

INSIDE: AT LAST, SPRING! DID WE CATCH YOU ENJOYING A WARM DAY? PAGE 9

OUR 121ST YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 34

APRIL 23, 2009

75 CENTS



Can unwanted jewelry help balance department's budget?

BY BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Andover Youth Services is hoping to strike gold in its new home. People are invited to bring their unwanted gold, silver or platinum to the AYS house on Pearson Street between May 4 and 8 for a week-long fundraiser dubbed the "Gold Rush." An on-site appraiser will be there

each evening, quoting prices for items brought. AYS will receive a percentage of the selling price of each piece of jewelry that changes hands. It's a way for people to make money from mismatched earrings, broken necklaces or other unwanted pieces sitting in a jewelry box while supporting AYS and the programs, outreach and recreational opportunities it provides to Andover youth, say AYS

organizers. The town's proposed budget for next year has a 17 percent cut to AYS funding, said Bill Fahey, AYS director, and money raised through the Gold Rush will offset those reductions. "We definitely had to think outside the box this time around. As with all AYS fundraisers, it's all for the kids. The more people that come out the better, the more programs we can do

for the kids of Andover and the community, that's the whole bottom line of this," said AYS Program Coordinator Afton Cuomo, who is organizing the Gold Rush. The fundraiser is different than those that simply ask for donations, she said. Both the participant and AYS end up with some extra money.

"GOLD RUSH" FUNDRAISER
When: May 4 through 8, 6 to 9 p.m.
Where: Andover Youth Services house at 37-39 Pearson St.
What: Cash paid for gold, platinum and silver items (doesn't have to be jewelry)
How: Participants must be 18 years of age and bring valid identification (per state law)

Please see **GOLD**, Page 8



TIM JEAN/Staff photos

At right, Nicholas Nardone, 4, feeds Lemon the Duck, who is physically challenged and gets around in a modified walker. Lemon visited the Professional Center for Child Development with its owner Laura Backman, who wrote a children's book about Lemon. Backman read the book to the children later.

Crimson tide

Town still \$600,000 in red despite project cuts

BY BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Not only are school and town leaders working to create a balanced 2010 budget to bring to Town Meeting voters next month, they're trying to put the town back in the black for this fiscal year, too.

Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski has delivered some sobering news to selectmen, School and Finance Committee members: this year's budget is \$594,672 in the red.

This leaves town leaders scrambling to balance this year's budget by June 30, when the fiscal year ends.

"We are looking at every department, to see where we can squeeze money out to solve this problem," said Stapczynski.

Superintendent Claudia Bach said every school purchase order will be scrutinized, and only those needed to ensure student safety will be approved. At an April 16 meeting of the three boards, School Committee chairwoman Debra Silberstein suggested the schools stop hiring substitute teachers for the rest of the school year and have teachers fill in for one another. Any measures dealing with personnel,

CURRENT (FY 2009) BUDGET WOES

- Current-year budget items causing a deficit, as of April 16:
- Over budget expenses
 - \$787,000 special education out-of-district tuition expense
 - \$500,000 employee health insurance expenses
 - \$750,000 expense for surplus snow and ice removal
 - Revenue decreases
 - \$217,000 less in state money due to Governor Patrick's cuts to local aid
 - \$600,000 less in local receipts (excise and hotel/motel taxes, building permit fees, etc.)
- TOTAL DEFICITS: \$2,854,000**

Measures proposed by town leaders to close the deficit:

- \$787,000 transfer from free cash to cover special education tuition expense
 - \$100,000 in debt-service savings
 - \$468,868 cut from school department's expenses and capital projects
 - \$903,460 cut from town expenses and capital projects
- REMAINING DEFICIT: \$594,672**

including furloughs (mandated time off without pay) or the substitute teacher suggestion,

Please see **SHORTFALL**, Page 2

Lessons of Lemon

Disabled duck has story to tell for kids of all abilities

BY BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

She has webbed feet, a bill and loves to swim. But Lemon the Duck, who visited the Professional Center for Child Development last week, has more in common with the students at the Osgood Street school than you might think. Four-year-old Lemon was born with neurological issues that affect her coordination and balance. Unable to walk or stand on her own, Lemon gets around in a specially-modified walker.

Lemon was an especially poignant example to the youngsters at PCCD, many of whom are wheelchair-bound with severe physical and mental disabilities. "Lemon shows that you can conquer differences in your own special way. These kids surprise everyone with their own special talents," said Mark Simpson, whose daughter Abigail, 7, attends PCCD. "They can communicate with Lemon better than we can. They see things in a totally different light. These kids deserve to be treated like everyday kids. They have their own special place in everyone's heart. They're all significant." PCCD, which also runs a preschool for children of all abilities, works in part with children with multiple

Please see **LEMON**, Page 2



Kian Burt, 4, of Andover pats Lemon the Duck during Lemon's visit to the Professional Center for Child Development.

What's on the chopping block?

FY10: Budget gap forcing changes to staff, services

BY BRIAN MESSENGER
STAFF WRITER

Dozens of jobs are on the chopping block and significant changes to town and school services are anticipated next year as Andover officials work to close a multi-million-dollar operating deficit.

The equivalent of 58 full-time employees, 40 of them in the School Department, could be laid off under Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski's recommended \$139,951,407 budget for fiscal 2010.

To balance the budget,

Stapczynski, town departments and the Board of Selectmen must close a \$874,000 deficit.

Superintendent Claudia Bach has proposed a \$60.4 million school budget. Her request is \$1 million greater than this year's School Department budget and creates a \$3.2 million deficit.

Selectmen and members of the School Committee and Finance Committee continue to work out a final budget plan, which they hope to present to Town Meeting on May 26.

"We're getting down to the

Please see **BUDGET**, Page 2

Hats off to school vacation

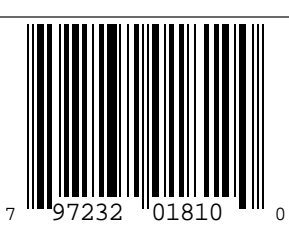
Mitchell Vargas, a fourth-grader, reads in the school library last Friday during Crazy Hat Day, part of spirit week at South Elementary School. More photos, Page 12.



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

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LEMON: Disabled duck has lesson to teach

Continued from Page 1

disabilities and complex health-care needs from Andover and other local communities.

Lemon visited the school with her owner Laura Backman, who has written a children's book about Lemon's life and the challenges she's overcome with the

help of friends.

"She teaches that some people need extra help and technical assistance, but can still be part of your flock," said Ellen Waddil, parent liaison.

Lemon, a crested pekin duck, was hatched from an egg, along with several of her brothers and sisters, by a kindergarten class.

The class fashioned a walker for Lemon, so she could play with her siblings - and students.

Backman, who lives in Rhode Island, read her book "Lemon the Duck" to PCCD youth during her visit on Friday, April 18.

Three- and 4-year-olds from the center's preschool held rubber duckies as they listened with rapt attention to Backman. Children, ages 3 to 7, from the center's day school program sat among their preschool classmates.

One nonverbal little boy in a wheelchair formed the word "duck" in sign language upon recognizing Lemon.

Some of the children picked up feathers Lemon had shed on the floor, and used them to tickle each other.

After reading her book, Backman let the students take turns petting and feeding Lemon. The youngsters giggled when Backman pulled out a snack for Lemon - a bag full of chopped kale - and Lemon recognized the food and began to quack.

"He loved the texture (of Lemon's feathers), he was smiling like crazy," said April Sansil of her son, Sammy, who used his feet to pet Lemon. "Sammy loves animals, but had never seen a duck before."



TIM JEAN/Staff photo
Molly McGuinness, left, and Alina Levin, right, both of Andover, feed Lemon the Duck.

Andover Townsman

Established 1887

ISSN 1524-1432
USPS 025-440

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

Periodical postage paid at Andover, MA, and additional mailing office.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Andover Townsman,
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In-town subscription — One year, \$40; two years, \$68
Subscription outside Greater Lawrence — One year, \$45; two years, \$75
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Advertising copy must be in the Townsman office by Monday at 5 p.m.
Camera-ready advertising copy is due by Tuesday at noon.
No cancellations honored after these deadlines.

SHORTFALL: This year's budget short about \$600,000

Continued from Page 1

would have to be negotiated with employee unions, noted Stapczynski.

"We must focus on the real problem here, that 75 percent of the town's budget goes to payroll," said Selectman Jerry Stabile.

Stabile referred to the teachers union recent refusal to reopen its contract or discuss pay cuts or freezes as "selfish and short-sighted."

"The people at this table are looking at the long-term health

of this town," said Stabile at the April 16 tri-board meeting. "Everyone has to be part of the solution, and everyone around this table is working for a solution."

Initially, the town's 2009 deficit totaled \$2,854,000, said Stapczynski.

Unexpected expenses, such as an extra \$750,000 in snow and ice removal costs after a winter with more than 80 inches of snow and \$500,000 in employee health insurance costs for new hires throughout the year, combined with decreased revenue

and cuts in local aid from the state plunged the books into the red.

This spring, Stapczynski and Bach trimmed \$1,372,328 from the deficit by scaling back expenses and capital improvement plan projects.

"These measures are not finding savings, but not spending on things that were planned on being purchased. These are real things that are being cut out of town and school services," said Finance Committee Chairwoman Joanne Marden. "I don't think anyone realizes the detail

to which these budgets are gone through."

A \$787,000 lump sum will be transferred from the school's free cash account to cover unexpected out-of-district special education tuitions.

The economic recession has created a domino effect, and the town has seen \$600,000 less in revenue this year, said Stapczynski. Residents are putting off big-ticket items such as auto purchases or home renovation projects, which create revenue for the town through taxes and fees.

BUDGET: Potential cuts and their impacts under review

Continued from Page 1

wire and we're making the difficult decisions," said Selectman Mary Lyman.

Cuts to services and staff proposed by Stapczynski and Bach to balance next year's budget include a \$874,000 cut to the non-school payroll and a \$2.4 million cut to the school payroll.

The so-called town-side reduction would affect the equivalent of 17.5 full-time employees, 2.2 in general government, 1.6 in community development, 1.9 in community, elder and youth services, 2.2 at Memorial Hall Library, 4.8 in public safety, 1.6

in public works, and 3.2 in plant and facilities

The school department reduction would affect as many as 55 school employees, according to School Committee Chairwoman Deb Silberstein.

At Andover's six elementary schools, \$608,000 would be cut. Jobs up for elimination or a reduction in hours include those of two music teachers, two physical education teachers and four health teachers, resulting in the elimination of elementary music and health programs.

At Andover's three middle schools, a \$530,000 reduction in payroll would affect three

guidance office employees, three special education employees and three library media specialists. A physical education, world language and integrated arts teachers also face layoffs.

Andover High School teaching positions for science, math, English, technology/business, social studies and physical education would be eliminated under a \$528,000 cut to the Andover High payroll. Two instructional assistant positions at the high school also face elimination.

Bach also has proposed \$771,000 in cuts to central office staff. As many as 10 school custodians face layoffs, along with

five administrators and clerical workers.

Other potential effects on town services include:

- Consolidated office duties at town hall
- Increased license and permit fees
- Reduced library hours and fewer new book and media purchases
- For public safety: using reserve officers to fill vacancies and cover overtime shifts, reduced parking enforcement and animal control, reduced support services, and privatizing ambulance service
- For the Department of Public Works: reduced street sweeping, fewer street lights turned on, fees for hazardous waste collection, reduced curbside leaf collection and reduced snowplowing and ice control
- For the Plant & Facilities department: reduced maintenance, administrative support, custodial services and increased field and facility user fees
- Reduced inspection and enforcement services
- Fewer community, elder and youth services programs

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In Brief

PAST & PRESENT



THEN: The Shawsheen Manor on Main Street was originally the estate of 19th-century mill owner John Smith. It was remodeled and expanded to serve as a hotel for businessmen who traveled to Andover to deal with the Andover Woolen Co. Vendors, agents and salesman could use telephones for a fee across the street. It was demolished in 1989.



NOW: This plaza now sits on the former location of the Shawsheen Manor on Main Street, which was originally the estate of 19th-century mill owner John Smith. The manhole cover for the sewer is in the same location.

Tsongas joins new committee

Fifth District Congresswoman Niki Tsongas has become a member of the Natural Resources Committee, which oversees the formation of legislation related to domestic energy production, National Parks, minerals, forests, oceans and wilderness areas. Tsongas serves on the Armed Services and Budget committees but requested a special waiver from the leadership of the House of Representatives to serve on the Natural Resources Committee as well.

"The Fifth District is home to several research institutions and small businesses that are on the forefront of renewable energy research. I strongly believe that

we need to continue to pursue an innovative and comprehensive energy security plan that is predicated on sound investments and alternative and renewable energy sources. I will serve as a member of the energy and mineral resources subcommittee which works to expand and diversify our nation's energy portfolio. I will be a strong advocate on the committee for policies which allow innovative employers in our backyard to continue their groundbreaking research, create green jobs, and bring their products to market as we confront our considerable energy challenges," she said in part.

QUOTE, UNQUOTE ...



HE TOLD ME THERE ARE THREE kinds of people in Andover: a Townie, a Carpetbagger, and a Permanent Resident...You will be able to tell who is sensitive to what the entire town needs and can afford. They are the Andoverites, the fourth kind of person.

— Former Superintendent of Schools Ken Seifert on advice about Town Meeting given to him by the late Fred Fitzgerald. Story in Education, Page 12.

"...IT REVEALS HOW QUICKLY THE leadership is willing to abandon its brethren to unemployment, and at what small price."

— Resident Tracey Spruce on the decision of the leadership of the teachers union to refuse 1 percent less of a raise to save jobs. Letter in Opinion, Page 7

NEWS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

Town Yard Task Force, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7:30 a.m.
Information Technology Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 4 p.m.
Disability Commission, Memorial Hall Library, the hall, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 27

School Committee budget work session, School Administration Building, School Committee room, 3:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet

St., third-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

Finance Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

Joint meeting of Selectmen and Finance Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7:15 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

School Committee, School Administration Building, School Committee room, executive session at 6 p.m., public budget hearing at 7 p.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

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

School Building Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 8 a.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

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

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

Forum tonight: Help form new open space and recreation plan

The Andover Conservation Commission and League of Women Voters of Andover/North Andover invite all who care about acquiring and maintaining open space and recreation fields in Andover to attend a public forum on Thursday, April 23, 7 p.m., at Memorial Hall Library.

This public conversation focuses on the goals for a 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The 2001 plan must be updated for the town to take advantage of state aid to purchase open space and recreation sites. Forum attendees are encouraged to suggest goals and offer their

vision for the revised plan.

Participants will consider questions such as:

- What is desirable about the open space already preserved?
- What works well?
- How can the town improve open space resources?
- What should be the

priorities for further acquisition: more playing fields, walking paths to schools, trails for family hikes among neighborhoods and across town, a river walk along the Shawsheen, pedestrian bridges across the Shawsheen? For more information, contact Alix Driscoll, 978-475-7095.

Merrimack Valley Alzheimer's Conference in town Saturday

The 21st Annual Merrimack Valley Alzheimer's Conference, the largest Alzheimer's event north of Boston will be held on Saturday, April 25, at the Wyndham Andover Hotel in Andover, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The educational conference, which is designed for family members and professionals caring for people afflicted with Alzheimer's or dementia, is titled "Keys to Successful Caregiving in the 21st Century", and is co-sponsored by Elder Services of

the Merrimack Valley and the Merrimack Valley Alzheimer's Partnership.

The conference, featuring vendor displays of products and services, is free to family caregivers and \$25 for professionals. Due to the popularity of this training, we anticipate this conference will be over enrolled. With limited space, reservations are strongly recommended. To register, or for more information, call Janice Boyd, community educator for Elder Services at 978-946-1321.

New downtown shop cuts ribbon

Natale Agostino of the new Natale's of Andover will have a grand opening and ribbon cutting next Thursday, April 30 at 6 p.m.

The store is at the corner of Central and Main streets in the area formerly occupied by Kaps.

Bottle and Can Drive

A redeemable-bottle and can drive to benefit the Andover High Marching Band will be held Saturday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the West Middle School parking lot, 70 Shawsheen Road.

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Arts & Entertainment

EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

POETRY READING, poems about Insecta Poetica now on exhibit through May 1, features various interpretations of insects in a wide range of complementary styles and mediums by five distinguished artists, 5-7 p.m., The Essex Art Center, 56 Island St. in Lawrence; 978-685-2343; www.essexartcenter.com.

LATINO FILM INFLUENCE, Maria Agui Carter, founder of Iguana Films, will discuss her latest films focusing on Latinos' contributions to U.S. culture and history during a White Fund presentation at Northern Essex Community College in Lawrence, 12:30 p.m., 78-82 Amesbury St., Lawrence; 978-738-7403.

LIVE JAZZ, Endicott College's Jazz Band, Center for the Arts, Endicott College, 376 Hale St., Beverly, on Thursday, 7:30 p.m. General admission is \$5 and Endicott ID holders are free; bfritzpat@endicott.edu Call 978-232-2190.

LIVE THEATER, Eugene O'Neill's American classic, *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, opens, 8 p.m., runs through May 17, Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell; box office 978.654.4MRT (4678)

AUTHOR READING, Roland Merullo will be reading from both of his new books. *Fidel's Last Days* is a novel about a plot to kill Fidel Castro. His other new book, *Italian Summer* tells about a summer that he spent with his family at Lake Como. Andover Bookstore, 89 Main St., (rear) Andover at 7 p.m. Free to the public. Questions, call 978-475-0143.

FENG SHUI: MYTH AND REALITY, explore ways of creating a harmonious, well balanced environment that transforms your house into a home, at the Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St., Andover from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. For more information call Sarah Sycz at 978-475-2236 or at ssycz@andoverhistorical.org.

TALK ON ESTATE PLANNING, with Atty. Karol Bisbee, 2 p.m., Marland Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover; 978-475-4225 x110.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

LIVE MUSIC, with two Andover bands, One Step Away and Acacias, Regent Theater, Arlington; call venue for show times.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

FISHING DERBY, 6 a.m. to noon, Harold Parker State Forest, Sudden Pond, ages 1 through 15, trophies, bait, food, register on-site starting at 6 a.m., hosted by Andover Sportsmen's Club; Frank Bleszinski 978-685-9768, FJBASC@aol.com.

THE ARTIE SHAW ORCHESTRA, playing big band perennial favorites like "Begin the Beguine," "Stardust," and "Moonglow," as a testament to the late great Shaw and his jazz clarinet styling, 7:30 p.m., Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College; advance tickets \$22, advance students and seniors \$20, all tickets at door \$25; reservations and information: 978-837-5355 or www.merrimack.edu/rogers.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING COLLECTION, M&K Recovery Group, 100 Willow St., North Andover, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in addition to M&K's usual Monday to Friday hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Personal computer monitors and non-flat screen televisions up to and including 32 inches will be recycled at a cost of \$10 and all other electronics will be recycled at no cost. For a full list of items eligible for recycling, call M&K at 978-688-0606.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH PENNY SALE, 5 Sparhawk St., Amesbury at 7 p.m. All proceeds to benefit the Parish Building Fund. The doors open at 5 p.m. There will be a concession stand offering hot entrees, sandwiches, drinks, snacks and desserts. You can purchase tickets to win prizes. For more information call Jane Pare at 978-388-2211 or email at dpare2008@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

YOUNG OPERA COMPANY OF NEW ENGLAND, presenting opera *Brundibar* (Bumblebee) by Czech composer Hans Krasa, 3 p.m. Christ Church, Central Street, Andover. Tickets are \$5. Seating is limited. Doors will open at 2:45 p.m. and tickets can only be purchased at the door.

SPRING BIRDS OF PLUM ISLAND WALK, 7-11 a.m., geared for beginner birders, Parker River National Wildlife Refuge on Plum Island in Newburyport. All levels of

Please see CALENDAR, Page 5



Singer-songwriter Daily headlines concert for ABC

Will Dailey will headline a benefit concert for Andover's A Better Chance program at Old Town Hall on Friday, May 1, from 7 to 9 p.m.

The show will come on the heels of the April 28 release of *Torrent*, the latest installment of the singer-songwriters new music series.

Winner of the 2006 Boston Music Award for Best Male Singer-Songwriter, the Andover native has been releasing his new project as multiple music volumes throughout 2009. Brimming with heartfelt lyrics and soulful, orchestral pop hooks, the first volume, *Fashion of Distraction*, was digitally released on

Jan. 20 and the second volume, *By the Blue Hills*, followed on March 17. Both volumes will be combined and physically released with bonus tracks as *Torrent*. His new album features special guests such as The Byrds' lead singer and guitarist Roger McGuinn and Boston-based Elliot Easton (The Cars), Kay Hanley (Letters to Cleo), Tim Brennan (Dropkick Murphys) and Tanya Donnelly (Belly). Multiple Grammy-winning

producer T Bone Burnett oversaw its high-resolution mastering in CODE, an audio standard format that Burnett pioneered. ABC's mission is to provide academically talented minority students with an opportunity to attend outstanding public and private secondary schools, including Andover High School. The majority of the program's alumni graduate from selective colleges and graduate programs to become community leaders and business professionals. Tickets are \$40 for adults and \$25 for those younger than 18. To buy them, contact MaryBeth Nason at 978-474-0953 or mbnason@verizon.net.

Merrimack Valley Armenians observe 94th Genocide anniversary

By TOM VARTABEDIAN

Ninety-four years have passed since the Armenian people were forced into exile that sent them from their homeland into alien lands.

To commemorate the loss of 1.5 million lives during what is called the first genocide of the 20th Century, Armenians from throughout Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire will join together to honor those victims.

The commemorative event will take place Sunday, April 26, at 3 p.m. at North Andover High School, 430 Osgood St., sponsored by the Armenian Genocide Commemorative Committee of Merrimack Valley.

The theme of the observance will be "A Musical Tribute to the Martyrs" and will feature a trio of Armenian-born artists called Ar-Li-Na making its professional debut in the valley.

The group includes Lilit Muradyan, viola; Nara Shahbazyan, cello/piano, and Armenuhi Kekheyan, violin. They will be joined by a fourth member, guest violinist Sargis Karapetyan. The women are studying music at Boston University.

Since the committee's inception in 1990, special homage has been paid to Armenians lost at the hands of the



Courtesy photo

Lilit Muradyan on viola, Nara Shahbazyan on cello, and Armenuhi Kekheyan on violin comprise Ar-Li-Na and will play at "A Musical Tribute to the Martyrs," an observance to mark the 94th anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

Ottoman Turkish Empire during the genocidal years of 1915-1923.

Over that time, proceeds totaling \$50,000 have gone toward assisting worthy

Armenian charities both here and abroad, according to organizers.

Eight remaining area survivors will be honored at this commemoration: Verjin

Chilingirian, Ojen Fantazian, Mary Garavanian, Arpine Hamamjian, Thomas Magarian, Carl Mootafian, Nellie Nazarian and Jennie Vartabedian. A joint requiem service will

precede the concert, conducted by area clergy. A reception will follow in the school cafeteria. There is no admission charge. The public is invited.

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BY SUE ADAMS, ALLIED MEMBER ASID

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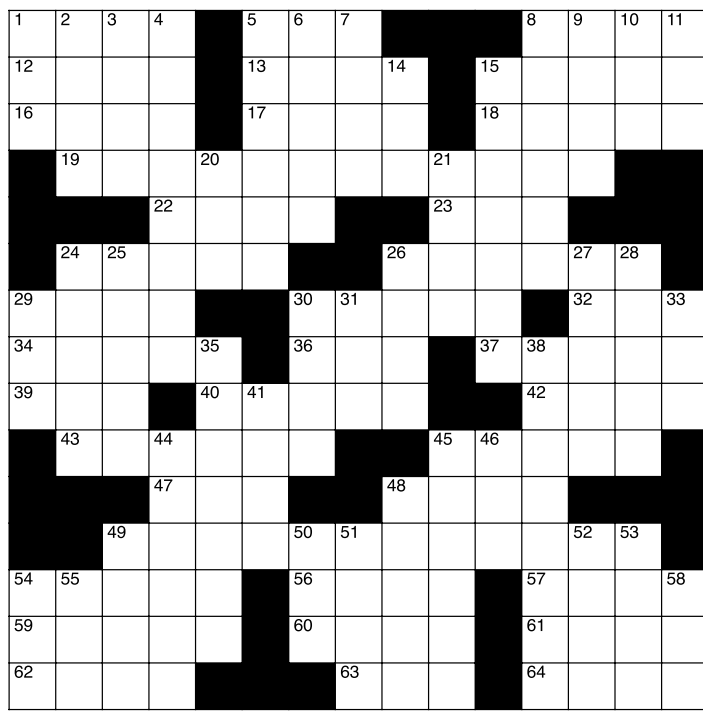
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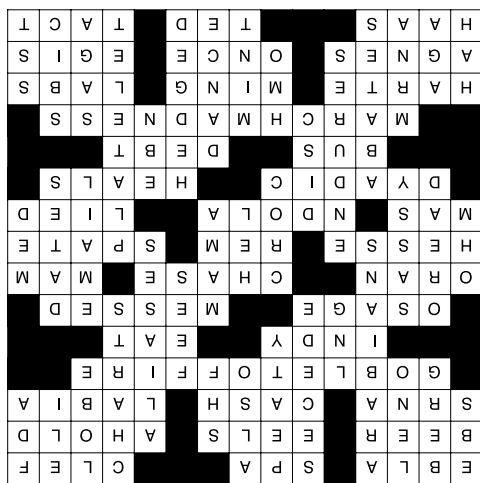
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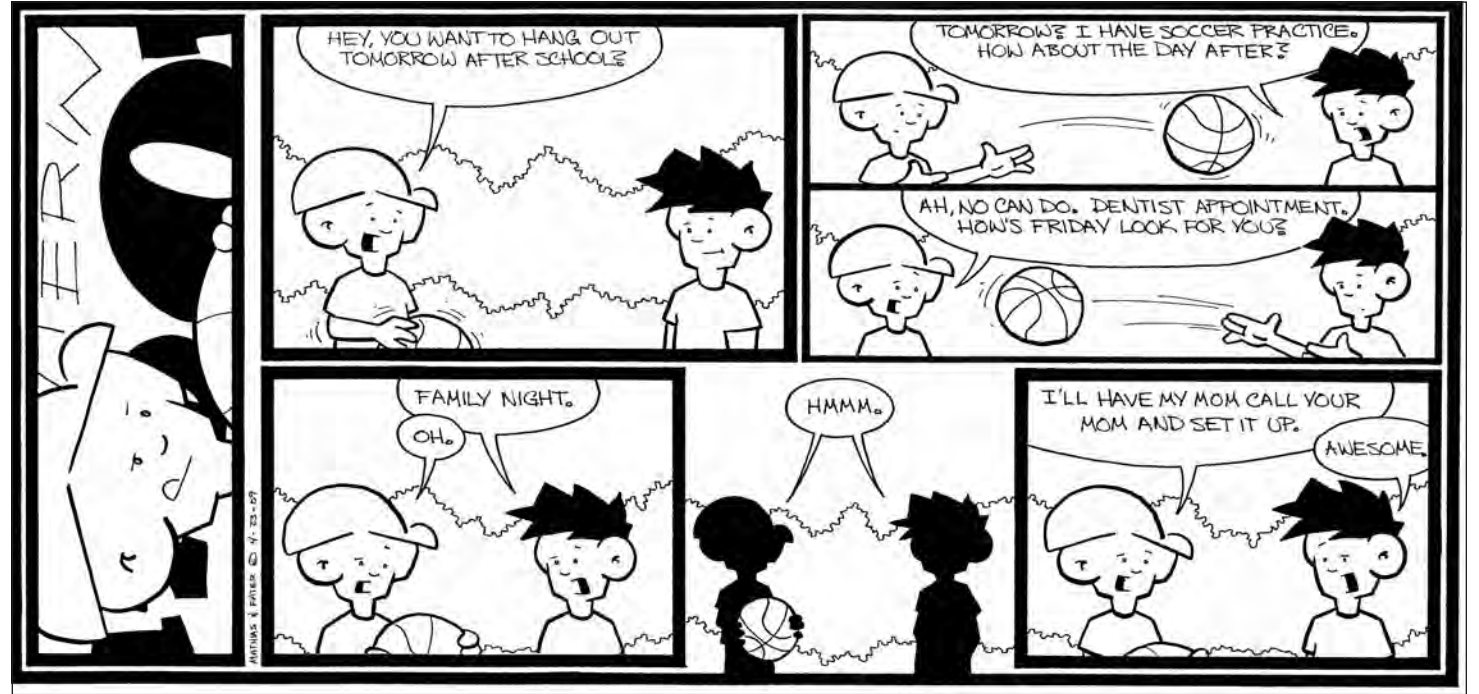
Crossword puzzle



- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Ancient Syrian city
 5. A fashionable hotel
 8. Symbol indicating pitch
 12. Brewed beverage
 13. Soft-finned fishes
 15. Get a grip or grab
 16. Soluble ribonucleic acid
 17. Ready money
 18. Lips
 19. Harry Potter #4
 22. ___ 500, car race
 23. Take in solid food
 24. A tributary of the Missouri River
 26. Made disorderly
 29. Algerian port
 30. Run after
 32. ___bo: Latin dance
 34. Siddhartha author
 36. Radioactivity unit
 37. Sudden flood
 39. More (Spanish)
 40. City in N. Zambia
 42. Informed wrongly
 43. About two
 45. Cures
 47. Greyhound or tour
 48. Something that is owed
 49. Annual hoop frenzy
 54. "The Californian" author
 56. Chinese dynasty
 57. Research workplaces
 59. Dancer De Mille
 60. At some prior time
 61. Breastplate
 62. "Time and Materials" poet
 63. CNN's founder
 64. Considerateness
- CLUES DOWN**
1. Point that is one point S. of due E.
 2. Floating ice mountain
 3. Tonight's host
 4. Saddle horses
 5. A way to split up
 6. Pertaining to bog fuel
 7. In addition
 8. Maps out
 9. Rounded subdivision of an organ
 10. ___ Lilly, drug company
 11. Licenses drugs
 14. Superhigh frequency
 15. False names
 20. Liquefied natural gas
 21. Fixed charges
 24. Greek mountain nymph
 25. Saucy
 26. Female parent
 27. Electronic communication
 28. Palm fruits
 29. Resistance unit
 30. African gator
 31. Norse goddess of the dead
 33. ___ student, learns healing
 35. Bears patiently
 38. Thrombocyte
 41. Record
 44. Lets up
 45. Enclosed by a row of shrubs
 46. Point that is one point N. of due E.
 48. Trip the light fantastic
 49. Messenger ribonucleic acid
 50. Type of health coverage
 51. Coin factory
 52. Heroic tale
 53. Invests in little enterprises
 54. Expresses surprise
 55. Honorable title (Turkish)
 58. The Concorde was one (abbr.)



ENTERING ANDOVER by Don Mathias



EVENTS CALENDAR

Continued from Page 4

birdinexperience are welcome. Cost is \$18, Massachusetts Audubon members,\$15). Advance registration required; 978-887-9264.

MONDAY, APRIL 27

MARLAND BISTRO, with pianist Carol Graves, 7 p.m., Marland Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover; 978-475-4225, ext. 110.

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

ALZHEIMER'S TALK, 3:30 p.m., Marland Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover; 978-475-4225, ext. 110.

FRIDAY, MAY 1

LIVE MUSIC, with Will Dailey, benefit concert for Andover A Better Chance Program, 7-9 p.m., Old Town Hall, 20 Main St., Andover.

AUTHOR AND ACTRESS VISIT, Lela Lee will speak in Kemper Auditorium at Phillips Academy, 8 p.m., kicks off Phillips Academy's 20th annual Asian Arts Festival. Lee's books include "Angry Little Girls" and "Angry Little Asian Girl" which illustrate the racism that can exist for Asian Americans today.

UP-AND-COMING LOCAL DESIGNER HOSTS FASHION SHOW, the designs of Andover resident Kelly Dempsey will be featured at a mid-night Fashion Show on May 1 at the Underbar, 275 Tremont St., Boston. Dempsey's line of funky and unique cocktail dresses were most recently shown during Fashion Week in New York City this spring.

SUNDAY, MAY 3

FAMILY DISCOVERY SERIES, at the UMass Lowell Center for the Arts will end its season on Sunday, May 3, at 2 p.m. with a musical adaptation of the popular children's book

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day Laugh. Adapted for the stage by the book's author Judith Viorst, and performed by Two Beans Productions of New York City, Alexander is recommended for children ages 4 through 9. However, this is a musical romp that entire families can enjoy together.

MERRIMACK VALLEY PHILHARMONIC, "All-American Concert" with Maestro George Monseur, at 2:30 p.m. at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., Route 114, North Andover. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors, and \$5 for children age 4+. For more information call 978-685-3505 or www.mvpmusic.org. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

PLAY AND LEARN CHINESE, a program including music and dance presented by Mei Mei Hu, will take place at Phillips Academy in Kemper Auditorium at 3 p.m. Mei Mei Hu is an educator and the creator of award winning DVDs that portray and encourage positive values and include scenes of nearby cities and towns where modern and ancient China come together side by side. Mei Mei Hu travels to China to film her instructional tapes, and delights in sharing her cultural heritage and knowledge of Mandarin with all ages. This program is sponsored by Andover Chinese Cultural Outreach, a Phillips Academy Community Service Program that was founded with an Abbot Association Grant in 1999. For information and reservations call 978-749-4377. Tickets cost is \$5.



Andover resident Liz Scoble will be among the performers at a spring concert of the Northshore Youth Symphony Orchestra on Saturday, May 9, at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College in North Andover.

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GOLD: AYS looks to turn jewelry into cash

Continued from Page 1

"We also get that times are tough. We're not just asking (for money) but are able to give back a little ourselves," she said.

Cuomo, 22, grew up participating in AYS programs and starting working for the organization in October.

"I've been involved with AYS since the sixth grade," she said. "I don't know what my summers would have been like without them."

Her mother, Deborah Cuomo, will be the on-site jewelry appraiser for the AYS Gold Rush next month. Deborah Cuomo has appraised jewelry before and owned her own jewelry store for about 10 years.

Every person who walks through the door will be given a check for the appraised face value of their items turn, will be

sold to a service that melts the gold, platinum and silver. AYS will keep part of the sale price.

from Andover Youth Services, said Afton Cuomo. The jewelry, in To comply with state laws, every seller must be over the age of 18 and bring valid identification.

No cash will be exchanged at the Pearson Street property, said Afton, and all the jewelry will be kept in secure lock boxes and removed from the premises each night.

Fahey said he does not feel the Gold Rush fundraiser poses a security risk.

"We'll be on red alert on those days, but we're confident that it's a safe community. We'll be careful," said Fahey. "There will be adults there at all times, and we'll notify the police about the event. Being so close to the police station, we see a lot of police on a daily basis."

The AYS house, at 37-39 Pearson St., is a stone's throw from the Public Safety Center on North Main Street.

Lt. Cmr. James Hashem said the Andover police hadn't heard about the AYS Gold Rush yet, and he did not want to comment without knowing the details.

Fahey said they've recently received their occupancy permit for the Pearson Street building, and should be fully moved in by May.

Last year's Town Meeting approved the purchase 37-39 Pearson St., which selectmen voted to give to AYS in May 2008.

Over the summer, Andover Youth Foundation hired a few contractors for the major aspects of renovation, but the majority of the work, from carpentry to landscaping, has been done by volunteers.

A fine line



KATE GLASS/Staff photo

Will Burke, a student at Phillips Academy, walks across a slackline he set up at the Andover Common on Sunday afternoon. Burke says it takes about an hour to get used to balancing on the line, which he received from his aunt for Christmas.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Dewhirst a funeral service practitioner

Richard C. Dewhirst, 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. Dewhirst Family Funeral Homes is located in Andover. "CFSP" is the funeral service's national individual recognition program. To initially receive this award, the practitioner must complete a 180 hour program of continuing education, activities and events. In addition, the practitioner is required to accumulate 20 hours per year to recertify. Credits are awarded by the academy for work leading to personal and or professional growth in four areas: academic activities, professional activities, career review (for retroactive

credit), and community and civic activities.

Merrimack College announces new hire

Merrimack College President Ronald Champagne announces that Theresa Allen will serve as the director of corporate, foundation and government relations for Merrimack College. As director of corporate, foundation and government relations, Allen will solicit corporate, foundation and government state and federal support with a focus on Merrimack's fundraising priorities. She will also design and implement fundraising plans to generate



Theresa Allen

support for college-wide priorities from private and public sources.

"Theresa has a solid background in securing impressive grants for a number of reputable institutions and non-profit organizations," said Dr. Ronald Champagne, president of Merrimack College. "As director, her grants management experience will be put to very good use as Merrimack looks to locate and acquire sources of funding in the future."

Allen comes to Merrimack from Easter Seals New Hampshire as a grant writer where she obtained several grants from state, federal and corporate and foundation resources. Allen also served as a development writer for the Groton School, public relations and marketing manager for the Currier Museum of Art, and a communications specialist for Public Service of New Hampshire. She also taught at Rivier College and the University of New Hampshire.

Allen received a master's degree from the University of New Hampshire; and a bachelor's degree from Indiana University. She is a member of several professional organizations and lives in Milford, N.H.

Andover firm receives Firestone award

Firestone Building Products Company LLC, awarded A & M Roofing Services, LLC with its 2009 Firestone Master Contractor Award.

"The Firestone Master Contractor Award acknowledges A & M Roofing Services, LLC for its consistent craftsmanship, excellence in customer service and superior installation quality," said Tom Walker, vice president of sales and marketing for Firestone Building Products. "We are pleased to recognize the roofing firm for its commitment to Firestone's high roofing system performance standards."

This year, 256 Firestone-licensed contractors were named 2009 Master Contractors based on total square footage installed and exceptional inspection ratings.

Boating safety course offered at Harold Parker State Forest

The Andover Sportsmen's Club will host a Basic Boating Course on Tuesdays, May 5, 12, 19, 26 and June 2 from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

This course is conducted by the Massachusetts Environmental Police and Volunteer Instructors.

The course is valuable to both novice, and experienced boaters. The purpose of the course is to teach Boating Safety and basic operating procedures for recreational watercraft.

Andover Sportsmen's Club is located at 655 Middleton Road, North Andover, Harold Parker

State Forest.

Those 17 and younger must have parental permission. For further information contact Jack Mason at the Massachusetts Environmental Police Boating and Safety Bureau at 508-759-0002 or Tim Gallant at 978-664-4729.

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Townspeople



Allie Murphy, 5, is helped by her mother, Beverly, as she learns how to ride her bike on two wheels Friday afternoon outside of Shawsheen Park on Balmoral Street. "I've had enough of my training wheels," Allie said, and she had been waiting all winter to get out and try her bike without the extra help.



Karen Payne-Taylor, left, and Barbara Donegan enjoy their lunch-to-go from the Andover Senior Center, while sittin in the Park Friday afternoon.



ROGER DARRIGRAND/Staff photos

Arlene Pereira plants flowers outside Windsor Green on Lowell Street Friday afternoon.

Sunny dispositions

After long winter, town welcomes spring

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

You know it's spring when the hot dog vendor shows up in front of Old Town Hall on Main Street.

The hot dog cart, and throngs of residents came out for the fresh air and sunshine on Friday, April 17, as temperatures nearly reached 70 degrees.

While thermometers dipped this week, Friday made it clear spring has clearly arrived.

Mothers, pushing baby strollers, took walks and visited playgrounds and others started yard work, coaxing the season's early blooms. Flip-flop clad teenagers, celebrating both the warm weather and the upcoming week of April vacation, congregated downtown and played frisbee in the Park after school let out on Friday afternoon.

Jack McKelliget, who works at Main Line Creamery, said they've seen customers coming in with "ice cream fever." Almost everyone who comes in remarks about how they've been craving their first cone of the season.

"It's my favorite part about working here. Everyone's happy about getting ice cream. We never have any grumpy customers," said McKelliget, who has worked at the School Street creamery since last summer.

The ice cream shop's top seller is chocolate-chip cookie-dough ice cream, he said. Main Line opened for the



Math teacher Scout Kingery takes his lunch break with Juli Min to relax in the sun at Phillips Academy Friday afternoon. "It feels like the first nice day we've had ... ever."

season about three weeks ago and has been making and stocking ice cream for the even warmer days ahead.

McKelliget's personal

favorites are coffee oreo and "train tracks," a Main Line specialty made with a fudge swirl and peanut butter cups.

What's in a name?

Scoop, Boots, The Villian and other nicknames

Bill Dalton



Let's talk about Andover and nicknames. Nicknames fall into categories. Some are mean-spirited, off-color, or intended to ridicule. They will not be discussed here, unless I stupidly include some. All the other nicknames are fair play, so let's go.

There are many groups of nicknames. Historically accepted and often diminutive versions of a person's first, or given, name are the largest group. Bill or Will for William; Beth, Betty, Liz, Libby, or Bess for Elizabeth; Hal for Harold; Tony for Anthony are in this group. Sometimes it can be a little tricky. For example, my older brother's given name is Charles, the common nicknames for which are Charlie or Chuck. He's called "Buck," a nickname that floats around attaching itself willy-nilly to people. There are other floating nicknames, such as Sonny, as in Sonny Thompson; Sis, as in Sis (Campbell) Thompson; Butch, as in Butch Hamblet; and Buddy, as in Buddy Simeone.

Another group of nicknames is derived from surnames. Mac, Sully, and Murph, are common nicknames. Some nicknames derived

Please see DALTON, Page 10

Now, seniors can sit and stay awhile: Daisy troop cleans up sitting area



Courtesy photos

The girls in Daisy troop 62101 spent Thursday afternoon, April 16, hard at work cleaning up an outdoor sitting area at the Andover senior center.



Cleaning up an outdoor sitting area at the Andover senior center are Scouts, from left, Ava Carlson, Mary Kennedy and Isabel Marble.

The girls in Daisy troop 62101 spent Thursday afternoon, April 16, improving the outdoor sitting area at the Andover senior center. Michael Beckermen, a member of the Village Garden Club, stopped by that afternoon to help, as the girls planted flowers, raked and picked up twigs, leaves and other debris.

"The girls worked very, very hard to make the sitting area clean for anyone wanting to come and enjoy a nice, quiet place to relax," Michelle Rota, troop leader, said in an e-mail. The senior center's sitting area was created as an Eagle Boy Scout project.

The recent project helped the girls earn petals - the Daisy Girl Scout equivalent of a badge - in "using resources wisely," "Earth

Day" and "make the world a better place."

"We chose to do an activity where the girls could really learn about all three lessons, and Donna Morse at the Andover Senior Center was happy to have the girls clean out an outdoor sitting area. She told me that Eagle Scout troop 76 actually constructed the area several years ago and we found it quite fitting that our Daisy troop continue the concept of giving back by cleaning it out," Rota said.

The troop planted petunias near the senior center's front door, and a cluster of daisies in the sitting area. The Scouts also placed a ceramic hedgehog in the sitting area, which they affectionately named "Daisy."

—Bethany Bray



Daisy Troop 62101 members who cleaned up an area at the senior center, are, back row, from left, volunteer mother Elizabeth Lonie, troop co-leaders Andrea Marble, Catherine Kennedy and Michelle Rota; middle row, Elissa Lonie, Leah Arnold, Anna Marble, Ava Carlson, Elizabeth Bodette, Olivia Donovan, Isabella Pineiro, and Kaylee Rota; front row, Olivia Lu-Alba, Isabel Marble, Mary Kennedy, Emme Pitts and Kaleigh Lonie. Troop members not pictured are Anya Carlisle and Ava Pratti.

● POLICE LOG

COMPILED BY BETHANY BRAY

ARRESTS
Tuesday, April 14 – At 12:14 a.m., James S. Gregson, 38, of 11 Wicker Lane, Wakefield, was arrested and charged with speeding, operating under the influence of liquor and operating to endanger.
At 12:28 p.m., Michele Matias, 29, of 116 Jaques St., Somerville, was arrested and charged with driving without a license.
Wednesday, April 15 – At 10:52 a.m., Ronald H. Jeudy, 43, of 97 Bridge St. Apt. 2, Manchester N.H., was arrested and charged with driving with a revoked registration, revoked license and uninsured vehicle trailer.
At 1:36 p.m., John Skinner, 48, of 1 Water St. Apt. 802, Haverhill, was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended license; also on warrants for driving after suspension and driving an uninsured vehicle.
At 4:35 p.m., Cameron Janczak, 18, and Seth A. Janczak, 19, both of 362 Main St. Apt. 1, Nashua, N.H., were arrested and charged with two counts of breaking and entering in the daytime for a felony and two counts of larceny over \$250.
At 7:05 p.m., Raul Santiago, 29, of 190 Phillips St., Lawrence, was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended license, unlicensed car and a number-plate violation; also on warrants for driving an uninsured vehicle and suspended registration.

Thursday, April 16 – At 12:16 p.m., Adamis F. Ortiz, 22, of 3 Fernview Ave., Apt. 12, North Andover, was arrested and charged with trespassing and breaking and entering daytime for a felony.
At 9:16 p.m., Christopher E. Covell, 33, of 127 Elm St. North Reading, was arrested and charged with possession of a class B drug, with intent to distribute, and distribution of a class B drug.
At 9:28 p.m., Matthew D. Tiberii, 33, of 13 Monroe St., Lawrence, was arrested and charged with possession of a class B substance.
At 8:50 p.m., police received a 911 call about a two-car crash on Beacon Street. A truck involved in the accident was attempting to leave the scene, heading toward Lawrence, said the caller.

Lawrence police were notified, located the truck, and called for fire department backup because the vehicle was now on fire. Tow trucks were called for both vehicles. At 9:55 p.m., Mark W. Hughson, 50, of 242 Mount Vernon St. Apt. 6, Lawrence, was arrested and charged with leaving the scene of property damage and operating under the influence of liquor, fifth offense.
Friday, April 17 – At 10:58 p.m., Brian G. Ripley, 22, of 131 Forest St., Duxbury, was arrested and charged with resisting arrest and disorderly conduct. Ripley was transported to the Andover police station by Merrimack College police.
Saturday, April 18 – At 11:43 a.m., an officer called for backup for a vehicle that was not pulling over on Route 495 South. When the vehicle tried to exit onto Interstate 93 South, it crashed and flipped over. The driver was taken to the hospital and arrested. At 1 p.m., Kyle J. Lariviere, 31, of 42 Copeland St. Watertown, was arrested and charged with failure to yield on a state highway, a breakdown lane violation, speeding, driving with a revoked registration, driving with a revoked registration, subsequent offense, operating to endanger and failing to stop for police; also on warrants for check forgery, larceny over \$250 and receiving stolen property.
At 4:11 p.m., Alefi Duran, 23, of 19 East Dalton St., Lawrence, was arrested and charged with distribution of a class D substance.
Sunday, April 19 – At 4:18 p.m., Gregg D. Stewart, 42, of 67 Maple Ave., North Andover, was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended license, subsequent offense.
Monday, April 20 – At 10:57 a.m., Marcos V. Sampaio, 25, of 651 Broadway Apt. 24, Everett, was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended license.
At 3:18 p.m., Michael J. Leone, 27, of 18 Strawberry Hill Road, Acton, was arrested and charged with impeding operation and possession of a class A substance.
At 3:38 p.m., Reginald L. McDonald, 26, of 7 Village Lane, Billerica, was arrested and charged on a warrant for impeding operation and possession of a class A drug.
At 11:47 p.m., Adam G. Lustig,

26, of 18 Dale St. Apt. 4F, was arrested and charged with operating under the influence of liquor, operating after license suspension, resisting arrest and having an open container of alcohol in his vehicle.

THEFTS
Wednesday, April 15 – At 6:28 p.m., the theft of a computer was reported from Haverhill Street. A resident was unloading items from his car, and propped the building's door open with his computer bag. While he went upstairs, someone stole the computer bag.
Saturday, April 18 – At 4:55 p.m., Kismet Wellness Center, Andover Street, reported money has been missing from their cash box on Wednesday and yesterday.
Monday, April 20 – At 1:31 p.m., a person walked into the police station to report identity theft.
At 4:20 p.m., a Duftron Road resident reported identity theft.

BREAKS
Friday, April 17 – At 11:32 a.m., a High Street resident called 911 after his house was broken into. The suspects had left the home in a red Toyota pickup heading towards Route 133. Seven Andover police officers responded to the scene, and Lawrence and North Andover police were notified with a description of the pickup truck.
At 12:42 p.m., a different High Street resident reported they just arrived home to find their front door smashed in and some jewelry missing from the house.
At 5:34 p.m., a Summer Street caller reported a break-in to their home sometime since noon. At 7:01 p.m. the same resident called back because they found their checkbook and credit cards missing.

INCIDENTS
Tuesday, April 14 – At 11:10 a.m., a Howell Drive resident reported their home was egged over the weekend.
At 2:39 p.m., an officer issued two summons for minors in possession of alcohol on River Road.
Wednesday, April 15 – At 1:13 p.m., a report of harassment was called in from Andover High School, Shawsheen Road. A female student was being threatened, via

text message, from a boyfriend.
At 3:26 p.m., the IRS, Lowell Street, called police because they had someone call them saying they were going to kill themselves. The caller's phone number and address was in Utah, so the Utah police were notified.
At 7:05 p.m., an Andover detective and Trauma Intervention Program volunteer gave a death notification on Railroad Street.
Thursday, April 16 – At 6:17 p.m., police assisted fire personnel a resident who had ingested a bunch of pills. At 7 p.m., police assisted fire personnel with another person who had ingested pills on another street.
Friday, April 17 – An assault and robbery was reported from Post Office Avenue. A caller said he had just been assaulted by a male who took his cell phone and MP3 player. The suspect was a white male, wearing a grey hat and black t-shirt, who had fled down an alley towards Old Town Hall. The assault happened at the athletic fields behind Doherty Middle School about 10 minutes ago, said the caller, and he had followed the assailant to Post Office Avenue. Once police located the caller, he was taken to the hospital in an ambulance.
Saturday, April 18 – At 3:55 p.m., police and fire personnel

responded to a bonfire on the beach of Glenwood Road extension. Four youths ran off from the scene and the fire was extinguished.
Sunday, April 19 – At 5:02 a.m., a guest at the LaQuinta hotel, River Road, called a suicide hotline saying he was going to harm himself. The suicide hotline contacted Andover police, who took the caller to the hospital.

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STONE WALL Real Estate Corner

by Bill Buck, Broker/Owner

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By taking careful note of trends, real estate agents are able to advise their clients about subtle ways to make their homes more attractive to buyers. One such notable trend involves a change in the makeup of many households. According to a recent report by the U.S. Census, American households are becoming more multi-generational. In fact, the number of heads of households who share their homes with their parents, brothers, sisters, and other relatives grew 42 percent from 2000 to 2007. The census also found a 75 percent increase in parents under the age of 65 who are now living with their adult children. With this in mind, sellers may want to increase the functional appeal of their homes.

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HINT: As extended families become more prevalent, two-family homes may become more attractive to certain groups of buyers.

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Education

'Mathletes' take on international opponents

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

What does it take to be a member of the Andover High School math team?

Determination, a love of math, self-discipline and a little competitive spirit, says team member John Wurts, an AHS junior.

The team, which fluctuates in membership from 10 to 25 students, meets once a week under the guidance of AHS math teachers Mary Kierstead and Florinda Iascone. Through the winter, the team competes in math tournaments against other high schools in the Massachusetts Math League.

The team is comprised of both under and upperclassmen, typically the top students in AHS math classes, said Wurts. Although mostly male, there are



Courtesy photo

Members of the Andover High School math team, coached by calculus teacher Mary Kierstead, recently competed at the Harvard-MIT high school math tournament. Pictured, left to right, are Christian Waters, John Wurts, Tejen Shah, David Hu, Srijohn Bhunia, Naveen Kanthavelan, George Cheng and Andrew Wang.

two or three young women that practice and compete with the team.

"Together as a team, we're all

good friends, and have a lot of the same classes together," said Wurts. "I like the environment that math team puts you into. It's

a chance to get out of the typical classroom setting and compete with the top students of other schools."

At tournaments, math team members or "mathletes" as they sometimes jokingly call themselves, take math tests in several different categories, from geometry and algebra to calculus and trigonometry. Test scores are tallied to find both team and individual winners.

This year, the AHS team placed 11th out of 42 private and public schools in the Massachusetts Math League, said Kierstead.

During after-school practices, the team tackles practice test questions from previous tournaments.

Kierstead and Iascone are on hand to answer any questions, but most of the members are self-motivated and can work on

their own, said Kierstead. Often, older students on the team will pair with younger members to teach concepts the underclassmen haven't encountered yet.

"These kids do enjoy challenging themselves ... They do different style problems, not your typical homework problems. It's more challenging, with proofs and theory, more puzzle-type problems," said Kierstead, who teaches calculus. "This goes beyond the high school curriculum. It's more investigatory."

The AHS math team competed in two Harvard-MIT math tournaments this year. The tournaments, run by current MIT and Harvard students, draw high-schoolers from around U.S. and internationally.

"It's good for them to see, because many of them will be going to high-powered schools

(colleges), and they'll no longer be the top math person in their school," said Kierstead of a February meet at MIT.

Although Andover's team did not place at the MIT meet, "they did very well, considering the competition," said Kierstead. The tournament drew several teams from math and science magnet schools, she said, as well as from China.

"It's like a sports competition (at math tournaments), when people get really focused," Wurts said.

But after competition was over at the MIT tournament in February, the team had a good time walking around the city with students from other high schools.

The AHS math team continues to meet through the spring, and will end its year in May with an ice-cream party, said Kierstead.

Good advice on Town Meeting from a Townie

Ken Seifert



My first year in Andover, Fred Fitzgerald paid me a visit. He was the town mentor, a staunch

defender of Town Meeting, and a most rational, intelligent man. He died at the age of 94. I miss him.

Fred predicted where I would stumble and suggested ways I could regain my balance. Here was the first of his valuable lessons: He told me the Townies have a unique point of view.

"What's a Townie?" I asked. He told me there are three kinds of people in Andover:

a Townie, a Carpetbagger, and a Permanent Resident. A Townie is one who was born here and still lives here. He or she possesses local wisdom. A Carpetbagger is one who comes to town, from afar, and tells us we are living in the dark ages. Sometimes the Car-

petbaggers get together, pack Town Meeting, and railroad a project other people don't want or need. Then they leave within five years, after their kids get a good education, and leave everyone else to pay the bill. A Permanent Resident is one who stays a little longer.

He is not born here, but he looks around and sees what we have and might make a suggestion. It is usually an idea on civic improvement. He also has come to realize ideas cost money. He stays. Try as he may, he can never become a Townie — you know that New England Mayflower story.

"Dr. Seifert," Fred told me, "you are a Carpetbagger." He gave me one of those gentle smiles.

He told me not to despair. "Listen carefully: each person

has some good ideas, some we could do without. You will be able to tell who is sensitive to what the entire town needs and can afford. They are the Andoverites, the fourth kind of person."

Fred never gave you all the information at the outset. He made you think.

He continued telling me that as each person says, "Moderator may I have the floor?" and is granted the privilege, he will passionately plead the case that will save the world. The town tribunal decides how objective and cost effective it is. Some in the audience are moved by the theatrics and heartfelt emotion of the presenter. Sometimes it matters if you are a member of one the four groups.

Fred wished me well, said goodbye to my secretary, and left my office.

For years, I had to go to the lion's den with the citizens' thumbs up or thumbs down on the school budget. I listened to Fred and was a keen observer of the town's decisions. One year you win. The next year you lose. Over the years, the community wrestling match has produced a winner: a good town to live in.

These are different times. What does a person do? With all that historic advice and experience I feel I am Spartacus headed to the amphitheater ready to fight to the finish. I have a few battle plans. I understand we contest the fate of the town no matter who shows up. We might pass a whopping \$140 million dollar budget even if only 37 people show up, including all the town boards.

Fred, I have lived in the town 40 years. What am I?

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



TIM JEAN/Staff photos

Clare Sullivan, left, and Emma Feeny, both fourth-graders, read in the library during crazy hat day, part of spirit week at South Elementary.



A-head of style

Jesse Shulins, left, and Drew Rooks, both fifth-graders, work on computers in the tech lab last Friday, the last day of school before April vacation. It was crazy hat day at South Elementary School.

ON CAMPUS

Several Andover residents made the fall 2008 dean's list for the University of Massachusetts Lowell. To be considered for the dean's list, a student must achieve a grade-point average of at least 3.25 with no grade lower than a C. The Andover students are: Jessica Martin, Vinayta Ahuja, Dan Conrad, Sarah Ralph, Jared Taylor,

Nicholas Lee, Emily Welsh, Nicole Dwyer, Paula Bustos, Jessica Piper, Shelby Dunbar, Daniel Piercy, Joshua Miksch, Gerald Mohan Jr., James Callery, Ann Sullivan, Caitlin Watts, Erik O'Connell, Brian Lemke, Ann Marie Papadopulu, Alyssa Karahalios, William Pecoroni, Cynthia Morell, Troy Lundstrom and Gregory Famiglietti.

Molly Lieberman of Andover, is studying in Copenhagen as part of an off campus program of Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, N.Y. Hobart and William Smith Colleges have affiliated with the Danish Institute for Study Abroad to offer an off campus program in Copenhagen, capital of the oldest kingdom

in the world and one of the most socially progressive countries in Europe.

Lieberman takes classes taught in English by faculty and can participate in study tours to other European countries including Russia, Germany, the Czech

Please see ON CAMPUS, Page 13

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Sports

MARATHON FINISHERS

Here's a look at the Andover residents that finished the Boston Marathon on Monday:

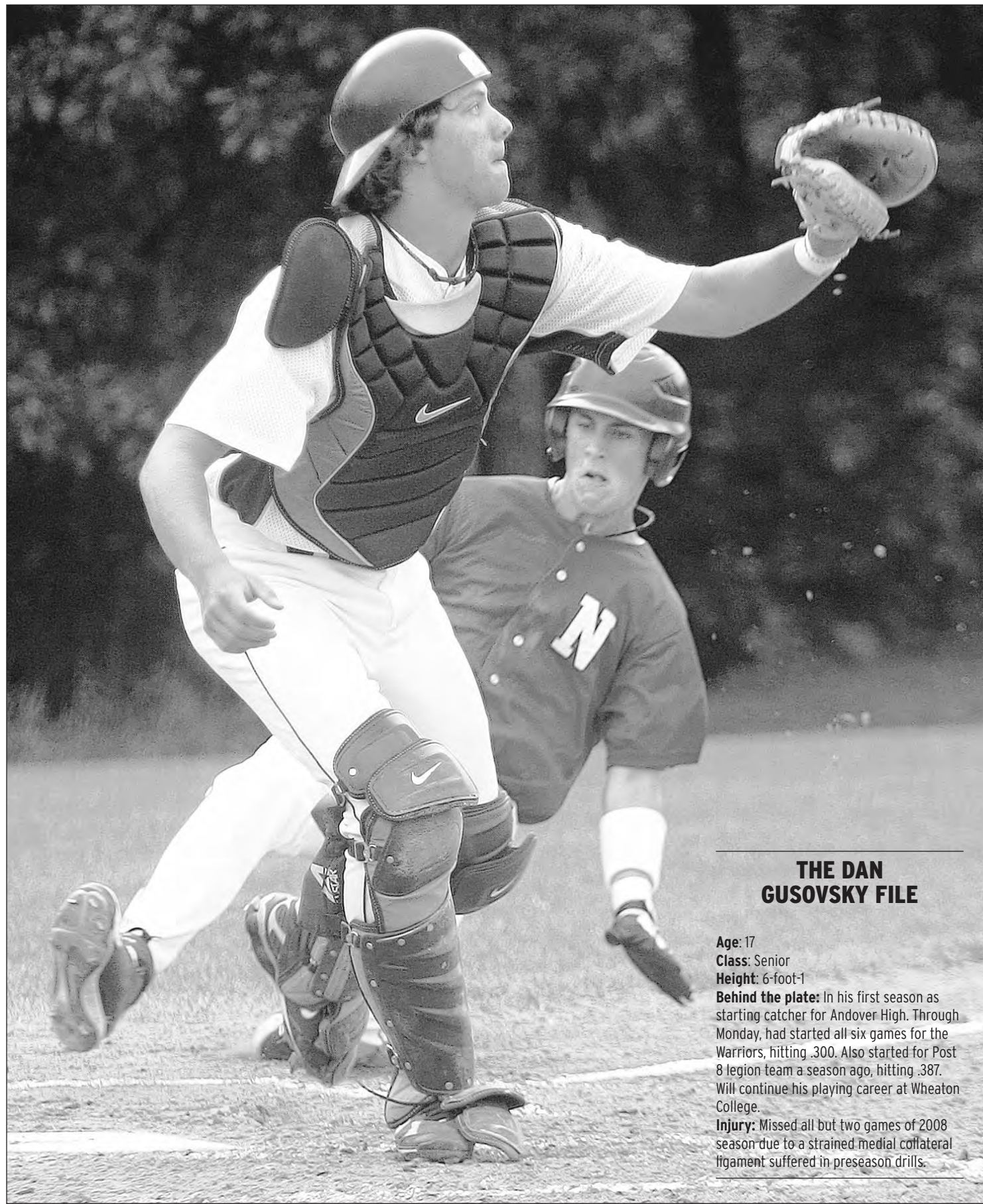
Name	Age	Time
Dargie, David G.	52	3:18:51
Whirty, Robert	49	3:19:42
Kiley, Sue	40	3:32:24
Doucett, Lisa D.	53	3:33:54
Olivieri, Michael G.	45	3:34:56
Norton, Gordon L.	51	3:45:30
Warne, Nicholas W.	46	3:50:53
Gilbert, Annie	45	3:58:59
Grover, Aaron J.	39	4:01:49
Sigman, Marla F.	40	4:02:15
Kleschinsky, John H.	50	4:08:45
Robertson, Michael S.	27	4:09:31
Obert, Mary Ellen	35	4:09:52
Reidy, Dennis J.	47	4:09:52
Cahill, Tom	51	4:17:04
Chae, Marla J.	38	4:17:59
Preston, Matthew R.	36	4:20:59
Troncoso, Amy M.	29	4:22:18
Redmond, Timothy D.	23	4:24:00
Srivastava, Sunny	35	4:24:18
Sawka, Kathi A.	41	4:28:46
Roche, Pamela M.	39	4:28:48
Roman, Judith A.	45	4:29:13
Roman, Peter D.	52	4:29:13
Towle, Jonathan P.	46	4:43:45
Pennington, Bill G.	54	4:51:19
Shiff, Ken	55	4:56:59
Plamondon, Cynthia R.	43	4:57:44
Behn, Kerry J.	32	5:38:31
Carlos, Oscar Q.	59	5:56:54
Carroll, Alan D.	51	6:00:04

THE WEEK AHEAD

Baseball	
April 24 Lowell	11 a.m.
April 27 Billerica	3:30 p.m.
April 28 Cambridge	3:45 p.m.
April 29 at Lawrence	4 p.m.
Softball	
April 24 Notre Dame Academy	11 a.m.
April 27 Dracut	3:30 p.m.
April 29 Haverhill	3:30 p.m.
Boys Lacrosse	
April 23 at Lexington	1 p.m.
April 25 Hingham	3 p.m.
April 27 Central Catholic	7 p.m.
April 29 at Exeter	7 p.m.
Girls Lacrosse	
April 23 North Andover	1 p.m.
April 24 at Pinkerton	5 p.m.
April 28 at Westboro	4 p.m.
April 29 at Dracut	4 p.m.
Boys Tennis	
April 27 at Methuen	3:30 p.m.
April 29 Lowell	3:30 p.m.
April 30 Central Catholic	3:30 p.m.
Girls Tennis	
April 27 Academy Notre Dame	3:30 p.m.
April 29 at Lowell	3:30 p.m.
April 30 at Central Catholic	3:30 p.m.
Boys Track	
April 25 at Nashua N. Invitation	9 a.m.
April 29 Haverhill	3:30 p.m.
Girls Track	
April 25 at Nashua N. Invitation	9 a.m.
April 29 Haverhill	3:30 p.m.
Volleyball	
April 24 Haverhill	6 p.m.
April 27 Dracut	6 p.m.

CATCHING UP

Gusovsky returns after injury cost him junior season



By DAVID WILLIS
Staff Writer

ANDOVER — Don't expect to hear Andover's Dan Gusovsky complain about the physical and mental exhaustion of being behind the plate for each of the Golden Warriors' first six games of this season. After all, a year ago he could do nothing but sit on the bench and prepare for a second shot at the opportunity he missed out on.

"Dan is an excellent catcher," said Andover co-ace pitcher Shawn Carlson. "He has a strong arm, is a very good receiver and can really hit. He gives us a lot of confidence."

This season, Gusovsky earned the job as starting catcher and No. 3 hitter for the Andover High baseball team. It was a year-long effort for the senior, who head baseball coach Ken Maglio said appeared poised to battle for the starting job behind the plate a season ago when trouble struck. And it took occurred in the most unlikely of places, the high school gym.

"It was the preseason and we were working out in the gym," said Gusovsky, who caught for the JV team as a sophomore. "We were doing a (catching) drill where the ball gets by you and you slide to get it. I slid for the ball and my knee just busted up."

The pain in his knee persisted, and Gusovsky was taken to the hospital where he was diagnosed with a strained medial collateral ligament (MCL).

"I thought I would come back pretty quickly," he said. "But they told me that it had to heal itself, and it didn't heal too fast."

As Andover opened its season, Gusovsky dedicated himself to physical therapy to try to work his knee into shape. But while it gradually improved, he was left rooting on his teammates from the dugout.

"You just become a cheerleader then," he said. "You want to support your team no matter what. But it was so frustrating."

Teammates could tell that

THE DAN GUSOVSKY FILE

Age: 17
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot-1
Behind the plate: In his first season as starting catcher for Andover High. Through Monday, had started all six games for the Warriors, hitting .300. Also started for Post 8 legion team a season ago, hitting .387. Will continue his playing career at Wheaton College.
Injury: Missed all but two games of 2008 season due to a strained medial collateral ligament suffered in preseason drills.

Andover catcher Dan Gusovsky prepares to slap a tag on a Newburyport runner during American Legion season. After missing all but two games of last high school season with a nagging knee injury, Gusovsky had started the Golden Warriors' first six games at catcher this season.

File photo

Please see GUSOVSKY, Page 15



Courtesy photo

Andover's Jessica Salley flies down the track. That speed has allowed her to tie the school record in the high jump twice already this season.

Roundup

Warriors down state champions, powerhouse

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Andover scored its biggest win of the season, rallying to down Lawrence 23-25, 27-25, 20-25, 25-15, 15-9 last Wednesday in a battle of unbeaten. **Matt Washburn** tallied 17 kills while **Andrew Kanell** had seven blocks and **Mike Emmons** recorded 22 assists for the winners.

Behind 12 kills, eight blocks and 11 service points for **Matt Washburn**, Andover knocked off defending state champion St. John's Prep 25-21, 25-22, 26-24 last Monday. **Mike Emmons** chipped in 20 assists for the winners.

A day after its first loss of the season, Andover responded by defeating

Methuen 25-14, 25-21, 25-23 on Saturday. **Andrew Osborne** tallied seven kills while **Mike Emmons** added 23 assists for the Warriors (9-1).

Despite 12 kills and seven service points by **Gary Hinds**, Andover suffered its first setback of the season, dropping a close 21-25, 25-23, 25-23, 25-23 loss to unbeaten Chelmsford on Friday. **Matt Washburn** added 10 kills.

BASEBALL

Carlson, Farrell dominate

Shawn Carlson consistently popped the catcher's mitt with 88-91 MPH fastballs for five innings, recording 13 of his 15 outs on strikeouts as Andover bounced back with an 11-4 win over archrival Central Catholic last Thursday.

"We came back with a little anger," said Carlson. "This was truly an important one."

Andrew Ruiz-Henriquez tallied two RBIs while **Alex Patti** twice walked with the bases loaded and **Jake Ponti** had two hits and drove in two runs.

John Farrell dominated Chelmsford over five no-hit innings, finishing with a one-hitter as Andover downed the Lions 5-1 last Monday. Farrell struck out seven while **John Hennessy** and **Chris Riemer** each had two hits and two RBIs for the winners. **Andrew Ruiz-Henriquez** chipped in with a hit and drove in a run.

Despite two hits by **Jake Ponti**, Andover fell to Dracut 15-1 last Monday. **Alex Patti** also notched a hit for

the Warriors.

GIRLS TRACK

Salley again ties school record

Since **Cindy Surratt** set the Andover High outdoor track record in the high jump in 1984, the mark has only been matched twice — both by **Jessica Salley** in the last two weeks.

For the second time in eight days, Salley tied the school record with a 5-4, this time in the Golden Warriors' 103-41 win over Lowell last Wednesday. Teammate **Moir Cronin**, who won the 100 hurdles yesterday, also tied the jump during the indoor season. Salley chipped in a win in the grueling 400 hurdles and **Shea Mosquera**

Please see ROUNDUP, Page 15

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GUSOVSKY: Catcher back behind the plate after last year's preseason injury

Continued from Page 14

being away from the field was a struggle for their friend. "It was just awful for him," said Carlson. "He wanted to be out on the field so much." The knee healed so slowly that Gusovsky ended up missing the entire preseason and all but the final game of the regular season, when he finally did reach his goal and returned to the field for the Golden Warriors. But, with Mike Morander already established as the catcher, Gusovsky was asked to play right field for their tournament matchup against

Lowell. "I've been catching as long as I have played baseball," he said. "I hadn't played outfield since Little League, so that was an experience. But being back on the field was just awesome. It was the best feeling ever." Despite the time away, he didn't show his rust, delivering a two-run single in Andover's 10-7 loss to Lowell, ending a 17-5 season. With the high school season coming to a close, Gusovsky made his return to catching full-time with Andover's powerhouse Legion team. After initially

splitting time with college player Doug Hawkins, he soon emerged as Post 8's go-to catcher. "Once my knee was healthy I was excited to get back to catching," he said. "Catching is all I see myself doing. Once I got that adrenaline rush I was just in the game. But I felt it after." While standing out behind the plate, the 6-foot-1 backstop also excelled at the plate. He ended up hitting .387 with 12 runs. His best performance was a three-hit, two RBI day against Marblehead. That for an Andover squad that finished 14-4-1 and advanced the

American Legion tournament. His summer peaked at the elite Lynn Invitational. He won outstanding catcher for the tournament, and helped Carlson and co-ace John Farrell share outstanding pitcher. "That's when I played my best," he said. "Catching guys like Carlson and Farrell, who I catch on a daily basis, really helped a lot. As a hitter I am sometimes too mental. I have to sit back and try to hit the ball up the middle." Gusovsky then began training for his final high school season. In the first six games of this

season, through Monday, the 17-year-old had hit .300 (6 for 20) with five runs and four RBIs for the Warriors that were 3-3. His best game was a two-hit performance against North Andover. Once this season ends, Gusovsky will become the next in a long line of Andover High standouts to continue their playing career at Wheaton College. Currently, former Golden Warriors Kevin Calabro and Paul Malaguti, along with Andover resident and former St. John's Prep star Dan Haugh, suit up for the Lyons. And he hopes to continue catching at

Wheaton. "As a catcher you are involved in every play for the entire game," he said. "An outfielder is only involved in a few. I know that I can go 0 for 4 in a game but as long as I play well behind the plate it's a good game. Catchers have to think defense first."

ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 14

took the shot put and discus.
BOYS TRACK

Vetere wows in pole vault

Mark Vetere continued to emerge as a star, winning the pole vault with a stellar 14-0, but Andover fell to Lowell 79-69 last Wednesday. Connor O'Neill, Rob Martin, Adam Vetere and Brian Knapp teamed to take the 4x400 and Troy Cayon, Brendan Crawford, Matt Vetere and Kerrick Stevens took the 4x200 for the Warriors.

GIRLS TENNIS

Andover stays unbeaten

Michelle Krupnik earned a win at No. 1 singles as Andover continued to dominate with a 5-0 win over Chelmsford last Monday. Rachel Ochs and Maggie Carter chipped in with singles victories for the Warriors.

BOYS TENNIS

Merinder, Warriors fight for win

Returning All-Scholastic Bjorn Merinder fought back to take No. 1 singles 3-6, 6-1, 6-1 and help Andover best Burlington 4-1 last Wednesday. Eric Heath battled through No. 2 singles to earn a 6-1, 4-6, 6-3 victory for the Warriors.

Jeff Birenbaum took No. 1 singles 6-1, 6-2 as Andover cruised past Lawrence 5-0 last Wednesday. Christian Watters and Josh Holzman also recorded singles victories for the winners.

Randy Sartor and Andrew Mack rallied back to win No. 2 doubles 6-4, 6-7, 6-2 to help clinch Andover's 3-2 win over Chelmsford last Monday.

Jeff Birenbaum and Bjorn Merinder added wins at No. 3 and No. 1 singles respectively.

SOFTBALL

McCarthy's efforts for naught

Meaghan McCarthy recorded two hits and drove in a run, but Andover lost to Lawrence 6-5 last Wednesday. Jeanette Doucette added a run and the other RBI for the Warriors.

Despite two hits and an RBI for Megan Pettoruto, Andover fell to archrival Central Catholic 91 last Monday.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Gross, Fazio continue scoring

Cat Gross, Ally Fazio and Meghan Morris each scored two goals as Andover earned an 11-3 win over Lowell last Monday. Anne Farnham contributed a goal and an RBI for the Warriors.

Ally Fazio, Jenn Caro and Jackie Pelletier each scored once as Andover lost to powerhouse Longmeadow 10-3 on Saturday.

Despite two goals for Cat Gross, Andover fell to Chelmsford 9-5 last Wednesday. Ally Fazio, Jenn Caro and Jackie Pelletier each scored once for the Warriors.

BOYS LACROSSE

Lamagna stays hot, but Andover falls

Joe Lamagna scored four goals, but Andover suffered its first loss of the season, 10-9 to Billerica in triple overtime last Friday. Josh Torres scored one goal and had four assists and Gavin McIver had a goal and two helpers for the Warriors.

Squirt C girls see repeat victory



Courtesy photo

The Andover Squirt Girls team is basking in a repeat victory at the 22nd Annual Larry Fournier Memorial Tournament held in Newburyport. The team capped off the victory run with a 3-0 shutout win in the Squirt C final game. Pictured, front center, is Courtney Pierre, goalie; second row, from left: Caitlin Trottier, Sarah Rigazio, Brienne Taylor, Katherine Devaney, Caroline Benson and Maddie Murphy; next row, left to right, Bailey McKeon, Caroline Ingram, Meghan Galanos, Meggan Rodriguez and Kylee Babcock. Coaches are, in back row from left, Jim Rigizio, Craig Taylor and Joe Benson.

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CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Doherty field trip ... to China

A group of 46 adults and students from Doherty Middle School are exploring the land of the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square and Yao Ming this week.

The 30 middle-schoolers and their chaperones left on April 15 and will return April 27. They plan to visit Beijing, Xi'an, Hong Kong and Shanghai among other areas, said Doherty Middle Principal Theresa McGuinness Darby. They will be stopping at a couple of schools and sharing in traditional Chinese art and language lessons and observing gymnastic exercises, she said.

The group will meet with Wang Biao, principal of Dong Fang De Cai School in Beijing, who visited Andover last year

as part of an exchange program.

McGuinness Darby said the group has been in contact with her and sent photos of their experience at a Chinese restaurant. The students were pictured sitting in front of platters of insects, she said, and were giving the native cuisine a try.

—Bethany Bray

ESPN gets an A

Youth Services Director Bill Fahey doesn't wear a tie to many events. But he did on Andover's cable station this week and looked, well, preppy, sporting a soft blue V-neck sweater with that tie. The occasion? To support the idea of an Andover High School version of ESPN, the cable sports network. Fahey and Athletic Director Chris Bergeron,

talked about "ASP.N." Both men said ASP.N highlights and interviews would be a mega-hit. It's just an idea at this point.

—Judy Wakefield

All for one, one for all

At the April 16 tri-board meeting between the Selectmen, Finance and School Committees, Joanne Marden, chairwoman of the Finance Committee, noted that town boards have been playing well with others this year, when it comes to budget discussions.

"There is a much different atmosphere than last year," said Marden. "No one is drawing a line in the sand. It's a very different atmosphere of collaboration."

—Bethany Bray

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