

INSIDE: HOW THIS ROCK STAR HELPS ANDOVER EDUCATION, PAGE 5

OUR 121ST YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 36

MAY 7, 2009

75 CENTS



School principals agree to wage freezes for next year

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Andover's school principals have voluntarily agreed to the equivalent of a wage freeze for next year. They will take a 3.53 percent

reduction in what they were expect to earn during the 2009-10 school year, the equivalent of foregoing their contract-guaranteed raise, according to the school department.

The move comes after both town and school leaders asked

unions to help them close budget gaps for fiscal year 2010 by re-opening their contracts this spring.

Also, six central office administrators have volunteered for the 3.53 percent reduction in next year's expected pay, and

a group of 32 independent employees have volunteered to take 1.5 percent less of a raise next year.

School Committee Chairwoman Debra Silberstein called the employees' sacrifice "extraordinary leadership."

"It was very symbolic for them to step up," said Silberstein, who noted that both groups volunteered to forego more than the 1 percent less of a raise agreed to by one town union and town department heads earlier this year.

The decision was made just before the Tuesday night School Committee meeting, so details were still being ironed out at Townsman press time, said Silberstein, including calculating how much money the measure would save the district.

Back-to-back crowd pleasers



ROGER DARRIGRAND/Staff photo

Andover will enjoy back-to-back weekend events in the Park at the corner of Barlet and Chestnut streets during the next two weekends. Jewelry maker Pam Newman, left, and dozens of other craft-makers will display their products this Saturday at the Crafts in the Park, while Laura Hajdukiewicz (right) and fellow Andona Society members will turn the Park into the wildly popular carnival Clown-Town on Friday and Saturday, May 15 and 16. Story on Crafts in the Park, page 8.

Elementary health education revamped

To save money, health taught with PE, science

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

School administration have cut 4.6 elementary health teaching positions, eliminating Andover's elementary health program as it exists this year.

To make up the loss without incurring extra cost, first- through fifth-graders will have physical education classes twice a week, and science and PE teachers will devote time to a "integrated wellness program."

Currently, first- through fourth-graders have PE once a week, and fifth-graders have it twice a week.

The health cut and wellness program is in Bach's revised budget, which she presented to the School Committee May 5 after discussing proposed cuts and revisions with school principals.

The budget also calls for eliminating 1.3 elementary instrumental music and 4.8 technology positions.

"The principals are the decision makers, and they're in a very difficult position. They value everything that's taught within their schools," said Brian McNally, district-wide health education program coordinator. "I'm frustrated of the thought of losing health, I know how valuable it is. We believe that what we teach is extremely important, but were not saying it's more important than anything else that's taught. That's why it's frustrating that there's not enough money to go around."

The 4.6 teaching positions are for Andover's six elementary schools, so several instructors travel between multiple buildings, where students in first through fifth grades have health class one day a week.

Health teachers who have been with the district more than three years could be reassigned instead of laid off, said Bach. They could take the place of a teacher who is "preprofessional," or has worked in

Please see **HEALTH**, Page 2

REVISIONS: BUS FEES WILL STAY SAME; SPORTS FEES CLIMB \$100

Also in the revised FY2010 budget, announced May 5:

- Parking fee at Andover High School will be raised to \$200 (instead of the proposed \$100), collecting \$33,000
- The proposed AHS per-student club fee is eliminated; \$33,000 from the budget will be put towards club expenses, and anything beyond that will have to be raised by the PAC
- Bus fees will stay the same as this year
- Athletic fees will increase to \$350 per athlete, with a cap of \$750 per family (for the past five years, they've been \$250 per athlete, with a \$500 cap)
- 4.8 elementary technology positions eliminated
- 1.3 instrumental music positions eliminated
- 4.6 health positions eliminated

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Stamp of approval for keeping Main Street Post Office?

Town looks at whether to extend lease of Old Town Hall space

By BRIAN MESSENGER
STAFF WRITER

With the United States Postal Service's lease of first-floor space at Old Town Hall set to expire in June 2010, town leaders must consider whether they want to extend the deal. But first, Town Meeting must vote.

If residents approve Article 47 at Town Meeting later this month it will allow Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski and selectmen to renew the town's agreement with the Post

Office for up to a 10-year period. In addition to its location on Stevens Street, the U.S. Post Office operates a full-service location on the first floor of Old Town Hall, also known as the Town House, in the heart of downtown.

The current lease is a 10-year agreement. The Post Office pays just \$1 in rent plus the cost of utilities, which Stapczynski said amounts to several thousand dollars annually.

Several selectmen expressed interest in making changes to the length

of the lease in the next round of negotiations.

"Going into another 10-year lease really locks us up for a long period of time," said Selectman Jerry Stabile. "We're just looking to go forward with more flexibility with what we do with that space."

"I don't think I'd offer 10 years for anything at this point," agreed Selectman Alex Vispoli.

Stabile said the board has yet to begin discussing terms and

Please see **POST OFFICE**, Page 2



Should You Buy Or Sell First?
Homeowners often struggle with the dilemma of whether to buy another house before selling their current one, or to sell before purchasing their next home. There is no definite answer because personal circumstances can weigh heavily on the homeowner's decision. Both approaches have their advantages & disadvantages; therefore, homeowners should carefully evaluate their situation before making a decision.

I would be very happy to explain the pros & cons in person as space does not allow for a full explanation here. Alternatively, I would be happy to mail a detailed explanation to you. Just give me a call!

For more tips for both selling & buying, visit my website and please call me if I can be of assistance!

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KELLER WILLIAMS
REALTY

Sept. 11 widow brings message to Afghans, Andoverites

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

11 widow Patti Quigley cofounded Beyond the 11th, a nonprofit organization that provides support to widows in Afghanistan, partnering with existing non-governmental organizations.

Despite a faltering economy and tough year for fundraising, the Sisterhood of Temple Emanuel has sold a record 140 tickets to its annual spring dinner on May 13.

Organizer Betsy Brother attributes the interest to women wanting to help during tough times, as well as be inspired by Susan Retik, the event's keynote speaker.

On Sept. 11, 2001 Retik was seven months pregnant with her third child when her husband, David, was killed on American Flight 11 as a result of the morning's terrorist attacks.

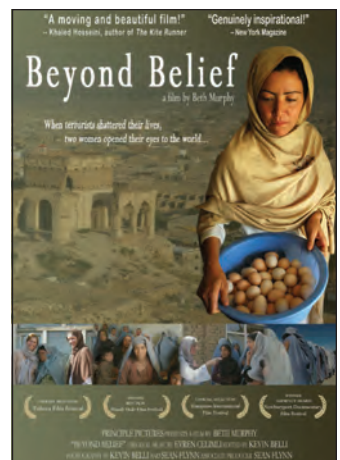
Since then Retik and fellow Sept.



Susan Retik

was featured in the documentary "Beyond Belief," which the Sisterhood has featured in a film series at the temple this spring.

"We chose Susan as a speaker



Courtesy photo
Movie poster for the documentary "Beyond Belief."

Please see **DINNER**, Page 2

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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.

DINNER: Locals to hear a story 'Beyond Belief'

Continued from Page 1

because Beyond the 11th is so similar to a lot of the organizations we (the Sisterhood) support - it helps other women, makes the world a smaller place and promotes peace," said Brother.

The ticket sales are "a sign that folks are interested in hearing someone's story about changing the lives of others in the world," said Brother.

"I'm looking forward to meeting Susan. She seems so larger than life, based on what she's accomplished. She is another mother, a Jewish woman, a wife - any one of us could have been put in her situation. I look forward to meeting her, and enabling everyone who's attending to meet her as well," she said.

Retik said she plans on speaking briefly about Beyond the 11th,

SISTERHOOD DINNER

- May 13, 6 p.m. cocktail hour, dinner at 7:15 and keynote address at 8:15
- Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road
- Guest speaker: Susan Retik, founder of the Beyond the 11th
- For more information, email Betsy Brother at betsybrother@yahoo.com or visit www.templemanuel.net
- For more on Retik and her non-profit, visit www.beyondthe11th.org

how the organization came to be and who it helps, but also looks forward to a lengthy question-and-answer session.

"When people have seen the film 'Beyond Belief', I find that people have tons of questions, and that's what I love," said Retik.

"Our mission is twofold, to

raise money for our mission in Afghanistan, but also to raise awareness for the plight of these (Afghan) women. It's a great opportunity to speak to a group of women that know my story and are interested in hearing more about it, and want to keep focused on what's happening in that part of the world. We are all really connected and that's something I learned in a really hard way. We're all one and have to help each other," said Retik.

Retik and Quigley began Beyond the 11th in 2003, reaching out to widows like themselves in Afghanistan, the training ground for the terrorists who killed their husbands. The organization helps Afghan widows become self-sufficient in a country that denies them many rights American women take for granted, like leaving the house or driving a car.

"The fact that it is 2009 and this is happening, it's hard to believe," said Retik. "Clearly there are a lot of differences (between Afghan widows and American women), but when you look into their eyes and sit and have a conversation, it's crystal clear that we're the same. We all want the same thing, what's best for our kids, peace and prosperity. We're all similar, it doesn't matter how you grew up or what religion you are, we're just trying to get through life. I hope by the end of the evening, these Andover women will feel a connection to these women in Afghanistan."

Retik said she hopes attendees come with an open heart, but also an open checkbook.

"Think about how much we spend on war, and then how much we spend rebuilding a country," she said.

HEALTH: 4.6 health-ed. positions to be cut

Continued from Page 1

Andover fewer than three years, and the rookie teacher would be laid off instead.

Several of the health teachers are dual certified in PE or another subject, said Bach, so they could be reassigned. Either way, 4.6 positions will be laid off, whether they are the health teachers themselves or pre-professional teachers they replace, and it's the same with eliminated elementary music and technology positions.

McNally said the elementary health curriculum teaches a base that middle and high school health classes build from. Besides learning about the systems of the body, elementary students learn about goal setting,

self management, interpersonal skills and other life skills, said McNally.

"Our health teachers are continually looking at health curriculum to make sure it's matching 21st century skills," said McNally, "and making sure it's cutting edge and meeting needs of students."

Other school districts in the state often call or send health personnel to Andover to spend a day learning its approach, said McNally.

Health classes are becoming even more important as rates of juvenile diabetes, depression and anxiety are on the rise, said McNally. Next year, schools will be mandated to report a body mass index for each student to the state.

Right now, 26 percent of Andover first-graders and 30 percent of Andover fourth-graders fall into the overweight or obese BMI category, he said.

Lana Reuss, health teacher at Wood Hill Middle School, said

she saw a difference when students were coming into her class without having health in elementary school, after it was cut from the budget in 2003.

"As a classroom teacher, I was just getting used to kids having had health in elementary school, and we could move on from the body systems and do (lessons on) decision-making and life skills, including tobacco and alcohol," said Reuss, who has taught health in Andover for 20 years. "The kids were more comfortable in the health classroom (after having elementary health), talking about issues."

After the 2003 health cut, Doherty Middle School students reported increased risky behavior on the anonymous youth risk behavior survey the next year, said McNally.

"We've already seen what happened the last time we cut health, in 2004. There was a well-documented uptick in risky behaviors. In society, we've seen risky behavior increase - we

don't want to repeat history. That's strong in my mind," said School Committee member Annie Gilbert. "One of the reasons we started a comprehensive program k-12 years back was in result of a number of suicides, and that is in my mind as well."

Students cannot get the same learning from their parents at home, agreed Reuss and McNally.

"I know that as a mother, I cannot provide the same opportunities I can provide these kids in the classroom," said Reuss, who has two daughters. "I like to think I'm frank and open, but they won't talk to me like these kids would in a classroom."

"Andover has placed a high value on health education over the years, and it's admirable and it really shows what their priorities are," said Reuss. "We have a great department, a very committed staff. We are health educators, not just teachers that teach health."

CORRECTIONS

Due to a reporting error, Margaret Christoforo's last name was spelled incorrectly in the April 30 Arts story "Alexander show makes terrible day fun." Christoforo, an Andover High School junior, played the part of Alexander's mother in the Boston Children's Theatre production of "Alexander and the

Terrible Horrible No Good Very Bad Day."

In the article "Interviews with heroes" on the April 30 Townspeople page, Thomas Garvey should have been referred to as a Korean War veteran. Also, the story was about veterans interviewing both Korean War and World War II veterans.



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POST OFFICE: Town looks at extending lease

Continued from Page 1

conditions on the lease with Stapczynski.

"We don't have our proposal nailed down yet," said Stapczynski. "I have to meet with

selectmen and put together a strategy."

Stapczynski said the Post Office began operating out of Old Town Hall when its other Main Street location was closed during the 1980s.

"I think when the post office

was put in (Old Town Hall), there was a demand for it," said Vispoli.

"The question is, is that demand still there and is that the best use for the space?"

"I'm not sure it's the best use" he said.

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In Brief

PAST & PRESENT



THEN: City Cleaners at 8 Park St. in 1957. Prices for dry cleaned and pressed items included dresses 89 cents, trousers 45 cents, shirts 21 cents and sheets just 12 cents.



NOW: The current Dellaria Salon & Day Spa on Park Street was once the home of City Cleaners.

QUOTE, UNQUOTE ...



ZERO WASTE DAY MAKES SURE (UNWANTED) items are getting to the right place and not being wasted by being burned in the incinerator. People can get them out of their homes without having to drive to the different charities. That's the hope, the win-win of it.
— Marya Lundgren, Zero Waste Day coordinator and member of the Andover Recycling Committee on the May 9 event that last year was popular enough to cause a traffic backup. Story, page 10.

IT'S THE FIRST SHOW (OF the year), it's in the Park, it's the day before Mother's Day and spring is here.
— Organizer Sue Wahr on why Crafts in the Park remains a draw after 34 years. Story, page 8.



NEWS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MAY 7	WEDNESDAY, MAY 13
<p>Interstate 93 Lowell Junction Interchange Task Force, Memorial Hall Library, the hall, 8 a.m.</p> <p>Zoning Board of Appeals, Memorial Hall Library, the hall, 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Town Audit Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 8 a.m.</p> <p>Design Review Board, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Finance Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 7 p.m.</p>
THURSDAY, MAY 14	TUESDAY, MAY 12
<p>Council on Aging, School Administration Building, third-floor conference room, 8 a.m.</p> <p>Board of Assessors, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., assessors conference room, 9 a.m.</p>	<p>Board of Health, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., first-floor conference room, 6 to 9 p.m.</p> <p>Housing Partnership Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Preservation Commission, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Planning Board, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7:30 p.m.</p>
MONDAY, MAY 11	THURSDAY, MAY 13
<p>School Building Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 8 a.m.</p>	<p>Town Audit Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 8 a.m.</p> <p>Design Review Board, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Finance Committee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 7 p.m.</p>

AYS Gold Rush moves to Grecoe Jewelers

Andover Youth Service's "Gold Rush" fundraiser has scaled back and partnered with an established second-hand dealer or jeweler. But it begins today and will run May 7, 8 and 9.

The fundraiser, held to combat town cuts to the AYS budget for next year, asks folks to bring unwanted gold, silver or platinum items to be appraised next week. The person can either donate the value of the item to AYS outright, or be cut a check for the value, from which AYS will receive a percentage of the selling price.

Due to some licensing issues, AYS will hold the fundraiser in partnership with Grecoe Jewelers on Park Street.

"The chief of police wanted us to partner with an established jeweler in town," said Gold Rush organizer Afton Cuomo.

Instead of running May 4 through May 8, the Gold Rush will now be held May 7 to 9.

Deborah Cuomo, mother of

RUSH RUNDOWN

Updated AYS "Gold Rush" fundraiser information:
Thursday May 7 and Friday May 8, from 2 to 6 p.m.
Saturday, May 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Grecoe Jewelers, 26 Park St.
Cash paid for gold, platinum and silver items (doesn't have to be jewelry)
Participants must be 18 years of age and bring valid identification (per state law)
For more information, call AYS at 978-623-8241

AYS Program Coordinator Afton Cuomo, will still appraise the pieces brought in, as originally planned. Now, she'll be doing so under Grecoe's second-hand dealer license, and the jewelry taken in through the event can be safely stowed in Grecoe's safe.

AYS is "very appreciative" of the Grecoe family, who offered to host the fundraiser at the last minute, said Cuomo.

Andover Chamber Annual Community Service Awards breakfast is Thursday, June 4

The Andover Chamber of Commerce will hold its 2009 Annual Community Service Awards Ceremony and Breakfast on Thursday, June 4, 2009 from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Indian Ridge Country Club in Andover.

The morning's program will include high school student community service award winners, who will be presented college scholarships, and this year's winners of the Andover Chamber of Commerce awards for distinguished community service: Donald Schroeder and James Sutton.

According to the event organizers, "Don Schroeder, in his capacity as a Town of Andover Committee member and non-profit organization board member and Jim Sutton, in his role as the Director of Andover's Memorial Hall Library and through his active community involvement, have

contributed in many important ways to the civic well-being of Andover. These are indeed special people who make our community special. They are most deserving of this award."

Tickets for the Thursday, June 4 Andover Chamber of Commerce Community Service Awards Breakfast are \$250 per person, and may be obtained by contacting the offices of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce at 978-686-0900.

Get up to speed for Town Meeting on May 14

The League of Women Voters of Andover/North Andover presents Town Meeting Preview on Thursday, May 14, at 7 p.m. in the Andover School Committee Room of the School Administration Building, Whittier Court. Members of the League will provide background information about the budget and selected

warrant articles in advance of the town meeting, scheduled to begin Tuesday, May 26. Various town officials will attend the preview and be available to answer questions. The forum will be broadcasted live on local cable. It will be taped for rebroadcast. This event is free and open to the public.

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TIM JEAN/Staff photo
Vivian Zhong, left, and Basia Sudol, both sixth-grade students at West Middle School, check out plastic pink flamingos outside on the school's lawn to draw attention to the PAC fundraiser.

Flock Redux

West Middle School flamingo fundraiser lands again

The West Middle School community is flocking lawns again this month with those lovable plastic pink flamingos. A success last year with town-wide participation, the flocking season is being promoted by the school's Parent Advisory Council. The fundraiser kicked off last Friday morning, May 1 when 100 flamingos were placed on the front lawn at West Middle. The flocks began migrating to other locations in town on May 3. The fundraiser will run through May 23.

Residents can request a flocking for a donation of \$35. The flock will remain at the specified address for 24 to 48 hours before it migrates to the next location. Residents who wish never to be flocked, can purchase flocking insurance for \$15. Those who are flocked have a few options - they can make a tax-deductible donation in any amount to the school to show their support, they can move the flock to the address of their choice for the \$35 flocking fee, they can purchase \$15 flocking insurance to ensure they are

never flocked again or they can do nothing. In any case, the flamingos will be removed in 24 to 48 hours. Residents who would like to flock a friend or neighbor in Andover, can sign up on wmsflamingo.blogspot.com, e-mail wmsflocking@gmail.com, drop off a check at the West Middle School front office at 70 Shawsheen Road, or mail to WMS PAC, 70 Shawsheen Road, Andover, MA 01810. Checks should be made payable to "WMS PAC."

82 more parking spaces proposed for commuters

Meeting on Dascomb Road Park & Ride lot May 18

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

The town's top official said a state plan to expand the commuter parking lot on Dascomb Road is good news for Andover. "The state wants more people to carpool, so I think this expansion is a good idea," said Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski. "This will get people off I-93 and that's what the state wants to do."

The parking lot, close to Interstate 93 near the Tewksbury town line, is filled to capacity most Mondays through Fridays. In a press release, the state's Highway Department announced there are plans to expand the lot by 82 parking spaces. A public hearing on the proposed Park and Ride Expansion Project off Dascomb Road is set for Monday, May 18 at 7 p.m. in Memorial Hall Library.

Adam Hurtubise, a media relations spokesman for the state's highway department did not return phone calls from the Townsman.

The press release reports that the plans for the proposed expansion will be on display for 30 minutes before the public



TIM JEAN/Staff photo
The Park and Ride lot on Dascomb Road. The state is looking to add 82 spaces to the lot off Interstate 93, where some now park on the grass.

meeting begins. An engineer from the state's highway department will answer questions at the meeting.

The parking lot is owned by the state, Stapczynski said, and the expansion would be on state-owned land. The proposed work includes re-grading and resurfacing the existing parking lot. Proposed plans for the new parking lot would be to the north of the existing lot and include new drainage, a stormwater

retention basin, new pavement markings, lighting, guardrails and landscaping. The total cost of the proposed project was not mentioned.

Written views on the proposed project are welcome at the meeting but must be received five days in advance to be discussed. Written opinions can be sent to Frank Tramotozzi, chief engineer, Mass. Highway Dept., 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116.

Coffee and jam

Youth Java Jam takes over Old Town Hall

By COLIN TREPICCHIO
AND MATT MURRAY
ANDOVER YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS

"Hot dogs! Get your hot dogs here!" said Matt Murray a senior at Andover High School. No, he was not working at a Red Sox Game, nor was he anywhere near Fenway Park. Matt was working at last year's Java Jam, a night for high school students of acoustic rhythms, displayed art, aromatic coffee and plenty of hot dogs.

This year's Java Jam will be held on Friday, May 15 at the Old Town

Hall at 20 Main St., hosted by none other than the Andover Youth Council. Doors will open at 7:30. A large cup of Joe is waiting for you at the door, and a comfy seat is upstairs. You will be entertained for an entire night by high school acoustic performances, spoken word and singing. The event also includes a spread of artistic talent by select Andover students.

This year is sure to feature many up and coming artists from AHS performing live acoustic sets, some combining their talents for dynamic duets and other


collaborations.

Chris Harris, a junior at Andover High School who attended the event last year, said, "It was really cool! Everybody was really good and the whole thing made me feel really relaxed. All the entertainment was different but still excellent."

Tickets for this high school-only event will be sold at the door for \$7. If you are interested in performing, contact the Youth Services Office at 978-623-8241 or pick up a flyer at Andover High School and return it to Dr. Bill Kolbe.

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Education

Outstanding citizen, outstanding mom helped get school built

Ken Seifert



Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers of the world! I would like to introduce you to a unique mother, Adeline Seifert. She gave birth to seven children, four boys and three girls. She did it with only one kidney. She was warned not to have any more after the birth of the second child. She nursed all seven through mumps, measles, chicken pox and the oldest son through polio.

We were not the easiest children to take to adulthood. In turn, each child occupied a special place on her lap. She sang her 25 favorite songs and rocked us to sleep during the hot and cold nights with colds and toothaches.

Although we had tough economic times, she made Easter and Christmas special. Dad would just shake his head. Mom controlled the budget.

We all had hand-me-down clothes but she sent us to school neat and clean. You would not complain. Our parents did not take too kindly to whiners.

Mom was very active in obtaining food and clothing for needy

neighbors. Sometimes they would get better food to eat than we did. We never missed a meal. She would always say we never had it tough, because we had a bed to sleep in and three meals a day.

That was inside the house on 34 Walter St. We would not trade our childhood for love nor money.

Outside the home was another story.

In Buffalo, Public School 26 had a third floor that was condemned for 25 years. My mother organized a Mothers Club and tried the usual placards and demonstrations for repairs or a new facility. My father had attended

the school before us and now there were five of the seven siblings sitting in the same desks and walking the creaky halls. As you might expect, the City Council believed we could go another 20 years in a building that was a poor excuse for a school.

Very quietly, my mother planned a sick out. For three days, 502 of the 506 children had a rare virus. Only one family of four children attended school. The police threatened to put my mother in jail. Dad said to hold out a day or two longer.

The City Council had an emergency session and discovered funds to build a new school. Overnight, the virus vanished,

there was perfect attendance at the school and everyone was happy.

In 1956 she was selected one of the 10 most outstanding citizens in Buffalo. She became the first president of the Buffalo Crossing Guards Association. She received a state safety award for rescuing a child from an oncoming car. Her assignment was a very busy corner on Bailey and Seneca streets, two major roads.

She was chairwoman of the social services committee at her church for 40 years. Every Saturday for 27 years, she ran a local bowling league for children 10 to 15. She retired from the activity at the age of 85.

My dad died when he was 66. Mom lived independently for another 27 years.

She was still driving a car and continued her church work until pancreatic cancer took her from us at the age of 88. She was the finest Christian I have ever known.

As you celebrate Mother's Day I hope you are as fortunate as the Seifert family, which had a wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and a true friend to all in need. What a lady.

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

Spanish class rocks!

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Teenage fans were screaming, waving glow sticks and holding posters proclaiming their love. A pop singer, attired in a hip ensemble, belted out catchy tunes and signed autographs afterwards.

This wasn't a rock concert. It was a Spanish lesson at Doherty Middle School last week.

The Bartlet Street school hosted Argentinian pop sensation Justo Lamas, and students in Andover's eighth-grade Spanish classes danced, sang and swooned at two performances on April 30.

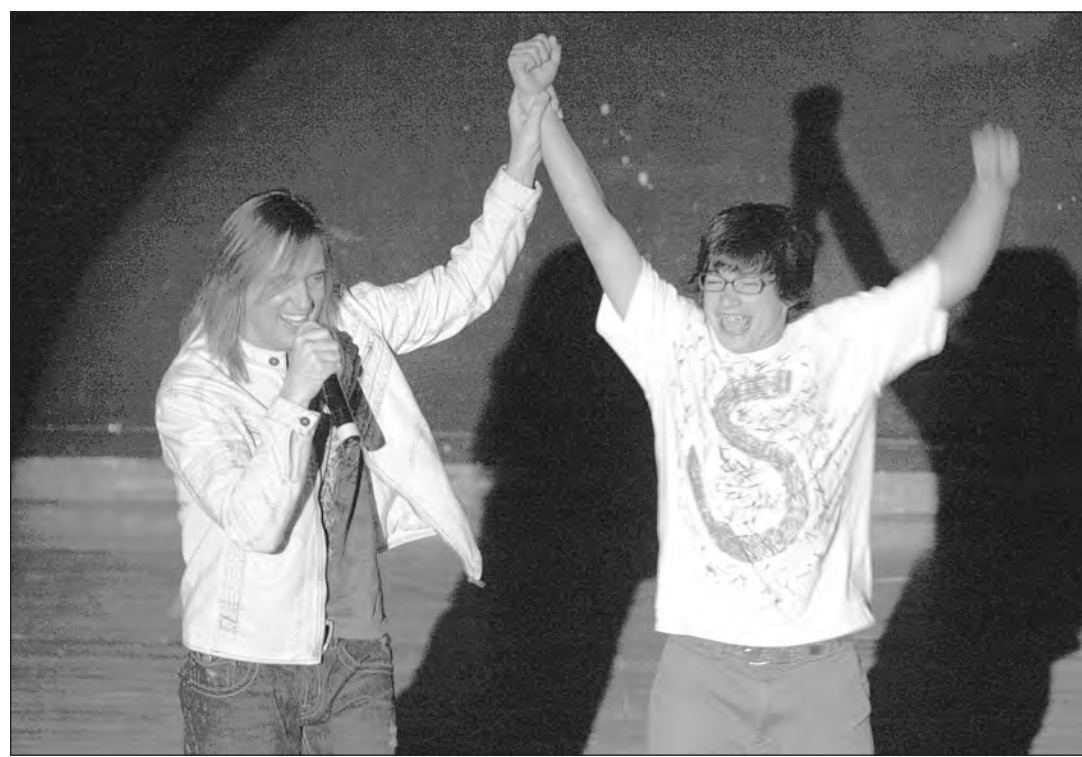
Lamas, a native of Buenos Aires, sings solely in Spanish and tours schools all over the U.S. Through his concerts, students hear Spanish from a native speaker, and a positive message - Lamas talks and sings of overcoming adversity and reaching your goals.

Andover middle school Spanish classes had been learning about Argentinian culture, along with the lyrics to Lamas' songs for months before his appearance. In total, 400 students saw Lamas perform, including eighth-graders from Wood Hill, Doherty and West Middle Schools, as well as students from the Hamilton-Wenham and Tamworth, N.H., school districts.

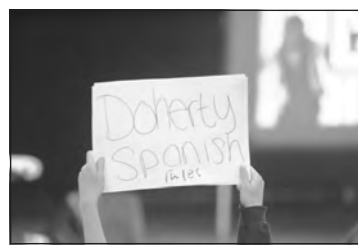
At last week's concerts, many students displayed decorated T-shirts and posters with messages like "Justo Rocks!" They waved illuminated cell phones when the lights dimmed, and sang and danced with Lamas.

Eighth-grader Caroline Kieuzulas sang a solo she had learned in Spanish as part of the concert, and a group of 10 students took the stage to dance a salsa dance they had choreographed to go with one of Lamas' songs.

"This is making language



Argentinian pop singer Justo Lamas brings West Middle School student Louis Corraera, 14, on stage during a performance at Doherty Middle School Thursday afternoon.



'Doherty Spanish rules': A Doherty Middle School student holds up a sign during a performance by Argentinian pop singer Justo Lamas at the school.

accessible through a medium they're comfortable with, and motivates them to learn more," said Leila Bakshi Scanlon, a Doherty Middle Spanish teacher who organized Lamas' visit. "It's like a rock concert. The kids have been so excited."

Lamas sings contemporary

pop numbers mixed with traditional Latin American folk songs, re-mixed with a pop/rock sound, said Scanlon.

"It was really cool, and helped us with our Spanish," said Doherty eighth-grader Kenny Doherty. "I learned some different pronunciation of words, and also his message of always go for your goals and try your hardest."

Doherty said the concert was "a lot more fun" than a typical classroom Spanish lesson and "just like a (rock) concert."

After his performance at Doherty, Lamas took photos with students and signed autographs. Many students had brought his CDs or posters to have signed. One eighth-grade boy had Lamas sign his forehead, impressing his friends.

On Lamas' Web site, students

can watch music videos, sing karaoke to his songs or download cell phone ringtones of his music. His song lyrics, which deal with love, friends, sports, dancing and other teenage interests, are also featured in a series of middle school Spanish textbooks.

Hearing Lamas' Argentinian dialect is also a learning experience for the kids, said Scanlon.

"We tell the kids it's always good to hear Spanish spoken by native Spanish speakers. Learning language comes from your ears, and hearing it spoken makes you become more comfortable with it," she said.

This was the third year Lamas has performed in Andover. The town's three middle schools take turns hosting the concerts, and eighth-graders always anticipate his visit, said Scanlon.

BOOK REVIEW: MARKUS ZUSAK NOVEL

'Book Thief' steals reviewer's heart

By HARRY WOOD
WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

Every once in a while, there is a book that comes along that mixes everything that makes writing enjoyable into one amazing novel. Humor, drama, emotions, characters, setting and impact, can all be found in "The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak.

This book takes place in Nazi Germany, in the home of Liesel Meminger and her foster parents, the Hubermans. On the outside, they are a normal family, but they have a few well kept secrets. One is that the family is harboring Max Vandenburg, an illegal Jew, in their basement. After escaping from the Nazis, he ends up at Liesel's home, and is given shelter.

This is enough of a risk, but in addition to her family's deception, Liesel is playing a dangerous game of her own. She has developed a voracious appetite for reading, in a time where books are hard to come by, and many are burned. So, after she takes a book that she finds in the snow one day, she becomes a book thief, stealing books from wherever she can find them, and sometimes even saving them from the burning piles.

The entire story is narrated by Death, who takes an interest in all the lives of the people involved. As the characters attempt to keep their agendas hidden, they find out more about the people around them, and who exactly can be trusted. But as problems arise and people are hurt, they begin to realize that in some cases, you can only trust yourself.

Markus Zusak has turned in the closest thing to a flawless effort I have seen in my young book-reading life. The mood of the book is perfect; the characters are all well-defined, so much so that they jump off the page straight into your brain and heart. You can't keep yourself from falling in love with the rowdy Liesel and her equally hell-raising friend Rudy. You can't stop yourself from laughing at Death's sharp wit and dry humor throughout his narration. And everyone will feel a stirring of emotion upon learning the story of Max Vandenburg, and of Liesel's foster father. The characters all mesh together in the beautifully created story. The plot is fantastic and original. A young girl who steals books in Nazi Germany, who ends up befriending a hidden Jew, while disagreeing with the dominant political force of that time in Germany? It's absolutely fantastic, and absolutely new. The story is incredibly powerful.

My favorite scene in the entire book is when Max Vandenburg fantasizes about stepping into the boxing ring with Adolf Hitler. Although he throws some good punches, Hitler stays up. But then, he turns around, and implores the audience to help him fight against this "Jewish Menace." In an incredibly creative and powerful way, Zusak sums up what the Jews in Germany were faced with during the Holocaust.

But the pièce de résistance of this book is, as I mentioned before, the way that it blends so

Please see **BOOKS**, Page 6

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Doherty Middle names students to second term honor roll

Grade 6 High Honors

Juliet Adams, Sydney Alepa, Victor Amesoeder, Julian Amirault, Gisele Aoun, Mahalia Banton, John Belluche, Andrew Bottiger, Madeline Broccoli, Caroline Brosnan, Mark Campbell, Elizabeth Carmichael, Noemie Clerc, Emily Connors, Alexandra Crowley, Kyle Curtis, James Drew, Suzanne Egerton, Athena Erickson, Shannon Fitzsimmons, Hope Flynn, Isabella Flynn, Jillian Gamache, Sabine Gang, Viviane Garth, Michael Grant, Jason Grosz, Nathan Hamer, Alexander Hanscom, Daniel Harvey, Jay Healey, Amanda Hornick, William Hubschman, Julia Jackson, Carley Jessep, Meghan Johnson, Delilah Kaufmann-LaDuc, Christoffer Keane, Alexandra Kempster, Macia Letsky, Jaclyn Long, Elizabeth Manson, Julia Manty, Elli Mapstone, Zach Martins, Erica Mazzarelli, Alex Mazzarese, Bryan McGuiggin, Heather Mei, Elizabeth Millar, Gwyneth Miner, Caroline Nagy, Jessie Nason, Griffin O'Connor, Alexandra Okun, Joanna Olson, Daniel Parrill, Marcus Pelletier, Julia Perry, Kiera Pope, Anna Quartararo, Carissa Reming, Liam Rex, Peter Rex, Cecilia Root, Katherine Rosen, Maxfield Sabal, Rebecca Savord, Sasha Schwartz, Matthew Serrao, Erica Shaw, Vivian Steinbaugh, Erin Sweeney, Austin Tang, Julia Torres, Maureen Tyner, Maggie Verrette, Joseph Vetere, Lucas Walsh, Justine Wang, Lauren Wanthal, Paige Webster, Elizabeth Wronski, Karena Yan, Derek Yau, Christine Zhang

Grade 6 Honors

Sophia Allen, Alexander Bensley, Andrew Biddle, Emma Bilazarian, Katharine Blumstein, Charles Bramhall, Cameron Burton, George Cardillo, Emily Cardin, Zach Ciampa, Marcello Cirelli, Bridget Collins, Thomas Dufton, William Dutton, Sara Faigel, Sarah Flaherty, Dylan Gale, Amrit Gill, Madeline Gillette, Devon Goldberg, Jacob Gordon, Ian Greaves, Victor Guery, Leah Hart, Sam Heikinen, Amanda Holland, Kelly Johnson, James Kady, Theo Kalantzakos, Tokyo Kozlovski, Samuel Krapels, Stephen Lundgren, Brad Lynn, Ryan Mansfield, Anna Marocco, Andrew Marotta, Walker Martin, Andrew Matteucci, Colin McDonnell, Rebecca Mini, Shane Napolitano, Allie Nussbaum, James Nussbaum, Matthew Nussbaum, Sean O'Connor, Evan Pantely, Melissa Pepernik-Jones, Jacqueline Polanco, Nicole Raponi, Nicholas Sawaya, Sarah Seero, Van Shrestinian, Alexia Smith, Timothy Sorota, Michael Trainor, Matthew

Vaudo, Nicholas Wackowski, Owen Welch, Daniel White, Devin Witt, Meagan Wolfe

Grade 7 High Honors

Shailla Abbott, Nathaniel Alden, John Barry, Connor Batsimm, Stephen Beaumont, Benjamin Beckwith, Corey Bedrosian, Ian Bensley, Isabel Bree, Eamon Callahan, Samantha Camilo, Joseph Carroll, GraceAnne Casto, Boyang Chen, Declan Collins, Kaitlyn Conte, Kiley Corcoran, Amit Deliwala, Haley Doherty, Rachel Donovan, Sophie Draper, Elizabeth Edwards, Sheryl Ehlbeck, Dimitri Erickson, Peter Fanikos, Emily Felter, Paige Finlayson, Sylvie Flanagan, Julia Ganley, Emily Granoff, Lauren Grant, Jesse Greaves, Collin Hardgrove, Catherine Haut, Harrison Hou, Cooper Hurler, Andrea Iliceto, James Imrie, Jessi Jacobowitz, Jordan Janeiro, Samantha Johnson, Sagar Kaul, Matthew Kelly, Samuel Kelly, Sarah Knowles, Margaret Kobelski, Ethan Kurinsky, Kyle Lawrence, Helen Leahy, Julia LeBlanc, Carter Letsky, Angelina Lionetta, Jessie Livingston, Megan Manter, Tyler Marshall, Emily Master-son, Katie Miara, Stephen Moreland, Madison Moulden, Erin Nastari, John Nossiff, Jameson O'Connor, Katherine O'Hara, Conor O'Reilly, Una O'Toole, John Ozirsky, Dhruv Patel, Varun Penamatsa, Samantha Pond, Emma Pope, Megan Quinn, Arushi Ray, Davis Rogers, Tamra Rutfield, Jaydeep Sambangi, Eli Sands, Leah Shrestinian, Talia Shuman, Hugh Smith, Matthew Stickney, Christopher Tivnan, Ryan Trismen, Hunter Tyrrell, Alexander Wagner, Natalie Wagner, Nicholas Wall, Ashlee Ward, Aaron Wu

Grade 7 Honors

Zachary Angelosanto, Alexa Baldwin, Armando Belliard-Harmon, Anamika Bhattacharjee, Xavier Briggs, Caitlin Ann Brown, Matthew Burns, Emily Byrne, Vincent Camin, Thomas Caron, Brandon Cavallaro, Michelle Cloutier, Courtney Comeau, Sarah Cranney, MacKenzie Dalton, Peter Dell Anno, Lila Dolan, Sylvia Dorros, Bradford Durling, Benjamin Fischer, Owen Focke, Raymond Forster, Rachel Gentile, Julia Gouveia, Katherine Hallinan, Marissa Howell, Sophie Hughes, Eliana Kafantis, Cameron Keenan, Nicholas Kuzio, Madison Lawler, Jackson Leahy, Kevin Lee, Alisha Li, Daniel Lyman, Samuel Mack, Patrick McQuillen, Doris Nyamwaya, Coleman Organisciak, Trevor Parvin, David Pekarovich, Madalyn Pollack, Ethan Pope, Michael Quinn, William Reardon, Dylan Ring, Janel Romagnoli, Carolyn Roos, Christopher

Sarno, Johanna Shaw, Natalie Stamatadiis, Jacob Tarricone, John Tyner, Aimee Ward, Reid White

Grade 8 High Honors

Michela Allocca, Nicole Annino, Rachel Annino, Nadja Arifovic, Sarita Ballakur, David Belluche, Austin Bendetson, Ross Bendetson, Elya Bottiger, Nicolas Bouchard, Susan Alexis Brown, Lauren Buhner, Devon Burger, Emma Cammann, Shivansh Chawla, Xinni Chen, Harrison Cobb, Jennifer Colombo, Margaret Cranney, Piper Curtis, Margaret D'Innocenzo, Ceara Donovan, Henry Ewing, Marcela Familiar-Bolanos, Katherine Finley, Lucy Frey, James Garth, Anne Garvin, Richard Gilbert, Mariangela Gominho, Raquel Goosey, Caley Gordon, Sarah Gustus, Michael Hanscom, Will Heikinen, Madeline Hertz, Rachel Holzman, Rachel Huntley, An Huynh, Phillip Igoe, Ciara Jacques, Christina Johnson, Zachary Johnson, Ryan Jones, Shashank Kaul, Samantha Kelley, Julia Kichorowsky, Tiffany Lam, Douglas Lewis, Eliza Lewis, Elizabeth Lownie, Lynzie Luschenat, Sloan Lynch, Tara MacKenzie, John Mahan, Nathaniel Malone, Christine Marotta, India Mazzarelli, Siobhan McDonough, Daniel McLaughlin, Anna Millar, Sara Nickpour, Siddarth Palaniappan, Steven Perrone, Sawyer Rogers, Helen Root, Joel Rozen, Ajay Sadagopan, Sameer Sangal, Gina Sawaya, Peter Scapicchio, Alexander Scolnik-Brower, Jonathan Smith, Joseph Solimini, Theodore Sorota, Anne Stahley, Jaclyn Torres, Andrew Trepicchio, Paul Turiano, Alexa Vigliotta, Lauren Wackowski, Andrew Wang, Brandon Wanthal, Jillian Wilson, Kristen Wilson, Zachary Wipff, Christine Wu, Meghan Wurts, Eric Wybenga, Theresa Yeo

Grade 8 Honors

Jonathan Abbott, Sarah Appleton, Emma Bentley, Mackenzie Billings, Estelle Black, Alexander Blake, Hannah Bramhall, Scott Campbell, Joseph Comeau, Jonathan Costello, Hannah Cunningham, Evan Dinu, Jacob Donovan, Christopher Dunn, Sophie Ekman, Andrew Eriksen, Jake Flaherty, Michelle Gagnon, Daniel Gendreau, Daniel Gilbert, Andrew Johnson, Scott Kaluzny, Michael Kapp, Emma Keefe, Caroline Kiezulas, Martee Koffman, Rebecca Koffman, Jennifer Kuta, Emma Lamoreaux, Tyler Lyons, Scott MacMillan, Michael Maldari, Taylor Masse, Yasmene Mazen, Christopher McClory, Catherine Muldoon, Anne Murphy, Michael O'Hara, Christopher Olson, Ana Rinaldi, Victoria Sherzi, Jason Smith, Jennifer Sullivan, Christopher Tao, Zachary Wronski

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS MAY 11-15

Elementary schools

Monday: Sandwich specials topped with lettuce, tomato, pickles, onion and cheese, cheddar burger, ham and cheese, tuna salad pocket, roasted potato wedges, mini carrots, icy juicy and juice.

Tuesday: Hawaiian orange chicken and rice pilaf, grilled hotdog on a roll, baked beans, mediterranean style squash, chilled mixed fruit and juice.

Wednesday: Twisted whole grain cheese sticks with marinara sauce, rotini or macaroni with marinara or meat sauce and garlic bread, turkey salad wrap and all the fixings, seasoned veggies, peach cobbler and juice.

Thursday: Mini chicken sliders on a roll, bagel with yogurt or string cheese, assorted sandwiches with pretzels, macaroni salad, veggie sticks and dip and fresh fruit.

Friday: Whole grain stuffed crust pepperoni or veggie pizza, American sub, jumbo pretzel with yogurt or cheese stick, garden salad, fresh melon and juice.

Middle schools

Monday: Chicken tenders with dip-pers and dinner roll, steak-and-cheese calzone, broccoli-and-cheese calzone, broccoli salad, rice pilaf and fruit cup.

Tuesday: French bread cheese pizza, twin soft tacos with toppings, jumbo pretzel with yogurt, caesar salad, black bean salad, chilled pineapple and juice.

Wednesday: Stuffed rigatoni, garlic bread, Italian sub, green beans, fresh fruit and juice.

Thursday: Cheese or pepperoni pan pizza, popcorn chicken, mashed potato bowl, whole kernel corn, blueberry short-cake with topping and juice.

Friday: Oven-baked chicken, tuna pocket and sun chips, french toast with strawberries and whipped cream, roasted potatoes, seasonal veggies, dinner roll and chilled fruit.

Andover High School

Monday: Baked fish topped with buttered Ritz cracker crumbs served with noodles, steamed broccoli and fruit cup.

Tuesday: Sweet and sour pork served over steamed rice with carrots and chilled fruit.

Wednesday: Spaghetti with meat or marinara sauce, tossed salad, garlic bread and fresh melon.

Thursday: Turkey cordon bleu on croissant with fries, cole slaw and jello.

Friday: Chicken fajita with all the toppings served with Spanish rice, black bean salad and banana.

BOOKS: Perfect 10 for book narrated by Death

Continued from Page 5

Many different emotions into one novel. Zusak brings so many different things into play — happiness, sadness, humor, depression, loss and victory — it seems as if it should overwhelm you in a tornado of feelings. But instead, it blends together perfectly, calmly transferring you from one mood to another. In some cases, it may switch from Death's biting wit to a death scene in about five pages. But the smooth transitions give you plenty of time to prepare yourself.

"The Book Thief" is chock full of enticing characters, has an amazing and

poignant plotline, and takes you on a veritable rollercoaster of emotions, yet flows smoothly throughout. "The Book Thief" gets a resounding and well-deserved 10 of 10.

I would not recommend this book for anyone younger than 13. There are some graphic scenes that are not for younger audiences. But anyone over the age of 13 should get out, and immerse him or herself in this amazing reading experience.

Harry Wood is an Andover resident and student at the Pike School in town who writes reviews for young adults.

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■ POLICE LOG

ARRESTS
 Tuesday, April 28 - At 10:26 p.m., Jorge Guzman, 27, of 51 Tenney St., Methuen, was arrested and charged with possession of a class B substance and on warrants for assault and battery, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, intimidating a witness and threatening to commit a crime.
 Wednesday, April 29 - At 11:42 a.m., Raul S. Rivera, 23, of 4 Bennington St. Apt. 88, Lawrence, was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended license, and on warrants for racing, driving uninsured and unlicensed, and refusing to identify himself.
 Thursday, April 30 - At 8:52 p.m., Jess Griffen, 35, of 526 Western Ave. Apt. 9, Lynn, was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended license.
 Friday, May 1 - At 4:02 a.m., James P. Caputo, 49, of 218 Haggets Pond Road, was arrested and charged with assault and battery on a household member.
 Saturday, May 2 - At 1:12 p.m., after a minor traffic accident on North Main Street, Kimberley Ochoa-Regalado, 44, of 247 North Main St., Apt. 5, was arrested and charged with operating under the influence of liquor.
 At 3:51 p.m., Julie M. Foden, 40, of 65 Memorial Circle, was arrested and charged with assault and battery on a household member.
 Monday, May 4 - At 12:14 p.m., Ronald P. Howe Jr., 45, of 20 Hadley St., Malden, was arrested and charged on warrants for driving without a license and uninspected vehicle.
 At 1:49 p.m., Llanos Brinder, 18, of 7 Bigelow St., Apt. 1, Lawrence, was arrested and charged on a warrant for receiving stolen property.
 At 6:45 p.m., Gerald C.

Znamierowski, 69, of 15 Hall Ave., was arrested and charged with assault and battery on a household member, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon (a shod foot) and threatening to commit a crime.
THEFTS
 Over the course of the week, three residents reported identity theft.
BREAKS
 Friday, May 1 - At 12:33 p.m., a North Main Street resident came home to find several items missing and her home smelling of cigarette smoke.
INCIDENTS
 Tuesday, April 28 - At 3:01 p.m., a 911 call was received reporting a possible unattended death on Prospect Road. The medical examiner's office was notified, and the incident was recorded as a reported death in the police log.
 At 3 p.m., police were notified of a coyote following people in the woods behind Haggetts Pond.
 At 4:34 p.m., police were called after a resident found a firearm while cleaning out the home of a relative in Andover who had died.
 At 6:59 p.m., multiple calls were received about a tree that had fallen on Sagamore Drive, hitting a car. Police and fire responded. The tree was moved and one woman was attended to by medical personnel.
 At 9:14 p.m., a doctor's office in Lawrence called Andover police because they had a patient who suffers from depression call and say she was going to harm herself. The woman was unharmed but was taken to the hospital for evaluation.
 At 9:49 p.m., another call

was received about a suicide attempt. A 42-year-old male had taken about 30 sleeping pills, his girlfriend called 911, and he was taken to the hospital for evaluation.
 Wednesday, April 29 - At 12:19 a.m., a resident called 911 because her 13-year-old son said he just took about 20 pills. Police and fire responded, and took the patient to a hospital for evaluation.
 Thursday, April 30 - At 1:50 p.m., Officer Brian Blouin reported receiving a bomb threat at Greater Lawrence Vocational Technical High School, River Road.
AUTO INCIDENTS
 Tuesday, April 28 - At 8:55 a.m., a car break-in was reported from Campanelli Road.
 At 8:04 p.m., a car break-in was reported on Longwood Drive.
 Wednesday, April 29 - At 10:06 p.m., an Andover Street resident reported their vehicle's back window had been smashed overnight.
 At 3:37 p.m., vehicle vandalism was reported from Dascomb Road. At 3:52 p.m., another Dascomb road caller reported his catalytic converter was cut out and stolen from his truck.
 At 7:50 p.m., a call was received from Phillips Academy, Highland Road, that a car had been broken into near the varsity baseball field, with a global positioning system and laptop computer stolen.
 Sunday, May 3 - At 2:37 p.m., an officer stopped two vehicles on Route 125 that were drag racing, and gave both drivers a verbal warning.
 Monday May 4 - At 7:29 a.m., a Wildwood Road resident reported the fuel lines on several of his vehicles had been cut overnight.

■ NEWS IN BRIEF

Andover Days coming in mid-June
 Andover Days is planned for Friday night, June 12, and Saturday, June 13. On Saturday, some downtown streets will be closed to allow for basic vendors and sidewalk sales, according to the Andover Business Center Association.

Love Boat fundraiser helps South
 South Elementary School fundraisers grossed more than \$35,000 at its April 4 Love

Boat-themed spring auction. Figures are still being tallied but Kelle Sutliff, auction chairwoman reported the group has purchased three new electronic white boards (called SmartBoards) for the school and a Wilson Foundation reading program to help children in first through third grade. The money will help continue South's cultural arts program, she reported.
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.



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Mother's Day

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Arts & Entertainment

Crafts in the Park returns Saturday

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

Packed among the jewelry, stained glass products, pottery, accessories, hair items for little girls and other crafts is a popular 33-year history that crafters call a coming out of sorts. Saturday's Craft in the Park event marks the start of another selling season for crafters. Some 125 vendors were selected to take part this year.

"It's the first show, it's in the Park, it's the day before Mother's Day and spring is here," organizer Sue Wahr of Andover replied when asked about the event's appeal for more than 30 years.

It's simply a must-go for many residents as being outside at this time of year is very appealing, too.

"Flowers are out, the grass is green," Wahr said. "We get a good crowd."

Local jeweler Pam Newman said the show is typically one of her best of the year. A Craft in the Park veteran, as this will be her ninth year, she agreed that customers enjoy the Park's outdoor ambience.

She'll have her usual assortment of jewelry that always includes an assortment of pearl and sterling. Mixed metals, crystals and glass jewelry pieces also will be included this year, she said.

With her prices adjusted due to the economy, Newman has jewelry pieces for every budget and unique items that any Mom would love for a gift, she said.

"I really enjoy this show," said Newman, who lives in Andover. "I

see my customers and I'm local, so I see lots of friends."

For Rica Grace, it's all about good food at the event and she will be ready. She froze 4,000 dumplings on Sunday that she plans to sell at the event - and she plans to make more. She uses a commercial oven to get ready for Crafts in the Park.

"It's spring and I am hoping for a good crowd," said Grace, who is married to David Grace, son of the show's co-chairwoman, Kay Grace.

The event raises money for the local chapter of the studying abroad program, Amercian Field Services. David Grace studied in Italy before graduating from Andover High School in 1988.

Recent changes in the state law regarding food served at public events means food vendors are

CRAFTS IN THE PARK

Saturday, May 9
The Park, Bartlet and Chestnut streets
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
free admission
Check www.craftsinthepark.com if weather cancels.

now part of the annual event, Wahr said. But food handlers must be state-certified.

Grace said the event is a great way for craft shoppers to get a taste of her homeland, Taiwan. Shoppers are sure to get hungry bopping from booth to booth.

"It's easy and healthy," she said of her dumplings.

She plans to have recipe cards on hand to prove it.



ROGER DARRIGRAND/File photo

Clara Wade looks over glass work by Lawrence based artist Robert Cory during the Andover Crafts in the Park last year.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photos

Andover High School students will present Brighton Beach Memoirs at the Collins Center for the Performing Arts on May 7, 8 and 9 at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$6 students and available by contacting 978-623-8666 or ahsproductions@gmail.com. Rehearsing the play is senior, David Keohane, right, as "Stanley Jerome," who is telling his brother, "Eugene," played by freshman Conor Richardson, how he got fired from his job.

Andover High travels to 'Brighton Beach' Simon production starts tonight

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

The mood of the economic climate gets more notice around town as Andover High School's Drama Guild is staging Brighton Beach Memoirs this weekend.

The popular Neil Simon drama is set in the Jerome family's lower middle class home, located in Brighton Beach, N.Y. It's 1937, and the family's woes are the central theme. A lost job, the dismal outcome of a poker

game and a 16-year-old's audition that is seen as a chance to improve the family's life get the most attention in Act I.

Family members stick together to overcome hardships, often in a funny, quirky way. Their acceptance and unconditional love is what appealed to the show's director.

The play ties into the ongoing townwide book club reading of "The Worst Hard Time," the story of families surviving the Dust Bowl and the Depression. Plus, the production is being

staged on the heels of Tuesday night's "Glamour & Despair: 1930s Fashions" presentation by the Andover Historical Society at Memorial Hall Library.

"BBM (Brighton Beach Memoirs) is being revived on Broadway this fall so it seemed like a great time to do it," Director Susan Choquette said. She said the play is a "great story about how a family sticks together through adversity."

"Four out of the seven characters are teenagers, which gives our actors a chance to play characters in their age range. It's

funny and it's touching all at the same time," Choquette said.

It's classic Neil Simon, she said, as "how families love each other despite their little quirks" is the overriding theme.

There are seven actors, six assistant directors and prop managers, and 15 teens on the crew for this production.

But families may want to leave younger children at home.

"It's PG-13 so (Townsmen) readers should be warned about that. It is pretty tame but there

Please see **PLAY**, Page 9

Free orchestra concert features youth concerto competition winner

A young Andover musician has been picked to perform with the Lowell Philharmonic Orchestra in a free Pops Concert on Friday, May 8, at 8 p.m. at the Pawtucket Congregational Church, 15 Mammoth Road in Lowell.

The program features solos by winners of the LPO's 2009 Youth Concerto Competition. This year's finalists were chosen from a pool of 25 talented young musicians from elementary through high school, who auditioned in February.

This year, the orchestra selected three performers. Co-winner Jennifer Chew of Reading will perform the first movement of Schumann's Piano Concerto on May 8. Runner-up Miki Nagahara of Andover will perform the first movement of Barber's Concerto for Violin and Orchestra. Co-winner Erin Kim of Lexington, will perform Sibelius's Violin Concerto at

the orchestra's November 2009 concert.

The Pops concert program also includes one of Elgar's less familiar Pomp and Circumstance marches, English Folk Song Suite by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Maple Leaf Rag by Scott Joplin, selections from "Carousel" and "A Chorus Line," and the world premiere of Spring Scape for Orchestra, a new composition by LPO member Joseph Gerakines. A raffle of items donated by local businesses will be held during intermission.

Admission is free and no tickets or reservations are required. Free parking is available on the street and in parking lots for the church and the bank across the street.

For more information about the Lowell Philharmonic Orchestra and this free concert, call 978-703-0094 or visit www.lowellphilharmonic.org.

EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MAY 7

LIVE THEATER, Brighton Beach Memoirs by Andover High School Drama Guild, 7:30 p.m., \$6-\$8, Collins Center for the Performing Arts at Andover High School, 80 Shawsheen Road, Andover; 978/623-8666, www.collins-center.com. Also being presented on Friday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m.

LOCAL AUTHOR NIGHT, Caleb Ives Bach will be reading from Shadowing Botticelli's Beauty while Selden Edwards will be reading from The Little Book as the Write Group (also includes Gayle Heney, Barbara Prolman, Blaire Gracie Woodman, Karen M. Kline and Lois Sargent) reads various selections, free, 7 p.m., Andover Bookstore, 89 Main St., (rear) Andover; 978-475-0143.

ANDOVER MASS-TERPIECES RECEPTION, honoring the 2009 Andover Cultural Council grant recipients, with music by solo cellist Sasha Brower of Andover, and a chance to meet the recipients, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Atria Marland Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover; ACC01810@gmail.com

PHOTO EXHIBIT, New Deal Photography at the Addison Gallery, presented by Memorial Hall Library and the Addison Gallery of American Art, School Room, Abbot Hall, Phillips Academy, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Julie Bernson 978-749-4023 or agesing@andover.edu

FRIDAY, MAY 8

BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS, by Andover High School Drama Guild, 7:30 p.m. See May 7 listing.

Please see **EVENTS**, Page 9

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Continued from Page 8

TALK ON AFRICA, "The Seven Types of Wealth in Africa: Are Sentimentality and Aid Working?" with Michael Fairbanks, ex-Wall Street banker, ex-Peace-Corp teacher and entrepreneurial philanthropist, 6:30 p.m., Cochran Chapel, Phillips Academy, free and open to the public.

LIVE MUSIC, The Treble Chorus of New England presents "A Celebration of Women" Choral concert, 7:30 p.m., Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, North Andover, \$15 adults, \$8 students.

LIVE MUSIC, Boston's 20-voice choir for Renaissance music presents "Music from the Dresden Courts," 8 p.m., Christ Church, 25 Central St., Andover, \$20, \$12 seniors; 617-773-6913, www.convivium.org.

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

BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS, by Andover High School Drama Guild, 7:30 p.m. See May 7 listing.

YARD SALE, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Andover Baptist Church, 7 Central St., Andover. Muffins and coffee will be available. Profits will be used for church improvements; 617-816-1059.

CRAFTS IN THE PARK, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., The Park, corner of Chestnut and Bartlet 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 a.m. 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.

SKATING SHOW, The Skating Club of Andover presents "Broadway Favorites," 6 p.m., Valley Forum Ice Rink, Ward Hill Industrial Park, Haverhill, \$5-\$10; 978-478-5213, SkatingClubofAndover@yahoo.com!

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.cmarket.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.

ALL-BACH CONCERT, with award-winning and internationally-known pianist Lois Shapiro and cellist Rhonda Rider, hosted by the Firehouse Center for the Arts, show at a private home; 978/462-7336 for reservations, prices.

KID SAFETY, radKIDS, the national standard safety program for children, 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.,

hosted by Kwon's Taekwondo, 885 Main St., Tewksbury, for kids ages 7-12; www.radkids.org, Cindy at 978-884-9899.

WALK FOR LIFE, the Pregnancy Care Center is sponsoring its annual 2-mile walk at three locations: Hope Community, 11 Hale St., Newburyport, St. John the Baptist, 110 Lincoln Ave., Haverhill and Marsh Corner Community Church.

317 PELHAM ST., Methuen, 9-11 a.m., (rain or shine). Free t-shirts will be given to those walkers reaching \$150 in pledge donations or who have built a team of five walkers. To register go to www.pccnortheast.org/events; 978-373-5718.

PLANT SALE, the Stevens-Coolidge Place, 139 Amdover St., North Andover, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., free admission. Highlights include peonies, Japanese and bearded iris, and old-fashioned roses, along with hard-to-find trillium and native plants, herbs and vegetables. You can preview the plants at 9 a.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 10

LIVE MUSIC, Reading Civic Concert Band hosts its traditional Mother's Day concert at 3 p.m., at the Wood End School auditorium, Sunset Rock Lane, off Franklin Street, in Reading.

ADMISSION AT THE DOOR, \$8 for students and seniors, \$12 for adults.

MOTHER'S DAY WALK, enjoy the layers of blooming flowers, New England Wild Flower Society's Garden in the Woods, 180 Hemenway Road, Framingham.

TUESDAY, MAY 12

LIVE JAZZ, The Maggi Scott Trio, 7:30 p.m., \$5 cover, Sahara Restaurant & Club, 34 Bates St., Methuen; 978-683-9200.

THURSDAY, MAY 14

TRIBUTE TO WOMEN, the YWCA of Greater Lawrence hosts their annual event which includes two honorees from Andover - Amy Finegold and Maureen Pollard - noon-2 p.m., Andover Country Club.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

CLOWN TOWN OPENS, The Park, Chestnut and Bartlet streets, 4-10 p.m., hosted by Andona Society.

LIVE MUSICAL COMEDY, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, a fast-paced musical comedy about an ambitious young window washer 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. Performances will be held at the West Andover Middle School, 70 Shawsheen Road, Andover, 7:30 p.m., \$20, students and seniors \$17; 978-289-4112, www.actandover.com and also being performed on Saturday, May 16 and Sunday, May 17 at 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

CLOWN TOWN, The Park, Chestnut and Bartlet streets, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., hosted by Andona Society.

OPEN HOUSE FOR PETS, with pet washing, games, tours, etc., 1-4 p.m., River Road Veterinary Hospital, 176 River Road, Andover, benefits Salem, N.H. Rescue League; 978-687-8400.

ANDOVER SISTER TOWNS ASSOCIATION MEETING, 2:30 p.m., Atria Marland Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover. Refreshments will be served. New members are always welcome to participate in the fun experience; Diane Huster, husterd@aol.com or Linda Kirk, lkirk@sprynet.com.

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.

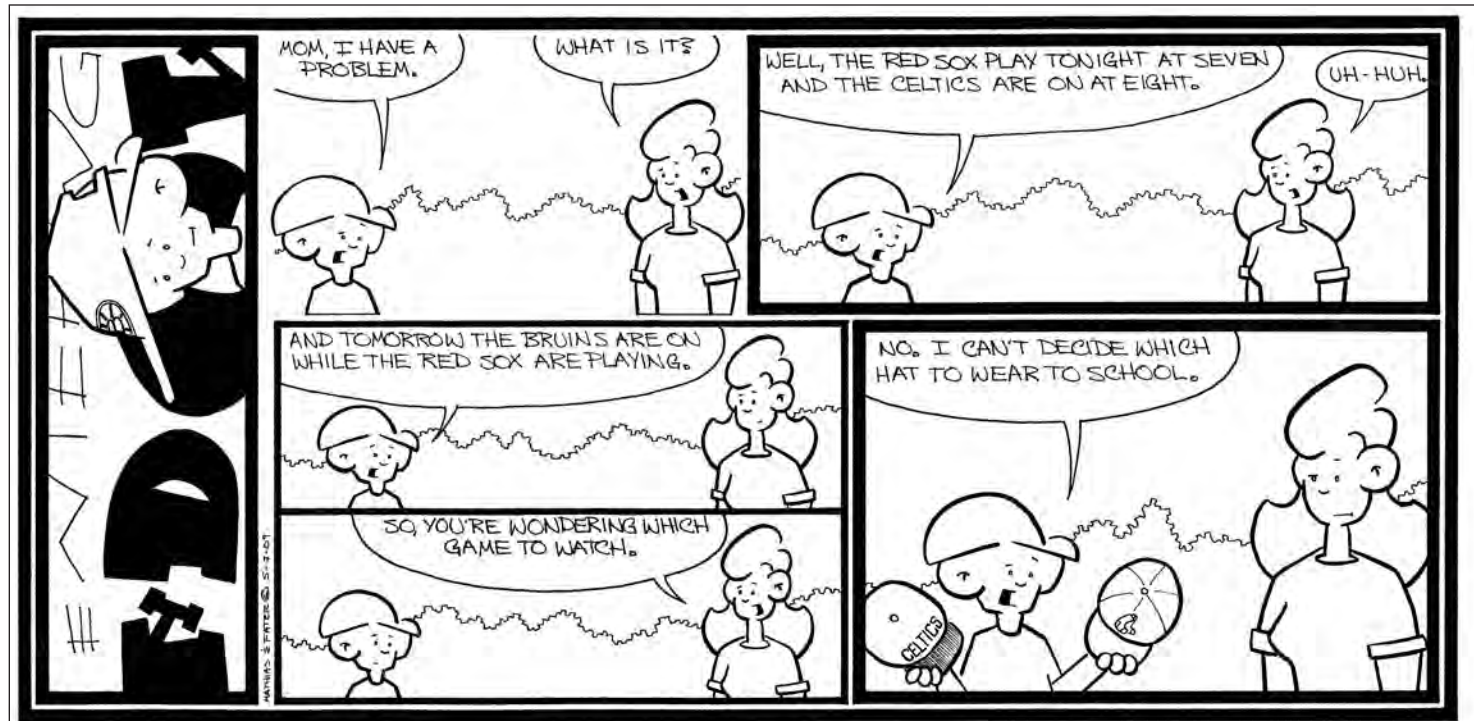
LIVE MUSIC, Free Christian Church and Andover Baptist Church are partnering to sponsor a benefit concert focused on heart health and heart awareness, 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Free Christian Church, 31 Elm St., Andover, featuring The CIB String Quartet, The Bullock Brothers, The Lance Bryant Jazz Quintet, Robert Bloodworth and Friends and headliner Nashville-based recording artist, free, offerings accepted; 978-475-0700, 978-475-0166.

YARD SALE, for 30 families, The Community Cooperative Preschool (CCP), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 396 Main St., North Andover.

PHOTO SAFARI, Essex Heritage Photo Safari with Olympus and presented by the Essex National Heritage Commission (ENHC) and Hunt's Photo & Video of Salem, 7 a.m., National Park Service Regional Visitor Center, 2 New Liberty St., Salem; essexheritage.org/photocontest/index.shtml or call Essex Heritage at 978-740-0444.

SURFING EXHIBIT OPENS, The Peabody Essex Museum presents more than 40 images of stunning luminosity and elegance in SurfLand, the first solo museum exhibition of photographer Joni Sternbach, with portraits of surfers in tintype; www.pem.org.

ENTERING ANDOVER by Don Mathias



PLAY: AHS performs drama

Continued from Page 8

are some adolescent issues that get discussed, hence the PG-13 rating," Choquette said.



Rehearsing the play is senior David Keohane, right, as "Stanley Jerome," who is telling his cousin "Nora Morton," played by sophomore Chelsea Frei, how he got fired.

CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

BEACH VISIT THIS WEEKEND?

- Neil Simon's Brighton Beach Memoirs
- by Andover High School Drama Guild
- Collins Center for the Performing Arts, Andover High School, Shawsheen Road
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Note: This play contains some mature content.

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Obituaries

Dorothy Birtles, 86



ANDOVER — Dorothy (Brewer) Birtles, 86, of Methuen, died Sunday, April 26 2009 at Halcyon House in Methuen. She was born in Lawrence on Dec. 11, 1922 to the late Fredrick and Mae (Stevenson) Brewer. Dorothy attended Lawrence schools and graduated Lawrence High School. She later completed the Culinary Arts Supervisor Program at the Greater Lawrence Regional Vocational School. She was employed at a cook at Randolph Nursing Home in Andover and as a Food Service Supervisor at Stevens Hall. She

was also employed in food service for the Visiting Nurse Association. The widow of Ira Birtles, Dorothy is survived by her daughter Dale E. Johnson and her husband Edward of Andover and her son William A. Birtles and his wife Judith of Andover. Also among her survivors are her grandchildren Jessica Birtles, Edward I. Johnson and Brad W. Johnson all of Andover. **ARRANGEMENTS:** A funeral service was held on Tuesday, May 5, 2009 at 10 a.m. at The Fellowship Bible Church, Hampstead Street, Methuen. Arrangements are under the direction of the Conte Funeral Home, 17 Third St., North Andover. Memorial contributions in Dorothy's memory may be made to Merrimack Valley Hospice, 360 Merrimack St., BLG 9.

Lillian E. Desrocher, 91



ANDOVER — Lillian E. (Brearley) Desrocher, 91, of Andover, passed away April 29, 2009 at the Wingate of Andover. She was born in Methuen the daughter of the late William and Elsa (Siegel) Brearley. She worked in the Shawshen Mill and was a former waitress at local Andover coffee shops for many years. Lillian loved doing crafts, listening to music and traveling, especially to Florida with her late husband, and the many years at her

family home in Hampton Beach. Wife of the late Edward C. Desrocher, she is survived by her daughter Carole Desrocher, and sister Dorothy B. Adams, both of Andover. She is also survived by two nieces and two nephews. **ARRANGEMENTS:** A funeral service was held Monday at the Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover, MA 01810, burial followed in Spring Grove Cemetery. Family and friends may call also on Monday from 9 to 11 a.m. prior to the service at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Capital Fund-Free Christian Church, Elm Street, Andover, MA 01810. To leave online condolences or for directions to the funeral home, please visit www.contefuneralhomes.com.

Scott G. McComish, 49



HAMPSTEAD, N.H. — Scott G. McComish, 49, of Hampstead, N.H., formerly of Salem and Windham, N.H., died Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at the Merrimack Valley Hospital, Haverhill. He was born in Lawrence, grew up in Windham and Salem, N.H., and attended Salem, N.H. schools. He was a resident of Hampstead for the past two years. Scott was an Expeditor for Raytheon Corporation in Burlington. He was a member of the Derry-Salem Elks Lodge in Salem, where he was Elk of the year for 2007. He enjoyed cook-

ing and spending time with his family and friends. He was the son of the late Matthew and Beatrice (Feugill) McComish. He is survived by his wife Linda (Perry) McComish of Andover, Lance McComish of Topsfield, Mark McComish of Manchester, N.H., nieces and nephews Matthew, Laura, Craig, and Olivia. **ARRANGEMENTS:** Calling hours were held Friday, May 1 from 4 to 8 p.m. with a funeral service at 7:30 p.m. at the Douglas & Johnson Funeral Home, 214 Main St., Salem, N.H. Cremation will follow. To send a message of condolence to the family, please view the obituary at www.douglasandjohnson.com.

Byron Redmond Cleveland, Jr.



ANDOVER — Byron Redmond Cleveland, Jr. of Andover, died Friday, May 1, 2009 with his family by his side, having succumbed to a long and brave battle with cancer. He was born to Ruth L. Donovan and Byron Redmond Cleveland on June 20, 1931 in Willimantic, Conn. Byron grew up in Willimantic until the age of 7 when the family moved to Andover. Byron graduated from Kimbal Union Academy in 1951 and Babson College in 1954, where he earned a business degree. He was an honored member of the Babson Report publication while a student. He also attended Northeastern University in Boston.

The Rotary Club of Greater Lawrence, and the Greater Lawrence Business Development Corporation. As the longest serving officer at Riverbank (formerly known as Lawrence Savings Bank), Byron served 42 years from 1966-2008 in various capacities from Corporator through Director, a tenure unmatched by anyone. Byron's great passions were his 1965 Mustang convertible, which he could be seen tooling around Andover in during the warmer weather, top down, perfectly restored. He loved automobiles but especially the American Classics from the 50's and 60's. He also loved ocean sailing having a sailboat in Rye Harbor, N.H. for 40 years, cruising north up the coast of Maine or south to Boston Harbor, or taking guests to the Isles of Shoals.

Byron entered the family business J. H. Horne & Sons Co. upon completion of college. A family business began in 1864 and finally sold in 2005, the J. H. Horne & Sons Co. of Lawrence, manufactured machinery for the paper industry. The business contained a complete pattern shop, a factory to produce paper mill machinery and a welding and castings foundry. From this plant, two of the largest paper-making machines in this country were made: from engineering drawings to patterns, and castings that eventually became a part of each machine component. Throughout its history, machines from Horne were delivered to Japan, China, South America, the Philippines, Canada, England, Europe and throughout the United States and Mexico. Byron was a member of the Bon Secures Guild Men of Merrimack,

Byron is survived by his wife of 54 years Suzanne May (Collins) Cleveland, his daughters Leigh Ann and Alison Mary of Hampton Beach, N.H., Barbara Jane of Andover, son Byron III of Andover, grandson Byron IV of Groveland, granddaughter Mae Li of Hampton, N.H., his only sister Ann Cleveland Lange also of Andover, as well as several nieces. **ARRANGEMENTS:** A funeral Mass was offered on Tuesday at St. Augustine's Church in Andover. Burial followed in Spring Grove Cemetery also in Andover. Family and friends called on Monday at the Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Home Health VNA 360 Merrimack St. Lawrence MA 01843 or to Beacon Hospice, Lighthouse Foundation 350 Main St., Haverhill MA 01830.

Daniel P. Guzowski, 76



ANDOVER — Daniel P. Guzowski, 76, of Andover, died Wednesday, April 29, 2009 at Newton-Wellesley Hospital following a long illness. Dan was born and raised in Haverhill. He graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a Bachelor's in Business. Following college he joined the United States Air Force where he was a jet pilot during his service and a reservist for many years after. Dan worked for System Development Corporation, most recently known as Unisys in Cambridge for over 35 years until his retirement. In his free time Dan enjoyed golf, tennis, he was an avid reader and enjoyed traveling. His greatest joy was his family, especially his two girls and his grandchildren. Dan had a wonderful sense of humor and was

dedicated to his family. He will truly be missed by all that knew him. Dan is predeceased by his siblings, Robert, Richard and Eileen. He leaves his loving wife, Margo (Curran) Guzowski of Andover, his two daughters, Danielle C. Volpe and her husband Greg of Newton Highlands, and Michelle A. Litavis and her husband Richard of Hopkinton, four grandchildren, Annica Litavis, Ricky Litavis, Paxton Volpe and Sara Volpe, and several nieces, nephews and cousins. **ARRANGEMENTS:** A memorial funeral Mass in Dan's honor was held on Monday May 4 at St. Theresa's Church, 63 Winter St., North Reading. Burial of Ashes will be private at a later date. Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to the Arthritis Foundation, P.O. Box 96280, Washington, DC 20077. Arrangements are by the Charles F. Dewhirst Andover Funeral Home. To make an online condolence, please visit www.dewhirstfuneral.com.

Grace E. Hayes, 88



ANDOVER — Grace Esther (Moore) Hayes, 88, a 60 year resident of Andover, died on Sunday, May 3, 2009 at Lawrence General Hospital with her loving husband and children at her side. Grace was born in Boston, June 2, 1920, daughter of the late George H. Moore and Alice B. (Morse) Moore. She was baptized and raised in the Congregational Church in West Somerville. Grace graduated from Somerville High School in 1938. She worked at Drake's Bakery in Roxbury, until she graduated from Comptometer School. She then worked the comptometer in the office of The Harvey Steel Company, Allston, before

marrying Donald P. Hayes Sr. in 1944. Grace devoted the next 24 years to family life and her children. She hand-knitted 35 different Irish-knit sweaters and numerous afghans for family and friends. She braided rugs, participated in a knitting club and an Outing Club in Andover, was a Cub Scout Den Mother, a Brownie troop leader, sewed many beautiful outfits for herself and her daughters, and planned terrific annual family vacations. In 1968 she returned to full-time work as a Records Clerk at The Andover Companies, working 17 years until retirement in 1985. She enjoyed many wonderful trips overseas with her husband. Grace said more than once that her best achievement in life was raising three beautiful children. Grace was a life-long active member of The Locke Family Association, the oldest active genealogical society in the U. S. Her interest in people was more than theoretical, however. She opened her home over the years to others who needed to stay with her and Don for awhile, be they college students spending a summer in the area, or relatives with temporary housing problems. To her, it was just what one did. Grace is survived by her husband, Donald P. Hayes Sr. of Andover; sister, Hazel A. Proudfoot of Laconia, N.H.; son, Donald P. Hayes Jr. of Lowell, and his adult children Erin, Heather, and Jill; daughter, Diane A. (Hayes) Traynor and son-in-law Dennis M. Traynor of Manchester, N.H. and their adult children Noelle, Louise, Sarah, and Patrick; daughter, Melanie Grace (Hayes) Nesheim and son-in-law William A. Nesheim of Windham, N.H. and their adult children Brendan and Amy. Grace is also survived by 10 great-grandchildren and eight nieces and nephews. **ARRANGEMENTS:** Relatives and friends could call on Wednesday, May 6, 2009 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Charles F. Dewhirst-Andover Funeral Home, 33 Pearson St., Andover. A memorial service will be held at Free Christian Church on Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the charitable ministries of Free Christian Church, 31 Elm St., Andover, MA 01810, or to Lazarus House, Attn: Development Director, P. O. Box 408, Lawrence, MA 01842.

Gladys A. Morine, 78

ANDOVER — Gladys A. "Spunky" (Colby) Morine, 78, wife of Edgar J. Morine with whom she shared over 58 years of marriage, died Monday morning, May 4, 2009 at the Academy Manor Nursing Home in Andover. Born in Lynn, daughter of the late Herbert and Alice (Gaudet) Colby, she was raised in Beverly and graduated from Beverly High School in the Class of 1949. She had lived in Beverly for most of her life. Gladys was employed with Howard Johnson's on route one in Danvers. But most especially, she dedicated her life to her husband, children and extended family. She was a wonderful wife, mother and aunt. Gladys loved to sing and dance. One of her favorite places to go was to Fox Woods. Surviving her in addition to her husband are four children, Rev. John Morine and his wife Allison of Baltimore, Gary

Morine and his wife Mary of Beverly, Michael Morine and his wife Karen of Salem, N.H., Julie Spintig and her husband Robert of Manchester-by-the-Sea; six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She was also the mother of the late Frank Morine, and sister of the late Herbert Colby, Jr., Alden Colby, Pauline Amatucci, Blanche Ambrefe, Eleanor Howell, Francis Marquis and Charlotte Chapman. **ARRANGEMENTS:** A memorial service will be held on Saturday at 10 a.m. at the First Parish Church, Congregational in Manchester-by-the-Sea. There are no visiting hours. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in her memory to the Alzheimer's Association, 311 Arsenal St., Watertown, MA 02472. Arrangements by the Campbell-Lee, Moody, Russell Funeral Home, 525 Cabot St., Beverly. Information, directions, condolences at www.campbellfuneral.com.

Rose E. Nicolosi, 84

ANDOVER — Rose E. Nicolosi, 84, of Andover, formerly of Gloucester, died on Wednesday, April 29, 2009 at Mass General Hospital, Boston. Born in Gloucester on April 22, 1925, she was the daughter of the late Agostino and Accusia (Todaro) Nicolosi. She was a graduate of Gloucester High School with the Class of 1943. During World War II, Rose had worked for at former Sylvia plant in Ipswich. She later began working for the Gloucester Daily Times as a line typist and worked her way up to become a reporter for several

years. Rose later stopped working to care for mother and their home. She is survived by her sister, Frances L. Nicolosi of Andover; her brother Michael S. Nicolosi of North Andover; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brothers Salvatore, Lawrence, Charles; and her sisters Eleanor and Josephine "Joey" Nicolosi. **ARRANGEMENTS:** A graveside service was held in Calvary Cemetery on Tuesday, May 4 at 11 a.m. There are no visiting hours. Funeral arrangements are being conducted by the Greeley Funeral Home, 212 Washington St., Gloucester.

Steven A. Perrault, 34



RUMFORD, Maine — Steven A. Perrault 34, of Rumford, Maine and formerly of Methuen died Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at Stevens Memorial Hospital in Norway, Maine. Born in Lawrence on Feb. 4, 1975 son of Arthur C. Perrault of Lawrence and Julie Perrault of Andover. Steven attended St. Patrick's Grammar School in Lawrence and was a graduate of the Greater Lawrence Technical High School with the Class of 1993. He was a local truck driver before illness forced him into retirement. He enjoyed spending time with his children and family, enjoyed fishing,

watching movies and sports. Besides his parents, he is survived by his wife Jody (Todd) Perrault, one daughter Serena, two sons, Anthony and Nicholas. He also leaves one sister Jennifer of Lawrence and her fiance Steve Rodrigue, two brothers Alan of Lawrence and Robert of Melrose, several nieces, nephews and cousins. Steven was predeceased by his brother Arthur. **ARRANGEMENTS:** Family and friends called on Friday May 1, 2009 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Kenneth H. Pollard Funeral Home, Inc., 233 Lawrence St., Methuen. Funeral services were held on Saturday, May 2, 2009 at 11:30 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial will take place at a later date. For condolences or directions visit pollardfuneralhome.com.

Popular Zero Waste Day expected to draw a crowd

By BETHANY BRAY STAFF WRITER
Have outgrown bicycles sitting in your garage, stacks of paperwork to shred or a sofa you're looking to upgrade? Part with your unwanted household items, used clothing, books and even building materials at the Andover Recycling Committee's Zero Waste Day, planned for Saturday, May 9. A shredding service, eight different charities, 12 trucks and a for-profit used book-seller will be at Brickstone Square on Saturday morning, accepting donations. Last year's Zero Waste Day drew about 450 cars, saving thousands of pounds from the waste stream, said Marya Lundgren, Zero Waste Day coordinator and member of the recycling committee. "The focus of the recycling committee has always been to reduce the tonnage of trash that the town has to pay for. I see folks put things out to the curb (that could be reused), hopeful that others will pick them up (before the trash truck comes)," said Lundgren. "Zero Waste Day makes sure those items are getting to the right place and not being wasted by being burned in the incinerator. People can get them out of their homes without having to drive to the different charities. That's the hope, the win-win of it." This year, nonprofits need donations more than ever, she noted, with more people looking to charities for help.

Worried About Mom?

Attend our free Talking Just Works Senior Support Series Event!
Tuesday, May 19 & Thursday, May 21, 6-8pm

Not sure how to talk to your aging mom or dad about important senior life issues? Join us to have some fun while learning all about starting those conversations, whether you worry about your parents' falls, driving, memory loss, managing medications, or other issues.

Featuring Elder Care Advocate Liz Osbahr, this may be the most helpful event you'll go to all year! Light refreshments will be served, but **you must register to attend this FREE event,** so call now!

Call toll-free 866-988-2330, ext. 4 today to register!

Event will be held next door to Windsor Place, at Woodbriar Rehabilitation & Nursing Center, 90 West Street, Wilmington, MA
Call for directions or visit www.WindsorPlaceOfWilmington.com

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Medical Connection
by Bill Daly, M.D.

MEDITATION

The ancient Eastern practice of meditation has been around for thousands of years, but the Western medical world has only recently started to appreciate its healing potential. Meditation has been shown to soothe the sympathetic nervous system, which is responsible for the "fight or flight" response, and activates the parasympathetic nervous system, leading to relaxation, improved metabolism and other benefits. It has been shown to improve many conditions that respond poorly to traditional therapies, including some cancers, allergies, arthritis, anxiety, depression, high blood pressure, heart and neurologic diseases. Acupuncture, reiki, tuina massage, Tong Ren Therapy and other forms of energy healing are usually much more effective for such serious medical conditions when combined with meditation or other relaxation techniques. I speak from personal experience, and have had the opportunity to observe many others. I am the recently elected president of the international Oriental Culture Institute Healing Research Foundation; for interesting related information, go to www.i-tap.org, then click on the menu bar heading "I-TAP", Newsletter Archive, April 2009. Please browse my website for more information, or call 978-470-0001 for a complimentary "meet and greet" appointment. P.S. For most people, energy healing is most beneficial as a complementary addition to traditional Western medicine, rather than as an alternative to conventional therapies.

www.WDalyMD.com

WASTE NOT, WANT NOT

- Zero Waste Day collection
- Saturday, May 9 from 9 a.m. to noon
- Brickstone Square parking lot (northern end of York Street, off Route 133)
- Open to residents rain or shine
- For full details on accepted items see www.andoverma.gov/recycle and click on the Zero Waste Day link
- There will also be a shredder on site

Opinion

CULTURAL CELEBRATION

Welcome downtown sign: New trees

After a long, snowy winter, each sign of spring is greeted with emotion in this part of the country. We love to see the first robin, the new shoots of grass, the first buds on the trees.

And, in downtown Andover this year, residents won't just see rebirth, they'll see trees replanted. Hallelujah!

Perhaps the most frequent complaint about the Main Street redesign project has been the barren look of the downtown since the trees on Main Street between Punchard and Pearson streets were chopped down. Today, May 7, with construction work perhaps three-fourths done, dozens of trees are scheduled to begin returning. Residents will begin to get a more complete idea about what the project will look like when it is complete.

The arrival of 48 trees - nine more than were there before the project started, according to the town - is sure to put spring in the air and spring in the footsteps of those enjoying the downtown. Forty-one more trees will be planted in the fall, after more work is done that might harm them if they were planted now.

With Crafts in the Park this weekend and ClownTown next, it's a great time for residents to enjoy a touch of nature and a touch of community in the downtown.

Enough is enough

Cheers to Andover school principals and central office administrators who volunteered to forego their scheduled raises for next school year to help keep as much of Andover's educational system intact as possible. Their community spirit is appreciated and highly admirable.

While such leadership will help Andover close the gap for next year's budget, we've noted here previously that it is a one-year bandage, and that longterm solutions are needed. To truly address the problem, Andover needs its elected leaders to adopt sustainable capital spending and, more importantly in scope, agree with union heads to contracts with benefits and raises that taxpayers can afford. Significant reform - reform not yet seen - is needed at all levels of government.

Amazingly, at the state level, House lawmakers did not seek to cut spending last week, but instead boosted the sales tax 25 percent to 6.25 percent and increased spending. They claimed the \$900 million the sales-tax hike would generate was necessary to stave off budget cuts brought on by declining tax collections. But by Friday, legislators had spent more than \$500 million of that yet-to-be-raised money on new programs.

The 6.25 percent tax will drive even more shoppers to sales-tax-free New Hampshire, hurting Andover and other Merrimack Valley retailers. Yet, several local legislators — including Barry Finegold and Barbara L'Italien, both of Andover — supported it. Elected officials at all levels need to stop demanding that taxpayers pay more and more, stop adding to the problems and make real efforts at reforms to save money.

WEB QUESTION

How do you feel about a school with 1000 students?

Last week, we asked you how you felt about the two feasibility studies involving Bancroft Elementary School on the Town Meeting warrant. The School Building Committee in town has been looking at Bancroft for over a year, and one idea that has been discussed is combining Bancroft and Shawsheen Primary School into one building. With 25 responses, you voted:

- "Shawsheen has a special community and should be kept separate," received 24 percent
- "Combining the schools would save money in operating costs" received 20 percent
- "An elementary school with 1,000 students is too big," received 20 percent
- "It's too soon to decide, and parents don't have enough information," received 12 percent
- "We need to replace Shawsheen soon, so we should combine," and "Town leaders just should make a decision and start building," received 8 percent
- "None of the above" and "We should combine part of Shawsheen, such as one grade or the preschool program, with

Bancroft, but keep the rest as is," both received 4 percent

This week's question: what's the hardest hit?

The Superintendent and principals presented their revised budget at the May 5 School Committee meeting. Which cut do you feel hurts the most?

- Eliminating 4.6 elementary health positions, and the elementary health program as we know it
- Eliminating 1.3 elementary instrumental music positions
- Eliminating 4.8 elementary technology positions
- Andover High School student parking fee increased from \$100 to \$200
- Increasing, but not doubling, athletic fees, from \$250 to \$350 per athlete
- None of the above

To cast your vote, go to www.andovertownsmen.com and scroll all the way to the bottom of the home page. For lengthier or different answers, email Editor Neil Fater at nfater@andovertownsmen.com



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Star Andrickson, 5, of Lawrence, center, dances with Emma Koral, 9, left, and Maggie Norris, 9, both of Andover, around the Maypole along with several members of Acting Out Theatre Troupe during the third annual May Day at Lawrence Heritage State Park.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Teacher wants raise, says Andover should pass override

Editor, Townsman:

There are calls in some quarters for teachers to give up their scheduled raises. It is said that given the economic crisis we are going through that we should all shoulder a share of sacrifice. I am afraid that I cannot accept the argument.

To teach already entails a sacrifice. Relative to other professions there is a decline in the level of compensation. For those who chose to pursue a career in education, not only has this resulted in an increase in debt, but also an inability to explore the discipline they will eventually teach in depth. One needs to finish the degree and get the job to start paying off the loans.

For this reason I am against giving up our raise. We need to defend the profession and compensate it adequately.

But even the notion of sacrifice is false. It implies that there is a scarcity of funds. Andover's contribution to its school system is below the state average while its family mean income is 170 percent above the state average. Surely the town can afford to fund its services without a call for sacrifice from town employees.

Andover needs to step up to the plate and pass an override. Short of an override, there is an article which will be considered at Town Meeting to transfer money from the rainy day fund. I urge you to support the move of money from the stabilization account to the operational budget of the schools at Town Meeting.

That people are hurting cannot be denied. It is important though, to accurately diagnose the problem. It is not the public sector of the economy that is to blame. For too long we have accepted the economic necessity for a reduction in public services. Stagnant wages and salaries since the 1970s have fueled the compulsion to cut taxes. But the response exhibits all the symptoms of an abusive relation: rather than target the cause of the problem we blame ourselves. We blame ourselves when we passively accept a reduced quality of public life and we indirectly blame ourselves when call for public employees to do more for less. Instead the failure can be traced back to compensation not keeping pace with productivity gains. Wealth has shifted to large corporations and financial institutions, and those in upper income brackets. Thus the income gap between the middle class and the obscene levels of wealth of some.

It is this imbalance which goes a long way towards explaining the current economic crisis. This is an old game, played over a long time, which we avoid seeing and dealing with at our peril.

PATRICK PATTERSON
Ipswich
Social Studies teacher
Andover High School

Town Meeting spends \$1,000 per second

Editor, Townsman:

Annual Town Meeting at Andover High School on May 26 will not be usual "hole in the bank wall wherein one gets money." This one offers the population of my town, Andover, a very real opportunity to put money into a hole!

There will only be 2,000, less than 10 percent of the eligible town voters in attendance. In the first 10 hours we will spend yours and my money at a rate well in excess of \$60,000 per minute based on a total low-ball budget of \$120 million. Admission is free and while there you can have a say on what taxes you will pay next year and your kids will pay for many years.

Town Meeting is an old New England custom and not one to be missed if you're not dead or dying. It is truly an exercise in democratic government or it should be. Unfortunately, it can be and often is abused. There are over 30,000 residents, many can not come, due to age and many others with no excuse do not vote and that's sad. We have men and women in harm's way right now and townsfolk do not choose to vote. When 10 percent voting, each vote counts for 10. The agenda of the meeting is not yet final, but on the town Web site, there's a fair representation of the warrant.

Does it occur to you that folks can load the meeting to pass

items of private concern? It should because it happens every year.

There is to be a series of private articles this year that should be worth the price of admission. They have been referred to in the paper as "The Taxpayers Bill of Rights." Sound like something you'd like to know about?

This letter was not intended to be real political in nature. This is simply a plea to potential voters to mark your calendars for May 26, 27 and 28 and attend the Annual Town Meeting. It's your town and to not participate in its management is to deny your right to complain. Come, and bring your neighbors.

CALVIN G. PERRY
25 Timothy Drive

L'Italien, legislators sticking it to the taxpayer, again

Editor, Townsman:

Almost an hour before midnight, on the evening of Monday, April 27, a mere 12 days after the nationwide tax-revolt "Tea Parties," State Rep. Barbara L'Italien and the royal state legislature tossed up the middle finger to the average Joe/Jane citizen. They ignored calls for reforms and voted to raise the state sales tax to 6.25 percent.

The independent Beacon Hill Institute's estimated loss of 10,000 jobs and millions of dollars in investment underlines what I said in my campaign against L'Italien last Fall (and sorry, my campaign was limited and I was only able to garner 41 percent of the vote): "Taxes" L'Italien is completely out of touch with the average taxpayer in this district.

They always have a reason, always a tale, always a hack, a pet project, or some pork to support (the list is enormous). Her latest move just spreads her nicknames across more villages, and perhaps someday back to her hamlet of Andover. Yet, "Taxes," like all the royals, remains insulated and protected by the fawning letters to the editor from those who support her, and attack anyone who speaks up in opposition. (I can envision their typewriters burning up with rage against me right now.)

Expect more of the same from your local "Taxes" Democrats such as L'Italien, together with our Governor, Deval Patrick. He said he would lower taxes. Many believed him. How's that working out for you?

LAWRENCE "LONNIE" BRENNAN
Georgetown

Finegold sales-tax vote 'betrays' constituents

Editor, Townsman:

Rep. Barry Finegold, in 1798 Daniel Webster stated that "An unlimited power to tax involves, necessarily, a power to destroy."

After years of spending the people's treasure like drunken sailors on among other things, colossal pensions and institutionalized corruption, you and your colleagues have boxed yourselves into a colossal deficit. To extricate yourselves from your self-inflicted disaster, under cloak of darkness, you voted to increase the state sales tax by 25 percent. All this while alleged reform bills lie unmoved. As a North Shore Representative, you had a duty to vote to protect our interests. Mayor Manzi of Methuen, alarmed by the consequences of hiking the sales tax, warned that it would be "a job killer and an economic development killer."

Let's try to quantify his fears. Recently the Beacon Hill Institute released a study suggesting that every 1 percent increase in sales tax would cause consumers to spend nearly \$22 million less and businesses to decrease spending by \$41.3 million. Besides being a "Regressive" tax that places a higher burden on lower and fixed income income families, a sales-tax increase also results in the state becoming the purveyor of social engineered jobs creation. The Beacon Hill analysis concludes that 10,182 private sector jobs would be lost while there would be an increase of 4,879 government sector jobs, thereby compounding and insuring future budget crises.

Most importantly, real disposable income is projected to be decreased by nearly \$221 million. Consequently, families, and small and large businesses in your district will all suffer inexcusable consequences.

The Beacon Hill Institute study also takes into consideration the additional dire economic consequences of communities close to the New Hampshire border by stating, "At the margin, the tax increase also increases the incentive for consumers to shop in New Hampshire or online to avoid the higher sales tax." Consequently, since your district borders on New Hampshire, all your constituents will endure even graver economic consequences. By your vote, you have inflicted what Daniel Webster might describe as the ultimate betrayal of trust of your constituents.

MIKE MOSCA
44 Pleasant St.

LETTERS POLICY

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

Mail to:
33 Chestnut St.,
Box 1986, Andover, Mass. 01810
Fax to: 978-470-2819
E-mail: Neil Fater at nfater@andovertownsmen.com. Please include the letter in the body of the e-mail, not as an attachment.

THURSDAY FILE

"From the nationalist point of view, English is just an invader language but that is to ignore the fact that it has been in Wales for close on 1,000 years."
— Dr Robert Penhallurick, Swansea University

"This is pretty much what journals are all

about, at least to me. I knew as I wrote them that even though they provided an excellent place for brain (and heart, and psyche) dump, they were mainly a map of me."
— Colleen Wainwright

"Before we set our hearts too much upon anything, let us examine how happy those

are who already possess it."
— Francois de La Rochefoucauld

"Among those whom I like or admire, I can find no common denominator, but among those whom I love, I can: all of them make me laugh."
— W. H. Auden

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Habitat for Humanity to hold build in Lawrence this weekend

Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity will offer a Women Build on Saturday, May 9, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Lawrence, as part of National Women Build Week sponsored by

Lowe's. Women Build enables women to eliminate poverty housing by building with Habitat on project days that primarily use female volunteer workers.

Habitat also needs a restaurant to donate lunch for the Women Build volunteers. For more information, location or to volunteer, call 978-681-8858.

Father-daughter bond



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Todd Jackson of Andover dances with his daughter, Emily, a second-grader at the Bancroft School, during the school's annual Father-Daughter Dance on Friday night. Dozens of dads and their little girls hopped, jumped and spun around on the dance floor dressed to this year's theme: Hawaiian Luau.

Food drive to be held at your mailbox this Saturday

Andover postal carriers will collect food at residents' mailboxes this Saturday, May 9 as part of a national effort.

Campbell Soup Co. is working with the National Association of Letter Carriers to assist the one in eight Americans who struggle with hunger. To help "Stamp Out Hunger" this year, resident should leave a sturdy bag containing non-perishable foods, like canned soup, canned vegetables, pasta, rice or cereal, next to their mailbox prior to the time of regular mail delivery on May 9. Food items should be in non-breakable containers, such as boxes and cans.

Approximately 8,000 pounds of nonperishable food items were collected in Andover last year, and the goal this year is to collect 15,000 pounds. Donations will help support the local

organization of Neighbors in Need.

The Stamp Out Hunger effort is the nation's largest single-day food drive, having collected more than 909 million pounds of food since its inception in 1993, according to the company. Last year, letter carriers across the country collected a record total of more than 73.1 million pounds of food, but with hunger impacting many Americans including working families, children and the elderly help is needed now more than ever before.

The nation's 230,000 letter carriers will be collecting donations from homes across the country and delivering them to food bank members of Feeding America, formerly America's Second Harvest, The Nation's Food Bank Network and other hunger relief organizations in more than

10,000 local communities.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, more than 36 million Americans live in food insecure households, and approximately one in every three of these Americans is a child. Summer donations are even more critical since many children in need no longer have the benefit of their school lunch program.

As part of its support for the drive, Campbell will donate one million pounds of food to food banks across the country and is sponsoring a reminder postcard mailing sent to 120 million homes.

For more information about the annual Stamp Out Hunger effort in your community, ask your letter carrier, contact the Anover Post Office or visit www.helpstampouthunger.com.

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Townspeople

Community concert for recovering pastor, defibrillators

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Next weekend, two Andover churches will come together for a concert with heart, but also for heart health.

The event is free, but donations collected at the "There's a Blessing in the Storm" concert benefit two causes: to purchase defibrillator machines for area churches and to help the family of Lyndon Myers, pastor of Andover Baptist, who suffered a heart attack in December and is mending.

"It's an opportunity for the community to come together,



Lyndon Myers

and to see that prayer works. To see Pastor Myers and see that he's back on his feet. He came through this because of the power of prayer," said Denise Wynn, a member of Andover Baptist and the concert planning committee.

The concert, planned for May 16, has been jointly organized by the Andover Baptist and Free Christian churches and will feature local and nationally known

jazz, gospel and contemporary musicians.

"(The concert) will have great entertainment. These are quality, professional musicians, and it will be fun and alive with great music," said Jack Daniel, senior pastor at Free Christian. "But beyond that, we hope that people will realize there's a story within a story. There's the story of Lyndon's heart attack - a serious thing that could happen to anyone - and a story of his recovery from that, but also the wider story of the defibrillators. Every church should have one. These instruments save lives, and it saved his life."

Myers collapsed at the Andover/North Andover YMCA on Dec. 28, 2008 after playing basketball. He was treated by Andover medical and emergency personnel, who used a defibrillator to revive him.

Several of those first responders, including a woman who performed CPR on Myers until an ambulance arrived, will be honored at the concert.

Myers and his family will also be in attendance, said Wynn. Myers continues with rehabilitation, but is "on the mend" and has been able to preach a few Sundays at the church, she said.

"There has been such an outpouring of love and interest on how he is doing the past few months," said Lance Bryant, music minister at Andover Baptist. A few weeks ago, a man driving by the church stopped Bryant as he was walking out of the building to ask how the pastor was doing, he said.

"There have been some expenses incurred out of pocket, and his church family, community and friends want to help," said Wynn of Myers. "They (Myers and his family) would never ask, but their church

Please see **CONCERT**, Page 14

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All Those Years Ago

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WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

100 Years Ago - April 29, 1909

One of the few pleasures that has not yet reached Andover with any great force is that to be secured on the bowling alley. The little tastes that have been had by those who have been fortunate enough to enjoy the alleys at the guild, or provided so generously by the Smith and Dove Company for their employees has been sufficient enough to whet a great many appetites for more.

75 Years Ago - April 27, 1934

William Levek, 9-year-old son of Dr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Levek of 85 Knox St., Lawrence miraculously escaped serious injury Sunday evening about 6 o'clock when the machine in which he and his father were riding was sideswiped by a telephone pole on Lowell Street near the home of the late Joseph A. Chambers. The youngster escaped with only a few minor cuts.

A bright future filled with opportunities for the countries for the country's young men, was pictured Tuesday evening by James Roosevelt, the president's son, at George Washington Hall [Phillips Academy]. Nearly 1,000 gathered to hear the young man speak in a hall, where as Dr. Fuess said in introducing him, a Democrat was once looked upon askance.

"The people who today are younger are the people who will be telling others what to do pretty soon," the president's son said in explaining the "era of opportunity."

50 Years Ago - April 30, 1959

Anyone want to save \$10,000? That's the neat little question facing the selectman this week, for it's not just as simple as saying sure. Seems the town has been assessed that amount by the county for mosquito control, and the community has until Aug. 11 to withdraw from the project, only through the actions of a Special Town Meeting.

The Selectmen appeared to be a step closer to appointing a town manager this week, after completing eight interviews with the best applicants for the position. Tuesday afternoon saw members of the Board entertaining Thomas E. Duff, present city manager of Claremont, N.H., who had earlier been interviewed by the full board.

25 Years Ago - April 26, 1984

A group of Florida developers will make another appeal for ten waivers from the town's zoning bylaws at the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting set for Thursday, May 3. Thomas Walsh's Ocean Properties of Boca Raton, Fla. wants to construct a \$25 million hotel and

Please see **YEARS**, Page 15

LITTLE LEAGUE'S OPENING DAY



David Miles, 6, waves to the crowd during Saturday morning's second annual Andover Little League opening day parade.

ROGER DARRIGRAND/Staff photos



Robbie Dutton, 12, gets a hug from Red Sox mascot Wally.



The 7-year-old Padres team Bobby Markus, left, Michael Slayton, and David Calligan show some love for their team mascot, Tobey, before the opening ceremonies.

Fans try to catch a glimpse of their favorite town players.



Angels Coach Chris Dougherty heads down Main Street in Andover with his son and team mascot Grady Dougherty, 4, on his shoulders.

Big influenza gamble: 1918, 1976 and today's flu scare

Bill Dalton

On Sept. 27, 1918, the Andover Board of Health closed all schools, the library, and the movie theater. Church services were voluntarily discontinued. These actions were taken

because of the Great Influenza Epidemic of 1918-19. The Board of Health reported 1,503 cases of influenza in 1918 and 25 people died. The Andover Townsman reported 341 new cases in one week. In 1919, there were 274 more cases, but the Board of Health was too busy dealing with the epidemic to file a report

and no deaths were stated. (The town's population was 8,000.) In Lawrence, open air hospitals were set up in tent villages. In Massachusetts, 45,000 people died.

The Great Influenza was one of the worst events in human history. Twenty million Americans were infected, 20 percent of the population. It killed 675,000 of those people, 10 times more Americans than died in World War I. Half the American troops who died in the war died of the influenza. Worldwide, between 20 million and 100 million died, with 50 million being a widely quoted number. More people died from the Great Influenza in one year than died from the "Black Death" (Bubonic Plague) during the Middle Ages.

The mortality rate for the annual "flu" is 0.1 percent. Last year, the flu killed about 34,000

worldwide. That was a normal year. The mortality rate during the Great Influenza was 2.5 to 5 percent. Not only was that influenza much more contagious than ever, it killed a high percent of the people infected. The 1918-19 Influenza came in three waves. The first wave was relatively benign; the second wave was deadly; and the third wave was benign.

Virus mutation rate calculations are for scientists, but rapid mutation is what makes viruses so dangerous. Simply stated, viruses go through countless generations and mutations during the time it takes humans to go through a single generation.

"(H1N1) Influenza A," formerly called the "Swine Flu" is now causing concern. The 1918-19 was an H1N1 virus, but within the designation H1N1 are large numbers of variations.

Some variations are harmless, some will make you sick, and some will kill you.

We had a Swine Flu scare in 1976, and it affected a presidential election. That year, a small number of soldiers at Fort Dix were diagnosed with Swine Flu. One died. Acting with the recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control and with Congressional approval, President Gerald Ford implemented a Swine Flu program that included the vaccination of 40 million Americans. Three elderly people died shortly after being vaccinated and the media assumed a connection. Public outcry stopped the vaccination program. Today we know that there was no scientific connection between those deaths and the vaccinations. However, after the vaccinations were stopped, as many as 500

people developed Guillain-Barre syndrome (GBS), a serious neurological disorder. Up to 25 of these people died. GBS is rare and can be caused as a response to a vaccination.

Before large scale vaccination programs are begun, experts predict the number of health issues that will be caused by the vaccine. It is a risk/reward analysis: how many people will be hurt as compared to how many will be helped by the vaccine. With flu vaccinations, it is predicted that one person in a million will get GBS. The 1976 Swine Flu Vaccine had an abnormally high 500. (That may have been a statistical anomaly, or something unique in the vaccine, or a heightened awareness of the side effects caused by media attention, or a combination of all of these.)

President Ford was criticized

for overreacting to the Swine Flu. This "overreaction" may have played a role in his defeat by Jimmy Carter. In 1979, I was at the Kennedy School, and we studied the 1976 "Swine Flu Crises." The important part of the discussion was not about whether Ford had overreacted but whether the perception that he'd overreacted might cause future Presidents to underreact in similar situations.

The predictable cries that the government, the media, and "we" are overreacting began several days ago. Part of my full-time job involves risk management. Besides insurance (which is really shifting risk rather than managing it), risk management means that you do things that cost time and money to prevent people from getting

Please see **DALTON**, Page 15

ENGAGEMENTS



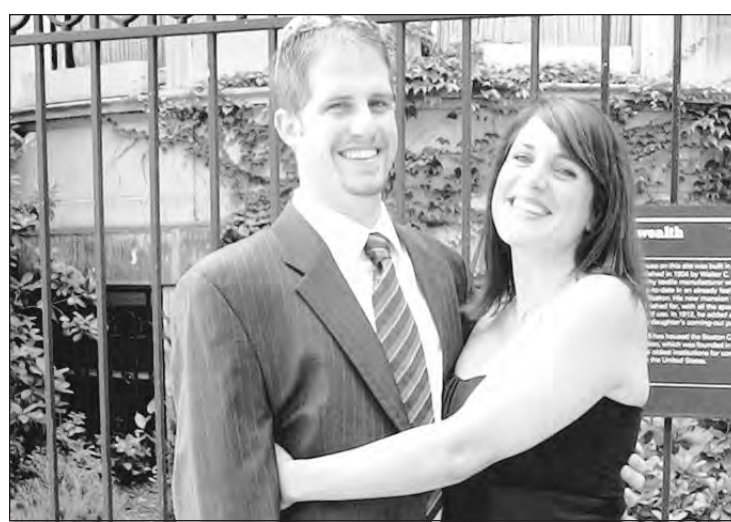
Jessica Perkins and Christopher Taylor

David and Beverly Perkins formerly of Andover are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jessica Lynn Perkins, to Christopher Kane Taylor, son of Barbara Taylor of Westfield, and Paul Taylor of Feeding Hills.

Miss Perkins received a bachelor's degree in biology from

Wesleyan University and a master's degree in social work from Boston College. She is currently working as a social worker in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Mr. Taylor received a master's degree from Massachusetts College of Art. He is currently working as an art instructor at Northern Arizona University.



Stephen Scarpulla and Kathryn Biagini

Suzanne and Norman Scarpulla of Andover are pleased to announce the engagement of their son Stephen to Kathryn Biagini, daughter of Susan and William Biagini of Needham.

Ms. Biagini graduated from Syracuse University in 2002. She received her master's degree in education from Lesley University.

She is employed as a fourth-grade teacher.

Mr. Scarpulla is a 2002 graduate of Wheaton College and received his master's degree from Lesley University in visual arts. He is presently employed as an elementary school art teacher.

The wedding is planned for July 2009

CONCERT: Fundraiser

Continued from Page 13

family wants to help."

The concert's title, "There's a Blessing in the Storm," is a concept found within the Christian faith, said Bryant.

"Being a Christian doesn't mean that your life is going to be rosy and perfect. You're still going to go through things. But your faith allows you to go through it, and your faith will come out all the more strong," he said. "What happened to Pastor Myers has brought our church together, we've become tighter."

Through the concert and donations, organizers hope to raise \$20,000 and purchase as many defibrillators as they can for area churches with the greatest need. Wynn said the concert's planning committee has been talking with Philips Medical in Andover, which manufactures the machines. Daniels said Free Christian purchased a defibrillator about two months ago, and members have been getting trained on how to use it. The machines cost

IF YOU GO

- "There's a Blessing in the Storm" benefit concert
- Saturday, May 16, 6:30 p.m.
- Free Christian Church, 31 Elm St.
- Free admission, a love offering will be taken for medical expenses of Lyndon Myers, pastor of Andover Baptist Church, and to purchase defibrillator machines for area churches
- Featuring the music of the CIB String Quartet, gospel group The Bullock Brothers, the Lance Bryant Quartet, Robert Bloodworth & Friends and Calvin Nowell
- To donate or get more information, call 978-475-0700 or visit www.freechristian.org or www.andoverbaptistchurch.net

around \$2,000 each, he said.

"We thought, what a better gift than what was so instrumental in saving his (Myers) life?" Wynn said. "We're doing this on faith, and have every faith that this will work and we'll raise the money we need."

The committee intentionally planned the May 16 concert to have a mix of music genres, including jazz, gospel and a string quartet of musicians from Andover High School.

The evening's headliner will be Calvin Nowell, a Nashville-based up and coming Christian recording artist who will travel from Tennessee for the event.

Lyndon Myers was installed as pastor of Andover Baptist Church in August 2004. Since his arrival the church's membership has swelled from 20 to more than 150 people.

Daniel said he and Myers hit it off immediately, because Free Christian had gone through a similar decline and rebirth as Daniel came to the church 32 years ago.

"We had a history that we shared there," said Daniel. "God had another idea in mind, for us and for them, and literally for Lyndon. It's really a story of new life."

After Myers' heart attack in December, Daniel said he "had this sense that we needed to do something for this friend and colleague."

He suggested a benefit concert to leaders at Andover Baptist, who prayed about it and expressed their support. A committee of people from the two churches was formed.

"We're just glad that Andover Baptist Church is here, and they're doing great work. We've been glad to be part of (the benefit concert)," said Daniel.

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■ **Energize With Exercise:** Great aerobic exercise series. Thursdays, May 7 through June 25, 6-7 p.m., \$50 for eight sessions.

■ **Serenity Yoga:** Two levels will be offered — relaxing beginner and moderate yoga. Bring a yoga mat, towel and pillow. Thursdays, May 7 through June 25, beginner, 6-7 p.m., moderate, 7:15-8:15 p.m., \$50 for eight sessions.

■ **Coping with Care Giving:** Four part senior caregiving series, local resources and

support for those involved, May 7, 14, and 21 from 7:15-8:15 p.m., \$5 donation per night, May 28, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Multiple organizations will be represented on the Caregiving Fair's last night.

■ **Nordic Walking:** In town and off-road Nordic: Explore our town and Avis trails. First class meets at 30 Whittier Court. Special poles provided and training for all Tuesdays, May 19, through June 23, 6 to 7 p.m., \$40 for six weeks. Advance registration appreciated. Call 978-623-8321 or visit www.boomerventure.com to get the BoomerVenture online registration form. All classes held at 30 Whittier Court. Call 978-623-8321 or visit www.boomerventure.com to get the BoomerVenture online registration form. All classes are held at 30 Whittier Court, Andover.

SENIOR NOTES

■ **Boston Pops Trip:** Thursday, May 21, 8 p.m. performance; \$75 ticket and transportation. We have a few spots left for our upcoming trip to the Boston Pops. "Baseball Night" is the theme for this year's concert and you'll hear songs like Fenway's favorite, Sweet Caroline and all the baseball classics including Casey At The Bat, Take Me Out to the Ballgame, and the

Star Spangled Banner. **Birding Group:** Our bird walks with the Retelles will be held every Friday morning in May, weather permitting. We'll plan to meet at the center at 8 a.m. and we'll car pool from here to explore some of the local conservation areas. Pre-registration is appreciated, so we can notify you of any change in plans.

DALTON: Past flu outbreaks

Continued from Page 13

hurt and assets from being destroyed. The trouble with risk management is that you can't always quantify whether you had the desired results. In other words, you don't know what problems you prevented. This is a high stakes game, folks. If I were betting money, I'd bet that this will all blow over, and maybe laugh about it. However, I'm in favor of over-reaction as opposed to under-reaction when the stakes are so high.

Postscript. As the paper goes to press, it appears more than likely that the latest flu is no more dangerous than an ordinary flu. However, the

government will have to make a decision as to whether it manufactures a vaccine for this new strain of influenza or whether it keeps on with its plans to manufacture a vaccine for the routine annual flu. There may not be enough capability to manufacture both, but that could change. Remembering that this H1N1 may be able to remake itself into a deadly second wave in time for the colder weather and flu season, like the H1N1 of 1918-19 remake itself, the stakes remain very high.

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

YEARS: Looking back

Continued from Page 13

convention center complex on the banks of the Merrimack River on Old River Road.

Memorial Hall Library will be renovated as town officials have planned, but the sale-and-repurchase method for financing the \$4.6 million project may be revised, Town Manager Kenneth Mahony told the selectman Monday night. Plans to build an addition that will nearly double the size of the library and improve the existing one are "not in jeopardy."

10 Years Ago - April 29, 1999

Andover's Town Meeting voters were a reflection of the national economy this week - expansive and ready to spend - as they approved nearly \$118 million in appropriations over the first two nights of the annual event that will resume May 11 in the Collins Center, An educational program in Andover for severely handicapped children was able to win a reprieve in March from a move by the state

Department of Public health to close it by the end of June.

Andover Garden Club honored at regional conference

The Andover Garden Club made a big showing at Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts' recent Northern District Annual Meeting. And the club made a splash at award time, as well.

President Carol Prentiss accepted on behalf of the club a GCFM Northern District Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Efforts in Civic Beautification. The Andover Garden Club plants and maintains many areas around town: Bicentennial Park, at the historical triangle across from South Church on Central Street; the Henderson Garden at the junction of River and Chandler Roads; the 19th-century urns, which the Club donated to the town, located in front of the Old Town House; urns at the Andover Senior Center; the Children's Garden at Memorial Hall Library; the Marjorie Stearns Historical Garden at the Andover Historical Society; and the "Welcome to Andover" sign on South Main Street at the interchange for Route 125. The club decorates the Old Town House during the holiday season.

Prentiss also accepted a certificate in recognition of the club's financial support of the Penny Pines Program, a conservation project sponsored by National Garden Club Inc., in conjunction with the USDA Forest Service, to help pay to replant indigenous trees in areas badly damaged by fire or other natural catastrophes.

The Andover Garden Club was recognized for its efforts to



Diane Climo/Courtesy photo

At the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts Northern District Annual Meeting, Frances Wheeler, left, accepted the Katherine Suozzo Award for outstanding expertise in the field of horticulture, and Joyce Bakshi assumed the mantle of district director.

promote sustainable behavior in the community, such as encouraging members and town groups to replace traditional light bulbs with energy-saving compact fluorescents.

Andover Garden Club members Judy Astbury, Joyce Bakshi, Maria Bartlett, Virginia Begg, Ann Bride, Betty Chapman, Diane Climo, Joyce Dominique,

Leslie Frost, Yvonne Glendon, Pat Himber, Susan Johnston, vice president, Anne Lange, Jaye Laudani, Christine Maynard, Nancy Norbedo, Carol Prentiss, president, Karen Schnorrenberg, Claire Syiek, Frances Wheeler, and Judy Wright attended the meeting, along with representatives from 24 other North Shore garden clubs. The GCFM is part of

National Garden Clubs Inc.

Remembering Katherine Suozzo

A silver bowl was presented to Frances Wheeler, the 2009 recipient of the Katherine Suozzo Award. This award, given to a garden-club member who has "contributed outstanding expertise in the field of horticulture" within a club or community, is named for a former 17-year member of the Andover Garden Club who died in 1993. Suozzo was an enthusiastic and hard-working club contributor and is still missed those who knew and worked with her, according to members. Wheeler is past president of the Andover Garden Club, and has served the club in many capacities during her 20-year membership, including as horticulture chairwoman.

The Katherine Suozzo Award has come home to roost on numerous occasions since it was instituted in 1993. Andover Garden Club members who have received the honor include Leslie Frost, 1993; Lois Simmonds, 1996; Joyce Ringleb, 2000, and Judy Wright, 2008.

Bakshi new Northern director

At the meeting, Andover Garden Club past president Joyce Bakshi assumed the role of Northern District director. Among the initiatives she introduced during her acceptance speech was a new environmental program that she said would be chaired by Maria Bartlett, the club's Environmental Awareness chairwoman.

RELIGION NEWS IN BRIEF

On Friday, May 8, at 7 p.m., Temple Emanuel of Andover will hold a Kabbalat Shabbat Unplugged Service, led by Rabbi Robert Goldstein, and Assistant Music Director Idan Irelander, accompanied by a variety of professional musicians. The service of soulful music and inspiring prose is open to all, regardless of age, affiliation or faith. Wine and cheese will be served prior to the service at 6:30 p.m.

On Saturday, May 16, at 7:30 p.m., Temple Emanuel will present a very special Holocaust Remembrance Program, "A Play, A Discussion, and Dessert." The evening will feature a short play, "The Remarkable Life of Corrie ten Boom," performed by Susan Sandager. Corrie ten Boom was a Dutch Christian who risked her life to save the lives of many Jews during the Holocaust. The

play will be followed by a discussion led by JoAnn Magnuson, Interfaith Relations Director of Bridges for Peace. The evening will close with a dessert buffet and the opportunity to speak with the two guests. This program, sponsored by the Temple Ema is free and open to the public. Temple Emanuel is located at 7 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover. Visit online at www.templemanuel.net or call the temple office at 978-470-1356.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, May 17 at 2 p.m., in the Chapel at West Parish Garden Cemetery. This service is open to the public, nondenominational, and is a memorial service dedicated to those who have lost a loved one in the recent past. Call the cemetery office with any questions at 978-475-3902.

Stevens-Coolidge Place Plant Sale

Celebrate spring and get your garden growing with a visit to the 27th Annual Stevens-Coolidge Place Plant Sale at The Stevens-Coolidge Place on Saturday, May 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Annual sale highlights include peonies, Japanese and bearded iris, and old-fashioned roses, along with hard-to-find trillium and native plants, herbs and vegetables, according to sale organizers.

People can preview the plants at 9 a.m. before the sale officially opens at 10.

"The sale runs through 2 PM, but get there early for the best selection," say organizers.

Admission is free and refreshments will be available.

Located at 139 Andover Street in North Andover, the Stevens-Coolidge Place is an historic 91-acre country estate and is owned and maintained by The Trustees of Reservations.

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Sports

From the mat to the track



Andover's Kayla Baldwin performs a back tuck while teammates Emily Belluche, left, and Eve Bishop look on. All three are breakout stars for the Andover track team this season, helped by their experience as gymnasts.

Gymnastics a key for budding track stars

BY DAVID WILLIS
STAFF WRITER

With Andover's history of state titles and state records, few would blame an athlete for being nervous when taking the track for Andover High. But junior star Kayla Baldwin knows a little something about being in the spotlight.

"When you are going through your routine in gymnastics it's just you out there," she said. "After doing it so many times, you get used to it. In track, you aren't the only one on the track, and it's over in about 13 seconds. So it's really not that bad."

That mental edge has allowed Baldwin to emerge as one of the Golden Warriors' breakout stars this season, along with sophomores Emily Belluche and Eve Bishop. And all three credit much of that success to their experience as long-time competitive gymnasts.

"Gymnastics is a very demanding sport," said Bishop. "It builds up your muscles and makes it easier to compete in other sports. You are always working your body in different ways."

It has been a landmark season for all three of the gymnasts. But no one is more surprised by her success than Baldwin.

"I'm not the most confident person in the world," she said. "Going into this season I thought I was just going to have another fun time, and hoped I'd maybe run for the varsity team. I guess I showed a lot more talent than I expected."

Gymnastics was Baldwin's life for much of her childhood. She

said she practiced an average of 25 hours a week, then had tournaments on Sundays. She reached Level 7 before leaving the sport in the fifth grade. After entering high school, she returned to gymnastics as a member of the Golden Warriors team. But it took urging from friends for her to finally give track a shot as a sophomore. However, it was not an easy introduction to the sport last year.

"I hurt my quad last season," she said. "But in gymnastics, there's no pain. When I was younger I'd tell my (gymnastics) coaches something hurt, and they'd tell me I was fine. So that's what I thought I should do last year, and it made me so much worse. I struggled."

But, during the preseason this year, a fun exercise revealed her speed.

"I knew Eve because we were always trying to get her to do gymnastics," said Baldwin. "One of my friends told me, 'If you can run with Eve, you are pretty good.' We ran the 100 (dash) and I was right with her. That's when I thought I might not be too bad."

Baldwin has been more than not bad this season. In Andover's four dual meets through Monday, Baldwin has twice won the 100, led by a career-best 12.6 against Haverhill. She added a fifth in the 100 at the Nashua North Invitational, and has twice run on the winning 4x100 relay. Next season, as a senior, she will serve as captain of the Andover gymnastics team.

Even though she no longer competes in the sport, Bishop

is also thrilled to have the edge gymnastics gives her on the track.

"It gives us a leg up," said the sophomore. "Gymnastics is so physically demanding and it works your body in so many different ways. It makes me less nervous when I compete. Track is more relaxing and fun."

Bishop competed in gymnastics for Brestyans Gym in Burlington, the same gym as 2008 US Olympian Alicia Sacramone.

"I was around (Sacramone) all the time and she is really friendly and very funny," said Bishop. "But it puts a lot of pressure on you because you think everything has to be as good as her."

Bishop is now at home on the track. So far this season she has won the 100 against Tewksbury, the long jump against Chelmsford and run on winning relays against Lowell and Haverhill. She added a ninth in the 100 at the Nashua North Invitational.

Also a sprinter, Belluche feels she and her fellow gymnasts have an advantage mentally.

"Gymnastics prepares you for anything," she said. "I love the challenge of the hurdles and we all help each other out on the relays. It also gets your body in great shape. We have a lot of fun in track."

A 12-year gymnast before stopping last year, the sophomore won the 100 hurdles against Tewksbury and took 10th in the hurdles at the Nashua North Invitational.

The three are not the first gymnasts to make their impact on the track for Andover. Before

MASSACHUSETTS' FASTEST MEETS WORLD'S FASTEST

Andover's **Christopher McConnell**, who set the Massachusetts state record in the 55-meter dash over the winter, rarely meets someone faster than him. But, on April 26, the sprinter met the world's fastest man.

At an event in Boston, McConnell met **Usain Bolt**, who won three gold medals at the 2008 Olympic Games and owns the world record in the 100 meter (9.69), and 200 (19.30).

McConnell earned the meeting, and an autographed T-shirt, after winning a sprint competition against runners from around the state in attendance.

"I was watching him in the Olympics eight months ago," McConnell said. "I wouldn't have thought I'd shake his hand. He seemed like a really nice guy. And he got to see me run, which was unbelievable."

Christina Muccio was the 2008 All-Scholastics Runner of the Year and helped set four Andover High School records, she was a standout gymnast for the Golden Warriors.

"Gymnasts have been a key to our success," said Andover coach Peter Comeau. "We are benefiting from a sport I never realized we would benefit from."

"Now Kayla is our fastest sprinter, Eve is our second fastest sprinter and Emily is our top triple jumper and high jumper. I expect plenty of points a meet from them."

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



Andover star sprinter Christopher McConnell, left, poses with the world's fastest man, three-time Olympic gold medalist Usain Bolt. They met at a recent promotional event in Boston.

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► Roundup

Andover finding its lacrosse groove

GIRLS LACROSSE

Andover won its sixth straight, topping Cape Ann League power Georgetown 17-8 on Saturday. Heather Sullivan scored a game-high five goals while Ally Fazio, Meghan Morris and Jackie Pelletier each scored twice for the winners (8-4).

Andover bested Billerica 14-5 on Friday. Back from injury, Jules Konjoin combined with Abby Cook for the win in net while Cat Gross, Heather Sullivan, Jenn Caro, Rosie Forster and Ally Fazio each scored two goals.

Goalie Abby Cook was given the opportunity to play in the field, and responded by scoring one goal and assisting on another as Andover pounded Dracut 14-4. The Warriors saw 10 players score at least one goal, led by Kelly Fox, Jenn Caro, Rosie Forster and Meghan Morris each with two.

BOYS LACROSSE

Eriksen, Andover shine

Matt Eriksen scored three goals and assisted on two others as Andover downed Xaverian 9-6 on Saturday. Gavin McIver and Christian Benedix each scored two goals and Joe Lamagna and Josh Torres each chipped in one.

Led by nine saves for Jake Gostanian and stellar defense by Jimmy Johnson, Andover allowed just one goal in the second half

to top Central Catholic 9-6 last Monday. Matt Eriksen had a hat trick and Josh Torres, Gavin McIver and Joe Lamagna each added two goals.

Joe Kuta had a goal and three assists, but Andover fell to Exeter 11-10 in overtime on Wednesday. Joe Lamagna (three assist), Josh Torres and John Fiorentino each had two goals.

BASEBALL

Ponti, Warriors slug out win

Jake Ponti had three hits, scored three times and drove in two runs as Andover crushed Methuen 7-1 on Friday. John Hennessy was 3 for 3 with an RBI and Andrew Ruiz-Henriquez added two RBIs for the winners.

Dan Gusovsky drove in four runs and scored the final run as Andover bested Billerica 5-1 last Monday. Jake Ponti scored twice and John Hennessy had a hit and scored a run of his own.

BOYS TRACK

John Farrell allowed just four hits in a complete-game effort, but Andover fell to Lawrence 1-0 last Wednesday. Jake Ponti and Akira Sembomatsu each had one of the Warriors' two hits.

BOYS TRACK

Stevens takes three firsts

Kerrick Stevens won the triple jump (40-2), the 400 hurdles (62.1) and ran on the winning

4x100 relay as Andover drubbed Haverhill 115-21 last Wednesday. Chris Warne took the shot put, Steven Moore won the discus and Andrew Pallotta won the 110 hurdles for the winners.

GIRLS TENNIS

Warriors sweep

Sarah Arvidson, Michelle Krupnik and Jackie Collins combined to sweep No. 1-3 singles in a 5-0 win for Andover over Notre Dame last Monday.

Rachel Trotta and Satin Zarkar teamed to take No. 1 doubles 6-1, 6-2 and help Andover to a 5-0 win over Central Catholic on Friday. Reid Campbell and Rachel Ochs combined to take No. 2 doubles for the winners.

Sarah Arvidson rallied to take No. 1 singles 2-6, 6-2, 6-1 as Andover swept Lowell 5-0. Michelle Krupnik also needed to rally, winning 3-6, 6-4, 7-6, 7-2 at No. 2 singles.

BOYS TENNIS

Andover stays unbeaten

Eric Heath cruised to victory at No. 2 singles 6-1, 6-2 as Andover won its eighth straight, 5-0 over Central Catholic last Thursday. Jeff Birenbaum won No. 3 singles and Shane Huggins and Nitin Mahesh combined to take No. 1 doubles.

Shane Huggins cruised to victory at No. 1 singles 6-1, 6-1, helping Andover stay unbeaten

with a 5-0 win over Methuen last Tuesday. Nitin Mahesh won No. 2 singles and Graham Johnson took No. 3 singles.

Bjorn Merinder battled for a 2-6, 6-2, 6-1 win at top singles, leading Andover to a 4-1 win over Lowell last Wednesday.

GIRLS TRACK

Shannon, Andover grab win

Colleen Shannon grabbed first in the long jump (15-3) and 800 (2:22.1) as Andover eased past Haverhill 96-49. Jess Salley won the high jump, 400 hurdles and ran on the winning 4x400 relay and Melissa Knapp took the 400 for the winners.

VOLLEYBALL

Andover take win No. 13

Mike Bakies fired down 11 aces, vaulting Andover to its 13th win of the season, an easy 25-9, 25-10, 25-15 blowout of Billerica. Mike Emmons added 19 assists and Gary Hinds chipped in with six kills for the winners.

SOFTBALL

McCarthy, Andover roll

Kerry McCarthy drove in a pair of runs to send Andover to a 10-3 drubbing of Haverhill on Wednesday. Meaghan McCarthy and Jeanette Doucette each added an RBI for the winners.

Jess Musto drove in two runs,

but Andover lost to Billerica 10-5 on Friday. Alex Strock chipped in the other RBI for the Warriors (4-6).

Despite two hits and two RBIs from Irena Kushner, Andover fell to Dracut 17-3 last Monday. Kerry McCarthy added a hit.

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■ THE WEEK AHEAD

Baseball	Girls Lacrosse	Boys Lacrosse	Boys Track	Girls Track	Volleyball	Softball
May 8 at Lowell 7 p.m.	May 11 Acton-Boxboro 7 p.m.	May 8 Chelmsford 7 p.m.	May 11 Lawrence 4:15 p.m.	May 9 Andover Boosters Meet 10 a.m.	May 11 at Lawrence 6 p.m.	May 11 at Lawrence 6 p.m.
May 12 at Masconomet 3:30 p.m.	May 11 at Haverhill 4:15 p.m.	May 11 at Methuen 7 p.m.	May 13 at Methuen 3:30 p.m.	May 13 Andover Boosters Meet 10 a.m.	May 13 at Chelmsford 6 p.m.	May 13 at Chelmsford 6 p.m.
May 13 at Haverhill 6:30 p.m.	May 13 Lowell 4 p.m.	May 13 at Haverhill 6:30 p.m.	Boys Track	May 13 Central Catholic 3:30 p.m.	Girls Track	
Softball	Boys Tennis	Girls Tennis	May 9 Andover Boosters Meet 10 a.m.	May 9 Andover Boosters Meet 10 a.m.	May 9 Andover Boosters Meet 10 a.m.	
May 7 at Tewksbury 7 p.m.	May 8 Chelmsford 4:30 p.m.	May 9-10 at MIAA Individuals TBA	May 13 Central Catholic 3:30 p.m.	May 13 Central Catholic 3:30 p.m.	May 13 Central Catholic 3:30 p.m.	
May 11 at Methuen 7 p.m.	May 9-10 at MIAA Individuals TBA	May 14 Boston Latin 3:30 p.m.	Volleyball	May 11 at Lawrence 6 p.m.	May 11 at Lawrence 6 p.m.	
May 13 at Notre Dame Academy 3:30 p.m.	May 14 Boston Latin 3:30 p.m.	Girls Tennis	May 11 at Lawrence 6 p.m.	May 13 Chelmsford 6 p.m.	May 13 Chelmsford 6 p.m.	
Boys Lacrosse	May 8 at Chelmsford 3:30 p.m.	May 8 at Chelmsford 3:30 p.m.	May 13 Chelmsford 6 p.m.			
May 8 Chelmsford 7 p.m.	May 9-10 at MIAA Individuals TBA	May 9-10 at MIAA Individuals TBA				
May 12 Bishop Guertin 7 p.m.						

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Business

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Igo passes Leadership in Energy, Environmental Design AP exam

GEI Consultants Inc., a geotechnical, environmental, water resources, and ecological science and engineering firm has announced that five employees have passed the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design AP exam for professional accreditation, including Andover resident Andrea Igo, P.E., LEED AP.

Igo is an engineer focusing on managing chemical data and conducting site assessments and field investigations. She has also conducted due diligence assessments and coordinated several large scale groundwater sampling events, according to a company release. She received her bachelor's degree in natural resources from the University of Maine, and her master's degree in civil and environmental engineering and urban and environmental policy and planning from Tufts University. She also has a graduate certificate in engineering management from the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. She is a registered professional engineer in the state of Massachusetts and works in the firm's Woburn office.

Local resident receives Partners HealthCare Service Award

Christopher Colecchi of Andover was recently honored for 20 years of service to Partners HealthCare. Colecchi works as vice president, research ventures and licensing at Partners.

This year, Partners recognized 346 employees with five-to-40 years of service for a combined total of more than 3,600 years of service to Partners and its affiliated hospitals and health care facilities. In a ceremony at the Boston Marriott Long Wharf Hotel, Partners Chief Operating Officer Thomas P. Glynn thanked employees for their dedication. Glynn said that these employees had helped secure Partners reputation as a nationally recognized health care provider that is a leader in finding solutions to several current issues including the rising cost of healthcare, implementing electronic medical records, providing care for newly insured residents, and improving care for patients with chronic disease.

"Partners is fortunate that you have given not only your talent, but your time in some cases entire careers to solving these issues and moving our community toward a better, healthier way of life," Glynn told the recipients. "Today, because of your work and your success, we serve as a model for the nation."

Among the major accomplishments that have been central to the continuing excellence of Partners and its affiliates are:

Brigham and Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital were ranked among the top 10 hospitals in the nation by U.S. News & World Report in its annual report of "America's Best Hospitals."

One or both hospitals were ranked among the top 10 in 12 different specialties.

Partners HealthCare has been named one of the nation's top 100 'Most Wired' hospitals and health systems for the 10th consecutive year. The recognition is awarded by Hospital and Health Networks magazine, which reported that patient satisfaction was higher and outcomes were better at hospitals on the top 100 list. Partners HealthCare is one of only six organizations in the country to earn the honor each year since H&N first debuted the list in 1999.

Partners HealthCare is a non-profit health system founded by Brigham and Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital.

Pearson achieves recognition

Margulies Perruzzi Architects, formerly Margulies and Associates, one of Boston's most innovative architectural and interior design firms, announces that John P. Pearson of Andover was one of 12 of the firm's professional staff who has achieved recognition as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professionals.



Serene Restaurant chef Dennis McElhiney with welterweight champ Tony DeMarco at a cooking demonstration last week.

COURTESY PHOTO

Taking the measure of Serene's new chef

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

There's a new head chef in town armed with an award-winning tiramisu recipe. Not that diners at Serene Restaurant on Main Street typically have room for dessert.

Portion control is not Dennis McElhiney Jr.'s strong suit. His recent St. Patrick's Day challenge had diners trying hard to finish their generous plate of

corned beef, 1/2 head of cabbage and glazed carrots (\$15.95).

"No one finished and I had one lady tell me she had enough leftovers for three days," said Dennis McElhiney, Jr. "But that's OK... hefty portions are my style."

Ten weeks at the helm and big portions have taken over the dinner plates at the Italian-American eatery Serene, located where Vincenzo's used to be above Kabloom flower shop. The restaurant serves dinner only,

seven days a week.

McElhiney said his style is going over well. He knows because he schmoozes with customers in the dining room in between making dinners.

"I like to know if my customers are enjoying their food. About 99 percent of the time, they are, and that makes me feel good," he said.

Just 32, McElhiney brings lots of enthusiasm to his job. "I like to eat," he said. "And I

like to see people enjoy the food I make."

His Irish and Italian outlook are by the book, or cookbook in this case. He enjoys a good steak and a good Italian sauce with lots of butter and garlic. He also likes seafood. His Italian maternal grandfather was a commercial fisherman in Gloucester who loved to cook and McElhiney still uses his grandfather's stuffing

Please see SERENE'S, Page 19

Andover man to talk on world economy at local Harvard Club meeting



Richard N. Cooper, Maurits C. Boas professor of international economics at Harvard University,

will be the featured speaker at the Harvard Club of Andover annual meeting on Monday, May 11 at Wyndham Andover Hotel

on Old River Road

Author of "Boom, Crisis and Adjustment" and other recent books on world economies, Cooper will speak on the "Prospects for the World Economy: A Glimpse of 2030."

A former chairman of the National Intelligence Council and of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Cooper has served on numerous governmental and private organizations as an economist or adviser.

Reservations for the 6:30 p.m. annual dinner meeting may be made with Lawrence Morse, club president, 19 Cherry St., Danvers 01923, or by sending an e-mail to him at LawMorse@bizatty.com.

The Harvard Club of Andover is open to graduates of Harvard University and the Harvard Extension School.

The club embraces members from communities surrounding Andover, it said in a release.

Pharmacy offers limited free tune-ups for wheelchairs, more

Do you have a wheelchair, walker, cane, or any other mobility equipment that needs to be tweaked and tuned? If so, Letourneau's Pharmacy can do it for you on May 15 from 1 to 5 p.m. at its 349 North Main St., Andover, store.

The service is free but there may be a charge for some parts and services if extensive work is needed, according to the pharmacy.

People with questions can call Letourneau's at 978-474-7779 or visit it online at www.letourneaus.net.

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STONE WALL Real Estate Corner



by Bill Buck, Broker/Owner
FIRST-TIME BUYERS ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE

According to a recent study by the National Association of Realtors®, first-time buyers are taking advantage of low home prices, affordable interest rates, and excess inventory. During the most recent year for which there are statistics available, the number of first-time buyers increased from 39% to 41% of all transactions. This rising percentage reflects the inherent advantage that first-time buyers have – they do not have an existing home to sell before they purchase another, so they have more flexibility than buyers in other categories. The most recent statistics also show the median age of first-time buyers is 30. Of those who made down payments, 69% used savings and 26% used money from a friend or relative.

If you are looking for your first home, call STONE WALL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS today. We will be happy to tell you about the particular properties and neighborhoods that are available. We're very knowledgeable about the various financing methods and keep fully up-to-date on the ever-changing options. Come by and see us at 89 N. Main St., (978) 815-1336. Specializing in the Andover, North Andover, and the Greater Merrimack Valley region, we've provided friendly and experienced professional service for over 7 years. Now is a great time to buy, and we can make it happen!

HINT: If you are a first-time buyer, market conditions are such that you may find yourself with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.



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LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF ANDOVER ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2009 The Annual Town Meeting will be held on TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2009 at seven o'clock P.M. in the Field House, Andover High School, Shawshen Road, Andover, to act on the following warrant articles:

Date of Issue: May 7, 2009 AT - 5/7/09

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TOWN TALK

Actress Laura Linney (second from left) and filmmaker Ken Burns (second from right) share a moment at a recent fundraising dinner for Old Sturbridge Village with museum supporters John and Theresa Brockelman of Andover, and Amy Reilly of Wellesley.



COURTESY PHOTO

Andover's arbor day

Trees will return to the heart of the downtown beginning today, Thursday, May 7. About 48 of an expected 89 trees will be delivered Thursday, said town planner Lisa Schwarz, who is overseeing the Main Street construction project. The other 41 trees will be planted in the fall, she said. "The reason for so many to be planted in the fall is that there are areas downtown that are not ready for trees, e.g. TDBanknorth corner, Kaps (now Natalee's) corner, etc. The contractor does not want to install trees where they may be damaged due to the additional work in those areas," she wrote in an e-mail. These trees will replace the 39 that came down when the project started.

- Judy Wakefield

Move over, McGarry Morris

Local author Mary McGarry Morris was recently interviewed by National Public Radio to talk about her new book, "The Last Secret." But she's not the only local author to be on NPR. Andover native Karen Jo Shapiro was just interviewed on NPR for her two books of children's poetry. April was poetry month and Shapiro discussed her unique style of turning serious poems into poetic parodies for kids. She also read from her books, "Because I Could Not Stop My Bike" and "I Must Go Down to the Beach Again." The Colby College grad is now a psychiatrist in Greensboro, N.C., where she lives with her husband and daughter.

- Judy Wakefield

Drowning victim remembered

Andover High teens had so much in common with a Lawrence drowning victim, they simply had to help his family. Rodney Correa was a college-bound senior at Lawrence High when tragedy struck at a local pond. He died April 25 while swimming at Berry Pond in Harold Parker State Park. This week, the Democracy and Media Literacy classes at AHS spearheaded a fundraising drive to raise money for Correa's family. "This is a story which we really feel a connection to. Rodney was a senior heading off to college just like many of us, and we can't imagine the life of one of our friends being cut short like that," teacher Rebecca Morse wrote in an e-mail.

- Judy Wakefield

PALMERS RESTAURANT & TAVERN

Did someone say PARTY?



That is one of the things Palmers does well. Wanda Washington, the function coordinator at Palmers Restaurant & Tavern in Andover will see to it. Wanda has been helping people plan their special occasions at Palmers for the past three years and enjoys the process of working with people to coordinate their needs - working out the food and beverage details, as well as service and ambience to ensure successful events and great memories. Wanda says the best part of her job is the appreciation she gets from pleased and thankful customers, many of whom plan subsequent events. It is warming to see the couple who hosted their rehearsal dinner or wedding at Palmers come back year after year to celebrate their anniversary or just drop in to have dinner and relive the fine times. Many local companies enjoy the ease with which they can plan the perfect meeting and certainly know this is the place to wow their prospective clients or guests. Palmers has three dining rooms which can be reserved for private dining. The Main Dining Room is spacious and holds 100 people. The cozy Cappuccino Room, which has a full bar, can accommodate 35 and the Wine Room on the first floor is perfect for 25 or under. Palmers provides several prix-fixe menu plans in addition to regular menus, as well as buffets, and catering.

Menus are posted on the website: www.palmers-restaurant.com and Wanda can be contacted from the event page, or call or drop by and plan to have a good time!

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