

INSIDE: SPECIAL VISITOR TO HIGHLIGHT LITTLE LEAGUE OPENING DAY, PAGE 5

OUR 121ST YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 35

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75 CENTS



Voters could pave way for 1,000-student school

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Town Meeting voters will be asked whether they want to spend \$735,000 to explore combining the Bancroft Elementary and the Shawsheen primary schools. But as of this week, the School Committee itself is unsure whether it supports the idea.

Voters will see two warrant articles to pay for studies surrounding the aging Bancroft Elementary School. Bancroft

was built in 1969 in an open classroom style, and now has structural problems.

The first warrant article asks for \$320,000 to conduct a feasibility study and schematic design to replace only Bancroft. The second asks for \$735,000 for a feasibility study to explore combining Bancroft with Shawsheen, a magnet K-2 school that is overcrowded and does not meet Americans with Disability Act requirements.

At its April 28 meeting, the School Committee voted to recommend approval of the \$320,000 article, but voted to delay making a decision on the \$735,000 article. Members said they hope to get more feedback from Shawsheen and Bancroft school parents about the combination idea, before they express an opinion at Town Meeting.

Several parents were in the audience that night called for more time and input from

parents.

"I don't feel Bancroft parents have had enough opportunity to give feedback," said Robandy Road resident Christa Dinapoli. "Remember this is a Bancroft project, which the School Committee has put as top priority."

This winter, Andover spent \$15,000 to remove snow from the roof, which is necessary to keep it from collapsing, said Dinapoli.

"I feel the same way, that more input is needed," said School

Street resident Shelley Ranalli.

The Andover School Building Committee has been meeting for more than a year to brainstorm ideas after the 2008 Town Meeting approved a \$300,000 feasibility study for fixing or replacing Bancroft. The study was to examine structural deficiencies and potential solutions for the school.

Tearing down and replacing Bancroft, building a new school at a different location and

combining students from Shawsheen primary and Bancroft Elementary schools into a new school built on Bancroft's existing site have been considered, among other ideas.

One idea would combine the two schools into one large building on the current Bancroft site, with close to 1,000 students on multiple floors. Models for a

Please see **SCHOOL**, Page 2

Preserving history



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

World War II veteran Milton A. Burke, right, talks about the things he did and saw during the war with veteran Michael Casey while at the Andover Senior Center on Friday morning. Andover Veterans Services is writing a book, and a group of Andover World War II veterans were interviewed and photographed for the book. Story, page 13.

Selectmen rethink \$225K ambulance

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Selectmen aren't in favor of buying a new \$225,000 ambulance, after all. It turns out, Andover's two active ambulances are 2009 and 2007 models, and the reserve ambulance, used only if one of the others breaks down, was the town's No. 1 ambulance as recently as mid April.

At their April 27 meeting, selectmen took back their previous support for a Town Meeting warrant article looking to buy the \$225,000 ambulance in fiscal year 2010. The discussion occurred after Town Manager Buzz Stapeczynski noted that a brand-new 2009 model ambulance was just put into service on Thursday, April 23. The new ambulance, approved by 2008 Town Meeting voters, was ordered in June 2008, but took 10 months to arrive in Andover and then had to be certified by the state office of emergency medical services.

The new ambulance replaced a 2001 model, which will now be used as a reserve ambulance, said Fire Chief Michael Mansfield. The fire department's second ambulance is a 2007 model, he said.

The 2001 ambulance was used as the department's first responder, called "A1" before last week.

"Obviously, it's a running unit. The reserve

Please see **AMBULANCE**, Page 4

First Old Town Hall, then LA's Viper Room

By BRIAN MESSENGER
STAFF WRITER

Life is a self-described "whirlwind" for singer-songwriter and Andover native Will Dailey, who returns home May 1 for a concert at Old Town Hall.

Proceeds from the gig will benefit the Andover A Better Chance Program, a nonprofit organization that offers exceptional students from under-performing urban high schools a chance to attend Andover High School.

After his homecoming show, Dailey is off to Los Angeles for a gig at the infamous Viper Room on Sunset Boulevard.

So goes the life of this up-and-coming musician, whose major-label debut album, *Torrent*, is due

out on CBS Records in June.

"I'm a little bit used to it," said Dailey, 32, fresh off a week's vacation in Jamaica after recent shows in California, Utah, Maine, New Hampshire and New York.

Some residents may know Dailey from his years at Andover's Bancroft Elementary and Doherty Middle schools, which he attended before graduating from Andover High in 1994. Others may know him from his music, which has been featured on popular television shows like *The Hills*, *CSI: Miami* and *CSI: New York*.

As the first artist signed to CBS Records upon its reformation two years ago, after the label was dissolved in the 1980s, Dailey said he sees television publicity as just another way to get his music out to

a wide audience.

"If Bob Dylan is selling Cadillacs and Pete Townsend is opening every episode of *CSI*, then Will Dailey can go on *CSI: New York* and play," joked Dailey, referring to the car commercials featuring Dylan and the crime show's opening theme song by British rock legends *The Who*.

"It's always kind of a compliment when a song gets used," said Dailey. "It's a new way of how songs get promoted."

The release of *Torrent* also marks a relatively new trend in the music industry. The album is actually a compilation of two EPs previously released this year through the Internet, along with bonus tracks



Courtesy photo

Andover-native Will Dailey will play Old Town Hall May 1.

Please see **DAILEY**, Page 2

School, town leaders are \$500,000 apart

Special Town Meeting seen as needed already

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

As the clock ticks toward May 26 Town Meeting, the School Committee has approved a schools budget about \$500,000 more than that supported by the Selectmen and Finance Committee.

In addition, no matter what budget is approved at Annual Town Meeting, Selectman Mary Lyman suspects the town will have to make further cuts or other decisions mid-fiscal year to balance the budget.

"Many of us are expecting a fall [Special] Town Meeting. There's no way to avoid it," said Lyman. "As you can see, nobody knows what they are getting (in revenues)."

School Committee Chairwoman Debra Silberstein agreed, saying "these numbers will stay fluid even after

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PAST & PRESENT



THEN: The intersection of Routes 28 and 133 in Shawsheen Square is paved over with new hot top in about 1950. Police officers would stand in the boxes at left, and direct cars prior to traffic lights being installed.



NOW: Routes 28 and 133 intersect in Shawsheen Square, Andover.

QUOTE, UNQUOTE ...

The reaction from kids is awesome. They talk to us while we're on stage. Afterwards, when we come out and meet the audience, they're all star-struck and it's adorable. I had one little girl tell me "That was the best movie I have ever seen!"

- Andover High School junior Margaret Chrisosoro who plays Alexander's mother in the Boston Children's Theatre production of "Alexander and the Terrible Horrible No Good Very Bad Day." Story in Arts, page 7.

NEWS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

Bancroft School Improvement Council, Bancroft Elementary School, 8 a.m.
Main Street Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 8 a.m.
Board of Assessors, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., assessors conference room, 9 a.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals re-opening deliberations about #3823 21 Birch Road, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., first-floor conference room, 6:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 4

Green Advisory Board, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet

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

TUESDAY, MAY 5

Main Street Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 8 a.m.
Andover Scholarship Committee "Dollars for Scholars" meeting, Memorial Hall Library, Elm Square, the hall, 3 p.m.
Cultural Council, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 7 p.m.
Fish Brook Watershed Advisory Committee, Water Treatment Plant conference room, 397 Lowell St., 7 to 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

Board of Registrars, Town Clerk's office, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., 5 to 8 p.m.

Town Yard Task Force, Public Safety Center training room, North Main St., 6:30 p.m.

Ballardvale Fire Station Building Committee, Public Safety Building, 32 North Main St., fire chief's conference room, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 7

Interstate-93 Lowell Junction Interchange Task Force, Memorial Hall Library, Elm Square, the hall, 8 a.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals, Memorial Hall Library, Elm Square, the hall, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 9

Zoning Board of Appeals, Memorial Hall Library, Elm Square, the hall, 9 a.m.

Donate at Zero Waste Day May 9

The Andover Recycling Committee is hosting its fifth annual donations-for-charities event. On May 9, nine local charities and volunteers will be waiting to load trucks with donations at the rear parking lot of Brickstone Square off York Street from 9 a.m. to noon. Charities are looking for reusable items in good condition ranging from household items and clothing to building materials, books, and bikes to furniture and baby equipment. For a complete list of items that can be donated, and a list of charities that will be on-site, visit andoverma.gov/recycle/rczwd.htm. For more information or questions, contact Marya Lundgren at mlundgren@comcast.net.

Help a family with your old furniture, goods

Temple Emanuel's Project Home Again, in conjunction with the Mother Connection Cares, will be accepting donations of home furnishings, household goods, furniture, and appliances at its warehouse on Sunday, May 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The warehouse is located at 439 S. Union St. in Lawrence. For more information, visit online at www.projecthomeagain.us, or contact projecthomeagain@comcast.net, or call 978-470-1356.

Giant yard sale Saturday at the Park

The Andover Department of Community Services is sponsoring a Giant Earth Day Yard Sale on Saturday, May 2 at the Park

from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. More than 70 families and groups are participating. Spaces are limited. Reserve your 10-foot spot in the Park at the corner of Chestnut and Bartlet streets by calling Mary Donohue at DCS by noon, tomorrow, Friday, May 1. Cost is \$10 per spot; set-up begins at 7 a.m.; bring your own table(s). Yard Sale participants will have on sale baby and children's clothing, household and kitchen items, doll accessories, books, knickknacks, toys, sports equipment, antiques, collectibles, decorative pieces and an assortment of treasured recyclables. Rain date is Sunday, May 3.

YWCA recognizes women leaders

The YWCA of Greater Lawrence is holding its 26th annual Tribute to Women Awards Luncheon, sponsored by Philips Healthcare, on Thursday, May 14, at noon at the Andover Country Club to recognize Merrimack Valley women leaders for their professional achievements and civic contributions.

Those with Andover ties include: Nancy Aiello, of the Andover IRS; Claudia Bach, Andover Public Schools superintendent; Heather Belson, The Mother Connection; Sydney Bialo, SHED Inc.; Karen Daly, Philips Healthcare in Andover; Amy Finegold, of Dresscode; Cathy Gabriel, of Wyeth Pharmaceuticals in Andover; Jane Howe, of the Professional Center for Child Development; Zulekha Ludwig, of Get In Shape; and Denise Marcaurrelle and JoAnne McQuilkin, both of Enterprise Bank in Andover.

The emcee will be Sen. Susan Tucker of Andover and keynote speaker Dr. Carol Leary, president of Bay Path College.

Since 1983, Tribute to Women has recognized over 600 Merrimack Valley women leaders from large and small companies in the private, public and non-profit sectors. The luncheon also serves as one of two major annual fund-raisers hosted by the YWCA of Greater Lawrence, with proceeds benefiting women and youth service programs.

To attend the event, visit online at www.ywcalawrence.org. Contact Susan McNeff at smcneff@ywcalawrence.org or call 978-687-0331, ext. 1029.

Memorial Day Parade

The annual Memorial Day Parade will be on Monday, May 25, at 10 a.m. Any civic, patriotic or fraternal organization wishing to march can contact the Veterans' Services Office at 978-623-8218. There will be a collation at the Doherty Middle School cafeteria at 11:30 a.m. for all parade participants. As per custom, no political activity can be accommodated in and during the parade. The route leads from the intersection of Elm and Florence streets to Main Street, to Punchard Avenue, Bartlet Street and ends at the park. In the event of heavy rain, all observances will be held inside the Memorial Auditorium.

Crafters needed

Crafters are wanted for the annual North Andover Sheep Shearing Festival being held on Sunday, May 17, on the Old North Andover Common from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 978-685-4927.

Town Meeting

The annual Town Meeting will be held in the Town of Andover on May 26 and May 27 at the Andover High School Collins Field House and, if needed, May 28 at the Collins Center at Andover High School on Shawsheen Road. The meetings will start at 7 p.m. each night. A shuttle bus will be available on May 26 and May 27 from the parking lots. Shuttle service will start at 6:15 p.m. and will discontinue after the meeting closes. Upon request, sign language interpreters, material on tape, and other auxiliary aides and services will be provided to ensure effective communications as specified in the American with Disabilities Act. Contact the town's ADA coordinator at 978-623-8530 at the town offices by Friday, May 1.

The last day to register to vote for the annual Town Meeting is Wednesday, May 6. The Town Clerk's Office will be open for new registrations from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. All registered voters that attend town meeting will need to be checked into the meeting in the lobby of Andover High School on May 26 and 27 and the lobby of the Collins Center on the May 28. You may also visit the town's Web site at www.andoverma.gov.

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Wally, hundreds wouldn't miss Andover's Opening Day

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

ANDOVER LITTLE LEAGUE OPENING DAY, SATURDAY MAY 2

Close to 1,000 little league players and one very large mascot will flood Main Street Saturday morning, as the Andover Little League celebrates opening day with a parade and special ceremonies.

Wally the Green Monster, the mascot of the Red Sox, will join the festivities, and many of the league's 85 teams will march in the parade and play a game over the course of the day.

The parade steps off at 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 2, and will begin and end at the fields behind Doherty Middle School.

"It's a chance to kick off the season the right way, and get everyone together for one event," said Len Farris, president of the Andover Little League. "It creates a lot of excitement for the league, and it's a chance for everyone to see how big the league is ... The kids get very, very excited about the parade. It's a highlight for the kids, to walk down Main Street, suited up in their uniform, and see the people cheering for them. I have yet to see a kid not have a good time."

Last year, the league's first-opening day parade drew 700 players and parents, said Farris, and this year they hope to have even more. Andover Little League has close to 1,200 players, ages 6 through high school.

The parade will create a loop from Doherty Middle School

- Player parade from 9 to 10 a.m., beginning and ending at the fields at Doherty Middle School
- Parade will close Bartlet Street from Doherty Middle School to Wheeler Street, Wheeler Street, Main Street at Wheeler Street to Chestnut Street, Chestnut Street to Bartlet Street and to Doherty Middle School
- Rain date of Sunday, May 3
- Visit www.andoveryouthbaseball.org for further details

down Main Street, and will close several roads downtown for about an hour. The league is paying for police details to direct traffic, said Peter Broderick, opening day chairman.

The town police and fire departments have been invited to participate in the parade, as well as selectmen and other town officials, he said. Woodworth Motors will have several antique cars in the parade. The Andover High School band will march and play music during the opening ceremonies, and a trio of AHS students will sing the National Anthem.

For the second year in a row, WBZ radio personality Dan Roche will be the master of ceremonies.

Farris will open the season, making a brief speech, and recognize two long-standing league supporters: Larry Morocco,



Thomas Davis, 8, center, shows his team pride as he marches with the Red Sox down Main Street during last year's Little League Opening Day parade.

STAFF FILE PHOTO

who has spent 30 years on the Andover Little League board of directors and Dick Allard, a 28-year board member.

Once the season is officially open, ballgames will be played all day at Deyermund Fields in West Andover. The league has organized the schedule so that

at least one game is played by teams from every age bracket in the league - a special treat for the younger players, who don't always get to play at Deyermund, said Broderick.

Broderick, who has a 14-year-old son who grew up in the organization, said his biggest hope

for the day is good weather. Besides that, he hopes to see residents and families turn out, with younger siblings, friends and dogs, to support not only the league but the Andover's downtown.

"We hope to make it more of a celebration, we're looking to

reach out to whole town. You read so many stories of downtowns being abandoned, and closing. This is an opportunity for us to bring over 2,000 people downtown, and hopefully bring goodwill to the downtown area. It's in the spirit of what Andover baseball can do, in general, to support the town," said Broderick.

"It's a joy. It's a lot of work to put together, but at the end, we can feel great about the accomplishment, because so many people had a great time."

The opening day festivities not only get the kids excited, but also allows the town to see how large and active the organization is, said Farris, especially as the town moves to close Deyermund Fields.

The Deyermund Field complex, built on top of the Ledge Road landfill, will have to close within the next two years due to a state mandate and environmental concerns. Soccer, baseball and other youth sports are now scrambling for field space as the town looks to build new fields on 13 acres of unused, town-owned farmland at 15 Blanchard St.

"It's also a time to let the folks in the league know what's ahead of us, in the future, in regards to need to plan for Blanchard (Street) fields expansion," said Farris of opening day. "This explains why we're doing the fundraising we're doing to get there, and what's going on behind the scenes. It brings it all together."



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the "Rhapsody" Committee holding items from Jim Rice and Mary McGarry Morris.

Rhapsody event to help families

"Rhapsody in Black & White," an event to raise money for Family Service Inc., is being held on Friday, May 8, at 6:30 p.m. at Andover Country Club. All event proceeds go to improving the lives of children and families in the Merrimack Valley, according to Mary Lyman. Family Service programs include Samaritans, Court Appointed Special Advocates, parent education, youth development programs and mental health counseling.

The evening includes dinner, dancing and an auction with auctioneers Dave Fazio, Carmen Scarpa, Peter Anderson and WCVB Traffic reporter Cindy Campbell. Tickets may be purchased by calling Lyman at 978-327-6648 or accessing www.familyserveinc.com/

In the photo, the "Rhapsody" Committee is gathered around to display autographed memorabilia by Andover resident and baseball Hall of Fame inductee

Jim Rice and Mary McGarry Morris' latest book, *The Last Secret*. The baseball items and the opportunity to have McGarry Morris come and talk to you and friends about the book are auction items.

Members of the committee include Thyra Sherman, Judy Cronin, Mary Lyman, Maryanne Manozzi, Laura Buonopane, Sharon Coon, Kay Frishman, Mary-Beth Finn, Lori Howe, Jeannie Scarpa, Louann Basillio, Hope Fabiani and Lisa McDonald.

Expanded caregiving series offered

BoomerVenture, a program providing resources and programs to local baby-boomers, is offering an integrated series of four caregiving programs throughout the month of May. his program is aimed at providing the local community, especially the "sandwich generation" those squeezed between caring for both parents and children the tools, information and support they need to more effectively cope with the task of providing simultaneous care.

According to the Pew Research Center, 1 of every 8 Americans aged 40 to 60 is both raising a child and caring for a parent. In addition, between 7 and 10 million adults are caring for their aging parents from a long distance.

"This series, sponsored by the town of Andover's Council

on Aging, will supply essential information to those who are caregivers, and need a place to turn for advice, support and resources," said Karen Payne-Taylor, coordinator of BoomerVenture.

Last year, BoomerVenture offered a similar caregiving series. This year's offering will be expanded to include a Caregiving Expo, a trade-show type of event, including a variety of regional caregiving options and offering an opportunity for caregiver attendees to engage one-on-one with caregiving professionals.

BoomerVenture's caregiving series:

Thursday, May 7: The Andover Villages at Home present new "virtual assisted living" program, currently rolling out in

the Andovers, 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. Suggested donation \$5.

Thursday, May 14: Local caregivers share stories, practical tips and support from their own experience of caring for loved ones; 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. Suggested donation \$5.

Thursday, May 21: What's ahead for healthcare technology for helping seniors stay home longer; 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. Suggested donation \$5.

Thursday, May 28: Caregiving Expo where organizations providing elder services will be on hand for a trade show style event; 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Free.

All programs take place at the Andover Senior Center 30 Whittier Court, Andover.

Advance registration appreciated. To register go to: www.boomerventure.com, or call 978-623-8321.

Elder Services accepting registration for computer workshop classes

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc. announces that its SeniorNet Computer Learning Center located at 360 Merrimack St. in Lawrence is now accepting registration for

the spring computer workshop classes beginning the week of May 4. The SeniorNet Learning Center is designed specifically for senior learners and limited to five students per class.

It offers adults older than 50 a relaxed setting to learn computer skills. Advanced registration is required by May 1. Call 800-892-0890, ext. 1516 and leave a message.

DAVID YURMAN

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Business

Ten internationally-acclaimed leaders to speak to area business leaders

Community business leaders can access the knowledge and experience of 10 internationally-acclaimed leaders by attending the Maximum Impact Simulcast at Osgood landing (former Lucent Building) in North Andover on May 8. This is another in a series to help area business leaders sponsored by The Eagle-Tribune Publishing Co., the Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Salem, NH Chamber

of Commerce and the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce. The Maximum Impact Simulcast is a one-day leadership training event broadcast live from Atlanta, Ga. to approximately 500 host sites throughout the nation. Speakers for the event include Tony Blair, John Maxwell, Jack Nicklaus, Bill George, Al Weiss, Linda Kaplan Thaler, Kevin Carroll, Mark Sanborn, Liz Murray and Ernie Johnson.

"The Maximum Impact Simulcast provides extremely valuable leadership insights from world class communicators," said David Hoyt, vice president of Maximum Impact. "It's a rare opportunity to hear these experts within your own community and simultaneously develop business relationships with other local leaders. It's a must-attend event for people in all stages of their leadership journey."

The idea for the Maximum Impact Simulcast was conceived more than nine years ago by Dr. John C. Maxwell, New York Times best-selling author and speaker. What started out as a half day, classroom-format event with John Maxwell teaching has since become a full day, experiential conference featuring 10 authors, leadership experts and practitioners. The 10 speakers will speak

on subjects such as leading in difficult times, converging people and purpose, building strong teams by understanding and embracing change, overcoming personal and professional adversity, utilizing the power of passion and creativity and balancing the needs of customers, employees and company shareholders. "The Maximum Impact Simulcast is a rich source of ideas, insights, and strategies for truly

effective leadership," said Al Getler, publisher of the Andover Townsman and The Eagle-Tribune. "I have been attending these simulcasts for many years. It is the best value for a day or leadership training available." For more information, visit online at www.maximumimpact.com/misattend. For tickets, call Lil Toohey at 978-946-2110 or visit www.eagletribune.com/simulcast.

Self-defense for women taught by Andover black belt

Andover resident and third degree blackbelt Peter Rooks will join seventh degree blackbelt Bruce Gonsalves in offering a women's self-defense class on May 7 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Lowell. The course, offered at Temple Emanuel of the Merrimack Valley, 101 West Forest St., Lowell, is offered to women only, with daughters 10 and older welcome as well. No previous knowledge of self defense is needed. Gonsalves has taught women's self-defense for over 10 years, along with instructing the North Reading Police Department,

according to a release from Rooks. The class will be limited to 25 people and cost \$25, with a mother and daughter pair costing \$45. There will be a follow up class in June for \$15 (mother and daughter, \$25). Each person will go home with a Kubotan, which attaches to their keyring. The class will focus on simple, yet effective self-defense techniques for women, according to Rooks. To sign up, e-mail Rooks at peter.rooks@comcast.net and send a check to Temple Emanuel, www.temv.org, at the above address.

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Reidy of Andover has been appointed president, chief executive officer of Progress Software Corp.

Richard Reidy will be responsible for the strategic direction and day-to-day operations of Progress Software. Reidy joined Progress Software in 1985 as one of the original developers of the Progress OpenEdge application development platform. He has held numerous technical and management positions and served for several years as vice president of product development for the company's existing and new, high growth product lines. He also served two years in Europe where he helped build Progress Software's network of distributors in Europe and the Middle East. Reidy then led DataDirect Technologies, a division of Progress Software, where he and his management team more than doubled the revenue to over \$70 million in four years. Reidy has led divisions of Apama, DataDirect, and DataXtend. He, also, has held database systems software developer and architect positions at Computervision Corporation and Telesis Systems. Reidy is chairman of the Board of Overseers, trustee and a member, College of Engineering Leadership Board, at Boston University.

Engineering firm's kids try a day at work

It wasn't school bells that students heard on April 23, but the clatter of keyboards, security badges, and the buzz of a teleconference screen. RDK Engineers invited their employees to bring their children ages 5 to 18 to work with them last Thursday for a day of career exploration and learning.

RDK, which specializes in providing HVAC, electrical, plumbing and fire protection engineering services, is located in Brickstone Square.

"Inviting our employees to bring their children to work with them offered an informative means to introduce kids to where their parents go and what they do all day," said Chief Financial Officer Laura DePalma in a release. "Then we broadened the idea by inviting a few kids from the Lawrence Boys and Girls Club to partake in the opportunity."

"I think our staff was impressed at how well behaved the kids were and how engaged they were in what their parents do. It's great to see co-workers with their kids in a day and age where work-life balance is so critical," said Andover resident Kim Sousa, director of marketing and business development.

After a brief introduction to RDK Engineers and the services the firm provides by Sousa, kids were given a tour of the building and various departments before breaking into age-appropriate



COURTESY PHOTO

Farahra Sousa (center) is among the children who participated in "bring your child to work day" at RDK Engineers on April 23. Farahra's mother, Kim, works at the Brickstone Square business, which invited its employees to bring their children ages 5-18 to work with them for a day of career exploration and learning.

activities. Department developed a presentation and activity for the different age ranges to participate in throughout the day. Marketing hosted an arts and crafts hour with children ages 5-7 and used the example of convincing mom and dad to purchase

their favorite toy to explain the concept of marketing. Dan Villeneuve, RDK design technology manager, led a discussion on computer-aided design (CAD) and the programs used to lay out mechanical, electrical and plumbing building systems.

Andover participants were able to interact with those in Boston through RDK's state-of-the-art teleconferencing system. Demonstrations were given in both offices and broadcast over the system for both locations to enjoy.

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2. The 10 year change in value reflects the actual historical rates for River Bank's 1 year CD, from the time of inception on 12/31/1998, and at each successive rollover date. Assumes the CD rolls over for the same term at each maturity date, at the rate then in existence. Rate includes monthly compounding of interest and reinvesting of interest in the CD. The average annual return for this 10-year period is 3.40%. Performance data shown represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results.

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CALENDAR:

Continued from Page 7

FASHION SHOW, moved from May 1, Andover resident and designer Kelly Dempsey will be featured at a midnight Fashion Show, Underbar, 275 Tremont St., Boston. Dempsey's line of funky and unique cocktail dresses were exhibited during Fashion Week in New York City this spring.

LIVE ORCHESTRA CONCERT, featuring youth concert competition winners with the Lowell Philharmonic Orchestra in a Pops concert, 8 p.m., Pawtucket Congregational Church, 15 Mammoth Road, Lowell.

SATURDAY, MAY 9

ART IN THE PARK, 34th annual Andover Crafts in the Park, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., The Park, corner of Chestnut and Bartlett streets, 125 crafters, international foods, a geranium sale and music throughout the day, sponsored by the Andover chapter of AFS International Programs. All proceeds are used to provide scholarships for Andover students and to support exchange students and their host families. Rain date is Sunday, May 10; an_cip@craftsinthepark.com or www.craftsinthepark.com.

ZERO WASTE DAY, 9 am to noon, Brickstone Square, York Street, Andover. The Andover Recycling Committee is hosting donations-for-charities event, nine local charities and volunteers will be waiting to load trucks with donations at the rear parking lot of Brickstone Square. For a list of items that are being accepted as donations and a list of charities on-site, visit online at http://andoverma.gov/recycle/rczwd.

htm. Contact Marya Lundgren at mclundgren@comcast.net.

BIKE BANK, North Andover Rotary Club's will hold its fifth annual collection of new or used bicycles in good condition at Camelot Knights of Columbus Lodge parking lot in North Andover, near the Lawrence Municipal Airport, 9 a.m. to noon.

LIVE MUSIC, with Northshore Youth Symphony Orchestra, Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, North Andover, 4 and 7 p.m., free; 978-685-7844 or www.nysorchestra.comarket.com.

LIVE FOLK MUSIC, Crossroads Coffeehouse of the North Parish UU Church, featuring fiddler Cynthia MacLeod, 8 p.m., at North Parish UU Church, 3 Great Pond Road, North Andover, second floor, \$18; www.crossroads-coffeehouse.org, 978-687-3960.

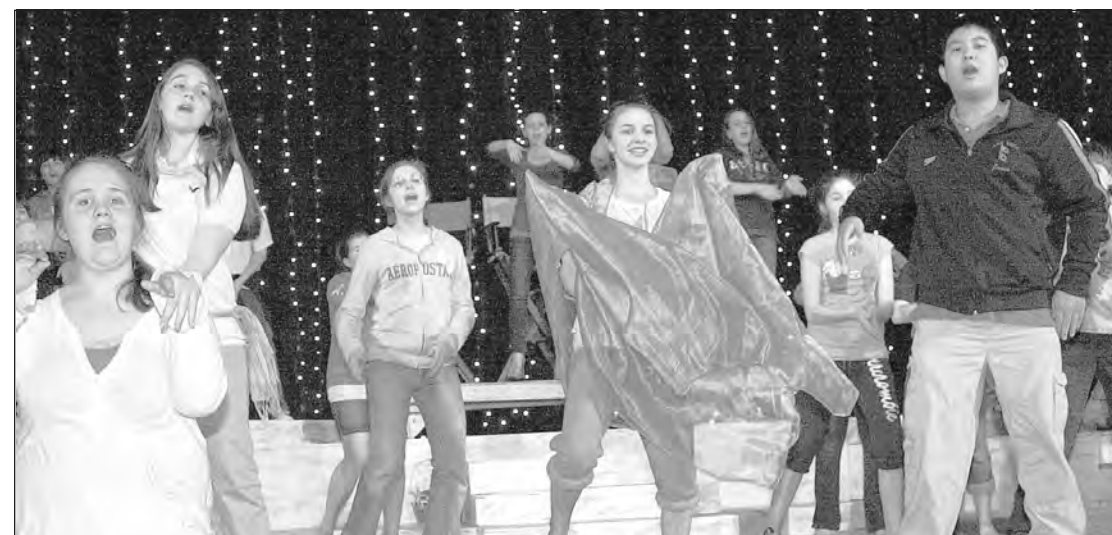
FREE BOATING SEMINARS, Marine Electronics, Introduction to Kayaking Workshop, topics include Everything there is to know about Bottom Painting, Rules of the Road and Aids to Navigating, and How to Buy a Pre-Owned Boat, 7 River St., Middleton, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., hosted by Baert Marine.

SUNDAY, MAY 10

THE READING CIVIC CONCERT BAND WILL PRESENT ITS TRADITIONAL MOTHER'S DAY CONCERT AT 3 P.M., at the Wood End School auditorium, Sunset Rock Lane, off Franklin St., in Reading.

ADMISSION AT THE DOOR WILL BE \$8 FOR STUDENTS AND SENIORS, and \$12 for adults.

'Once on This Island'



Sue Welch/ Courtesy photo

The West Middle School Drama Club is in final rehearsals for its spring musical "Once on This Island," playing this weekend only, on Friday and Saturday, May 1 and 2, at 7 p.m. at West Middle School, 70 Shawshen Road. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. The story weaves a tale of two people, "never meant to meet", who fall in love and have their love tested by goddesses and their families. The actors, from left, are Kara Merryfield as Mama Euralie, Aidan Scanlon as Story Teller, Amy Welch as Gate Keeper, Ariana Bishop as Ti Moune, and James Lee as Daniel.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING, is a fast paced musical comedy about an ambitious young window washer named J. Pierpont Finch who buys a book describing how to get ahead in the business world and sets out to try the methods he reads in the book. This funny, toe-tapping musical adventure through

corporate America in the late 60s is a must see. Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser creator of Guys and Dolls and book by Abe Burrows, Jack Weinstock and Willie Gilbert. Performances will be held at the West Andover Middle School, 70 Shawshen Road, Andover. Show time is May 15 at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are adults \$20 and students and seniors \$17. Tickets may be purchased by calling the box office at 978-289-4123

or visiting www.actandover.com.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

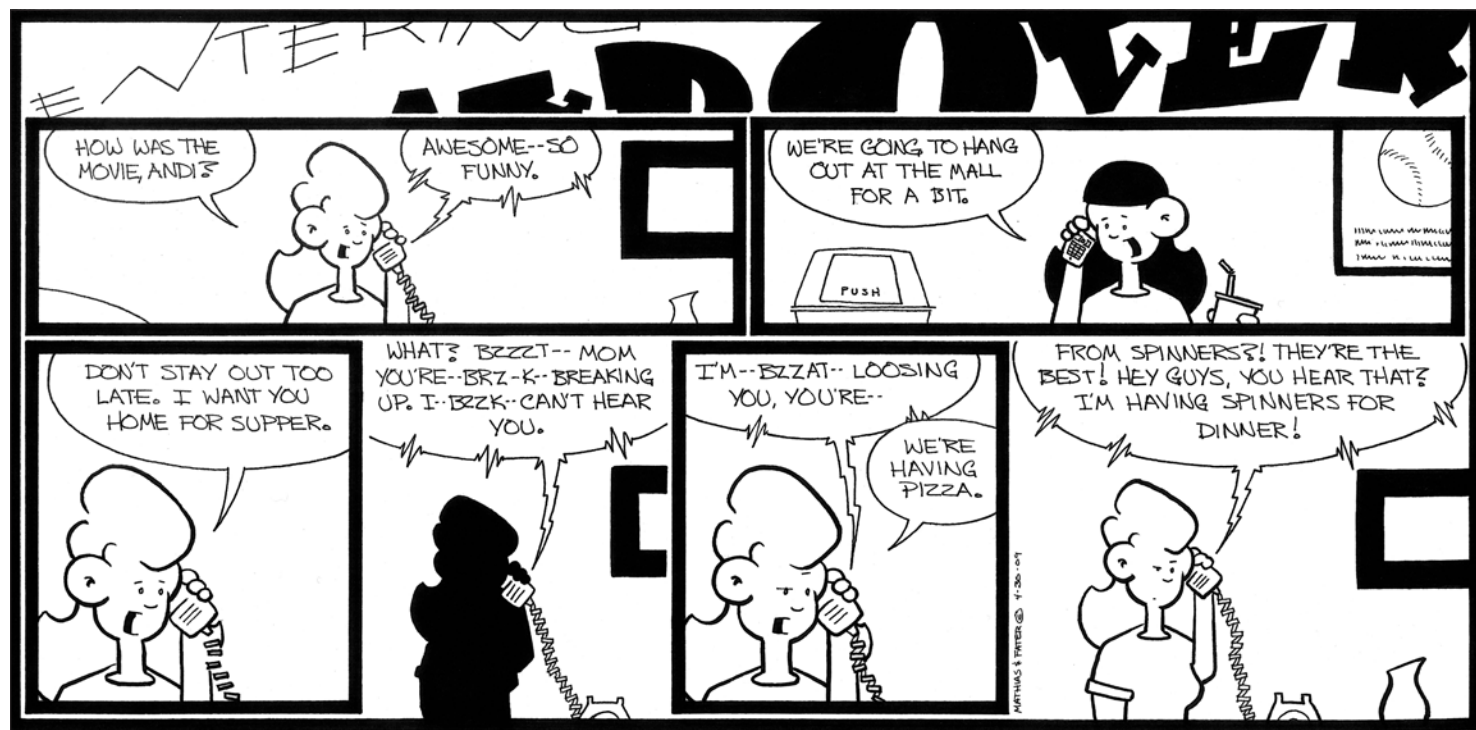
WEST PARISH GARDEN CEMETERY WALK, 10 a.m., walk throughout the cemetery with a walking tour lead by Jim Batchelder, member of the Andover Historical Society and a board member of West Parish Garden Cemetery, free,

meet at the arch, rain or shine. HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING, is a fast paced musical comedy about an ambitious young window washer named J. Pierpont Finch who buys a book describing how to get ahead in the business world and sets out to try the methods he reads in the book. This funny, toe-tapping musical adventure through corporate America in the late 60s is a must see. Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser creator of Guys and Dolls and book by Abe Burrows, Jack Weinstock and Willie Gilbert. Performances will be held at the West Andover Middle School, 70 Shawshen Road, Andover. Show time is May 16 at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are adults \$20 and students and seniors \$17. Tickets may be purchased by calling the box office at 978-289-4123 or visiting www.actandover.com.

SUNDAY, MAY 17

HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING, is a fast paced musical comedy about an ambitious young window washer named J. Pierpont Finch who buys a book describing how to get ahead in the business world and sets out to try the methods he reads in the book. This funny, toe-tapping musical adventure through corporate America in the late 60s is a must see. Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser creator of Guys and Dolls and book by Abe Burrows, Jack Weinstock and Willie Gilbert. Performances will be held at the West Middle School, 70 Shawshen Road, Andover. Show time is May 17 at 2 p.m. Ticket prices are adults \$20 and students and seniors \$17. Tickets may be purchased by calling the box office at 978-289-4123 or visiting www.actandover.com.

ENTERING ANDOVER by Don Mathias



Solution

A crossword puzzle grid with letters filled in, corresponding to the solution provided in the text.

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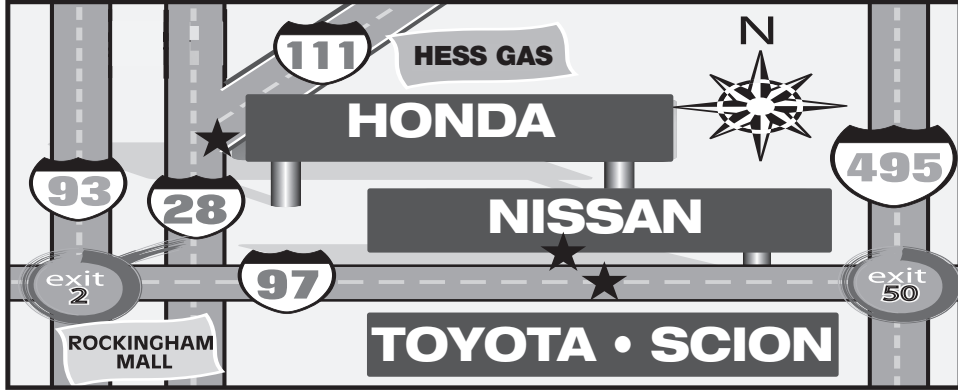
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In synch



KATE GLASS / Staff photo

Alice Rodgers and Candace Ju perform "Spanish," a duet, during the ANA Synchers Annual Synchronized Swim Show at the YMCA on Sunday. Seventy-five swimmers ranging in age from 7 to 19 performed during the show, which featured 15 routines.

Rushing for a dealer's license

After a story ran in the April 23 Andover Townsman, it was brought to Andover Youth Services Director Bill Fahey's attention that a secondhand dealer's license will be needed to buy gold and jewelry during the AYS Gold Rush fundraiser next week.

During the event, folks 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 from 6 to 9 p.m., quoting prices for items brought. AYS will receive a percentage of the selling price of each piece of jewelry that changes hands.

Town Clerk Randy Hanson, Fahey, Andover police Lieutenant Commander James Hashem and Debbie Cuomo, a mother involved in organizing the event, have been meeting this week to make sure the event has the proper licensing and safety precautions, said Town Manager Buzz Stapezynski.

—Bethany Bray

Lazarus House Golf Tournament is May 4

Start the spring golf season at the 14th Annual Lazarus House Golf Tournament on Monday, May 4, at the Andover Country Club. A golfer fee of \$250 includes lunch, greens fees, carts, dinner and the opportunity to win prizes in several contests and raffles and bid on amazing

auction items. There are two sessions of the event. The morning session plays a best ball format and the registration begins at 6:30 a.m. for a 7:30 a.m. shotgun start. Registration for the afternoon scramble event begins at 11:30 a.m. with a 1:30 p.m. shotgun start. People who do not

golf are invited to dinner and the auction for \$50. There are numerous sponsorship opportunities which include foursomes, signage and other benefits. For information or to sign up for the tournament, call 978-269-5206 or go to lazarushouse.org/golftournament.

Coupon Page

Next Coupon & Savings Page Coming May 28th

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Townspeople

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Variety of poems and nicknames

Bill Dalton



*I grow old...I grow old...
I shall wear the bottoms of my trousers rolled.
Shall I part my hair behind? Do I dare to eat a*

*peach?
I shall wear white flannel trousers, and walk upon the beach.*

This is from my favorite poem, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock," by T.S. Eliot. It becomes more poignant for me with each passing birthday.

Poetry began as simple rhymes that communicated oral history through generations of preliterate people. Rhyming made the history easier to remember. Then people began to write, and some of them wrote rhyming verses that were good enough to be called poetry. Simple rhyming verse is still used to teach such things as the alphabet (ABCDEFGHIJ / KLMNOP...), the number of days in each month (Thirty days has September / April, June and November...), and some history (In fourteen hundred and ninety two / Columbus sailed the ocean blue). Poetry, which doesn't always rhyme anymore, can be defined as literary work in metrical form. It is a fine art, enjoyed by many.

Richard Brown loves poetry and writes it. Like most poetry these days, his works are self-published. He has written 14 "chapbooks," as he calls them and I've written about him before. (If you go to andovertownsmen.com, you can type his name in "Search Site" and find my column about him.) I'm not a poetry expert, but I know I enjoy many of his poems, especially those with Andover locales. His latest chapbook, "Salad Mania and Other Selections," contains titles such as 61 Webster Street, Fishing Haggetts Pond, Haggetts Pond Road, and poems that involve the old Livingston Farm. Some of the poems are dedicated to Andover folks.

Dick is an interesting guy who grew up in Andover and lives in Oklahoma. As I write this, he tells me that all his "Salad Mania" are gone but he'll print more, if a few people ask. You can contact him at rbrown129@cox.net.

Speaking of poems, in response to recent columns about robins, Judy (West) Stevens says her mother, who passed away recently, used to recite a poem to Judy and her brothers, Alan and Bill: *The north wind doth blow / And we shall have snow / And what will the robin do then / Poor thing? / He'll sit in the barn / To keep himself warm / And hide his head under his wing / Poor thing.*

The poem is a nursery rhyme that originated in 16th Century Britain. It appears in versions of "Mother Goose" (author unknown). Judy says robins were around her Haggetts Pond Road home all winter, and she fed them cranberries. However, she says, "The smart ones fly south and return to us in the spring."

Charlotte (Haji) Jackson (Andover High, 1960) sent me an e-mail about the Playstead. She says her sister, Joyce (class of 1959), and brother, Ronnie (class of 1963), lived on Summer Street while growing up and then moved to Salem Street. She adds, "I have the best memories of my family at the carnival [on the Playstead] and then watching the Fourth of July fireworks from the bleachers and mingling with many familiar townspeople. These were great feelings for a young person growing up." Charlotte lives in Oregon but she and her sister annually return to Andover and visit their brother.



ROGER DARRIGRAND/Staff photo

Andover High School student Jason Ricketts puts a shaving cream pie in the face of Assistant Principal Tom Mead as Tommy Fuerst, left, and Joe Downs-Berry laugh in the wings during a lunch period fundraiser for Courtney Casper where students paid \$2 to push a pie in the face of a student or faculty member Friday afternoon. Casper, a junior at Andover High School, will use the funds to help pay for her trip to Cape Town, South Africa, where she will be teaching English and music to public school students.

Destination: Cape Town

Events underway to send AHS junior to teach there this summer

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

When asked about her parents' reaction to her plans for a summer teaching experience in Cape Town, South Africa, Andover High School junior Courtney Casper lets out a big sigh.

"It was a huge, 'No.' They were worried, and said there was no way I was going by myself to a place where bad stuff like stealing is the way of life," said Casper, who turns 17 on May 11.

But after researching the idea together, Casper's parents eventually came around and now she is in the midst of raising money so that she can travel to her teaching assignment in Cape Town, she said. The family chose the Projects Abroad: Teaching program and Casper is set to leave on July 15 for about five weeks. She will teach English to primary and secondary school students.

VOICE, MUSIC RECITAL

When: Sunday, May 10
2-3:30 p.m.
Where: St. Michael Church, upstairs, Main Street, North Andover
Cost: \$10

TEEN DANCE

Who: High-schoolers only
When: Friday, May 29, 7:30-11 p.m.
Where: Elks Club, Andover Street, Lawrence
Cost: \$10

"There's also the opportunity to teach students other interests you have, like sports or music or drama," said Casper, who works at Kid's Club, an after-school program for younger kids in town.

Her parents may have agreed to support her overseas teaching plan, but Casper herself will pay for it. She is pinching pennies earned from her job, baby sitting and doing some intriguing fund raising to raise the \$4,000 she needs to cover costs for the South African teaching experience. Her kickoff event was a

chance for classmates to pay \$2 to throw shaving cream-filled pies at classmates and school administrators, including assistant principal Tom Mead. The event was held just before spring break. A Mother's Day concert and teen dance (see sidebars) are also planned.

"I strongly believe this could be a fantastic opportunity for me," she said. "It's a chance to see a diverse and unique culture and to dip my foot into teaching."

Casper spent last summer as a volunteer at Andover High helping with programs for special needs kids. She

comes from a long line of teachers, as her two grandmothers and two aunts are teachers. Her mother, Rita Casper, who now heads the department overseeing public school nurses, is a former teacher.

"It didn't exactly take me by surprise when I finally came to the realization that I wanted to be a teacher," Courtney Casper said. "And, my mom is my role model. She loves kids, too."

Casper said her focus and determination come from her family roots. Her dad, Massey Casper, is from India originally, while her mom was born there, but was raised in England. The family lives on Buchan Road and also includes her brother, Zach, 15.

A longtime Destination Imagination participant, she has cultivated a passion for diverse cultures. One course at AHS truly inspired her. It's the Odyssey course, where

students learn about different cultures around the world.

"I just loved that class," she said. "South Africa was one of the units we did and we learned so much about politics, the people, diversity and that's why I chose to go there."

She'll also pack her affinity for musical theater when she leaves. Courtney Casper has appeared in Merrimack Junior Theatre productions and starred as Maria in last summer's "West Side Story" show by the Summer Ensemble group.

She may call this life chapter "quite a production," but it's all about helping the less fortunate.

If you want to help, send your contribution to Courtney Casper, 2 Buchan Road, Andover, MA 01810. Make out checks to Projects Abroad. Questions? Inquire at courtneycasperdi@hotmail.com.

Interviews with heroes

Town writing books on Andover veterans

By WILL EWING
WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

We pass by them on the streets and in the stores. We see veterans everywhere we go but rarely do we recognize the sacrifices they have made for our country.

A new effort organized by Andover's Veterans Services department looks to change that.

Last Friday, April 24, Andover veterans of World War II were gathered and interviewed by other veterans for an upcoming book called Heroes Among Us.

"They really are the greatest generation," says Michael Burke, Veterans Services director in Andover. "Most of these folks haven't talked about the war in



At right, World War II veteran Thomas Garvey, who was a medic in a MASH unit, talks with veteran Joe Augusta about the things he did and saw while he served in the war, for a book the Andover Veterans Services is putting together. A group of World War II veterans met at the Andover Senior Center on Friday morning and were interviewed, had photographs taken of them, and older photos from the war scanned into a computer for the book.

60 years. They're ready to tell their stories."

The book will be one in a series that will "highlight the history of our Andover veterans," says Burke. The books will not be sold in stores, and will be exclusively

for the town and the families of the veterans, so they can have a record of the service done for their country.

Each book will focus on a small population of veterans and record their wartime



TIM JEAN/Staff photos

World War II veteran Mario A. Medaglio, left, talks with veteran Sue Rhatyna about a photograph of him taken during World War II. The information will be included in a book the Andover Veterans Services is putting together.

experiences.

The first interviews focused on 19 World War II Andover veterans who have distinguished awards for their service. Nine more interviews will be conducted this summer.

Burke hopes to have the World War II "Heroes Among Us" book completed by late fall 2009.

"We want to capture these amazing people before they pass," said Burke. "I'm absolutely honored."

Education

Open letter to the superintendent

'Old war horse' suggests tactics for running schools

By Ken Seifert



Dear Superintendent Bach, These are more difficult times than when I had the honor of being superintendent of the Andover Schools. I came to town in '69. I was a young, 34, and felt I could whip the world. I went through the wars of: tight dollars, drugs in the schools, dress code, community civil war, and the Collaborative School. Once we established our achievement machine, we

had no argument about the 3 R's. It's evident your staff continues that strategy.

Behind my back, the staff would call me General Patton, but I considered myself more of an Albert Sweitzer. I retired an old war horse. Some teachers, parents and kids liked me. Some teachers, parents and kids were pleased I called it quits. For the most part, School Committee members thought I was OK. Some wished I had taken that job in Alaska. Like Eisenhower, I retired to my Garden of Eden, my vegetable plot on Ivy Lane in town.

Last night, while looking at old articles from the Townsman, I put on my old uniform, a shirt

and tie. I pretended I was 34 again. And in your shoes.

Let's see. A bunch of new recruits, the army to fight illiteracy dwindling, students very bright, but a tad entitled, and the sexual culture of our youth more serious than people imagine.

The challenge will be the same, September 2009, the launching of another school year. All superintendents have their own battle plan; here is what I suggest for you:

1. When you get all of the new officers on board, parade them as an army unit. March them to all the schools. Announce them as the new special unit of the K-12 Division. They are going to help

Andover children prepare for the battle of life.

2. Call Peter Anderson, that outgoing old war horse at Andover High. Tell him to get the TV studio ready. We're going to introduce some very important commanders to the living room review stands. [Extra credit will be given if you involve a bunch of talented student camera operators who could work for CNN or ESPN today.] Each new officer gets his or her own 30-minute show. It is mandatory air time. The commanders introduce themselves, talk about what they really think about students, and give the audience an idea or two each about what they would like to do. The

principals would be interviewed by some of the best probing students Andover has to offer.

3. This summer, when there is a little peace and quiet, take the entire squad of officers to a nice place in one of the schools. Take a week. Share with them what it means to be a top brass in Andover. Tell them your vision of what a good leader looks like. There might be some debate. Don't retreat! Keep digging to obtain understanding. Have your aide take notes. When you are finished, you will have a field guide that can be used in future campaigns. It can also be used for future recruits. The old vets will assist in showing them the ropes.

4. Finally, on opening day, armed with your message of hope, call all of the new troops to the stage

with the command, "Now hear this veterans, I want to introduce each soldier who is going to make a difference to our kids." I bet it brings the house down.

Be patient, Dr. Bach, in the blinking of an eye, you too will be an old war horse. I wish I had done more of the things I have suggested to you. For just a brief moment, I wanted to be General Patton again. This time with more heart. Why listen to an old war horse? I was on the same battlefield a few years ago. It seems like just yesterday.

Respectfully,
"Gen." Ken Seifert (Ret.)

Ken Seifert is a 40-year resident and a former Andover superintendent of school who writes about education and children.

BOOK REVIEW: 'THE WHITE ALBUM' BY JOAN DIDION

Short pieces reflect long shadow of '60s

By Mari Miyachi
WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

Learning about the Sixties in history, I've come to realize how inaccurate my preconceptions about this time period were. The causes and results of this explosion of counterculture once eluded me. Indeed, any knowledge I did have about this revolutionary decade was biased to say the least, purely a product of retrospection. Now that I discover more about the Sixties, it is increasingly apparent that this era is the foundation of modern popular culture, and numerous references to the decade that I once overlooked are now lucid.

No survey of the 1960s and its aftermath is complete without reading at least some of the works of Joan Didion, a premier social commentator and journalist of the time. The White Album by Didion is one such iconic work. A collection of autobiographical short stories spanning the late '60s and '70s, The White Album is a striking portrait of an unstable and fearful state, California, and a nation still adjusting to massive social change.

Didion's storylines and tone are particularly powerful; much of her expository writing is undoubtedly rooted in her background as

a journalist.

One of my favorite essays in the book, "Many Mansions," is an example of Didion's talent for taking a newsworthy story — in this case, the unoccupied Governor's house built by Ronald Reagan — and demonstrating its reflection of society. Didion writes, "I have seldom seen a house so evocative of the unspeakable." Ironically, Didion's own writing is often a similar profound, sincere evocation. The White Album captures a moment in time, and the pervasive feelings of doubt that were slowly creeping on Americans. It is a perceptive account of 20th century culture, and a piece of autobiographical literature in its finest form.

I would give The White Album a 9 out of 10. I value contemporary authors who honestly and poignantly reflect on their time. I would recommend this book for high school readers and older, who can fully appreciate the mature content. For adults who lived through this period, I'm sure this compilation is an evocative portrayal of the '60s, and for the younger generation, it is an enlightening focus on a fascinating era.

Mari Miyachi is an Andover resident and student at Phillips Academy who writes book reviews for young adults.



KATE GLASS/Staff photo

Carla McDonough as the scarecrow, Mary Shine as the Tin Man, Liza Giangrande as Dorothy, and Sani McLaughlin as the Lion rehearse a scene from St. Augustine School's production of "The Wizard of Oz," which opens on May 1 at Wood Hill Middle School. More than 35 students are participating in the production. Tickets cost \$10 for the 7 p.m. show.

St. A's students follow yellow brick road

By Bethany Bray
STAFF WRITER

Students at St. Augustine School will be off to see the wizard this weekend.

A cast of 25 fifth- through eighth-graders will bring a musical version of "The Wizard of Oz" to the stage for two performances May 1 and 2.

The show will be "very student-centric," said Rhonda McDonough, producer. Students have designed and created the set, costumes and choreography, she said.

Besides the cast of 25, a crew of seven students will handle the lights and sound.

St. Augustine School is doing an adapted version of "The Wizard of Oz," written by Michele Vacca.

"It's similar to the movie, with the same themes, but it's a very different interpretation,"



More than 35 students are participating in St. Augustine School's production of "The Wizard of Oz."

said McDonough, who has an eighth-grade daughter in the show. "It will be a very unique performance ... Each of the

scenes, they've added to it, and made it more personal to St. Augustine's."

Taking some "theatrical

LEAVE KANSAS BEHIND

- St. Augustine School's production of "The Wizard of Oz"
- May 1 at 7 p.m. and May 2 at 6 p.m.
- Wood Hill Middle School auditorium, 11 Cross St. Tickets sold at the door for \$10
- Directed by Sean Gaff
- For more information, call St. Augustine's at 978-475-2414

license," the students have added their own characters and humor to the show. A group of students playing the lollipop guild characters were into basketball, so the characters have basketballs instead of lollipops, she said.

Another line was added that one of the St. Augustine's teachers says in class all the time, said McDonough.

LOCAL SCHOLARS

The Eastern District of the Massachusetts Music Educators Association selected five Concord Academy students to participate in its Senior District Festival, including junior Talene Bilazarian of Andover, who earned a soprano spot in the Eastern

District chorus. Talene also was invited to audition for the All-State chorus—a highly selective honor.

Talene is the daughter of Melanie and Seth Bilazarian of Andover.

Concord Academy is an independent college preparatory school for grades nine through 12. Chartered in 1922, the school enrolls 367 students from eight countries and 20 states.

Please see SCHOLARS, Page 16

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Young science students try their own 'techsplorations'

Fifth-graders at West Elementary School recently learned how using simple machines help people do work by trading distance for effort. West Elementary was the latest Andover school to be visited by Tom Wahle of Techsploration, whose presentation was followed by individual workshops where students used gears, belts and pulleys to build a transmission system for their motor driven cars and found out why some gear combinations work better than others.

The event was provided through the West Elementary PTO. Students at St. Augustine School felt a magnetic pull toward science discovery back in March when they were treated to Techsploration's hands-on magnetic levitation workshop that had them racing Styrofoam cars and learning the principles of aerodynamics, according to teacher Karen Landers.

Directed by Wahle, students teamed to design and build their own magnetic levitation racers out of Styrofoam blocks, paper sails and popsicle sticks. The racers were mounted on magnetic blocks and pushed by a wind propulsion system down a long, electronically timed track.

"This is awesome!" cheered fifth-grade participant Joseph Straceski, as his carefully sculpted race car moved into the finals for fastest time. Wahle, the founder of Techsploration, gives demonstrations and run workshops throughout New England to introduce students to technology, science and problem-solving in a fun and exciting way.



Enjoying a different sort of science lesson are, from left, West Elementary students Kileigh Patrick and Abby Marcou.



St. Augustine fifth-grader Joseph Straceski of Andover celebrates as his magnetically levitated race car zooms into first place during that school's spring Techsploration workshop. To Joseph's left are, from left, Tom Wahle and fellow Andover student Jack Gerard.

Pike School announced winter honor roll

The following students were named to the winter 2008-09 honor roll at Pike School in Andover.

HIGH HONORS

Grade 9

Louisa Dallett, Jason Nawrocki, Jamison Poland and Sara Teplow

Grade 8

Hannah Abbe, Sahil Bhaiwala, Emily Carrolo, Rachel Cope, Tahera Doctor, Sarah Eberth, Kevin Fung, Pearson Goodman, Maria Karamourtopoulos, Alex Kramer, Angela Lei, Alex Meyers, Julie Moon, Bess Muggia, Josh Orlowitz, Juliette Randazza, Carlos Rotger, Andrew Schwartz, Isha Singh, Daniel Smith, Sebastian Tsai and Harry Wood

Grade 7

Meera Bhan, Caroline Burke, Moorea Colby, Michael DeLaus, Zoe Gates, George Gu, Emily Hatheway, David He, Jake Howell, Laura Ippolito, Lizzy Jaekle, Sam Landay, Sophie Landay, Abby Mayer, Alesandra Miller, Kristen Murphy, Max Novick, Andrew O'Brien, Jay Patel, Lizzy Rao, Jake Rauh, Soha Sancharawala and Nathan Sheng

Grade 6

Thayer Anderson, Andrew Barker-Morrill, Justin Curtis, Nick DiAdamo, Aaron Fang, Frank Geng, Mackenzie Gray, Forest Hallee, Joe Holden, Andrew Hulshult, Jessica Hutchinson, Caroline Kent, Karina Keus, Ritu Kumble, Nikita Minocha, Tracy O'Donnell, Tieren O'Rourke, Julia Reynolds, Gino Roy, Emily Schwartz, Victoria Skrivanos, Zach Steer, Kory Stuer and Patrick Watrous

Grade 8

Brant Abraham, Ani Bilazarian, Rachel Bolton, Matti Burns, Zoe Campbell, Chris Cortner, Caroline Cuoco, Jessica Darfoer, Elle Denison, Sarah Dumont, Joe Fennessy, Keiley Glancy, Lydia Godosolo, John Grady, Maddie Gray, Ben Grossman, Alex Hammond, Bridget Healey, Amelia Hulshult, Abby Katz, Briana More, Sara Nunez, Kelly O'Donnell, Theo Papapetros, Brian Poirier, Logan Poole, Guy Ross, Michael Schelzi, Michael Sciascia, Clark Shipley, Max Silveira, Tess Watler, Hanna Whirly and Marie Wilson

Grade 7

Sara Adam, George Apostle, Nick Bradley, Ally Brown, Meg Cahill, Michaela Comerford, Amy Corman, Maeve Curley, Emily Dumont, Benzi Edelson, Will Eikenberry, Seve Elkin, Olivia Foderaro, Greg French, Luke Glancy, Adam Goldstein, Emma Gordon, Guillaume Harmange, Yana Holden, Julia Hoyt, Ben Manser, Peter McGrath, Rachel Mills, Naomi Nelson, Sean Nork, Kellan Page, Bella Papapetros, Emma Parece, Nate Reddi, Carolina Rosas and Tyler Sauvageau

Grade 6

Ameer Ahmed, Shuruth Ananthakrishnan, Amy Bolton, Lexi Britt, Caroline Colletta, Jessica Conway, Graham Cook, Bianca Di Mauro, David Enyedy, Emma Fennessy, Analiese Fernandes, Charlotte Gacek, Justin Galiney, Blaise Harmange, Oliver Harston, Emily Jin, Tom Johst, Colleen MacInnis, Harrison Markell, Dominique Mateo, James Michaels, Alex Munick, Kate Nuzzolo, Margot O'Brien, Naveen Rajur, Molly Reilly, C. J. Rogers, Steven Schelzi, Sebastian Silveira, George Siodis, Sathvik Sudireddy, Meghan Tao, Michael Walsh and Allen Zhou

HONORS

Grade 9

Tyler Britt, Emily Brown, Frank Cieri, Megan Fanning, John French, Kelsey Hutchinson, Stephen Lafortune, Alex Mellin, Kiera Parece and Nick Sweetser

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Pike Speech team breaks new ground

Four Pike School students were the only middle-schoolers competing at the Massachusetts Forensic League High School State Championships earlier this month.

John French and Harry Wood, both of Andover, competed in

Impromptu Speaking; Gabriella Haddad of North Andover competed in Children's Literature; and Julie Moon of Wilmington competed in Original Oratory.

Of the 57 schools in this high school competition, Pike was the only middle school program and

ineligible to qualify for any team awards. However, Harry Wood did break into the final round of competition and finished in fourth place in Impromptu Speaking. In addition, he received the "Top Novice" Award for the tournament. (Wood writes book reviews

for the Andover Townsman.)

This was The Pike School's first MFL High School State Championship tournament, and the school believes Wood to be the first middle school student ever to place in the finals at the State Championships.

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Sports

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

Washburn leads Andover volleyball

By DAVID WILLIS
STAFF WRITER

Just the sound of a hit off the hand of Andover senior Matt Washburn made spectators flinch. That, on the off chance the ball happened to fly aimlessly into the stands, or more likely, hit an opposing player.

But intimidation is nothing new for Washburn. He and his Golden Warriors teammates have been striking fear in opponents throughout the 2009 season.

"Matt's the best middle hitter in the Merrimack Valley Conference," said Andover coach George Sullivan. "He pushes himself so hard, and he is the key to our success."

Let by Washburn, the Golden Warriors have rolled to an 11-1 record through Monday, matching their win total for all of last season. That includes victories over defending state champion St. John's Prep and powerhouse Lawrence.

"It's been a great season so far for us," said Washburn. "We have played against the best in the state and had success. I think we'll be in the mix for the state title."

It has been a breakout year for the 6-foot-4 middle hitter. Washburn was a starter last season, earning All-MVC honors. But, heading into this season, Sullivan noticed a new fire in his star.

"He could always play," said the Golden Warrior coach of 21-years. "But this season has been a big turnaround for him. Like most kids, he had a tendency to lose focus in previous years. But this year he was dedicated to preparing himself, and has had the focus to succeed."

In the fall, Washburn played his final season as a starting defensive back for the football team, highlighted by nine tackles against Boston College High School and six against Tewksbury. While he said the game of football has little in common with volleyball, it helped him develop his killer instinct.

This winter, he refined his volleyball skills as a member of the Bunker Hill club volleyball team

THE MATT WASHBURN FILE

Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot-4
Leading the way: Middle hitter has led the Golden Warriors to 11-1 record through Monday. Has led the Warriors in blocks in all but one match this season, in kills eight times and service points seven times. Was selected All-MVC a season ago.

Odds and Ends: Also a starter on the football team as a defensive back. Ranks in the top 40 percent of his senior class.

along with Andover teammates and co-captains Mike Emmons and Gary Hinds.

"That helped me a lot to improve my skills," he said. "We practiced once a week and played tournaments on the weekends that lasted six or seven hours. It allowed Mike, Gary and I to really mold as a group."

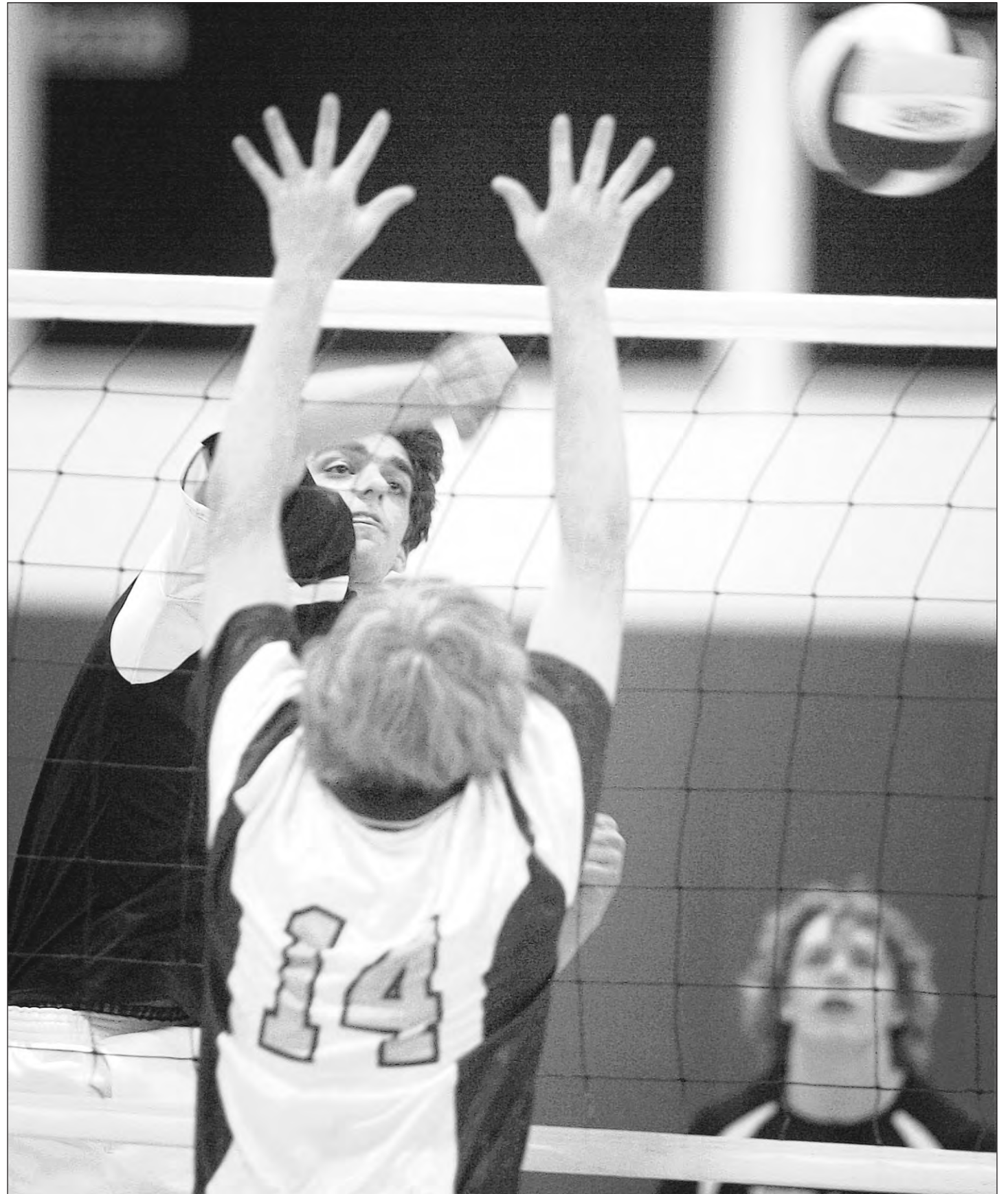
Washburn noted much of his offseason training involved improving his ability to play the back line positions.

"Before, I played just on the front line," he said. "In the front, your job is to block and spike. But in the back you have to pass the ball, dig and spike. And it's further back, so attacks are much more difficult. I also had to improve my serving ability. I entered this season a much more well-rounded player."

Behind Washburn's play, the Golden Warriors flew out to a 6-0 record this season, with wins including Central Catholic and Methuen.

"After the Methuen game (Rangers head coach) Matt Twomey came over to me," said Sullivan. "He said, 'I can't believe how much (Washburn) has improved.' He is definitely the best around."

But Washburn and the Golden Warriors had not yet made their greatest statement of the season. On April 13, Andover defeated defending state champion St. John's Prep 3-0. Two days later, they followed it up by rallying for a dramatic win over state power Lawrence 23-25, 27-25,



ROGER DARRIGRAND/Staff photo

Andover's Matt Washburn fires down a spike against Haverhill last week. The 6-foot-4 senior has been dominant for the Golden Warriors, who were 11-1 through Monday.

20-25, 25-15, 15-9.

"Those two wins were a huge boost for the team," he said. "It shows us we can play and beat the best in the state. St. John's is very strong, but Lawrence was our biggest win of the season."

Washburn dominated in each of the wins. Against the Eagles he led Andover in kills (12) and blocks (8), and against the Lancers he also led in both categories (17 kills, 8 blocks). The Warriors

did then suffer their first loss of the season, to currently-undefeated Chelmsford, but have followed it up with three more easy victories.

"We can't wait to get Chelmsford in our house," he said. "But we have to stay focused before that game."

Washburn has used his impressive height and stellar 25-inch vertical leap to good use throughout the season. He has

led the Warriors in blocks in all but one match this season, while pacing them in kills eight times and service points seven times. He, along with the likes of Emmons and Hinds, have also led the Warriors to an impressive turnaround.

One more win will give the Warriors their most victories since the 2005 season (16). Andover also won 11 games in 2006, but fell to just five wins in

2007, missing the tournament for the first time since 2001. They recovered for 11 last season.

But the Warriors have their eyes set on more than regular season success, and Sullivan is thrilled to have Washburn on his squad.

"He can just sky," said Sullivan. "He serves very hard and has a great jump serve. A lot of the kids joke they are glad that he isn't serving to them."

► Roundup

Gross, Warriors rally for lacrosse upset

GIRLS LACROSSE

Trailing by a goal with 50 seconds left in regulation, Andover's **Cat Gross** sent the game into overtime with her fifth tally of the night. She added two more goals in overtime to give the Golden Warriors a 12-9 win over New Hampshire powerhouse Pinkerton on Friday, the Astros' first loss of the season. **Heather Sullivan** added three goals and **Ally Fazio** and **Rosie Forster** each scored once for the Golden Warriors (4-4), who were playing without six starters due to injury.

Cleared to play just hours before the game, **Heather Sullivan** scored three goals in her return from injury, helping Andover top North Andover 9-6 last Thursday. **Cat Gross** added a hat trick, **Ally Fazio** scored once and had an assist and **Anne Farnham** chipped in the final goal.

GIRLS TRACK

Salley continues to raise the bar

Jessica Salley won the high jump with a stellar 5-6 for Andover at the Nashua North Invitational on Saturday. **Colleen Shannon** took fourth in the 800 and eighth in the long jump, **Vanessa Singleton** was fifth in the 400 and **Moir Cronin** was second in the high jump and seventh in the 100 hurdles for the Warriors.

BOYS LACROSSE

Mclver, Eriksen lead Andover

Gavin Mclver and **Matt Eriksen** each notched a hat trick and had two assists as Andover defeated



ROGER DARRIGRAND/Staff photo

Andover freshman Ally Fazio fights through the defense for a goal in Andover's victory over North Andover last Thursday.

Lexington 9-8 last Thursday. **Christian Benedix** added two goals and **Craig Hornung** scored the final goal for the winners (6-2). **Jake Gostanian** made nine saves for the Warriors.

Joe Lamagna scored three goals and **Gavin Mclver** and **Josh Torres** each scored twice, but Andover fell to Cape Ann League power North Andover 11-9 last Monday. **Christian Benedix** and **Conor Gaffney** added a goal each for the Warriors.

Despite three goals from **Matt**

Eriksen, Andover fell to Hingham 10-7 on Saturday. **Gavin Mclver** chipped in with two goals and **Christian Benedix** and **Joe Lamagna** each scored once and had an assist for the Warriors.

BASBEBALL

Carlson, Farrell pace Warriors

Shawn Carlson threw a complete-game three-hitter and co-ace **John Farrell** knocked in two runs as the designated hitter as Andover bounced back with a 9-2

drubbing of Tewksbury on Saturday. Catcher **Dan Gusovsky** was 2 for 2 with a pair of RBIs and **John Hennessy** added two hits and drove in two runs while **Jake Ponti** chipped in with two RBIs.

Despite two hits and two RBIs for **Andrew Ruiz-Henriquez**, Andover dropped a 7-3 decision to Lowell on Friday. **John Hennessy** had two hits and **Dan Gusovsky** had a hit and scored once.

John Hennessy had a hit and drove in three runs, but Andover fell to Masconomet 16-7 last

Monday. **Jake Ponti** added a pair of hits for the Warriors.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Warriors keep rolling

Paced by 15 kills, nine blocks and 11 service points by **Matt Washburn**, Andover cruised to a 25-16, 25-11, 25-20 drubbing of Haverhill on Friday. **Gary Hinds** added 12 kills and **Mike Emmons** had 28 assists for the Warriors (11-1).

Behind 33 assists from **Mike Emmons**, Andover registered win No. 10 on the season, downing Lowell 25-23, 25-19, 25-17 last Wednesday. **Andrew Osborne** chipped in 12 kills and **Matt Washburn** added nine blocks for the winners.

BOYS TRACK

Relays, Warriors excel

Andover earned first place in the 4x100 and 4x400 relays and **Mark Vetere** won the pole vault (13-6) for the Golden Warriors at the Nashua North Invitational on Saturday. **Chris Chu** added a third in the triple jump and a fifth in the 110 hurdles.

SOFTBALL

Musto's big day gives Andover blowout

Batting out of the No. 7 spot in the order, **Jess Musto** drove in four runs to lead Andover to a 14-3 drubbing of North Andover last Monday. **Meaghan McCarthy** continued her stellar senior season with three RBIs and two runs scored and **Alex Stroock** drove in two runs for the winners.

Please see **ROUNDUP**, Page 19

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Thickening clouds	A couple of t-storms	A shower or t-storm	Chance of a shower	Mostly cloudy	Mostly cloudy	Rain	Cloudy
High: 68°	Low: 49°	High: 68° Low: 54°	High: 63° Low: 42°	High: 64° Low: 42°	High: 59° Low: 44°	High: 62° Low: 46°	High: 65° Low: 48°

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TOWN TALK



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Andover's Christoph Krey, right, of the band McAlister Drive, sings and plays guitar while being filmed for a music video by Benjamin J. McElroy, owner of McElroy Films at the Collins Center for the Performing Arts, Andover recently.

Movie out, but are we in?

Did movie scenes filmed around town late last summer make the cut for the new movie, Don McKay? Crews filmed a dinner scene at Palmers restaurant and counter scenes at Letourneau's Pharmacy. The movie premiered at last weekend's Tribeca Film Festival in New York City.

Starring actors Thomas Hayden Church and Elisabeth Shue, it's a \$5 million drama blending horror, romance and comedy, according to the movie Web site. Church's character, a long time high school janitor, leads a quiet life until he receives a letter from his dying high school girlfriend, played by Shue. He later suspects her motives for summoning him.

"I hope we didn't end up on cutting room floor!" Rebecca Ingalls of Palmers wrote in

an e-mail.

The 87-minute movie is looking for a distributor so no release date has been set. - Judy Wakefield

Watch out! Darkness in the downtown

Workers were scheduled to remove the old light poles in the heart of the downtown, Elm Square, leaving the awkward intersection in relative darkness at night for the next week or two.

"There will be a gap in nighttime lighting of Elm Square until the new light poles are erected, scheduled on or before the week of May 11," according to Lisa Schwarz, town planner.

Pews with potential

They're not exactly Pottery Barn or Crate & Barrel, but the potential is there for a lot less money.

St. Augustine Church of Andover is looking to unload some 60 solid oak pews from its collection. Perhaps they could be used like those designer benches that people put in entryways as a place to remove shoes, or as decorative seating with pillows in a long hallway.

The pews are about 12 feet long and 3 feet wide each. Smaller sizes are also available. Call the church office at 978-475-0050 to get more information.

A free will offering will be accepted.

- Judy Wakefield

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There are three-tiers of exercise options when you're looking to feel better. And, Yang's Fitness & Martial Arts Center - or "Yang's" for those in-the-know - offers all three options at their Dundee Park location. Each can help alleviate and/or prevent pain and improve your quality of life.

First up is Yoga. This mystic Hindu discipline mixes intense concentration and meditation with prescribed postures and controlled breathing. Yoga is best known for its ability to heal and prevent injuries. The Hatha and Vinyasa (flowing) yoga classes are conducted in a warm, comfortable environment at Yang's. This allows postures to differ from class to class. This way, a variety of new challenges and benefits are presented to participants. Alignment is an integral part of yoga and Yang's instructors continually give verbal and physical adjustments, and level appropriate modifications to ensure the safety and effectiveness of each posture. Prior experience is not required for the yoga classes.

Pilates is next. With a concentration on core muscles, the benefits of Pilates are long-listed. This exercise is known to improve strength, flexibility and suppleness of core muscles. Pilates is a system of stretching and strengthening exercises developed by Joseph H. Pilates. He called his exercise method "The Art of Control," or muscle control, to highlight his unique approach of using the mind to master the muscles. Pilates strengthens and tones muscles, improves posture, provides flexibility and balance, unites the body and mind, and creates a more streamlined shape. Pilates is offered on a private, semi-private basis and as a part of the Yoga & Pilates classes at Yang's.

Tai Chi can help reduce stress. With its Mandarin founding, Tai Chi focuses on balancing with its slow, ritual movements. Tai Chi (pronounced Taiji), is sometimes called "moving meditation." Practiced daily by millions of men and women all over the world, benefits include reduced stress, increased energy and vitality, and improved balance. Tai Chi gently stimulates the internal organs of the body, exercises the muscles, calms the nervous system, and mobilizes the joints. Beginner Tai Chi classes are offered approximately every 12 weeks with the next session starting this month.

Yoga, Pilates, and Tai Chi may be different types of exercises, but each offers a connection between mind and body that can certainly help you feel better. They are the three tiers of the Mind and Body programs at Yang's. Trying one or all three is certain to help you feel better.

Since 1988, Yang's has been offering Mind and Body programs and there is information, resources and instruction available to all clients at Yang's Fitness & Martial Arts Center. All ages and abilities can get involved with the classes. The experienced staff offers a variety of group classes and private instruction that provide the benefits that these programs are well known for.

If you haven't experienced a Yoga & Pilates class at Yang's, call or stop by to activate a free 7-day trial (certain restrictions may apply).

For details, visit www.YangsFitnessCenter.com

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