules of summer camp registration

Sue Tabb

 It's a sure sign that the nice weather is coming: The summer camp rejection forms have been mailed! Now kids don't have to wait until the college application process to get a taste of what it's like to be deeply disappointed.

Who knew getting into summer camp had become a competitive sport?

Surely I missed the memo on that one. It's still winter and many camps are already full, even the expensive ones. Perhaps someone forgot to tell these parents we are in the grips of a crippling recession.

Based on what I've learned in just the last month, I've compiled a list of the unwritten rules of summer camp registration. These rules are never spoken, but universally understood by parents everywhere.

■ The cheapest camps will be the hardest to get into — and even if you get your form in the first day by driving it to the post office on a cold December morning, expect to be waitlisted. By the way, your kid will always have a higher number than any other child they know trying to get into the same camp.

Being waitlisted is sort of like camp purgatory; it could go either way. The only thing for certain is that by the time you know for sure which way it is going, you will have lost your deposit and your reasoning abilities (i.e. "That was a stupid camp anyway! Who would want to go to such a dumb camp?")

■ Your child will want to attend at least two camps on the same week — and that week will be the one you have booked for an expensive summer vacation in a beach-front house on St. Thomas. Your children will say they would rather go to camp and make gimp bracelets than go parasailing in the Caribbean. Your tickets are nonrefundable.

■ Filling out camp forms will be harder than doing your taxes. There are a lot of papers to keep track of, all with varying due dates, deposits,

registration information and cancellation policies. You will most definitely miss some important deadline that will force you to beg a camp director for mercy. You will lose your dignity but retain your child's spot.

■ The most expensive camp will be the one the kids like the least. It's just Murphy's Law. The cheapest one, the one you couldn't get into, will get rave reviews from your friends and neighbors. You will vow to try harder next year, maybe sending in a biographical essay or a historical perspective on the camp's significance with the registration request.

■ One of your kids will get sick on the Monday of their favorite camp week. They will not be sick when you are on vacation or when your (free) in-laws are staying over to help out. And the illness will last for two or three days. The money you lose will be the equivalent of half your Caribbean vacation — the one your kids say will be so boring compared to roasting a hot dog over a camp fire.

■ This fall in school, when asked to write an essay about what they did over the summer, your children will not mention summer camp. They will write about things like going to the movies and playing Wii and making a fort in your backyard. When you remind them about camp, they'll say "Oh yeah, that too."

Before you jump out the nearest window, take my advice and sign them up anyway because you'll need the break. But start planning now or you'll be shut out of the more sought after offerings like Li'l Angels Spa Camp where your darlings will learn fine etiquette, modeling, how to give a great mani/pedi and be treated to limousine field trips. (Yes, it's a real camp in Delaware.) There is also an Explosives Camp in Missouri where kids can learn the fine art of things like, and I quote, blowing up a tree stump and obliterating a watermelon. If that doesn't "spark" your interest, how about code-breaking and surveillance techniques at Spy Camp in Pennsylvania? Yup, all very real camps where there are probably waiting lists.

Better get going on those forms.



Leaning in to read a thermometer, Nurse, Emma Hauer makes a move on her patient, Matt Kegan, left, during the Andover High School drama production, "History & Poetry," as the group performs in the state drama semi-finals at Andover High School Saturday.

JAN SEEGER/Staff photo

Singular achievement

AHS student writes school's one-act play

BY BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

What started as a "doodle" in a journal, written by Andover High School senior Brian Mason during a summer vacation, ended as a trip to the Massachusetts High School Drama Festival Semi Final competition on March 14.

The AHS drama department produced Mason's play, titled "History & Poetry" this spring, advancing the production through preliminary competition to semi-finals last weekend.

Mason wrote "History & Poetry" during a family vacation to Maine during the summer of 2008.

"I like to recreationally write, you could say," Mason said. "Nothing big, it's the equivalent of doodling."

This fall, Mason finished the script as his senior exhibition project, passing a finished copy to Susan Choquette, theater director at AHS.

"I loved it and thought 'What a great festival piece this would be,'" Choquette said.

She connected Mason with David Foley, a professional playwright, New York University professor and personal friend of Choquette's. The two, over several letters and a two-hour phone conversation, revised the play and talked about what did and didn't work, Mason said.



Following the Andover High School drama production of "History & Poetry," the author of the play, Brian Mason says he's really happy, as he and others in the cast and crew unwind backstage following their performance in the state drama semi-finals during Saturday's festival at Andover High School Saturday.

JAN SEEGER/Staff photo

AHS put the production together with a cast and crew of about 50 students. Choquette directed, taking input from Mason, who acted as one of the main characters in the show.

"It was very comfortable," Mason said. "I felt like I had a lot of control in the process, but had a wonderful director taking

control of the play."

"They're a very hard-working group, totally committed," said Choquette of the cast and crew of "History and Poetry." "They're a very talented group, but also kids that are great people. They have talent, intelligence and ability, so you can do a lot with that. It's a great thing to start off with

such a group of actors — you can really go places."

Last Saturday, the AHS production had a good show, Mason said, but did not earn a bid for the state-level competition.

"It went very well, it was definitely a day of really good theater," said the playwright, "but sometimes that's how things work out."

"History and Poetry" weaves two separate stories that eventually intersect. It takes place at a private high school in Maine, and follows two sets of relationships: two male students, a freshman and a senior, who become friends because they share a love of Shakespearian sonnets, and a newly married woman and her husband, an English teacher at the school who teaches Shakespeare's sonnets.

The show has its comic moments, but is mostly drama, Mason said.

"Over the course of the play, I used sonnets to parallel and give greater insights to the story," he said.

Mason is a big fan of Shakespeare, especially his sonnets, he said. The best part? The Andover High cast, said Mason.

"It's a group I've had as friends, doing theater since elementary school," Mason said. "It was the greatest group of kids you could ever have to do a play, that you could ever ask for."

Hockey player motivates kindergartners



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Logan Carr, left, and Aidan Lareau, both kindergarten students in Debbie Nichols' class at the Bancroft Elementary School learn about math through a hockey-related coloring book following a visit from Boston University hockey player John McCarthy of Andover. McCarthy is a former Bancroft student and has been drafted by San Jose Sharks.

Girls, 9: Hold the birthday presents, bring food for needy

BY JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

A trio of just-turned-9 best friends in west Andover have given a helping hand to the Neighbors in Need food pantry.

With the pantry receiving an increase in requests for food since last year, three third-graders at High Plain Elementary School stepped up to help in a big way.

Hannah Littlewood, Caroline Graham and Julia Carzo teamed up for a ninth birthday party on March 1 and skipped the presents. Instead, they asked guests to bring food donations for the Lawrence nonprofit organization.

With help from their moms, they delivered the birthday load of items to the Neighbors in Need warehouse at Dundee Park in Andover.



From left, Caroline Graham, Hannah Littlewood and Julia Carzo teamed up to help Neighbors in Need food pantry.

COURTESY PHOTO

16 Thursday, March 19, 2009 THE TOWNSMAN

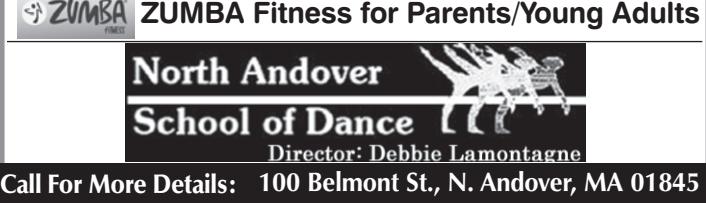
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32 Park Street • Andover, MA (978) 474-0555**KIDS SPECIAL SECTION****South Elementary School hosts spring auction April 4**

Attention all "Love Boat" aficionados. South Elementary School has set a course for adventure, its biggest fundraiser of the year, according to parent organizers. One of the highlights of the evening will be a raffle for a cruise for two to Bermuda.

The school's Spring Auction will be held on Saturday, April 4, at Salvatore's Function Hall in Lawrence from 6:30 p.m. to midnight. The evening will include dinner, dancing and silent and live auctions.

The auctions will feature close to 200 items donated by sponsors

both in Andover and outside of the community. Among the treasures to be auctioned off will be South School students' artwork. South's physical education teacher Dave Giraldi and Dave Fazio, Andover High School's boys basketball coach, will provide entertainment as auctioneers. People who have a great item to donate or are just interested in joining in the fun can contact Kelle Sutliff, auction chairwoman, at 978-475-0067.

A release from organizers says, "While some people may question why such a big fundraiser during these tough economic times, the answer is simple. As the school budget becomes tighter and tough choices need to be made, parents have taken up the challenge to try and help."

"Because of the uncertainty surrounding the state's ability to fund local education, the school administration has put a freeze on school spending. The PTOs have been asked to pay for items that the town would normally cover. This has put increased pressure on the PTOs to raise funds," Judy Norton, South's PTO co-president said

in a release.

Parents hope to raise funds to provide enrichment opportunities, educational materials, new technology such as Smart Boards, and basic necessities for all the students, they said. The event will feature a signed Dustin Pedroia bat, autographed baseballs from Pedro Martinez and Josh Beckett, and a Tom Brady autographed football

"Fundraisers are always important in providing students with a rich, diverse educational experience. Staff members are extremely grateful to our PTO and parents coordinating the auction committee who raise money for our school. They have planned a tremendous evening that has something for everyone. This will surely pull us together as a team with a common purpose. You can't underestimate the positive impact these events have on a school community," Colleen McBride, South School principal, said in the release

Tickets are \$50 per person and available by contacting Sutliff at 978-475-0067.

Students to perform with Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras

Ten young musicians from Andover were selected from among 700 applicants to play with the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras, regarded as one of the nation's finest youth orchestras. The Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras' 51st season roster includes George Cheng on violin, John Diodati on clarinet, Alexandra Morgan-Welch on viola, Miki Nagahara on violin, Sasha Scolnik-Brower on cello, Christine Wu on violin, Annie Ye on clarinet, Alison Fessler on cello and Brandon Lam on viola.

The Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras consists of 437 students representing more than 120 communities from the New England area. Widely regarded as one of the country's finest youth orchestras and recognized nationally as a model music and arts education organization, BYSO includes three full orchestras, a string orchestra, four chamber orchestras, a chamber music program, and the Intensive Community Program, which is a rigorous string training program for underserved youth.

Special concert April 5

As students' skills develop, children audition to gain acceptance into the BYSO's other orchestral ensembles. To honor 10 years of successful outreach, the Boston Youth Symphony, the most advanced of BYSO's three full orchestras, will perform Mahler Symphony No. 5 at 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 5, at Boston's famous Symphony Hall. To purchase tickets, call 617-266-1200. Tickets are \$30 and \$25.

Notably, five local Andover students will be performing at this tribute concert: George Cheng, BYS, Andover High School, grade 11; John Diodati, BYS, Andover High School, grade 12; Alexandra Morgan-Welch, BYS and ICP, Andover High School, grade 11; Miki Nagahara, BYS, West Middle School, grade 8; and Sasha Scolnik-Brower, BYS, Doherty Middle School, grade 8.

Auditions for the 52nd season will be held May 18-24. Aspiring student musicians can call 617-353-5298 or visit www.BYSOweb.org. Auditions are open to students in grades K-12. Candidates audition for the BYSO and will be placed in an appropriate orchestra based on their level upon acceptance.

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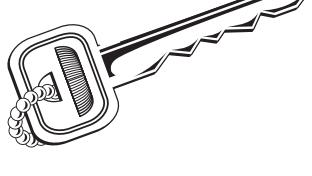
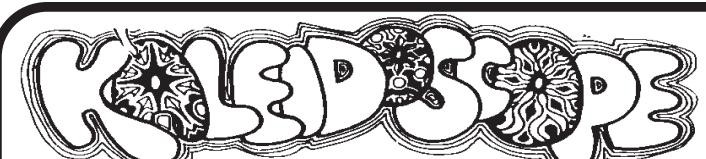
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KIDS SPECIAL SECTION



COURTESY PHOTO
Quota member Cheryl Hebert reads to children last year during Quota Cares Month Story Time.

Quota International of Andover celebrates anniversary with Story Time for Children

Quota International, one of the world's oldest international service organizations, celebrates its 90th anniversary in 2009. To help honor the milestone and the groups Quota Cares Month, Quota International of Andover will host a Story Time for children at the North Andover Steven's Memorial Library on Saturday, March 28, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Two students from Northern Essex Community College Deaf Studies Program will be on hand to sign a selection of children's books along with the Quota members who will read a variety of story books. Many children are interested in learning sign language at an early age and this is an opportunity for them to learn sign language in a comfortable setting. Refreshments will be available.

The Andover group has been part of the Quota network since 1991, serving the local community in a variety of ways, including the funding of hearing aids, a service animal, awarding scholarships to local college students enrolled in a deaf studies curriculum, and assisting disadvantaged women and children, according to the group. Several service and growth initiatives are planned for the anniversary year to commemorate the organization's milestones internationally and locally. Quota International was founded by Wanda Frey Joiner in Buffalo, N.Y., in 1919 and became the first international service organization for women. Joiner, inspired by the camaraderie and personal growth she observed among members of her local Kiwanis Club, created a similar service group open to businesswomen like herself. Today, Quota International includes women and men in its network of nearly 6,500 members in 300 local clubs in 14 countries. The service mission of Quota International focuses on deaf and hard-of-hearing persons and disadvantaged women and children. Together, local clubs provide hundreds of thousands of service hours and over a million dollars each year to help people in need in their own communities and worldwide. Many clubs provide scholarships for deaf persons or for students planning careers related to speech and hearing. The organization also works together to increase service impact when needs arise, such as the relief efforts arranged following hurricanes Katrina and Rita that resulted in donations of more than \$45,000, thousands of service hours, and numerous in-kind donations for people and organizations affected by the disasters. Likewise, Quota's Club-to-Club World Service program channels aid directly to service efforts run by Quota clubs in developing nations, including the Philippines, India,

MJT greets April with musical 'Hello, Dolly!'

Merrimack Junior Theatre, a nonprofit children's theater, will offer a production of "Hello, Dolly!" in April at Memorial Auditorium at Doherty Middle School on Bartlet Street.

Artistic Director Josie Walker will have the production ready for Friday and Saturday, April 3 and 4, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, April 5, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and available from cast members, Kabloom Florist on Main Street, Learning Express on Park Street and at the door, if still available.

FIRST BIRTHDAY

The Townsman usually publishes happy first birthday messages in the last issue of each month for babies who just celebrated birthdays in that month. Here is an example of the type of information that families can supply about their child.

First birthday messages for children born in March 2008 are due Friday, March 20, at 5 p.m., for inclusion in the March 26 paper. Short write-ups and photos can be e-mailed to editor Neil Fater at nfater@andovertownsman.com. Photos should be sent as jpg attachments to e-mails, and not embedded in e-mails. Photos and write-ups can also be mailed or dropped off at the Andover Townsman, 33 Chestnut St., Andover, MA 01810.



Owen Jesse Maguire, son of Michael and Caroline Maguire, turned 1 on Feb. 14. He is the grandson of Phil and Barbara Maguire of Andover, and Joyce and Hal Davis of Sharon and Northampton. Owen loves swimming, gym-boree and books with moving parts.

THE TOWNSMAN Thursday, March 19, 2009 17

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Townspeople

Traveling display honors Andover Citizens Who Care

This year, the Citizens Who Care portrait exhibit is on wheels. The traveling exhibit is now secured at Butler Bank on North Main Street.

For each of the past 12 years, the Rotary Club of Andover has named 10 or more people who live or work in Andover and exemplify the highest standards of community service. One is always chosen from the graduating class at Andover High School. Some represent local volunteer committees while others are the unsung heroes who make Andover a vibrant town.

This year's display of biographies and portraits includes:

MARGARET and BOB PUSTELL

Town involvement made this longtime Andover couple an easy selection. Bob Pustell is the retired chairman of the Conservation Commission. Margaret Pustell, a potter and artist, has been active with AVIS (Andover Village Improvement Society), recycling and the League of Women Voters. Married more than 50 years, they have lived in town for the past 35 and raised their five children here as active West Parish Church members.

PEG CAMPBELL

An Andover High School graduate, Campbell is committed to the kids in town. She worked for 12 years as program coordinator for community services. Being involved with the hiring of Andover Youth Services Director Bill Fahey is one of her proudest accomplishments. She now chairs the Andover Youth Foundation and is a board member at Family Services in Lawrence, which runs



The Citizens Who Care exhibit of portraits and biographies will be on display at Butler Bank on North Main Street through the month of March.

Courtesy Photo

numerous programs for families throughout Merrimack Valley. She lives in town with her husband, John, and daughter, Izzie.

MELISSA WIEGUND

Wiegund is an Andover High School senior who is active with many school-related activities that help the less fortunate. There's the powder puff football game that raises money for Lazarus House, a shelter in Lawrence, and a National Honor

Society project that had her bagging lunches for the homeless. An accomplished pianist, she's also co-president of the Recycling Club at AHS and plans to attend Tufts University.

JOHN HESS

A selectman for 10 years, Hess was a volunteer soccer coach when his two sons were young. Hess was active in local schools and sat on the Andover Housing for Authority for five years. Now, he is a

on the AVIS Board of Directors. A dedicated Democrat, he has enjoyed numerous campaigns over the years.

HAROHALLI VIJAYAKUMAR

Dr. Vijayakumar is the director of anesthesiology at Holy Family Hospital in Methuen. He is a regular on the team of doctors and nurses who go on medical missions to help poor patients around the world. He is strongly influenced by his physician father who worked in small villages in India. Married to Jyothi, the couple have two daughters.

PRISCILLA BARTLE

Bartle's lengthy list of accomplishments includes helping at the Professional Center for Child Development for more than 30 years, volunteering at Bread and Roses for more than 12 years and serving on the board of Neighbors in Need for six years. She has worked for 10 years teaching a special needs boy at South Church. A mother of two, she is married to Dick and has lived in town for 42 years.

STEVE KNAPP

This stay-at-home dad is most involved with local schools and volunteers at school libraries. He's also been an active member of the Andover Soccer Association and is president of the Track Boosters Club at Andover High School. Married to Darlene, the couple have two teenage children.

Please see EXHIBIT, Page 19

Local teen introduces 'social entrepreneur' for Phillips award

BY BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

When 17-year-old Celia Lewis met Bill Drayton, a giant in the realm of social activism, she immediately noted how soft-spoken he is.

Drayton is the CEO and founder of Ashoka: Innovators for the Public, a nonprofit organization that fosters social entrepreneurs around the world.

"I had read about him (before I met him)," said Lewis of Drayton. "He was very quiet and had a very soft voice. His parents told him to never to raise his voice, that he could get his point across just as effectively with a normal voice. He was very willing to listen to everyone (at Phillips), and hear everything we had to say. He said he loves to hear new ideas."

Lewis, an Andover native and Phillips Academy 11th-grader, was given the honor of introducing Drayton at a campus ceremony on March 5 awarding him the Fuess Award, the most distinguished award for Phillips alumni.

Lewis had seen some of Ashoka's social entrepreneurs at work during a June 2008 service and

■ For more about Ashoka, and to read Lewis' introduction of Drayton, visit www.andovertownsman.com.

learning trip to Mumbai, India. She traveled with a group from Phillips, and visited and volunteered with several non-governmental organizations during a three-week stay.

She returned from India with plenty of new experiences, said Lewis, as well as an enthusiasm for social enterprise.

"I hope to be able to do something with social enterprise (in the future). Something to do with impacting the lives of others in a positive way... That's my ultimate goal," said Lewis. "I had been out of country before, but never out of Western world. It was a completely different culture, and a lot of the trip was learning how to connect with people, relate to people."

"That trip really showed me how to talk with and spend time with people that I don't necessarily have the same background or opinions. I learned to really connect with people, and how to identify and solve problems — and connect people with resources," she said. "It was amazing, and a

really fun experience."

Celia is the daughter of Michael and Christine Lewis. Besides school work, she is an editor of the Phillips Academy newspaper, The Phillipian, and volunteers on several community-service projects.

Drayton, a member of the Phillips Academy class of 1961, founded Ashoka in 1980.

He has degrees from Harvard, Yale and Oxford Universities and worked for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency before founding Ashoka.

While at Phillips, he was active in the civil rights movement and a member of the NAACP, even staging a protest against discrimination at the Woolworth store in downtown Andover, said Lewis.

She was honored to be able to meet Drayton, give him the Fuess award and introduce him to her peers.

"I wasn't very nervous, but very excited to meet him. I was able to explain who this really cool guy was to the student body," said Lewis.

"It was really neat to see someone that has taken the Andover education and really put a good use to it. He's really done a lot of good for the world."



Phillips Academy 11th-grader Celia Lewis, an Andover native, got to introduce Ashoka CEO Bill Drayton when he received the Fuess Award, the most distinguished honor for Phillips alumni, at a ceremony March 5.

Courtesy photo/Taryn Ferguson

Sharing fond memories of working on Livingston's Apple Farm, 1951

Bill Dalton



Dick Brown, who worked on the farm as a boy.

He says, "More than any place in my memory I'd like to be able to return to the apple farm."

Dick is now an Oklahoma poet about to publish a chapbook, and he sent me a descriptive narrative of his days at the apple farm. I've done light editing, but the words are his and written from his mind's eye. Here's what he says:

Going past Haggards Pond toward Lowell, Livingston's Farm sprawled along both sides of Lowell Street beginning near where the street intersects with Brown Street. Brown Street comes in at

a 40-degree angle to Lowell Street creating an angle that points at Lowell. At the angle, but nearer Brown Street, Wilbur Livingston, the owner's nephew, tied out a Guernsey every morning after milking. She was a tired and saggy looking creature, but she provided just enough milk and cream for the farm's owners.

Wilbur had a shack on this angle of real estate, which was surrounded by several cherry and pear trees. A roadside stand was located on the Brown Street side of Lowell Street, as was the barn, which sat back 100 feet. I'd eat my lunch in that barn on the front seat of a dusty model

T Ford that was stored there. Irving Livingston, the owner of the farm, was an old Yankee and never threw anything away.

To the side of the barn and behind it stretched fields of vegetables. The Livingstons speculated which vegetables would be trendy in the next marketing season and planted plenty of those. Produce at the stand included fresh corn, carrots, peas, radishes, cucumbers, kale, cabbage, lettuce, onions and, of course, freshly picked apples, peaches and pears. The Livingstons grew a variety of white-fleshed pear that was juicy and delicious. Their varieties of apple

included the Macintosh, Cortland and Gravenstein.

Most of the fruit orchards were on the right side of Lowell Street across from the barn. The farmhouse was also on this side. The orchards began before Brown Street intersected with Lowell and continued on down Lowell for what I remember as being about a half mile. There was a large planting of corn tucked in between the orchards. I walked up and down the rows with a lever-operated duster on my back, applying Rotenone to the clumps of sugar corn on each stalk to combat borers. The Livingstons planted their corn in

hills of four to five plants, different from the inline approach I'd always heard of. Apple, peach, pear and plum trees stretched a long way back from the road.

The farmhouse was a light gray, slate-sided, two-story affair with a long front lawn stretching down to Lowell Street. I'd walk to the front door each Friday to retrieve my pay. I was paid 17 cents an hour and my weekly pay was usually anywhere from \$2 to \$5, depending on how many hours I could muster after school and Saturdays. When I got a salary increase, it was a penny per

Please see DALTON, Page 20

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■ ENGAGEMENT**Ana Lantigua and Charles F. Daher III**

Genara Castillo and Fausto Lantigua, of Lawrence are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Ana Lantigua to Charles Daher III, son of Charles and Elizabeth Daher of Boston.

Ms. Lantigua is a graduate of Methuen High School. She graduated from Northern Essex Community College where she received an associate's degree in respiratory therapy. She works at Lawrence General Hospital as a respiratory therapist.

Mr. Daher is a graduate of Andover High School. He graduated from Georgetown University where he received degrees in management and marketing. He works at Commonwealth Motors in Lawrence as a sales manager.

A June wedding in Newport, R.I., is planned.

EXHIBIT: Honoring Citizens Who Care

■ Continued from Page 18

DIANE CARAVIELLO

The Bancroft Elementary School kindergarten teacher founded Family to Family, a program that connects families in town. Bancroft parents assist families living in the subsidized housing development at Memorial Circle. She determines a child's need and organizes Bancroft volunteers to help with sports teams registration, equipment, baby-sitting and transportation.

NANCY and TOM MAHER

Committed to kids getting a good education, the couple is known for their focus on kids. Nancy is very involved with

MEET 12 WHO CARE**Reception for 2008 Citizens Who Care selections**

When: Thursday, March 26

Time: 4 to 6 p.m.

Where: Butler Bank, North Main Street

Esperanza School, a middle school for girls in Lawrence while Tom went to Kenya, bought some land and helped support the Beverly School of Kenya. Their emphasis is on breaking the cycle of poverty through education.

THYRA SHERMAN

This former PTO president steered the successful fundraising drive to replace the aging

playground at Bancroft School. A mom of three, married to Andy, she is now a special education assistant in town. She is involved with Suitability in Lowell, which helps disadvantaged women dress to rejoin the workforce.

TINA GIRDWOOD

The former chairwoman of the School Committee she now volunteers on Andover Coalition for Education, which raises money for local schools. A town resident since 1969, she has always been committed to schools and she and husband, Andrew, raised their two daughters here. Getting the word out about various groups was also important as she founded the annual Know Your Town Fair.

■ SENIOR NOTES

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

Performing Groups: The performing groups welcome new members. Choral group meets Monday morning at 9 a.m.; tambourine group rehearses on Mondays at 10:15 a.m.; tap dance troupe meets on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.; and the play reading theater group meet on the first Monday of the month at 11 a.m. Experience is not necessary.

Open Studio Art: The senior center provides drop-in art space on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Registration is not necessary for this open studio time, and all mediums and levels are welcome. Just come join in; there's a chair waiting for you. Art instruction, which does require pre-registration, is offered on Monday at 1:30 p.m.

Best American Short Stories of 2008: Tuesday, March 24, 31 and April 2, \$15; pre-registration necessary. Keep up with American literature by studying 15 of the stories chosen as the best published stories of 2008. Stories will be selected by

Ned Martin who holds a degree in English literature and teaches in the lifelong learning program at UMass in Boston. Students must purchase their own books and ordering information is available at the center.

Consumer Rights Workshop: Monday, March 23 and 30, at 1:30 p.m., pre-registration is necessary. Learn about consumer rights. In these challenging economic

times it is more important than ever that people learn how to use their money wisely. Consumers need to be educated, empowered and credit savvy. Retired attorney and adjunct law professor, Lois Karfunkel will present the workshop.

Movie Matinee: The recently released movie, "Swing Vote," will be shown on Monday, March 23, at 1 p.m., at no charge. The

little post-election comic relief stars Kevin Costner. The mischievous antics of a precocious 12-year-old girl result in the outcome of the U.S. presidential election hinging on the vote of her apathetic, likeable loser of a father. The two candidates are portrayed by Dennis Hopper and Kelsey Grammer with Nathan Lane and Stanley Tucci as their campaign managers.

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20 Thursday, March 19, 2009 THE TOWNSMAN

DALTON: Sharing memories of working on Livingston's Apple Farm

Continued from Page 18

hour. My starting pay had been 15 cents hourly, and I'd been in their employ a couple of years.

I worked at the farm on a year-round, part-time basis as a general helper and errand boy. When the fruit trees were pruned, I lugged the branches off and placed them in a burn pile. When the fruit was picked,

I emptied the pickers' bags into baskets and crates which, when full, I lugged to a gray Ford tractor with trailer. The only picking I was allowed to do was the picking up of drops.

Some of the picked apples would go to the roadside stand and the rest to market; my drops would go to the cider mill.

I was the primary weeder of

Livingston's endless rows of vegetables and spent days on days of shuffling along on my knees weeding rows of young plants. I was young, tanned, calloused, pubescent and filthy rich — or so I thought at the time. In retrospect, I was quite a bit more filthy than rich, and dumb to boot.

Wilbur worked the farm full time. When the apples were ripe,

his younger brother George, who I recollect was an accountant by trade, hired on to help with the harvest. Wilbur and George both came from Tewksbury. Wilbur used to commute, at times, in his 1937 Chevy coupe. During harvest, the brothers slept in the shack at the intersection of Brown and Lowell streets.

Back in those days, the sun

rose in the east and set in the west; our president was Harry S. Truman. It was 1951. It was apple-picking time.

Bill Dalton writes a weekly column for the Andover Townsman. He likes to hear from you and can be reached at billdalton@andovertownie.com.

Living Last Supper April 9

West Parish Church, 129 Reservation Road in Andover will present "Living Last Supper," a reenactment and service on Maundy Thursday, April 9, at 7:30 p.m. This is a family-friendly communion service and reenactment of Jesus' Last Meal with his Disciples.

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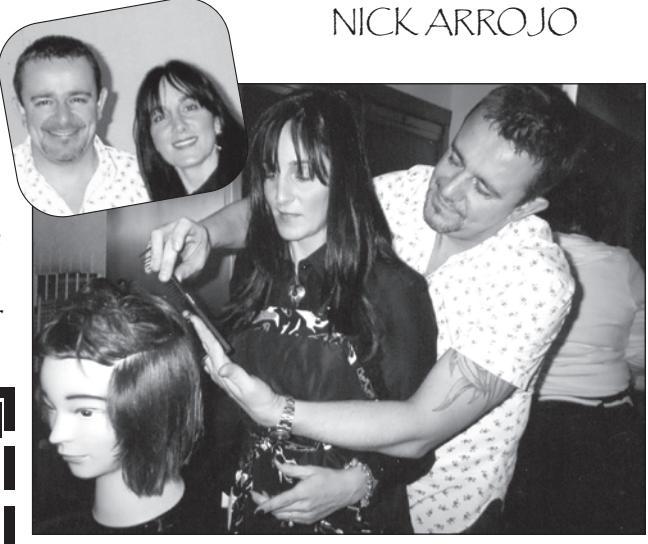


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Business

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Clear Channel supports Girl Scouts' drive

Clear Channel Outdoor, Boston Division, President Steve Ross of Andover has donated 10 billboards in the Boston area to the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts for their famous annual cookie sale. The cookie revenue helps support an organization that provides opportunities and supports character development in girls.

"Clear Channel is happy to give back to an organization with such commitment to the community," Ross said. "Not to mention, you can never have too many Thin Mints!"

The first week of January kicked off the annual sale in Eastern Massachusetts. Girl Scouts can be seen selling cookies at MBTA and Amtrak stations as well as outside popular stores throughout the area. The Girl Scout Cookie program allows girls to set goals, learn money management, and develop marketing skills.

DiFiore certified as H.R. professional



Kristine DiFiore earned certification as a professional in human resources as awarded by the Human Resources Certification Institute.

DiFiore joined Mary Immaculate Health Care Services in 2002. In her capacity as director of human resources, she is responsible for the overall administration, coordination and evaluation of the human resource function for all the Mary Immaculate companies. Prior to joining Mary Immaculate, she worked as a human resource supervisor in private industry. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Worcester State College and a certificate in human resources from Assumption College. DiFiore is a resident of Andover.

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. "She is to be congratulated on her success," says Barbara Grant, president and CEO of MIHCS. "She has been crucial member of our management team for many years, and earning this certification as a human resource professional clearly demonstrates a commitment to personal excellence and to the human resource profession."

Odlum promoted to associate professor



Dr. Frank A. Odlum

Tufts University School of Dental Medicine announces the promotion of Dr. Frank A. Odlum of One Agawam Lane, Andover, to the position of associate professor.

Odlum is a full-time faculty member in the Department of General Dentistry. He is a 1956 graduate of Boston College and 1960 graduate of New York University College of Dentistry. He served two years in the U.S. Army Dental Corp. where

he was assigned to the 75th station hospital 24th infantry division stationed in Augsburg, Germany. He was honorably discharged in 1962 with rank of captain. He returned to Stoneham, and opened a private practice. He retired in 1996 after 34 years in private practice. He accepted an appointment at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in May 1998.

Devine Millimet given 2009 gold heart award

Devine Millimet, a New Hampshire law firm with an office in Andover, was presented with the American Heart Association's 2009 gold heart award at the association's 13th annual heart gala, held on Jan. 30 at the Sky Meadow Country Club in Nashua, N.H.

The award is presented to members of the community who exhibit innovation, philanthropy, vision, and leadership.

Devine Millimet was specifically recognized for its contributions to the many communities in which the employees live and work, since the firm's founding more than 60 years ago. The firm has held numerous American Heart Association fundraisers over the past several years, utilizing friendly, spirited competition to raise awareness and employee contributions. The firm's "Sing Your Heart Out" and "Kiss the Pig" competitions raised more than \$40,000 for the Heart Association's Special Appeal. In these activities firm donors voted for the attorney they most wanted to see sing karaoke or kiss a pig. Alex Walker, president of Devine Millimet accepted the award for the firm, and Michael Kushnir, a shareholder at Devine Millimet, delivered the evening's keynote speech. Attorney Kushnir has been an active fundraiser for the association for many years.

Panos to fight for issues of home building industry

Attorney Jason A. Panos, an associate at the law firm of Devine Millimet, was elected to a second term on the board of directors of the North East Builders Association of Massachusetts Inc. In this capacity, he will continue to work to fight for issues important to the home building industry in economically challenging times, focusing on issues such as housing stimulus, a balanced approach to environmental protection, and "green building" initiatives. Panos is a member of Devine Millimet's Real Estate Practice Group. He is also on the board of directors to the Hellenic Bar Association, a member of the Real Estate Bar Association of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Bar and American Bar Associations, and is a member of the Peabody Zoning Board of Appeals.

Dewhurst recertified for funeral service practice

Richard C. Dewhurst, CFSP of Methuen, has qualified for recertification of the designation of Certified Funeral Service Practitioner, by the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice. The Charles F. Dewhurst Family Funeral Homes is located in Andover.

A number of professions grant special recognition to members upon completion of specified academic and professional programs and "CFSP" is funeral service's national individual recognition.

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TIM JEAN/Staff photos

The recent Boutique Blowout netted lots of sales for Stitch, a funky women's apparel shop on Main Street. But owner Courtney Marino said it's just not enough to keep her business open. The store is closing March 31.

Blowout sale attracts shoppers downtown

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

When 15 downtown boutiques band together for an end-of-season sale, the results are fantastic.

Numerous businesses reported heavy foot traffic and lots of sales during the Boutique Blowout held the weekend of March 6, 7 and 8. The weather even cooperated so shoppers could park, walk along Main Street and spend money.

"It was fabulous. All the moons lined up for us," said Carla Byrne of Bella Beads in Olde Andover Village. "Friday was busy, Saturday busier and it was worth being open on Sunday."

Other stores echoed that sales success as they reported better than usual early March sales.

"We expected shoppers and they came," said an excited Paula Barrett of First Date on Chestnut Street. "We were pleasantly surprised because shoppers just haven't been out."

Even Stitch on Main Street had a great sales report for the Blowout weekend. Unfortunately, it's not enough to keep the store open. Owner Courtney Marino is closing the store on March 31.

"Tons of people were out

and it was great to see. But, unfortunately, one good day is not enough," she said.

She said shoppers are simply not spending like they used to. These tough economic times have really hurt her small, funky clothes store for women, she said. Stitch opened about 18 months ago.

"The Blowout weekend was a huge success and I haven't seen it in a long time," Marino said. "But it's just not enough ... I am unable to make ends meet in these tough times."

There is no word on a new tenant, she said, although a couple of people have stopped in to get the landlord's phone number.

Amy Finegold, who owns Dresscode in Elm Square, said the sale factor played a huge role in the Blowout's success. Her store featured a bargain bin stuffed with items priced from \$10 to \$50 that was a huge hit.

"We had record-breaking numbers," she said. "And I noticed shoppers with bags from several stores and that was great to see."

Finegold said responded to the sale prices — which were advertised at 60 to 75 percent off regular prices, she said.

"The best thing is Andover supported (downtown) Andover and it was very encouraging," she said.



Stitch, on Main Street, is closing at the end of the month.

Carriage House Photography to close as owner focuses on new job

It's neither the economy nor a drop in business being blamed for the closing sign at Carriage House Photography on School Street.

Rather, owner Mark Spencer, who lives in town, said he is simply moving on. He has a new job as director of technology at the company Agiltron in Woburn. He will be closing his Andover photography business

on June 30.

Spencer is looking to rent out the 3,800-square-foot space on School Street. He has the same amount of space in the basement and another 800 square feet in the loft.

"I'm trying to get a photographer to take over the business," he said. "But nothing yet."

Main Line Creamery, an ice

cream shop, is also located in the building. A telephone recording says the seasonal shop will be opening in one to two weeks.

Spencer owns the historical building, which gained attention from Hollywood last year. When the movie "Don McKay" (starring Elisabeth Shue and Thomas Hayden Church)

filmed scenes in town last fall, the School Street building caught the location scout's eye. The production crew needed a building for a train scene. The Carriage House building is located close to the Andover commuter-rail stop.

As Hollywood likes to say, it was a wrap.



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Paid for by The Birnbach Committee, 86 Osgood Street, Andover, MA 01810

POLICE LOG

ARRESTS

Tuesday, March 10 — At 11:03 a.m., David M. Halligan, 30, of 375 Aiken Ave., Apt. 3, Lowell, was arrested and charged on several warrants.

Thursday, March 12 — At 11:01 a.m., Scott A. Mayo, 40, of 4 Maryann Road, Manchester, N.H., was arrested and charged on a warrant for operating a vehicle after his license had been suspended.

At 4:40 p.m., Reinaldo Marta, 18, of 733 San/Breakers Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., was arrested and charged on a fugitive-from-justice court warrant for possession of drugs.

At 6:02 p.m., Steven T. O'Brien, 30, of 6 Walnut St., Methuen, was arrested and charged with driving with a license suspended for operating under the influence of liquor, revoked registration, and driving an uninsured vehicle, possession of prescription drugs.

At 9:49 p.m., Kenneth J. Bailey, 20, of 12 Mark Vincent Drive, Westford, Mass., was arrested and charged with a red-light violation, driving with a suspended license and on warrants for larceny by check and forgery of a check.

At 11:23 p.m., Kevin T. McCarrtney, 19, of 19 Naushon Court, North Kingston, R.I., was arrested after being brought into the police station by Merrimack College police.

At 11:59 p.m., Cesar Vargas, 27, of 68 Congress St., Lawrence, was arrested and charged with having no inspection sticker, driving with a license revoked as a habitual traffic offender and on a warrant for failure to attend jury duty.

Friday, March 13 — At 1:42 a.m., Vincente Duque, 59, of 73 Melvin

St., Lawrence, was arrested and charged with a one-way street violation, having an open container of liquor in his vehicle and operating under the influence of liquor.

At 9:35 a.m., Anthony M. Rojas, 18, of 117 Haverhill St., 3rd floor, Lawrence, was arrested and charged with assault and disturbing a school assembly.

At 3:22 p.m., Michael A. Hager, 42, of 155 Howe St., Methuen, was arrested and charged with driving with a revoked registration, revoked license, subsequent offense and uninsured vehicle trailer.

At 3:56 p.m., Donald R. Bodwell, 57, of 40 Howard St., 3rd floor, Haverhill, was arrested and charged on several warrants.

Saturday, March 14 — At 3:49 a.m., Eli S. Figueiroa, 34, of 36 Peterborough St., Boston, was arrested and charged with following too closely.

At 5:22 a.m., Nelson Nunez, 54, of 25 Coolidge St., Lawrence, was arrested and charged with having an open container of liquor in his car, and driving under the influence of liquor.

Monday, March 16 — At 8:46 p.m., Arthur C. Hill, 47, of 116 Hickory Hill Road, North Andover, was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended license and on a warrant for failure to attend jury duty.

At 11:20 p.m., Johanny Medina, 33, of 462 Hampshire St., Lawrence, was arrested and charged with having no inspection sticker, driving with license not in possession, registration not in possession, no inspection sticker, suspended license and driving an uninsured and unregistered vehicle.

INCIDENTS Wednesday, March 11 — At 5:59

a.m., police received numerous calls about an electricity outage on Reservation Road.

Saturday, March 14 — At 2:25 library staff, Elm Square, called police because they had seen a patron with a visible gun on his person. Responding officers found the person to have a proper license to carry the weapon.

BREAKS

Thursday, March 12 — At 7:26 p.m., breaking and entering to a dwelling was reported on Wild Rose Drive. A garage and a car in the garage had been broken into overnight the previous night.

Monday, March 16 — At 1:23 p.m., a breaking and entering to a dwelling was reported on River Road.

THEFT

Wednesday, March 11 — At 3:19 p.m., an Eastman Road resident reported identity theft.

VEHICLE INCIDENTS

Wednesday, March 11 — At 7:18 a.m., the LaQuinta hotel, River Road, reported an overnight vehicle break-in.

Friday, March 13 — At 4:18, 5:29 and 6:16 p.m., police received three calls of vandalism to cars on Main Street and Elm Square. All had been spray-painted and one had slashed tires.

Saturday, March 14 — At 11:12 a.m., police received a report of vandalism to a car on Main Street. The vehicle had been spray painted.

ACCIDENTS

Thursday, March 12 — At 11:54 a.m., a hit-and-run crash was reported on Argilla Road, where a car hit a tree and a stone wall.

Monday, March 16 — At 8:33 a.m. a two-car crash, with personal injury, was reported on River Road.

— Compiled by Bethany Bray

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WOW!!!! It's Time for the Spring Grand Wine Tasting!!!

Join us Saturday, March 21st from 3:00pm to 6:00pm to Celebrate Spring, We hope!

Shawsheen Village Liquors is hoping to celebrate Spring this month and we want everyone to join us for this

Tasting Event. It's sure to be a great wine tasting. So come and join us to celebrate the onset of spring. Even if the weather doesn't cooperate and it doesn't feel like Spring outside, the one thing that we do know for sure is that when Spring arrives, so do the new wines. At this tasting, we have a bunch of those new wines and some old favorites but in their new vintages.

In case you didn't know, we are a full service liquor store selling the finest selection of wines, domestic and imported beers, and liquors, including single malt whiskies, premium vodkas and gins. Local residents Michael and Sheri Helman own and operate the store. If you haven't already done so, you should stop by and talk with us since we are almost always in the store. We're glad to help you choose those special wines for dinner or a party or to even help you find something to "cellar" away for that special occasion. In the last few years we have been told that we have succeeded in creating a "neighborhood" fine wine store catering to the needs of the local residents. Or in other words, "wines from around the world...just around the corner."

The Helman's invite you to come visit the store at 4 Poor St., in Andover, taste some wine, see the changes that have been made and to check out the continually expanding wine selection. (1500+ and still growing).

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BLACKITA

Obituaries

Paul G. Kelley, 73

DANVERS — Paul Gerald Kelley, 73, of Danvers, husband of Anne Helen (Bracken) Kelley, died Saturday morning, March 14, 2009 in Kindred Hospital in Peabody.

Born in Medford, son of the late Francis and Lillian (Wall) Kelley, he was raised and educated in Arlington, where he graduated from St. Agnes Grammar School and Arlington High School. He attended Northeastern University prior to entering the service and upon completion of his service time he continued his education and received his degree from Boston College.

An honorably discharged veteran, he proudly served his country during the Korean War as a member of the United States Marine Corps.

Mr. Kelley had been employed for several years as a sales executive in the automobile industry and prior to that in the insurance industry.

He was a long-time resident of the Town of Andover where he and his wife raised their family, prior to moving to Danvers 15

years ago. He was a communicant of St. Mary of the Annunciation Church in Danvers.

In addition to his wife of 53 years, Paul is survived by his loving children, Barbara Kelley Locke and her husband Peter of Wenham, Paul E. Kelley and his wife Daphne of Westford, Christopher A. Kelley of Westwood; six grandchildren, Matthew, Elizabeth, Bradford and Justin Kelley, Oliver and Daisy Locke. He was also father of the late Eileen M. Kelley.

ARRANGEMENTS: His funeral was held at the Peterson-O'Donnell Funeral Home, 167 Maple St., Route 62, Danvers, Wednesday at 10:15 a.m. followed by a funeral Mass in St. Mary of the Annunciation Church, Danvers at 11 a.m. Relatives and friends were invited. Burial in Spring Grove Cemetery, Andover. Visiting hours were Tuesday, 4 to 7 p.m. Online guestbook at www.legacy.com. For more information, inquire at 978-774-6600. Expressions of sympathy may be made in Paul's memory to the Jimmy Fund/Pan Mass Challenge, c/o Team Daisy, 11 Porter St., Wenham, MA 01984.

Joseph R. Lariviere, 87



ANDOVER — Joseph Roland Lariviere, 87, of Andover passed away Sunday, March 8, 2009 surrounded by his family who will miss him dearly.

Mr. Lariviere was born in Lawrence the son of the late Arthur and Leonie (Caux) Lariviere. He was a former parishioner of Sacred Hearts Church in Lawrence and was a current parishioner of St. Augustine's Church in Andover.

He loved to travel. He had a very adventurous spirit, and was an avid reader. These traits he generously passed on to his children, but the greatest gift of all that he gave us was each other.

He worked as a skilled carpenter and an electrician. Loved airplanes, swimming, Florida, and travel. But most of all he loved

his family. He was the devoted husband of the late Marie Paul (Gelin-eau) Lariviere and was the loving father to his son Joseph R. Lariviere and his wife Gwyneth of Methuen; daughters, Janet Linton of Vancouver, Wash., Barbara Benanti and her husband Stephen of Groveland, Marilyn C. Hilton and her husband Joseph of Barrington, N.H., Gayle Wells of Westford, Mass., and the late Jane Lariviere of Portland, Ore. He was the grandfather of 17 and great-grandfather of 23. He is also survived by his loving sister Theresa Bernard and her husband Edward of Lawrence, and several nieces and nephews.

ARRANGEMENTS: A private funeral and burial was handled by the Conte Funeral Homes, 28 Florence St., Andover, MA 01810. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 311 Arsenal St., Watertown, MA 02472. To leave online condolences, visit www.contefuneralhomes.com.

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Paid for by the Committee to Elect Annie Gilbert, Irene Pien, Treasurer, 5 Athena Circle, Andover

Mary N. McCloskey



ANDOVER — Mary N. (Scandura) McCloskey, of Andover, beloved wife of Joseph D. McCloskey, died Sunday evening, March 15, 2009

in the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston.

Born and raised in Lawrence, she was the daughter of the late Alfonso and Rose (Nicolisi) Scandura. She graduated from Abbott Academy in Andover, earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Simmons College in Boston and completed her Master's Degree in Education at Salem State College. Mrs. McCloskey had been employed for 33 years as a school teacher in the Lawrence school system until the time of her retirement. She later tutored students in English as a second language to pupils in the Lowell school system. Prior to her teaching career, Mrs. McCloskey worked as a visiting nurse and later as an instructor at the Catherine Labouré Hospital in Dorchester and the Lawrence General Hospital.

A longtime resident of Andover, she was a member and

past president of the College Club of Greater Lawrence. She was an avid tennis player who enjoyed both playing and teaching the sport. She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother who will be missed by all who knew her.

In addition to her husband,

with whom she shared 48 years of marriage, she is survived by two daughters, Maureen Quinlan and her husband, Kerry of Methuen and Allyson Fortune of Andover, one son, Rick McCloskey and his wife, Karen of Salem, N.H., eight grandchildren, Nicholas and Kaitlyn Quinlan, Alex, Connor and Jack Fortune, Nicole, Lauren and Matthew McCloskey, one sister, Ann Jannetti of Andover, several nieces and nephews. She was also sister of the late Sally Hoyt.

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with whom she shared 48 years of marriage, she is survived by two daughters, Maureen Quinlan and her husband, Kerry of Methuen and Allyson Fortune of Andover, one son, Rick McCloskey and his wife, Karen of Salem, N.H., eight grandchildren, Nicholas and Kaitlyn Quin

Sports

■ SPORTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

Hilary Rich and Jackson Rich represented the New England region at the US Junior Nationals for Cross Country Skiing. Both had three top-ten finishes in the four race series. This year's competition, held in Truckee, California, included over 400 athletes representing ten regions of the country. New England won the coveted first place team trophy.

The qualifying races involved an eight race series held throughout New England during the winter. Hilary, a senior at Phillips Academy, finished the season in first place for all J1 girls, 16 and 17-year-old. Jackson, a sophomore at Andover High School, finished the season in

first place for all J2 boys, 14 and 15-year-olds winning five of the eight races.

Hilary also competed in this year's Senior Nationals in Anchorage in January, and qualified to represent the United States Ski Association on the J1 competition trip to Norway. She competed in a series of races over the course of two weeks, and won her age-group race at Lillehammer, site of the 1994 Winter Olympics.

Hilary and Jackson ski for the Cambridge Sports Union, a club team based in Weston, and are coached by Rob Bradlee of Reading and Jamie Doucett of Andover.

Vetere, Andover impress at Nationals

Track

Needing to travel just a quick trip up I-93, Andover stood out against the best in the country.

Led by two stellar relays and the work of **Mark Vetere**, the Golden Warriors delivered an excellent performance at the Nike Indoor Nationals at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston over the weekend.

Vetere was one of Andover's brightest stars. After a season of training, he placed 15th overall in the pole vault with an outstanding 13-8 1/2.

"I went in with the goal to do the best I possibly could," said the junior. "This is definitely a good way to go into the spring season."

That vault was not just a personal best, but it ranked third all-time in Andover history in the event, according to Andover Townsman records. It trails only Peter Ellis (14-6 in 1997) and Andy Carleton (14-0 in 1991).

It was also the ninth-best all-time in The Eagle-Tribune's 23-school circulation area, and was second best for a Massachusetts competitor in the event, trailing just Ross MacDonald of Waban.

Vetere began competing in the pole vault as a freshman. Last spring he broke out with a 12-6 to earn victory at the 49th annual Collins-McIntyre Andover Boosters Invitational.

This winter, while starring as a sprinter, Vetere continued to work on his vaulting skills, competing for the New England Pole Vault Club.

"I've been working very hard this winter," he said. "The pole vault is among my favorite events. You have to keep practicing. It's all about good coaching and good mechanics, not to mention strength and form. I've been working at that."

Andover coach **Peter Comeau** recently noted how impressed he has been with Vetere's work.

"Mark just has ice-water in his veins," he said after Vetere's stellar work in the relays at All-Stars.

Relays again stand out

Known for their relays, the Golden Warriors again performed well at Nationals.



Andover's Mark Vetere goes for a vault last spring. At the Nike Indoor Nationals last weekend, Vetere notched a 13-8 1/2, the third best in Andover High history.

Andover scored its best place of the day when star junior **Christopher McConnell** teamed with **Brendan Crawford**, **Vetere** and **Kerrick Stevens** to place sixth in the 4x200 in 1:31.48. Vetere and Crawford then joined **Connor O'Neill** and **Robert Martin** to finish 10th in the 4x400 in 3:25.55.

"We had run out best the past two weeks so Nationals was the icing on the cake," said Vetere. "Both relays ran great, and we are very proud of what we could do."

McConnell wrapped up his record-setting winter by placing in a tie for 13th in the 60-meter dash in 7.0.

On the girls' side, **Melissa Knapp**, **Vanessa Singleton**, **Emily Shields** and **Colleen Shannon** finished 17th in the sprint medley in 4:17.33.

Women's hockey

Lindmark honored

Andover's **Rachel Lindmark** has proven her student-athlete status, earning NESCAC All-Academic Team honors.

Please see **ROUNDUP**, Page 25



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TUESDAY, MARCH 24

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Ted Cranney

Carl Grygiel

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Molly Lynch

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Amy Stabile

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Joe Spanos

Arleen and Dan Jaracz

Jack Gleason

Robert Goodwin

Eileen Holzman

John Teichert

Michael Tanner

Karen and Jim Oppenheim

Patti and Rich Nill

Michael Nadiff

Chris Huntress

Matt Trede

Michael Byerley

Ted Vocell

Charles Jessica

Charlie Ziegelnbein



PAUL BILODEAU/Staff photo

Seniors Salena Casha, left, and Annie Glancy -- both residents of Andover -- were crucial in Phillips Academy taking home the New England Prep School championship this season.

Title town

Andover residents lead Phillips Academy swimming to title

BY DAVID WILLIS
STAFF WRITER

Before the final swimmer crossed the finish line, the celebration had already kicked off.

"We could already see she was going to finish better than sixth," said Andover resident Annie Glancy. "So by the time we finished, everyone was already flipping out. I have never seen a group of people so excited. It was unbelievable."

Needing at least a sixth in the 400-yard freestyle relay to clinch, Phillips Academy Andover placed fourth in the event and locked up the New England Prep School Championship swimming title March 8 at the Hotchkiss School.

"It was amazing," said Andover resident Salena Casha. "Everyone swam amazing splits we had never done before. We made it in and everyone was really emotional."

Casha had a good perspective on the final relay, swimming the second-to-last leg. But she was just one of the Andoverites that helped lead the Big Blue, including co-captain Glancy, junior Elizabeth Carroll and sophomore Allie Hall.

"It was just awesome to win a title right away," said Glancy. "And the first loss was shocking. But it was clear that we weren't as good as we once were."

When we came in this year, thought, it was clear we had so much more talent."

Glancy heard about the Andover High swimming tradition as a kid, swimming for the Andover/North Andover YMCA.

"I considered swimming for Andover," she said. "But going to Phillips is something I had always dreamed of."

Early success, then struggles

When Glancy and Casha arrived at Phillips, the Big Blue were at the tail end of a dynasty. Their freshman



Unbeatable

The Andover Blue 8th Grade Basketball Travel Team finished their season 29-0. This includes their championship win against North Andover in the Merrimack Valley Basketball League. Pictured are, in the back row: Assistant Coaches Carmen Scarpa and Keith Caveney, Dustin Hunt, John Chahraban, Christian Connors, Brendan O'Connell, Sam Dowdon, David Levenson, Greg Dryfus, and Head Coach Joe Iarobino; front row: Ken Miyachi, Danny Caveney, Chris Dunn, CJ Scarpa and Will Heikkinen.

Bradford Ski Team champions

On Sunday, March 1, five race teams that make up the Eastern Mass Buddy Warner League came head to head for their end of the season championship, and Bradford Ski Team clinched the title by having the most athletes place in the top 10 positions per age category. Andover residents Sarah Bresette, Sarah Heath, Erin Christopher, Patricia Conrad, Eric Heath and Evan Cooper were among those with a top 10 finish.



■ ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 24

In addition to standout out in the classroom, the Connecticut College junior scored seven goals and added six assists for a Camels squad that went 9-14-3 this season.

Girls hockey



of the two top teams in the ISL. Cooke, who won a 16-and-under US Hockey national title with Assabet Valley in 2007, will head to elite Princeton next year.

NIKE INDOOR NATIONALS

At Reggie Lewis Center, Roxbury Andover results:

Boys

4x200: 6. (Christopher McConnell, Brendan Crawford, Mark Vetere, Kerrick Stevens) 1:31.48; **PV:** 15. Mark Vetere 13-8 1/2; **4x400:** 10. (Vetere, Connor O'Neill, Crawford, Robert Martin) 3:25.55; **60m:** 13.tie McConnell 7.00

Girls

sprint medley: 17. (Melissa Knapp, Vanessa Singleton, Emily Shields, Colleen Shannon) 4:17.33

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LOST CAT dark grey tabby neutered male, vicinity High St., Lawrence. 787-684-4700

LOST CAT, large adult male calico cat with green eyes, micro-chipped no collar, vicinity Oaklawn Ave., Methuen, Reward. (978) 687-9824

LOST cat "Smoky", male, grey + white medium hair, double paws. If found, please call (978) 594-0817. \$50 REWARD!!

LOST DOG small Black Lab female "Katie", much grey, 17 years old, can't hear, since 2/23, lost near Plum Island. Call 781-684-6497.

FOUND CAT, grey, medium hair, vicinity of Glew Devin condo's in Amesbury. (978) 388-8889

FOUND: Coin Collection in Kingston, NH. Call Jimmimo for more info. 603-432-3200

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FOUND: Fri. March 6, Earthing of I.G.A. supermarket in Rockport Call (978) 546-1690 to identify, leave message

FOUND: German Shepherd Male, black & tan, extremely friendly, found 38. No collar, tags, microchip, tattoos. Call Sheila, Danville NH Animal Control at 603-382-9403

FOUND: i-pod March 12, behind bleacher Bertram Field, Salem, Ma. Call to identify (978) 744-0470

FOUND: On Locust St., Salisbury on 2/22, small black female. Call MRFRS for more info. on Myrtle 978-462-0760.

FOUND: On Rte. 110 & Main St., Amesbury on 2/22, medium haired orange male. Call MRFRS for more info. 978-462-0760.

THIS OUT

FOUND: Ring, silver, on Mon. March 2 at 11 p.m. in Wiscasset's parking lot on Boston St., Salem. Call to describe (978) 744-0394

FOUND set of 5 house keys on a blue rock climbers key ring on Loring Ave in Salem, MA near Cedar Crest. Art of the Swampscoff Police Station.

FOUND, TWO WAY RADIO, vicinity of Plum Island, on 2/19, (978) 465-8048

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COUCH earth tones, gently used \$40; lead crystal 14.8 oz. wine glasses, new \$15; Epsilon printer \$25; vinyl window, new \$75; 2 fish tanks 20 gallon with stands \$50. 978-373-4224

COUCH - Italian leather, color bone, very comfortable, perfect condition, like new. \$400. Call 178-628-1618.

First Run

COUCH sectional leather couch, soft, supple, cream color, recliners on both ends, \$700 or best offer. Must sell.

Moving. (978) 683-9664

DINETTE SET, beautiful solid oak, 6 chairs, table & 2 leafs \$350, purchased at Furniture World; Tiffany pool table, stainglass, \$150. Call (978) 886-7344

DINING/KITCHEN TABLE, 3'x5', 2 chairs, asking \$195 (978) 922-6438

Dining Room chairs & cream color wood, cloth seats, \$300; PA house cabin top only 3 glass doors, mirrored back, wired for lights. 44w x48d \$20. 978-356-2696

DINING ROOM SET, oak, formica top, 5 chairs & 2 leafs, opens to 7 ft. Excellent condition. \$350. 978-557-0155; 978-697-4369 Methuen.

DINING ROOM SET - Pecan, Table, 6 chairs, 3 leaves, hutch. Very good condition. \$499/best. (978) 687-0812

DINING ROOM TABLE, 6 chairs, 3 leaves, \$200; Butcher block table, \$125. All excellent condition. Derry, NH 603-231-9417

DOWNSIZING!! Solid Oak Dining room set 6 chairs, 2 leaves \$350 Pool table Tiffany Light new \$300 sell for \$150 (978) 208-8377

DRESSER with mirror, \$250/best. Call (603) 887-2479 or 978-319-146

DRYER (electric) \$100. Maytag. Call (978) 208-0453

DRYER, Kenmore, electric, \$120. DRESSER, black & green, gold trim, doors in middle, drawers on ends, \$40. Moving. (781) 520-9443.

DVD PLAYER/RECORDER Sony, new never used, in box, \$80. (978) 744-4466

ELECTRIC BED - Twin size, 2 zone vibrator, \$450. 978-360-8956

ELECTRIC FIREPLACE, oak, mantle, 42" x42," 14" deep shelf, used 2 weeks, \$400. (603) 893-2931

ELECTRIC RANGE AND MICROWAVE Jenn-Air smooth-top range, \$425, excellent condition, \$425, matching above counter microwave, \$125. Buy both \$500. Hampstead NH. Call 603-489-1446

ENTERTAINMENT TV & STEREO UNIT, maple, plenty of storage, holds 22", tv, 4x60, excellent condition. \$50/best offer. (781) 472-4022; 978-771-452

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FREEZER: KitchenAid, 16 cu. ft. with ice maker, \$60. Good condition. Call 603-635-1031.

HEADBOARD BRASS full size \$50. Exercise equipment, Voit gravity rider, \$20. Coffee tables (2), \$20 each; Lamps (2) stain glass like, \$20 each. 978-994-2865

HOT TUB '09 5 persons, 33 jets, Ozonator, LED Lighting, Cover, Never Installed. Cost \$7,500. Sell \$3,800. 603-427-2001.

HUTCH - 7 ft Oriental. Top is all glass with glass shelves, brass hardware. Bottom piece has 4 doors with shelf inside. Asian wood, dark & light. \$499. (603) 894-4779

HUTCH, End Table, Coffee Table, \$500.00. For all, Call for details 603-642-7823.

HUTCH, large solid oak excellent condition. Must see. \$375. (978) 535-7812 offer, 5, ask for Lisa

HUTCH with lights, \$150. Love seat, cranberry, beige & green, \$150. Kitchen set with 4 chairs, leaf table, \$150/best. (978) 532-4672

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jennifer Havel to New Century Mortgage Corporation, dated September 7, 2005 and recorded with the Essex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds at Book 9760, Page 134, of which mortgage Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for HSI Asset Securitization Corporation Trust 2006-NC1 Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-NC1 is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 9:00 a.m. on March 30, 2009, on the mortgaged premises located at 102 Main Street, Unit II, Caronel Court Condominium, Andover, Essex County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

To WIT:

Unit U of the Caronel Court Condominium, having an address of 102 Main Street, Andover, MA 01810, a condominium established pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 183A, by Master Deed dated August 6, 2003, (the 'Master Deed') and recorded with the Essex North District Registry of Deeds at Book 8132, Page 292 on August 11, 2003.

Said Unit contains the number of square feet, more or less, and is laid out as shown on a portion of a plan filed herewith, to which is affixed a verified statement in the form provided for in Massachusetts General laws chapter 183A, Section 9, certifying that the plan fully and accurately depicts the layout of the unit, its location, dimensions, approximate area, main entrance, and immediate common area to which it has access, and which plan is a copy of a portion of the plans recorded with said Master Deed.

Said dwelling is hereby conveyed together with:

1. An undivided 3.907 % percentage interest in the common areas and common elements of the condominium pursuant to the provisions of the Master Deed;

2. Exclusive Use of the Limited Common Area located in the basement of the building and designated as 'Exclusive Use Area reserved for Unit U';

3. All other rights, easements, agreements, interests and provisions contained in the Master Deed, the Condominium Trust and the Rules and Regulations adopted pursuant thereto (the 'Rules and Regulations'), as any of the same may be amended from time to time pursuant to the provisions thereof;

4. Said dwelling is conveyed subject to and with the benefit of:

a. The provisions of Chapter 183A as the same may be amended from time to time;

b. The provisions of the Master Deed, including, without limitation, the title matters set forth in Exhibit 'A' to the Master Deed;

c. Declarant's reserved rights as set forth in the Master Deed;

d. The terms, conditions and restrictions contained in the Caronel Court Condominium Trust;

e. Real estate taxes assessed against the unit and the common areas and facilities which are not yet due and payable; and

f. Provisions of existing building and zoning laws.

5. The rights, agreements, easements, restrictions, provisions and interests set forth herein, together with any amendments thereto, shall constitute covenants running with the unit and shall inure to the benefit of and bind, as the case may be, any person having, at any time, any interest or estate in the unit, his agents, employees, licensees, visitors and lessees as though the same were fully set forth herein; and

6. The dwelling may be used only for residential purposes and accessory use as permitted by the Zoning By-Laws of the Town of Andover and the Master Deed.

Being a portion of the premises conveyed to Grantor by deed of John F. Phillips dated November 26, 2002 and recorded with the Essex North District Registry of Deeds at Book 7337, Page 208.

This is a conveyance in the ordinary course of business and is not in contravention of the filed Certificate of Organization for the Limited Liability Company, as it may be amended. Neither this instrument nor any other record at the Registry of Deeds discloses anything in contravention of Massachusetts General Laws chapter 156C

section 66 and the grantor limited liability company appears from the record of the Office of the Massachusetts Secretary of State to exist.

For mortgagor(s)' title see deed recorded with Essex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds at Book 9365, Page 92.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, title, water, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California Street, Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

**DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE
FOR HSI ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION TRUST 2006-NC1
MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-NC1**

Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys, P.C.

HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.

150 California Street

Newton, MA 02458

(617) 558-0500

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OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF HEARING
 A public hearing will be held at THE HALL, SEC-
OND FLOOR in MEMO-
RIAL HALL LIBRARY,
ELM SQUARE,
ANDOVER on THURS-
DAY, April 2, 2009 at
7:00 P.M. on the petition of Richard Downey, 28
Orchard St., Andover, MA for a variance from the requirements of Article VIII, §4.1.2 &/or for a special permit under Article VIII, §3.3.5 to construct additions & alterations that will not meet setback requirements.

Premises affected are located at 28 Orchard St., Andover, MA in an SRA District as shown on Assessor's Map 60 as Lot 15.

STEPHEN D.
ANDERSON,
CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF APPEALS
AT 3/19/ 3/26/09

LEGAL NOTICE

OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF HEARING
 A public hearing will be held at THE HALL, SEC-
OND FLOOR in MEMO-
RIAL HALL LIBRARY,
ELM SQUARE, ANDOVER on THURS-
DAY, April 2, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. on the petition of Linda P. Linderman, 4 Cedar Rd., Andover, MA for a variance from the requirements of Article VIII, §4.1.2 &/or for a special permit under Article VIII, §3.3.5 to construct additions & alterations that will not meet setback requirements.

Premises affected are located at 150, 168, 172 Holt Rd., Andover, MA in an SRA District as shown on Assessor's Map 20 as Lot 41, 42, & 43.

STEPHEN D.
ANDERSON,
CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF APPEALS
AT 3/19, 3/26

30 Thursday, March 19, 2009 THE TOWNSMAN

To Get Your Full Local Forecast, Go To <http://www.Andovertownsman.com>**THURSDAY**A little a.m.
rain**High: 49°****THU. NIGHT**

Patchy clouds

Low: 29°**FRIDAY**

Mostly sunny

High: 43°**SATURDAY**Plenty of
sunshine**High: 43°****SUNDAY**

Rain

High: 48°**MONDAY**

Mostly sunny

High: 47°**TUESDAY**A shower in
the a.m.**High: 49°****WEDNESDAY**A shower in
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TOWN TALK**Makeover back on track**

The final phase of downtown's \$3 million makeover is just beginning as the good weather has finally arrived. Town Planner Lisa Schwarz said a meeting was planned for Wednesday (after Townsman press time) with Newport Construction and trees were the focus. Drivers can expect to see repairs in Elm Square and on the end of Main Street soon.

—Judy Wakefield

to discuss the fate of Bancroft Elementary. The state is looking at replacing or renovating the aging school.

The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 25, at 7 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library.

It is possible the Massachusetts School Building Authority will permit the town of Andover to add the construction of a new Shawsheen School to the Bancroft building project.

At the forum, the building committee will give an update on the Bancroft feasibility study that is currently underway, and also discuss the status of the Shawsheen statement of interest that

was recently submitted to the MSBA.

"The school building committee would like you to hear firsthand about this possibility (of combining Shawsheen and Bancroft) and then provide you the opportunity to ask questions, voice any concerns, and submit your suggestions. All parents and members of the community are most welcome," said Bach in an e-mail to parents.

—Bethany Bray

Local band rocks on

A band of teen rockers from town placed second out of 16 when they competed in a Battle

of the Bands event last month in Revere.

The band, Contained, was anything but as they were excited with their finish in the band battle, hosted by the United Front Company.

"There were bands from all over Massachusetts and we were the youngest," said rhythm guitarist Michael Galiotti. "Eleven bands were cut the first night, so we were happy to get the call back."

The band also includes Joe Olney, lead guitar and vocals, Tom Dempsey on base guitar, and Pat Farnham on drums. The group has been together for three years and usually practices at

Olney's house. All four members attend Andover High School.

Earlier this month, another band battle in North Reading at the Moose Hall landed another silver-medal finish for Contained.

"I stunned the crowd with my beat boxing and that's where our originality comes from," Farnham wrote in an e-mail.

—Judy Wakefield

Drop & Shop for kids

We know all about Stop & Shop coming to town. Now, we've got Drop & Shop coming in. The kids consignment event is coming to town for eight days starting March

30. Event organizer Stacy Lai is setting up the temporary consignment store at 26 Chestnut St., the former home of Andover Cycle.

"I have rented the space for eight days," she wrote in an e-mail to the Townsman. "For the last five years I have been doing this event twice a year on the North Shore of Boston (Manchester, Wenham, Beverly area) and it's a huge success for the community, the consignors, etc."

If you're looking to unload gently used kids clothes for some cash, check out www.childrensdropandshop.com for the consigning rules.

—Judy Wakefield

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Tom Carroll presents... Andover new construction, ten lot cul-de-sac subdivision in High Plain/Wood Hill school district



Two brand new colonials are being built on the new cul-de-sac, Christian Way, in West Andover. Prices are \$749,000 (left) and \$799,000. Longtime Andover Realtor Tom Carroll is listing both properties.

Spring typically marks the beginning of a new real estate season. But one local seasoned realtor says the market never really dropped off in Andover. Rather, it stayed steady through all the recent ice and snow.

Andover continues to be sought-after by home buyers with the strong public school system leading the long list of reasons why. "Andover has been steady," said Tom Carroll, an Andover native who still lives here and has been a realtor for 18 years. "That's what I saw all winter."

Now with Re/Max, he has just listed two attractive colonials to be built on a brand new cul-de-sac in West Andover. The 10-lot street is Christian Way, off River Road. Construction is set to begin later this month with move-in day happening in late August - just in time for the start of school. The homes are in the High Plain Elementary and Wood Hill Middle school district, which Carroll said is very popular with home buyers. Both schools have great reputations.

"It's a community," Carroll said of the west side school district. "There's a lot going on for families and people like that."

Also on that list of reasons to buy either of these homes is the location. Not only is I-93 nearby, but so is conservation land and the tranquil hiking paths near Merrimack River. Plus, outdoor entertaining is a cinch at either home as they both have one-acre lots.

First-time homebuyers also have that \$8,000 tax credit waiting for them this

spring. Home prices are steady and mortgage rates are down. Carroll said this spring is a great time to buy as that financial formula will benefit buyers.

A closer look at the new colonials to be built on Christian Way, show one with 2,912-square feet of living space on one acre. The price is \$749,000. The other colonial is a bit larger with 3,400-square

feet of living space and also on one acre. The price is \$799,000.

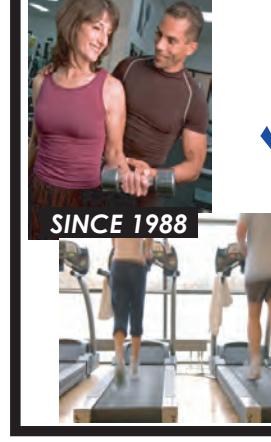
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