

INSIDE: ANDOVER TEEN STANDOUT ON WORLD SCIENCE SCENE, PAGE 15

OUR 121ST YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 49

AUGUST 13, 2009

75 CENTS



Hello...it's a boy!: Soldier part of son's delivery

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

Andover native Jillian Pulire knew when she would have her Caesarean section. Unfortunately, she also knew there was no way her husband, serving in Afghanistan, could be in the operating room for the birth of their first child.

But in a way, he was. The obstetrician at Winchester Hospital agreed to having a high tech satellite telephone bedside during the birth on July 21. "Once the baby came out, Dr.

(Donald) Druga rushed to the phone and together, we heard our son's first cry," said new mom Jillian (Nathan) Pulire. "It's sad that my husband wasn't here, but he was on the phone for the entire operation. That made me happy."

Jillian's husband is Nicholas Pulire, a Kennebunk, Maine native who is a US Air Force captain and civil engineer with the 48th Civil Engineering Squadron. In March, he was sent on his second deployment, to Afghanistan. His team, which is under the 25th Naval

Construction Regiment, is responsible for expanding forward operating bases in southern Afghanistan.

The new dad happily heard the first cries of his healthy son, Dominic, who weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was born at 9:39 p.m. EST. Dad was there for the entire 25-minute operation, comforting his wife over the telephone. It was early morning in Afghanistan, as the time difference is about eight-and-a-half hours, Jillian said.

"I was very happy to know that my wife and child were

OK," Nicholas wrote in an e-mail to the hospital. "It put me at ease that I was able to talk to her and didn't need to wait awhile to hear how things went, and I was so happy that I got to hear his first cry. It all made me feel a little closer to home."

Jillian agreed that the telephone connection made her feel closer to her across-the-ocean husband.

"It was very meaningful to be able to tell Nick what was happening minute by minute. It felt like he was here with me, and that brought me a lot of

comfort," said Jillian, 27.

The couple, who celebrated their first wedding anniversary in June, could have used a Web cam to share images of the birth. But Jillian was worried about reliability.

"I have one of those on my computer and sometimes it doesn't work. I didn't want to be worrying about that," she said.

A 2000 Andover High School graduate, Jillian grew up on Dean Circle, off Greenwood Road, and is staying with her



Courtesy photo

Jillian Pulire and her new son, Dominic, who is wearing a shirt with his dad's picture on it.

Please see BIRTH, Page 2

HOLLYWOOD BULKS UP IN ANDOVER



Movie star Ben Affleck, right, jokes with 2008 Andover High School football captain Andrew Lebowitz while Affleck takes a break from working out at the Institute of Performance and Fitness Studio in Shawsheen Plaza. Lebowitz was working at the Sunoco gas station next door and came over to have his picture taken with Affleck.

Carl Russo/Staff photos

Ben Affleck works out, works crowd at IP Fitness

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

He needs to be bulk up for his new movie role as Boston's most wanted bank robber. And his favorite trainer has a fitness center in Andover.

So, Hollywood actor Ben Affleck dropped by Walter Norton's IP Fitness center on North Main Street (where Taylor Rental used to be) last Saturday morning at 8:30 to the delight of staffers and early workout risers.

Dressed in a gray T-shirt, and red shorts with a Harvard University football logo and holding a water bottle, Affleck was relaxed and comfortable after his private workout session with Norton. He posed for numerous pictures and shared small talk with the crowd, prompting everyone to admire his good sportsmanship.

"Are you guys any good?" he asked while posing with members

of the Andover High School football team.

Football captain Andrew Lebowitz strolled over to the fitness center from his nearby job at Sunoco Service Station and had his picture taken with the Hollywood actor.

"Cool," was all he said.

Affleck also posed with members of the school's basketball and baseball teams.

Meanwhile, the females went ga-ga over his bearded good looks.

"Did you see his teeth? He has really nice teeth," said Morgan Cambern, who works out regularly with Norton.

"Walter has relationships with all of his clients, so I'm not the least bit surprised to hear about this," she said. "It's just so Walter."

Norton billed it as a way to thank his clients, calling it a "customer appreciation" event. He just worked

Please see AFFLECK, Page 2



Movie star Ben Affleck poses for a photo with, from left, Jeannie Scarpa, Danielle Benson, Denise LeCompte and Jane Cavenev, who are members of the Institute of Performance and Fitness Studio in Andover, while Affleck takes a break from working out Saturday morning.

Students to have teacher assignments tomorrow

Town still wrestling with balancing budget

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

With school set to start in three weeks, elementary school students will finally learn who their teacher is.

Class assignments for the town's six elementary schools will be mailed to students tomorrow, Friday, Aug. 14. The school committee voted on the issue at last week's meeting.

Typically, the class assignments are included in an elementary school student's final report card handed out on the last day of school in June. This year was different due to town budget uncertainty.

"This doesn't mean there's no (budget) uncertainty," Debra Rahmin Silberstein of the School Committee said of the class assignments mailing. "But, it's important for parents to know their child's teacher three weeks before school starts... it's a core value in this town."

The town budget is still not certain as two Special Town Meetings are looming. Andover is facing a \$2 million budget shortfall and the upcoming Special Town Meetings will ask voters to raise taxes to help cover the shortfall.

The first Special Town Meeting is Monday, Aug. 31 and voters will be asked to raise the meals tax in local restaurants and the hotel/motel tax. Town officials have said about \$75,000 a month could be generated for the town budget if the tax increase is approved by voters. A vote by Aug. 31 will provide eight months of new revenue.

The second Special Town Meeting is Wednesday, Oct. 7. The warrant has not been finalized and the town will take resident's articles until Aug. 31. Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski expects leaders to bring a list of items that can be cut or changed to balance the budget. He has asked the School Department to cover 65 percent of the shortfall.

Silberstein said the School Committee will send out a mass mailing to parents about the town's budget crisis. That mailing should hit mailboxes early next week.

Meanwhile, school principals have been busy working on those class lists and getting ready for their Sept. 3 opening.

Shawsheen School Principal Moira O'Brien echoed what most principals said: parents did not complain about later-than-usual teacher assignments.

"It was no big deal, no complaints," O'Brien said.

Andover unplugged? Selectmen to make call on shutting streetlights

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Monday won't be the night the lights went out on Broadway, but it could figuratively be the night they go out on a number of other streets in Andover.

On Monday, Aug. 17, selectmen will decide the fate of 626 street lights, targeted by the town's Department of Public Works to be shut off to save money.

DPW Director Jack Petkus says shutting the 626 lights off will save \$4,000 each month in utility costs. After the first year, those savings could as much as triple.

"Selectmen, department heads and everyone else are turning over every rock we can to save money. We have a huge budget hole. We're up against a wall," said Petkus.

At the Aug. 3 selectmen meeting, Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski reported the town's current-year budget is \$2 million out of balance. Two special Town Meetings have been planned for August and October to address the town's budget shortfall.

Andover Public Safety Officer Charles "Chuck" Edgerly surveyed all 1,600 of Andover's street lights, compiling the list of 626 that were found to be

"redundant or not needed," said Petkus. Street lights near schools, bad intersections or curves and locations with a history of accidents will remain on, said Police Chief Brian Pattullo.

A list of the 626 street lights proposed to be shut off is available at andoverma.gov/polelist.pdf. Each light is listed by street and pole number. Residents can find pole numbers can be found etched on each utility pole.

The lights issue will be discussed at 6:30 p.m. Monday, prior to a tri-board meeting between the selectmen and Finance and

Please see LIGHTS, Page 2

INDEX

Arts & Entertainment	13
Business	5
Classified/Real Estate	18
Crossword	14
Editorial	9
Education	15
Letters	9
Obituaries	8
Sports	6
Townpeople	11

Coming next week:
Back to School Special Section



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CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

“Good Will Hunting” and “Pearl Harbor” star Ben Affleck, center, poses for a photo with Andover High School assistant basketball coach Alan Hibino (black shirt) and team members while taking a break from working out at the Institute of performance and Fitness Studio in Andover. The owner of IPF, Walter Norton Jr., is standing behind Affleck.

AFFLECK: Movie star training at Andover fitness studio

Continued from Page 1

his phone, announced the movie star’s presence, and the people came.

Affleck said Norton’s down-to-earth personality and motivation is why he agreed to come to Andover. Affleck said he started working out with Norton about four months ago. He is filming a movie called “The Town” around Boston and Charlestown and said he hooked up with Norton to build muscle for his movie character, a bank robber.

Jon Hamm (“Mad Men”) and Rebecca Hall (“Vicky Cristina Barcelona”) also star in “The Town,” a romantic crime drama that Affleck is also directing. Based on Chuck Hogan’s novel, Town, Affleck has an FBI agent hot on his bankrobbing trail and both men fall in love with Hall, a bank teller.

If he were on the West Coast, Affleck said he would have to

hook up with an athletic trainer who works exclusively with a movie star or two and it would be all about publicity. On the East Coast, it’s different.

“Here, I get to talk with regular people and work out with a regular trainer and I really like that,” he said.

“I wanted to see Walter’s gym and see some kids, see what they are doing,” said Affleck, an avid Red Sox fan and all-around sports enthusiast. “Helping kids in the community is important. Walter does a lot of community service and I really admire that.”

When reminded about his wife’s appearance in Andover last year, he smiled and encouraged people to see her soon-to-be released movie.

His wife, Hollywood actress Jennifer Garner, appears in “This Side of the Truth” with Ricky Gervais and Rob Lowe. Filming took place in a mansion



“Gone Baby Gone” director Ben Affleck poses for a photo with Danielle Benson who stood on workout equipment to be shoulder-to-shoulder with him. He’s in the area to direct and star in a new movie, “The Town.”

on Regency Ridge in June 2008.

“That’s right, she was in Andover,” Affleck said. “Go see her movie...make sure you see

it.”

“This Side of the Truth” is scheduled to come out on Sept. 25.

LIGHTS: Selectmen to decide which to turn off Monday

Continued from Page 1

School Committees.

Petkus said he had received “very little” feedback from residents, perhaps a handful of callers concerned about a specific pole on the shut-off list.

If residents call with concern about a specific pole in their neighborhood, said Petkus, the police will take a second look at its location and re-evaluate. But, chances are, if it made it onto the list on the first place, he said, it’s not needed.

“An alternative to consider is that a resident can adopt their favorite streetlight and pay the bill. We’ve had that happen before,” said Petkus. “But then it gets tricky, what happens when they move? It gets shut off anyway.”

Both the DPW and Andover police have found that nationwide studies indicate street lights do not deter crime, said Petkus. Most of the subdivisions built in Andover since the 1980s do not have street lights, and

the crime rates are no higher in those neighborhoods than others, he said.

If approved by selectmen, street lights will be shut off one by one by National Grid.

“They are hard wired into the (electrical) system, so they have to disconnect the wiring for each street light,” said Petkus. “Once National Grid gets the word, it’s probably not going to be No. 1 on their priority list, cutting off their own revenue. Power outages, downed poles will be first

priority, and (shutting of street lights) will be a catch-as-catch-can thing. We won’t see the full benefit of this for a while.”

The first year the lights are shut off, Andover will have to pay abandonment charges to National Grid, keeping the savings to \$4,000 per month. The second year, the lights will be physically removed from utility poles in town, and Andover’s savings may as much as triple, said Petkus.

DA’s booklet on teens outlines consequences

Essex District Attorney Jonathan W. Blodgett has published a new brochure for teens, “Choose to Keep Your Freedom,” which outlines the risks and penalties for drug and underage alcohol use, and other criminal behavior.

Joining District Attorney Blodgett to produce the brochure were the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Massachusetts Department of Public Health Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, and the Massachusetts Office of Public Safety and Security.

The brochure also focuses on the risks associated with inappropriate Internet use including cyber-bullying and “sexting,” and bullying behavior which may rise to the level of a hate crime. It also addresses the crime of defacing public property.

“We want our children to be safe and to make good decisions in all areas of their lives,” said Blodgett. “The consequences of poor decisions may be life altering. Certain criminal acts may result in imprisonment. In other instances, a child may be refused admission to a college, their hopes for a career in the military may be ruined, and their ability to get a job may be compromised.”

“It is my hope that this brochure will help guide students to make the right choices so they are able to realize their goals,” said Blodgett.

The brochure is being offered to all schools and community agencies in Essex County, and is being distributed statewide to any entities that request it. It is also available on the Essex District Attorney’s Web site at www.mass.gov/essexda.

Essex Aggie alumni barbecue is Aug. 30

Essex Aggie graduates, students and staff are invited to the Essex Aggie Alumni 2009 annual barbecue on Sunday, Aug. 30, from noon to 5 p.m. at Berry Hall Campus, rain or shine.

The barbecue will start at 2 p.m. The cost is \$18 per person.

Check are payable to Essex Agricultural Technical High School, Essex Aggie Alumni Association, 562 Maple St., P.O. Box 362, Hawthorne, MA 01937. Please include your name, class and number of guests. For more information or questions, call Bob Gaudet at 978-462-6792.

BIRTH: New dad dials in

Continued from Page 1

They expect to be stationed there for the next two years.

But first, this new mom will relive some precious local childhood memories with her new son.

mom, Susan Caffery in Tewksbury. She is also the daughter of Jeff Nathan of Andover.

She said her husband will be home in early October and the family will return to the Air Force base in Lakenheath, England, where they own a house.

“We’re going to Smolak Farms...I loved that place,” she said. “I’ll be pushing a baby carriage around downtown. I can’t wait.”

Andover Townsman

Established 1887

ISSN 1524-1432
USPS 025-440

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

Periodical postage paid at Andover, MA, and additional mailing office.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Andover Townsman,
33 Chestnut St., Andover, MA 01810
In-town subscription — One year, \$40; two years, \$68
Subscription outside Greater Lawrence — One year, \$45; two years, \$75
College subscription — One college year, \$30.

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No cancellations honored after these deadlines.

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In Brief

PAST & PRESENT

QUOTE, UNQUOTE ...



THEN: The Punchard Free School, at 36 Bartlet St., was founded in 1856 by bequest from Benjamin Punchard. It went from being private to becoming the town's public high school in 1901. In 1957, when a new high school was built on Shawsheen Road, the town's high school was renamed Andover High School.



NOW: The Andover Town Offices building on Bartlet Street, near the Park, was once the Punchard Free School, built by resident Benjamin Punchard.

Kerry office hours in area Aug. 19

Senator John Kerry has announced that members of his staff will hold office hours in North Reading on Wednesday, Aug. 19. The office hours will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. at the North Reading Town Hall, located at 235 North St. Kerry's staff will be holding office hours in communities across the state throughout the coming months to give constituents the chance to voice their concerns or get help with specific issues.

"Our doors are always open, but I think that in these difficult economic times we have to do more to make sure everyone in Massachusetts can reach their government and find out what we can do to help veterans receive their benefits, help seniors sign up for LIHEAP, help taxpayers get the relief we just passed into law, and help Mayors access economic recovery dollars for their communities. This is a time for the government to come to you, in your neighborhood. That's why we are traveling across the state and making it easier for people to visit with us. I want to make

sure that we are helping everyone we can in any way we can whether it's answering questions, helping them navigate the system, or showing them all the options available if they need help. It is more important than ever that everyone from Pittsfield to Provincetown knows that assistance is available," said Kerry in a release.

Members of the community can drop by if they are having problems with federal agencies or unsure whether they are eligible for federal assistance programs, grants or loans. In many cases, Kerry's staff may be able to expedite the bureaucratic process and bring attention to individual cases that may have fallen through the cracks, it reports. Staff will also be available to discuss federal legislation and important local issues and concerns.

No appointment is necessary. Additional office hours in cities and towns across the state will be scheduled in the coming months. Check www.kerry.senate.gov for upcoming dates.



THEY (MY CHILDREN) understand that Jasper was very lucky. They now call him the mighty cat. He got away from the jaws of death.

— Claudia Mintz, of Starwood Drive, whose cat Jasper was attacked by a coyote the first weekend of August and lived to meow of it. Police have been warning petowners about the dangers of leaving pets unattended and feeding them outside. News story, page 4.

THE EXPERIMENTAL aspect is very challenging and interesting. You're exploring the nature of the universe. It's a very fascinating subject to me — all of our technology is based on it. Physics is what our society is based on, and it's critical to development.

Andover native David Field, a rising junior at Phillips Academy, who was one of five Americans chosen to compete on a team at the International Physics Olympiad. They brought home a silver medal. Story in Education, page 15.

I LOVED MY TOWN CAR... Then along came the devil in the form of a program designed to jump start the automobile industry. The government, speaking through a Web site, said my car was a "clunker."

Columnist Bill Dalton writing about whether to send his 1991 vehicle that still runs fine to the great clunk-yard in the sky. See Townspeople, page 11.



NEWS IN BRIEF

River Day by Andover's U.S. Congresswoman

Congresswoman Niki Tsongas announced Tuesday she will host River Day this Saturday, Aug. 15, in celebration of the rivers that connect the Fifth Congressional District. The day will feature canoe rides on the rivers, tours of economic development projects along the rivers, as well as presentations from local community groups who work throughout the year to keep local rivers clean, vibrant and easily accessible. Over the course of the day, Tsongas will meet with environmentalists and groups that utilize the rivers to discuss how the rivers are key to the history, culture, economy, and natural beauty of the Fifth District.

The opening 2009 River Day event will take place in Andover at 10 a.m. on the banks of the Shawsheen River where Tsongas will join with members of the Shawsheen River Watershed Council and various river and environmental groups for a canoe paddle that will start at the Andover Conservation Land on Lowell Junction Road Extension. The paddle will end about a mile down the river near the Shawsheen Coating Co., at the corner of Andover Road and River Street.

L'Italien office hours

State Rep. Barbara L'Italien announces that she will hold constituent office hours in Andover at the senior center

off Whittier Court, near the Park and behind Town Offices. Office hours will be held on Friday, Aug. 21, from 9 to 10 a.m. L'Italien represents the 18th Essex District which includes Andover's precincts 1, 7 and 8. All are welcome to attend.

Merrimack College open house

The School for Advanced Studies at Merrimack College will be hosting an open house on Thursday, Aug. 20, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Shine Lounge of the Sakowich Campus Center, Merrimack College.

Merrimack's School of Advanced Studies is designed for any student who is ready to complete a degree, advance a career, or engage in lifelong learning. The open house welcomes individuals at any point in their education or profession to learn more about our programs, low tuition rates, intimate class sizes, outstanding faculty and highly personalized academic advising.

Flu shots

LeTourneau's Pharmacy will offer flu shots at its 349 North Main St., Andover store starting Monday, Aug. 17. The cost is \$30, and the pharmacy will accept only cash, not insurance payments.

The shots are to be administered by pharmacist Shawn McKallagat on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. and on Wednesday from

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The pharmacy cannot immunize pregnant women or anyone younger than 18 years of age.

Small business exchange

Enterprise Bank in partnership with the Small Business Administration cordially locals to its complimentary Small Business Breakfast Exchange on Tuesday, Aug. 18, from 7:30 to 9:15 a.m. at the Lanam Club, 260 N. Main St., Andover. A continental breakfast will be served.

This informational session will address the financial needs of all businesses, new or established, and cover a wide range of topics from the financial options available, to procurement, technical assistance, business counseling, training and much more.

Please RSVP with:

Tracy Clement, Tewksbury Office: 978-656-5565
Therese Leone, Andover Office: 978-656-5683

Nancy Hargreaves-Pierce, Andover Office: 978-656-5608

There will be guest speakers from Mass. Office of Business Development, SBA, SOMWBA, SCORE and MassDevelopment.

Award for water works

The Andover Water Department has been selected by the New England Water Works Association to receive this year's Utility of the Year Award. Andover was chosen from similar-sized member communities throughout New England and received the award based on "significant improvements to

the water system infrastructure, customer service, staff training and operations to further protect public health of the customers it serves", stated NEWWA Executive Director Raymond Raposa. This award honors the hard work and dedication of all Andover Water Department employees across the different aspects of the utility, according to a town release. Presentation of the award will be made at the NEWWA Fall Conference in September 2009.

NEWWA is a section of the American Water Works Association and is a leading authority on education, training opportunities, and public outreach to protect and improve drinking water and water utility operations.

August health clinics


The Andover Health Department will offer mini clinics on Monday, Aug. 24, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Frye Circle. Senior-center clinics will be held 2 to 3 p.m. each Wednesday, including Aug. 19 and 26. No appointment is necessary.

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Home stretch for multimillion Main

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

Fifty more days. Then, the downtown construction project will be just a memory – really. On Saturday, Oct. 3, the town and the downtown business community will celebrate Andover Days and Town Planner Lisa Schwarz is optimistic that the newly designed downtown will be the talk of the event. She believes the townwide party will be used to mark the end of the

nearly \$3 million Main Street makeover project. “The end is in sight,” she said in an e-mail about the downtown construction. “Oct. 3 is the ribbon cutting and grand re-opening (of Main Street).” Workers expect to finish work on crosswalks this week and street paving next week, she reported. Fortunately, dry weather has kept construction pretty much on schedule so far in August.

Here’s the update: **CROSSWALKS:** 21 brick crosswalks are being installed on Main Street. Crosswalk construction will be done today, Thursday, Aug. 13. **PAVING MAIN STREET:** Scheduled to begin Monday, Aug. 17. That means the big bumps experienced by drivers when they drive over crosswalks will soon end as the asphalt will meet the height of the crosswalks for smoother driving. Those bumps are as much as 9 inches high, Schwarz said.

ELM SQUARE: A crossing from Memorial Hall Library to Elm Green was successfully excavated this week. Pavers were scheduled to be placed there yesterday, Wednesday, Aug. 12. **BARNARD AND PARK STREETS:** They’re next. Excavation there was scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 12 and paver placement today, Thursday, Aug. 13. **REMAINING TREES:** About 30 more trees will be planted on Main Street in September. **NEW SIGNS:** Also going up in September.



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

New crosswalks on Main Street in Andover have curb cuts that feature raised red safety dots known as “detectable warnings.” These help wheelchair and cane users who may be visually impaired detect the crosswalks.

Town must name new tech school representative

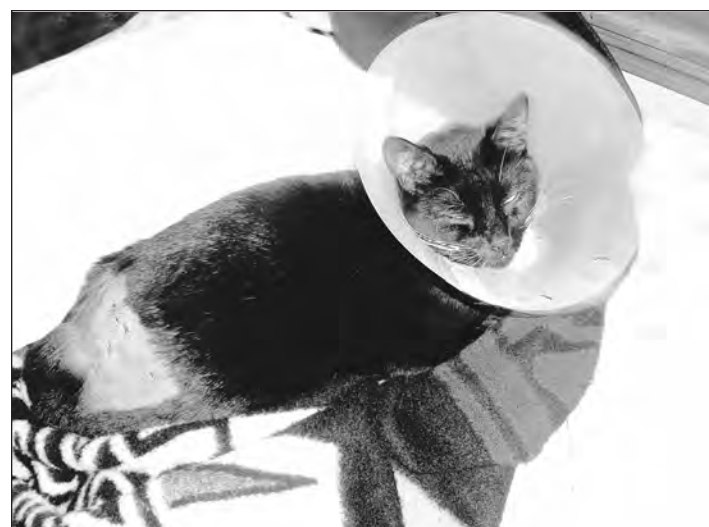
The passing of Jerry Silverman has left a vacancy on the Greater Lawrence Technical High School Committee, and Andover’s selectmen and School Committee must appoint someone as a replacement as soon as possible. Silverman, a former Andover selectman and tireless community volunteer, died last week. He was elected to the GLTS committee in March 2009 for a three-year term, representing the town of Andover. This fall, the Andover selectmen and School Committee will

appoint someone to fill Silverman’s vacancy until the next town election, in March 2010. At that point, residents will vote for a candidate to fill the remaining two years of Silverman’s term. At their Aug. 3 meeting, selectmen asked for people interested in volunteering for the GLTS committee to submit their names to Town Clerk Randy Hanson. Selectmen and the School Committee will have a joint meeting in late August or September to decide who they will appoint. —Bethany Bray

‘Lucky’ Jasper the cat survives coyote attack

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Jasper the cat may have gone through a couple of his nine lives recently. The 4-year-old domestic short hair cat of the Mintz family on Starwood Drive was attacked by a coyote last weekend. He managed to escape the coyote’s grasp, and is on the mend after a few stitches and an evening at an animal hospital. The Mintz family – Claudia, Howard and their children Isaac, 10, Jesse, 8 and Hannah, 6 – say they are very happy to have Jasper back, and are spreading the word that coyote attacks are a real danger in Andover. “I was somewhat cavalier about coyotes because I had never seen one myself. Even though it was in the back of my mind, I didn’t hesitate to let my cat out,” said Claudia. “I realize now that it can happen to anyone. Just because I didn’t see coyotes, it doesn’t mean that they’re not there. I assumed we were immune to it, but we weren’t.”



Courtesy photo

The Mintz family of Starwood Crossing is very happy to have Jasper, their 4-year-old cat, back home with after he was attacked by a coyote this week. Jasper needed stitches and staples after the attack, but managed to escape the coyote. Andover police have issued warnings to pet owners over the summer, after several pets in town have been carried away by coyotes.

Starwood Crossing is a single street cul-de-sac off Greenwood Road. The Mintzes backyard abuts a wooded area. In July, Andover police issued a special warning to pet owners, after two dogs were attacked and carried away by coyotes in the span of two weeks. Coyote sightings and attacks have continued through the summer, say police, and residents are asked not to leave pets tied outside, unattended, or to feed pets outdoors. Claudia says her family will keep Jasper inside from now

on, and keep close supervision on their dog Sabrina, a lab mix, whenever she goes out. The Mintzes three children were upset by Jasper’s attack, and understand that he needs to stay inside, even though he doesn’t like it. “I explained to the kids that he would be in danger again. They understand that Jasper was very lucky,” said Claudia. “They now call him the mighty cat. He got away from the jaws of death.” Staff at a North Andover animal hospital confirmed Jasper’s

- ### WHAT TO DO
- Contact animal control at 978-475-0411 with coyote questions or concerns.
 - If you see a coyote that is acting strangely, including acting restless or agitated, making choking motions, or drooling excessively, call Andover Police immediately.
 - For further information, see www.easterncoyoteresearch.com/LivingWithCoyotes.html

injuries were coyote puncture wounds, said Claudia. Even though Jasper had just had a round of vaccinations, he will have to be quarantined at the Mintz home for 45 days, according to animal control protocol. “The vet said it was very unusual that he survived. Somehow, Jasper was able to get away,” said Claudia. “He fought and got away from that coyote, and boy he was very lucky.” On Tuesday, July 21, a Stouffer Circle resident called police to report that his poodle was taken by a coyote from his yard in the early morning. Earlier in July, a dog was plucked from a yard off Dascumb Road by a coyote when the owner let the dog out in the early morning. A second attack happened on the trails around Haggetts Pond, when a local woman let her dog off leash to run.

Committee reaches out to community to help find families and friends of Andover soldiers

The City of Lynn through its office of Veterans Services in conjunction with the Lynn Veterans Council and Vietnam Veterans of America Post 908, with the participation of the North Shore Navigators, Solimine, Landergan and Richardson Funeral Homes, Lucia Lighting and Design, and Woodlawn Memorials will host the Massachusetts visit of the Wall That Heals for its Massachusetts visit at Frasier Field in Lynn Aug. 27 to 30. If you are a friend or family member of a soldier and would like to be part of this milestone, contact Lucy Dearborn at Lucia Lighting and Design at 781-595-0026 or lucy@lucialighting.com. On Veterans Day 1996, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund unveiled a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., designed to

travel to communities throughout the United States. The Wall first visited Lynn in 1999. “We are pleased to welcome the Wall back to Massachusetts and are looking to find family members and friends of soldiers to be part of this meaningful four day remembrance event,” said Lucy Dearborn, a principal sponsor. The Wall That Heals also features a Traveling Museum and Information Center providing a comprehensive educational component to enrich and complete visitors’ experiences. The Museum chronicles the Vietnam War era and the unique healing power of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, while the Information Center serves as a venue for people to learn about friends and loved ones lost in the war. To learn more about the project visit www.lynnwallvisit.com.



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Volunteers are needed to help elders in Valley

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley is looking for volunteers to be companions, shoppers, or medical advocates who drive elders to medical

appointments throughout the Greater Lawrence region. Volunteers receive a two-hour training, ongoing support and mileage reimbursement.

Training will be at Elder Services offices, 360 Merrimack St., Building 5, Lawrence. For more information about dates and times of the trainings, call Gerry Proulx of Elder Services at 978-946-1445.



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Business

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Volinski completes leadership development program

The Boston Center for Community and Justice, a non-profit that develops socially-responsible leaders throughout Greater Boston, has announced that Andover resident Benjamin Volinski has completed the year-long LeadBoston development program. LeadBoston is a program for mid- to senior-level professionals in the corporate, nonprofit and government sectors which develops their knowledge of diversity, awareness of social responsibility and connections across sectors. Gov. Deval Patrick spoke at the graduation ceremony, praising participants for their leadership and commitment to helping others.

"Ben is part of the next generation of leaders in Greater Boston," said Todd Fry, executive director of the Boston Center for Community and Justice. "In their business, neighborhood, and personal lives, they are focused on social responsibility and are certain to make a lasting impact."

"In my job as an attorney, I work with large financial institutions that make investments in affordable housing and renewable energy facilities," said Volinski, a partner with Holland & Knight LLP in Boston. "My participation in LeadBoston provided me with an opportunity to see how issues of housing, hunger, utility costs, health care, education and police protection look from the point of view of the members of our society in greatest need. The experience forced me to focus on social justice and corporate social responsibility."

A Harvard Law School graduate and Navy veteran, Volinski has chaired Holland and Knight's Diversity Committee and serves his community through church and youth sports programs. Volinski and his wife Judith have three sons.

Adams was keynote speaker

Sue Adams of Sue Adams interiors, 89 North Main St., was chosen as a keynote speaker by the Boston Design Industry Vendor Group for its quarterly meeting this spring at Gregorian Rug in Newton. She addressed a group of select designers from the Boston area on the impact of the recession on the design industry. Adams presented her ideas for surviving an economic downturn based on her over 20 years of experience. A forum and exchange of information followed among the approximately 50 participants.

Sue Adams also was chosen earlier this year to present at a seminar at Designer Bath in Beverly. She spoke on the topic of "How to Create a New Look in Your Bath or Kitchen on a Budget."

Grant for 'Jacki'

The Massachusetts Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure presented local business A Little

Easier Recovery with a grant of \$39,876 to fund "The Jacki Program." This program distributes free Jacki recovery jackets at nurses and surgeons' discretion for many who must endure extensive surgery, mastectomy and reconstruction involving multiple post-surgical drains. Each feature, including innovative pocketing for drains, makes it "a little easier" for women who need it most. The Jacki dramatically improves the quality of life during an emotionally and physically devastating time, while reducing pain, increasing mobility, enhancing mood and restoring hope.

"A Little Easier Recovery is an exceptional organization working hard to help local women through the treatment and recovery phases of breast cancer," said Jeanette Beltran, director of Community Initiatives for the Massachusetts Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure. "Thanks to our affiliate's annual fundraisers, we are able to provide grants, such as this one, to help fund local services and programs that address breast health needs throughout Massachusetts."

"We cannot express our appreciation for the ongoing support and tireless, unsurpassed efforts of the Massachusetts Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure," said Maureen McGrath, project director for A Little Easier Recovery. "We are both honored and privileged to move forward and serve thousands more women and now men diagnosed with breast cancer, who need it most, making it 'a little easier.'"

Garick passes bar

Josh Garick, who lived in Andover his whole life until he went away to college, has passed the Massachusetts Bar Examination and was sworn in at a ceremony at Fanueil Hall in Boston to enable him to practice law in Massachusetts.

After graduating from Andover High School in 2000, Garick graduated from Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. in 2004. He then attended Suffolk University Law School in Boston.

He is the son of Ann and Rich Garick, of Windham, N.H.

Engineer given toast

Satvir Maudgal, a senior software engineer at Raytheon in Andover and a member of a Toastmasters club, was awarded the Division Governor of the Year award within District 31 of Toastmasters International for 2008-09.

Maudgal joined Toastmasters in 2005 to help develop her impromptu speaking skills. She not only developed herself in this area, she has held numerous executive club officer positions.

Maudgal lives in Westford and is vice president of education for her club.

Downtown shopping can now include a henna

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

It was 4 a.m. when Poonam Ray arrived last June at the annual Senior Safari, the all-night party for seniors, held the night of Andover High School's graduation. A line already had formed for her.

Boys and girls were waiting for a henna, body art that some describe as a kind of temporary tattoo.

"I've been going to Senior Safari for six years. They know me," said Ray of Andover, a mother of two teens who just opened Sondarya Spa.

Now, Andover is home to a downtown day spa that specializes in hennas. The popular art form once reserved for Middle Eastern brides, has gone mainstream.

Located above Royal Jewelers at 52 Main St., on the second floor, Ray's new business offers the usual day spa splurges, such as massages, manicures, pedicures and make up counseling. But it's the specialties, like hennas and eyebrow threading, that make this spa unique, Ray said.

Plus, customers receive her full attention, as appointments are made just one at a time.

"It's relaxing, not crowded here. Customers get my full attention," Ray said. "That's what my clients like."

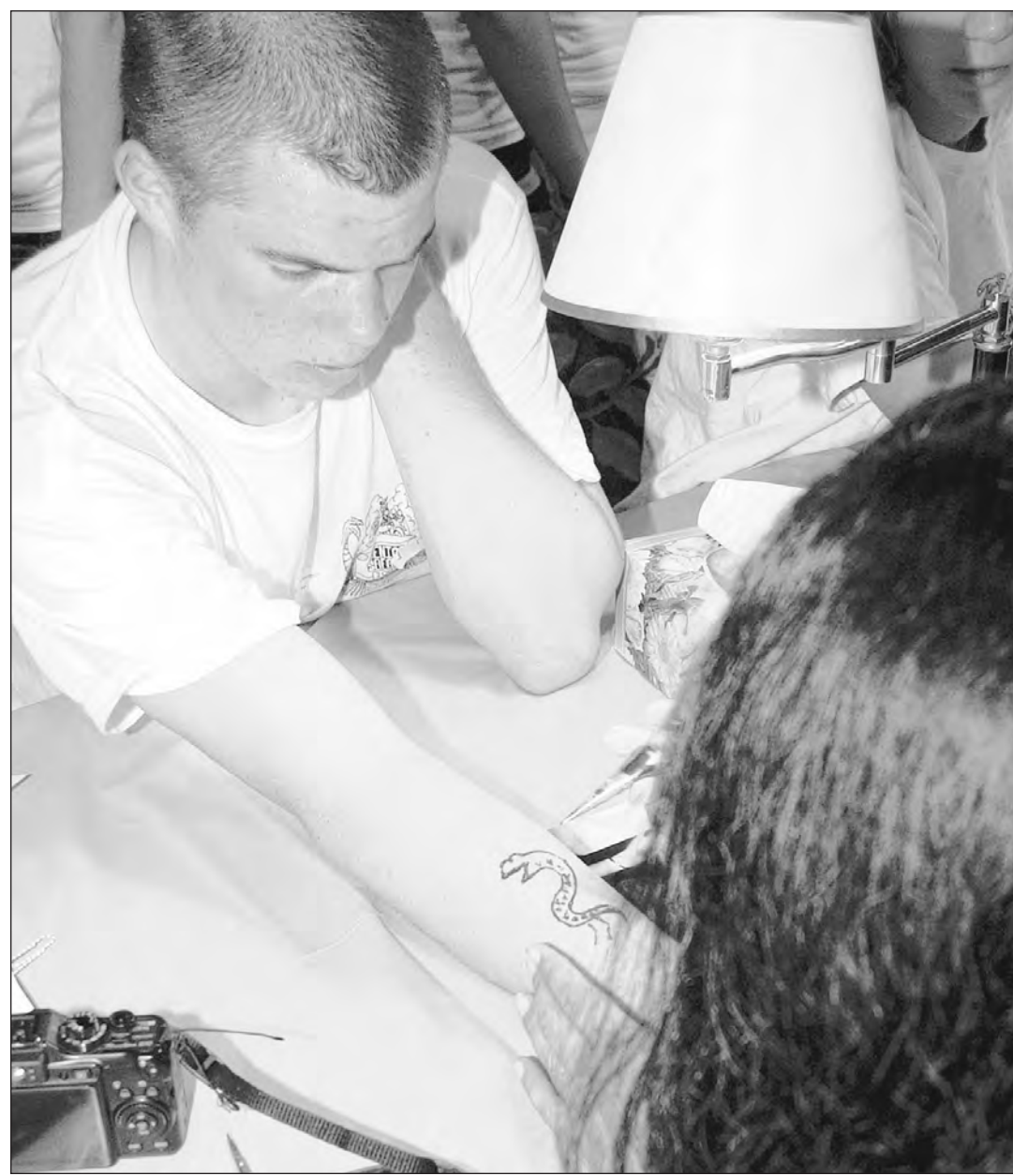
Those wanting a henna typically bring a photocopy of the design they want or they draw it themselves. Ray has done all sorts of requests, from a dragon to a sneaker for an AHS track-team member at the most recent Senior Safari. She recently spent an hour designing a flowering henna that stretched from the customer's neck all the way down her back. That customer was heading to a beach party and clearly wanted to make a splashy entrance.

"She wanted it to match her tattoo on her lower back," Ray said.

While tattoos are permanent, hennas eventually fade. Ray said they last about two weeks as the ink used is not permanent and very safe.

"What people don't know is that henna (which means flowering plant) is an art design done mostly in the summer to soothe the skin," she said. "It's always been a very soothing experience for women on hot days."

Ray's other spa specialty is eyebrow threading. There's no



BETH ADELSON/Staff photo

Poonam Ray, right, of Sondarya Spa in Andover, paints a henna tattoo on Sam Dempsey, 18, right at the Andover High School Senior Safari all-night drug free party following graduation in June.

"It's relaxing, not crowded here. Customers get my full attention. That's what my clients like."

Poonam Ray of Sondarya Spa



COURTESY PHOTO

Henna tattoos are now available at Sondarya Spa on Main Street.

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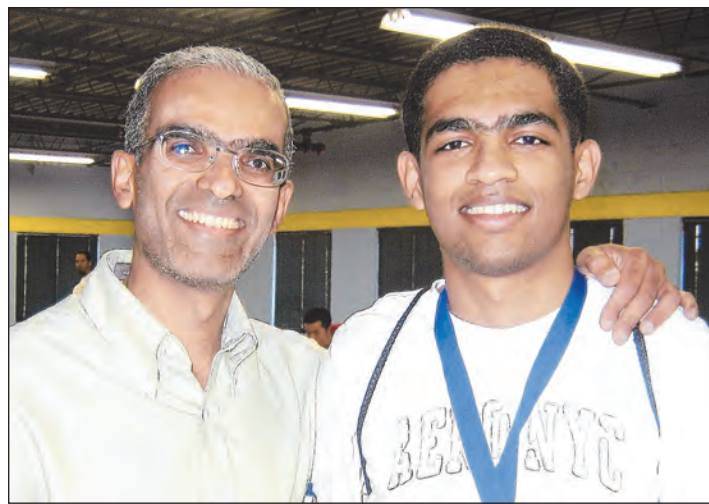
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Sports

Coming to the table



Tejen Shah, 18, right, of Andover recently brought home a gold medal in table tennis doubles from the Bay State Games. He is pictured with his father, Ajay Shah.



Andover resident Stan Huang, 14, left, recently took home a silver medal in table tennis from the Bay State Games with his doubles partner, Jeremy Kennedy, right. The competition was July 11. Huang also took home a bronze in the novice scholastic category.

Youth Services clinic

Frisbee fun and lessons next week

Whether there's sunshine or rain, it can be perfect weather to play Ultimate Frisbee.

Andover Youth Services still has opportunities for boys and girls, 11 to 16 years old, to learn Ultimate Frisbee, one of the fastest growing sports today and a mix of other sports, including soccer and football.

AYS runs a summer ultimate clinic at South Elementary School on Woburn Street from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day, Aug. 18 to 20. The cost is \$70 and includes three days of instruction, a T-shirt and a disc. Kids will be taught by high school and college students who have played at a competitive level and have years of experience.

Basic defense and offense skills are taught and practiced through scrimmages and drills. Participants are also challenged over the three-day clinic to increase their repertoire of throws. "Spirit of the game is taught equally alongside the skills of the game by always encouraging mutual respect between players and teams," according to organizers.

Participants are also exposed to many disc games including stakes, double disc box, cone wall, beach ultimate and disc golf.

Registration is still open, so residents can stop by Andover Youth Services at 37-39 Pearson St., near the Andover police station and Memorial Hall Library, to sign up.



Staff file photo

Now former Andover High School senior Evan Carter follows through after hurling a disc while the Andover Ultimate Golden Gophers play a pick-up game of Frisbee golf at Andover High School last year. Andover boys and girls 11 to 16 can learn more about the sport at a three-day clinic in Andover.

SPORTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

Hyde School honors Samuels for athletic excellence

Bradley Samuels of Andover, son of David and Laurie Samuels, received the speaker and MIP awards in men's crew during his junior year at the independent Hyde School in Bath, Maine. Head of School Don MacMillan

said of the recent athletic award winners, "Whether playing for a championship or learning a brand new sport, Hyde's young athletes are tested daily on their work ethic, stamina, and ability to work together as a team. These individuals are among the finest examples of athletic character at Hyde School."

Local student part of USA Hockey

Local athlete Alex Gacek, 16, a student at the Governor's Academy in Byfield and a graduate of The Pike School in Andover, has been selected to the United States hockey team that will represent the country in a five-nation tournament scheduled to take place

in Fussen, Germany from Aug. 18 through 22. The under-17 select team consists of 20 players from across the country, who were chosen at USA Hockey's Development Camp in Rochester, N.Y. from June 26 through July 2. The USA team is coached by former NHL player Darren Turcotte, also a Boston native, who was drafted by the New York Rangers and later finished his career with the Nashville Predators.

Gacek, a Dracut resident, is the sole representative player on the US team from Massachusetts, a team that features players from 12 states.

Fall rowing registration

Andover Rowing Association reports that it is continuing registration for the upcoming fall

season for its middle school and high school programs.

For more information and registration details, visit www.essexrowing.org or call 978-208-4617.

Andover residents collect Spring Sports Awards at Austin Prep

Austin Preparatory School junior William Green of Andover recently received the Most Improved Player award for his role on the lacrosse team. Green is the son of William and Margaret Green of Andover.

Austin Prep junior Anya Sokolova, also a junior, received the Unsung Hero award for her role on the lacrosse team. Sokolova was also named a Catholic Central League



Anya Sokolova



Brendan Burke

All-Star. She is the daughter of Sergei Sokolova and Svetlana Popova of Andover.

Austin Prep junior Brendan Burke of Andover received the Most Valuable Player Award for track. Burke was also named a Catholic Central League All-Star, and received the CCL Outstanding Performance Award. He is the son of Terry and Melissa Burke of Andover.



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*The Andover charity will be the Department of Community Services. The North Andover charity will be the North Andover Youth and Recreation Services.

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- 4 Input the number of tickets being purchased and the price level under the drop down menu. Make sure it's under the "Promotional Tickets" section, and says the town name. Then hit "continue" and purchase tickets.

Rockingham

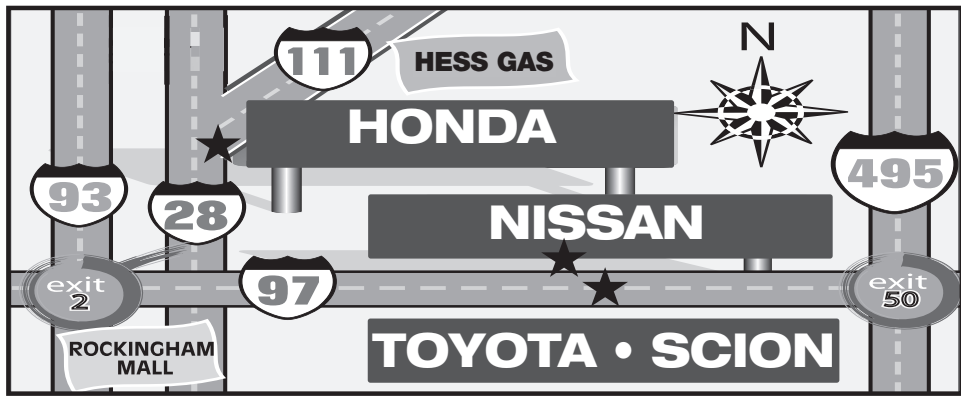
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Andover ultra-marathoner among best in the country

By DAVE DYER
STAFF WRITER

There are those who believe that Andover's Kevin Sullivan is either absolutely crazy or some kind of a superman.

Why, after all, would a successful corporate lawyer with three young children, without an abundance of free time, run 100 miles and actually enjoy it?

Well, Sullivan has a very simple explanation.

"I just love running and the longer I'm out there, the better I feel," said the 38-year-old Sullivan, who is a partner in Boston for Weil, Gotshal and Manges. "I enjoy using my body to its full potential."

"I think people focus too much on the marathon (26.2 miles) as the ultimate distance. You can do a lot more if you prepare for it."

A former overweight chain smoker, Sullivan didn't take up running until 1996 when he realized that he was not in good physical shape. But, within a few years, he knew that he had some talent at long distances and he enjoyed being out on the road, or trails, for a long period of time.

He ran a debut 3:01 marathon in 1996 and, before long, had run an extraordinary 2:33 marathon. But, somehow, this was not quite fulfilling.

Then, three years ago, he heard about an ultra-marathon training run at the Willowdale State Forest in Topsfield with Gil's Athletic Club (GAC). Despite a steady rain, and the fact that it started at 11 p.m., Sullivan decided to give it a try.

"He showed up and nobody knew him," said Jim Gilford, the GAC founder. "It wasn't a nice night so I went up to him and asked why he wanted to do it. He



Andover's Kevin Sullivan makes his way through the woods during a race last year. Once an overweight smoker, he is now a highly competitive super-marathoner.

said he wanted an adventure.

"We were out there five hours running and I think he fell about five times in the last hour. He said he had never ran more than four hours, but I could see his talent. He went through five hours like he was sitting on the couch."

Running in the rain, in the dark, and through a forest might not sound like fun to most people, but Sullivan loved it.

"I was hooked," said Sullivan. "I've run 10 to 15 marathons and they didn't give me the same

feeling."

Before long, Sullivan also

discovered that the longer the run, the better he did. As an ultra-marathoner, he was — if there is such a thing — a natural.

Last year, running the Vermont 100 (miles), he came in second in a stunning 16:15 while taking first at the Topsfield/GAC 50K (31 miles) in 4:13 and second at the Leona Divide 50 (miles) in California in 7:30. He had planned to compete in the Western States 100 (miles), which is considered the Boston Marathon of ultras but, after traveling to Squaw Valley in California, the race was cancelled because of forest fires.

Sullivan has picked it up to a new level in 2009. He got the year started with a bang by winning the Rocky Raccoon 50-miler in Texas in a stunning time of 6:05, he finished first in the Topsfield/GAC 50K with a 4:03, which would be a great marathon time for most people, came in first at California's Coyote Two Moon 100K (62 miles) in 11:20 and was second in the Leona Divide 50 (miles) in 6:49.

In June, he finally got to compete at Western States and, out of 420 runners who started the ordeal (only 60 percent finish), Sullivan came in fifth in a remarkable 16:59. He was among the leaders the entire way, which

included — in extreme heat — extensive elevation and decline.

"This was definitely my greatest accomplishment," said Sullivan, who is sponsored by the UK-based shoe company Inov-8. "Everything just came together — the training, the pit crew, the guys helping me."

"I was really excited to get in the top 10, which had been my goal, because the first 10 runners automatically get invited back for the next year. Otherwise, you have to get in by a lottery."

Moreover, this year's Western States competition was considered the most talented-laden ultra-marathon field ever assembled. Four former champions started the race and Sullivan beat three of them.

Of course, Sullivan couldn't have been more prepared for the Western States according to Jason Patch, a GAC member from Topsfield who accompanied him to California to help "pace" him for part of the race.

"He was so well trained," said Patch. "He went out to Austin, Texas, to train in the heat, (knowing) he had to run the Western States in 100-degree temps. He practiced in the heat, did power yoga in the heat and wore more clothes when he did practice runs, to train his body to run in the heat."

"I paced Kevin from mile 62 to mile 80 at Western States. He was running so fast down hills, he ended up dropping me after two hours. Can you believe that? After he had over 70 miles on his legs and me being fully rested, I couldn't even keep up with him."

Sullivan is as inspiring to his legal colleagues as his ultra-marathon partners.

"I don't know how he juggles the training with his busy legal career and family life," said Marilyn French, who is also a corporate lawyer at Weil, Gotshal and Manges. "Sleep definitely gets the short end of the stick. I am training for a race myself and, when I think I can't make it, I try to think of Kevin enduring his 95th mile."


Already one of the premier ultra-marathoners in the country, Sullivan should be a leader in the sport for years to come according to Patch and others ultra-runners.

"He is still young to the sport and an amazing performer," said Patch. "Look for him to win a lot more ultras in the future."

Sullivan will likely do just that, although his main goal is to place higher and run faster at Western States and, of course, just enjoy being out on the road running, and running, and running.

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Tryouts are Sunday, August 23rd at
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10U, 12U, 14U will try out from 4 to 5:30 pm. 16U and 18U from 5:30 to 7pm.
Also, Sunday August 30th and September 6th, see www.nofirebirds.com for times.

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Opinion

Reform and revenue at the town level

Reform before revenue was a rallying cry at the state level this year. This fall reform must be a part of the discussion at the local level, too. With Andover officials this month set to seek new town taxes likely to never go away, this autumn must be a time for them to also present new ways of doing business that will reduce expenses for years and years to come.

In just a few weeks, on Aug. 31, Andover officials will ask Special Town Meeting voters to approve two new Andover-specific taxes, on hotel stays and restaurant meals. They are expected to raise an additional \$600,000 for this fiscal year, the year ending June 30, 2010, if approved on Aug. 31. If they are not approved that day, Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski expects to ask again at the town's second Special Town Meeting on Oct. 7, when officials will have a list of items they can cut to close what currently appears to be a \$2 million shortfall.

Stapczynski has said that he believes the School Department should handle 65 percent of the shortfall and the other town departments 35 percent, which he says is equivalent to their shares of the overall budget. Hopefully, this will not lead to the type of us-versus-them vitriol that usually defines the months before annual Town Meeting. Instead, town leaders should be focusing such energy on suggesting the types of systemic changes they can make for long-term savings. Yes, short-term cuts will be needed, but true reform will come from big picture thinking and there may be no better time to get the ball rolling on such change.

This is a conversation and a community service that all community members, officials, workers and union heads should be a part of, keeping in mind what's important to taxpayers. They after all, truly bear 100 percent of the burden of this economy and any related new taxes and cuts in services.

Remembering a community member

One of the remarkable things about Andover is the variety of captains of industry, experts and accomplished individuals you can find. There is seemingly at least one in every field living in town. But what makes Andover the sought-after community it is, are the people who devote themselves and donate their time to a variety of causes.

Andover lost one of those true community members this week, with the death of retired Andover High School science teacher Robert King.

King helped many students better understand science and was the first teacher to offer Advanced Placement Physics at the school. He helped the town create the new science wing during the Andover High School expansion. His educational efforts and scientific interest were impressive enough that he was a candidate to be the first teacher in space aboard the Space Shuttle Challenger. Christa McAuliffe was chosen ahead of King and perished with the rest of the seven-member crew when the shuttle exploded 73 second after takeoff in 1986.

But King was more than a teacher, helping as a football assistant coach and as a director of a fledgling drama group. Such was his two-way involvement and effect on students during the 1970s that he was one of the few people asked to speak during Michael Chiklis Day, when the town gave a key to the community to the Emmy-winning star of "The Shield."

Since his retirement, King had volunteered time on the Finance Committee and as the president of Dollars for Scholars, which helped youth afford advanced education.

His commitment will long be remembered.

WEB QUESTION

How do you feel about raising taxes?

Special Town Meeting voters will decide on Aug. 31 whether they want to increase the tax on restaurant meals by 0.75 percent and/or the hotel/motel tax by 2 percent in Andover. The revenue gained by the increased taxes would go towards the town's \$2 million budget deficit, says Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski. So last week we asked readers, "How do you feel about the proposed tax increases?"

With 93 votes, here is the

response:
74.19 percent said, "I am against raising both taxes."
15.05 percent said, "I'm packing for New Hampshire."
6.45 percent said, "I am in favor of raising both taxes, given the need."
3.23 percent said, "I am in favor of raising hotel/motel taxes only."
One person said, "I am in favor of raising restaurant meal taxes only."

SETTLING IN AT THEIR NEW HOME



ROGER DARRIGRAND/Staff photo

Steve Fiore, 4, stands with miniature donkey Chloe and her colt Zoe at the Andover Flower Farm in North Andover. Per order of the Andover Zoning Board of Appeals, the donkeys had to be removed from a home with 0.89 acres on Candlewood Drive in Andover, and the owners of the Andover Flower Farm offered their property.

Manager: New taxes 'unpopular but necessary'

Reginald "Buzz" Stapczynski

Town Manager

On my recommendation, the Andover Board of Selectmen has called a Special Town Meeting for Aug. 31 to allow the voters the opportunity to consider two new local revenue options that were passed by the Massachusetts Legislature last month – a 2 percent increase in the hotel/motel excise tax, and a .75 percent local meals excise tax.

The Commonwealth has provided these new revenue options to cities and towns to help compensate for severe cuts to Ch. 70 education and general municipal aid this year,

which for Andover amounted to a \$656,000 reduction. The Massachusetts Department of Revenue has issued a bulletin outlining the required acceptance procedures, adoption deadlines and projected revenue amounts for each community.

For the first year, cities and towns must adopt the new statutes no later than Aug. 31 in order to collect three fiscal quarters worth of the projected revenue. For Andover that amounts to \$596,407 (\$275,819 from meals and \$320,588 from hotel/motel). But if adopted between Sept. 1 and Dec. 1, only two quarters of the revenue may be collected, or about \$447,305 for Andover.

This new revenue will help

reduce the town's projected \$2 million budget deficit gap for fiscal year 2010. These supplemental funds will go a long way towards keeping teachers in the classroom, police on the street, and fire stations open.

Many cities and towns across the Commonwealth will be adopting these new local option revenues in the coming weeks. Municipal leaders will bring these unpopular but necessary options forward for votes because there are few other practical alternatives. They will cite the minimal impact of a 0.75 percent meals excise on one's restaurant tab – about 38 cents on a \$50 bill; and will remind constituents that hotel/motel excises are mostly borne by people from out-of-town.

While we will present these local option excise taxes to the voters with some mixed feelings, knowing that many people will not support them purely out of principle, we feel it is our responsibility as leaders to at present them as an option, and to at least afford people the opportunity to decide for themselves. If these new revenues are adopted at Andover's Special Town Meeting on Aug. 31, they will be factored into the deficit-reduction plan that will be presented to voters at the follow-up Special Town Meeting scheduled for Oct. 7.

We urge people to attend these two Special Town Meetings to voice their opinions and to cast their votes as good citizens of Andover.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Healthcare bill opponents seemed legit, crowd civil

Editor, Townsman:

Last Saturday, I decided to go to the Healthcare Town Hall meeting in Chelmsford hosted by US Congresswoman Niki Tsongas not because I am with an extreme right-wing group but because I am an ordinary person who is truly concerned about government controlled healthcare. I am fed-up with those who say the protests going on all around the country are not grassroots but manufactured by special interest groups.

From my vantage point on Saturday, nothing could be further from the truth.

When I arrived 10 minutes before the 10 a.m. start time, I found a large crowd of about 400 people milling about waiting patiently. The crowd soon wrapped around the Town Hall building. Apparently, the door was closed by 9:20 a.m., so I never got inside to see the action. No problem, though, because there was enough action going on outside.

I estimated that opponents like me outnumbered supporters 4 to 1. Many opponents carried crude, handmade signs. Supporters carried manufactured signs saying "83% support a public option" (who did they poll to get that result?). This crowd was genuinely made up of people who heard about it via the Web or newspaper and decided to make their voices heard. While there were a few special interest groups on both sides, it was truly a self-motivated crowd.

I stood in line next to a 70-year-old man with one arm and a "soccer" mom. Both of them were as concerned as me about what is being forced down our throats.

There was no violence, no screaming. I saw about 10 spirited debates going on. By and large, the crowd was civil with lots of discussions going on.

It struck me very odd that Fox was the only TV news station there. Where was the rest of the media? In my mind, this was certainly a newsworthy event. It's as if the other TV stations are sweeping this whole thing under the rug, hoping it will just quietly go away.

After about 40 minutes, I left because it was clear we were not getting inside the building. If anyone did get inside, please share your thoughts.

I encourage people to get active and let their voice be heard regardless of their leanings on the matter. Call Niki Tsongas. Go to her Web site to find the next meeting. Don't be afraid to speak up. This is what a democracy is all about.

KARL GEFFKEN
Bittersweet Lane

Driving tests for elderly target skills, not experience

Editor, Townsman:

No one will dispute that my father, at 96 years of age, has a lot of experience. Yet, he lives in Illinois, one of the few states to have mandatory testing of elderly drivers.

Yes, I have seen him getting anxious in the weeks before his test, studying the Rules of the Road book, and making sure he picks a day when road conditions are favorable. But rather than feeling he's being discriminated against or that the law is unnecessary, I am grateful to his state for recognizing that a test at his age is not only a good review, but could also save his life and that of others.

To be honest, sometimes my dad doesn't pass on his first try. Like the time he failed because he was driving 40 mph instead of the posted 35. Or the time his right turn was too wide and he was drifting into the oncoming lane of traffic. He had two more tries, like drivers do at any age, to think about the rules and to adjust his driving.

If you look at other professions, you should recognize that many have mandatory periodic reviews of knowledge and certification simply because people forget or get rusty if they aren't regularly challenged. People do get into bad habits that need to be corrected. I don't see anything wrong with that.

Of course, there are statistics that show higher fatalities in other age groups, but what those statistics don't show is that after a certain age, many elderly voluntarily take themselves off the road. I bet if this didn't happen,

numbers for the older age group would skyrocket. In addition, I have seen it argued that elderly have more accidents per mile driven, which is perhaps a more significant figure.

One might also argue that passing a 96-year-old man gives him false confidence and that it doesn't take into consideration mistakes later on. Perhaps. But at least the families of this age group have the peace of mind knowing that an objective pair of eyes is evaluating and perhaps supporting the family in making the correct decision to take someone off the road.

Right now, we trust those who test to evaluate our youngest drivers. Having been a part of my father's positive experience in Illinois, I hope Massachusetts also passes that requirement for our population at the other end of the spectrum. It would be a loving and considerate law. It's not a law that takes away someone's independence, but rather a law that helps the elderly hold on to theirs.

GAIL L. RALSTON
44 Linwood St.

Nation needs Public Service Academy

Editor, Townsman:

Spending my summer as a U.S. Department of Justice intern has made me realize how important, how monumental, and just how truly special it is to be a young American in 2009. We have learned from the past and hope that as we grow older, we too can be ones to inspire, to lead, and to

make a difference in the basic foundation of our country. But the challenge is deciding how to make that difference.

I go to Boston College, where the motto is "Men and Women for Others." I believe strongly in the duty we all have to serve our country and in the process help the world. I'm not alone in my belief. Students throughout the United States are flocking to programs like Teach For America and AmeriCorps, determined to make a difference in their communities.

That being said, committing oneself to public service, isn't as simple as deciding yes or no. Many factors act as barriers, none being as large as the financial burden placed upon the students of the 21st century. Students in our nation face heavy student-loan debt and the ever-present rising cost of tuition. With the recession, it is even harder to get loans and the education that many students deserve. Our country finds itself in a dilemma. We want and encourage students to become public servants, but student loans and the basic cost of living make it increasingly difficult for recent graduates to resist the private sector.

So how can we fix this problem as a nation? I strongly believe the U.S. Public Service Academy is our answer. An initiative formed by two Teach For America alums, the academy would be a tuition-free college, modeled after the military academies, where students would follow a rigorous liberal-arts curriculum supplanted by leadership and service learning, mandatory study abroad and public-sector internships. In return, the students work for five years post-graduation as civil servants – from teachers and first responders to first-rung federal jobs.

A bill creating the academy was introduced into the House of Representatives in 2006 and reintroduced on April 27, 2009. With 56 co-sponsors, it is being reviewed in the House, and will be introduced to Senate. The support is there — many members of the Obama administration, including Hillary Clinton, Joe Biden, Rahm Emanuel, and Tom Daschle, are supporters. In

Please see **LETTERS**, Page 10

Andover Townsman

Established 1887

Publisher
Al Getler

Editor
Neil Fater

Published Thursdays by Andover Publishing Co.
33 Chestnut St., Box 1986, Andover, MA 01810
978-475-7000 • Ad fax: 978-475-5731 • News fax: 978-470-2819
E-mail nfater@andover-townsmen.com
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Peace vigil



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

The Merrimack Valley People for Peace held a vigil in remembrance of those killed with nuclear bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, in World War II. The vigil also honors those killed in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Iraq by depleted uranium munitions. Don Abbott and his wife, Betsy, of Andover (left) hold large signs for motorists to see while standing in front of Old Town Hall Thursday night during the vigil.

Imposing principal left meaningful impressions

Sam Washburn

Former Central Elementary student Sam Washburn said he enjoys reading Bill Dalton's column each week and a recent writing about Miss Barrett really brought back memories.

In August 1957 I was 6 when we moved from Shawsheen to Andover center, so I switched schools from Shawsheen to Central Elementary. During the month before school started I was out in the hood every day making friends with the other kids, most of who were a year or two older than me, such as Freddy Bradley and Peter Chenevere.

The first day of school came, and off I went to first grade with Mrs. Jones at Central. I was really a hick and easily influenced by my older new friends. The first day at morning recess on the playground, Freddy and Peter found me to suggest it would be fun to pitch

pebbles through the windows of the kindergarten classroom where they had their recess at their desks with milk and cookies. Not knowing any better, I said sure and picked up a handful of pebbles and let em fly from about 5 feet outside the window. Freddy and Peter were throwing one at a time from behind a tree where they wouldn't be spotted. Well, within seconds the room was in an uproar as the girls started squealing and boys yelling because pebbles were hitting them and their food and everything.

I knew right away this was bad, really bad! I figured if I turned and slowly walked away, I might not get caught. Freddy and Peter panicked and ran. Within seconds the kindergarten teacher was at the window and screamed "You, you, and you! Stop this instant!" She had to have had radar tracking the pebbles because she was pointing and glaring directly at each of us!

We caved of course, and off we went sheepishly to her classroom to be immediately marched to the principal's office where she sat us down in the outer office and ordered us to stay put. I was too much of a rube to be scared yet, but Freddie and Peter were white as sheets. Being older, they knew what was coming. There we sat for about 10 minutes when finally the door of Miss Barrett's office opened, and her tall, wide, erect and buxom figure filled the doorway. To a 6-year-old she was nothing short of a giant. I scanned her slowly from the floor up and she just kept going and going. I had never seen a bust like that in my life and her scowl was foreboding.

Freddie and Peter took preemptive action and burst into tears simultaneously. Miss Barrett proceeded to give us a real good tongue lashing especially directed at the older boys who continued balling. Then she finished and proceeded to notice me not crying (big mistake by me). She grabbed me by the upper arm with a vice-like grip, yanked me up out of my chair and gave me my own lecture on the seriousness of our crime while I nodded up and down as fast as I could to show her I got it. After that we were sent back to our classrooms where we got stares of awe and admiration from everybody as if we'd come back from the dead.

After this bad start to elementary school I have to say that Miss Barrett never held it against me. I kept my nose clean from then on, so she knew what she was doing. Whenever we crossed paths, she always looked stern, but also had a little twinkle in her eye. She was very much the old school, tough love type and I'll bet dollars to donuts she had big smile on her face and a good laugh as she turned back into her office that day after she dismissed us.

Looking back after all these years, I'm sure she had a big heart for us all. That, plus her strong sense of purpose made sure that all of us, regardless of our home life, learned the value of good posture, discipline, and learning our school lessons.

LETTERS


■ Continued from Page 9

addition, Sen. Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts and many Massachusetts representatives have stated their support — they know how great the benefits to city, state, and country will be.

The time is now for the academy. President Barack Obama's call to service has undoubtedly primed hearts and minds for the academy. Baby Boomers, who have filled these public-service roles for so long, are beginning to retire. In fact, 60 percent of the government's employees will be eligible for retirement over the next 10 years, creating a shortage of public-sector workers. It is important to fill these spaces with committed and passionate individuals who will work hard for our nation.

CHRISTINA PIERRO
Washington, D.C.

The writer is an Andover resident working as a grants and program support intern in the Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.



“Great care is all about continuous two-way communication”

On practicing primary care:
“A successful primary care relationship requires the physician to listen, ask the right questions and listen some more. Great care is all about continuous two-way communication.”

On shared goals:
“The mutual goal is not only about getting you symptom-free, but also about getting you back to the level of activity that you want or even better.”

On sports medicine:
“I completed a year-long fellowship in sports medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. There is a need for a clinician who is trained to provide non-surgical solutions to muscular/skeletal problems especially for young athletes and the 50-year-old weekend warrior.”

On the System of Care:
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Townspeople

A DAY AT CAMP



Hannah Gabriel, 7, paddles a canoe on Poms Pond at Camp Maude Eaton, a Girl Scout camp in Andover. TIM JEAN/Staff photos



Kelsey Perry, 9, and Jenna Forcellese, 9, sit around a campfire roasting marshmallows for s'mores.



Sarah McGovern, 13, learns about team work as she swings across to the other side on the "Challenge Course" at Camp Maude Eaton, next to Recreation Park.



From left, Emma Calnan, 9, Carolyn Holden, 10, Hayley Licata, 10, and Alicia Green, 9, hang up tie-dyed T-shirts that they made at Camp Maude Eaton.



Campers sing songs as they walk along trails at their Girl Scout camp.



At right, lifeguard Annelise Mesler, known to campers as "Curly," checks the life vest of Becky Winters, 7, before she heads out on the water in a canoe.

To clunker or not to clunker

Bill Dalton



It was midnight. I'd just deplaned from a cross-country trip. I was dog tired, but there she was, waiting for me: the most beautiful car in the parking lot, my fine 1991 Lincoln Town Car. Yet, my emotion was guilt, great guilt, with an appointment that might destroy her.

With her supple leather upholstery and numerous accoutrements of luxury, no commonsensical person would call her a "clunker"; yet, because of a government incentive, I might clunker her, ending her days. (Here, although distraught, I must pause to thank President Obama, who provided me with the unusual opportunity to use the word "clunker" as both a noun and verb in the previous sentence.)

On my long flight, I'd thought about my relationship with my Town Car and had examined my guilt. What could

motivate me, a frugal, old Yankee, to throw her away, alas, to clunker her? She had served me so well for four years. She had been loyal, never requiring repairs, never asking a thing of me other than oil changes and gas. She had treated me like a king, giving me the smoothest of rides, and making me a center of attention ("Nice car. What year is it? How's she run?").

The previous owner had kept a file on her as thick as J. Edgar Hoover's file on Marilyn Monroe, containing all the Town Car's baby pictures, her provenance, her maintenance records, even her original window sticker. The owner asked questions to determine my worthiness. He wanted to be sure his thoroughbred was going to be gently ridden and not be driven to her destruction by some yahoo cowboy. Satisfied, he sold her to me for \$2,000, but, in the end, I might be worse than the yahoo, for I was thinking of the metaphorical glue factory for her.

I'd only hoped to get a couple of years of use from this aging beauty before she became needy. Yet she grandly exceeded my expectations. She never complained, and she started up right away, no matter

how desperate the weather. We bonded. I bragged about her. No one would believe she got 18 miles to the gallon, but she did. I loved my Town Car.

Then along came the devil in the form of a program designed to jump start the automobile industry. The government, speaking through a Web site, said my car was a "clunker." Temptation was the Clunker Law that would give me \$4,500 for her, if I bought a new car with a higher mileage rating. This was not a simple trade in. For my Town Car, it meant her final ride. Her motor would be butchered and the rest of her drawn and quartered with renderings sold as salvage.

The devil sat on my left shoulder and the angel of cars on my right. They struggled for my virtue, and the devil won. The \$4,500 was a lot more than the car's book value, so I composted my conservative Yankee virtues. I condemned her, my perfectly good old Town Car. I was heartless.

Bill Dalton writes a weekly column for the Andover Townsman and enjoys your emails at billdalton@andovertownie.com.

TOWNSPEOPLE

Draheim an Army Ranger

Lt. Stephen R. Draheim of Andover graduated July 17 from the US Army Ranger School at Fort Benning, Ga.

Ranger School is an intensive two-month course averaging 20 hours of training per day, seven days a week in three phases. Phase one is conducted in the steamy woods and fields around Fort Benning and phase two in the mountains of north Georgia. Airborne qualified students like Draheim parachuted into Florida for the third phase of training in the coastal swamps.

The lieutenant's parents, Tom and Nancy Draheim of Andover, attended the graduation ceremony, pinning the coveted "Ranger tab" on their son's uniform.

Draheim will be an infantry platoon leader with the Army's 101st Airborne Division, based at Fort Campbell, Ky.

He is a graduate of Pike School and Phillips Academy. He graduated last year from the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.

Spool completes AmeriCorps NCCC service

They've lived in tents, gutted flood-damaged homes, mentored disadvantaged youth, coordinated thousands

of volunteers, and developed into our nation's future leaders. Reed Spool of Andover, son of Jared Spool, is one of 215 members of AmeriCorps' National Civilian Community Corps who have completed 10 months of full-time service to communities in need, completing 95 projects in 13 states.

Spool, who arrived at NCCC's Southwest Region Campus in Denver on Oct. 6 to begin his term of service, graduated from the program on Thursday, July 23. All Corps Members departed Denver and began travel to their homes immediately following the morning ceremony.

Spool and his team of about 10 completed a series of six- to eight-week projects in communities across the country. NCCC projects assist with disaster relief, improve the environment, enhance education, increase public safety, and address unmet human needs.

The graduating class responded to 23 disaster callouts this year in partnership with the American Red Cross, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the United States Forest Service, including a large-scale response to Hurricane Ike.

Before joining the NCCC, Spool attended Andover High School.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

BY SENIOR CENTER STAFF

The Andover Senior Center is located at 30 Whittier Court, Andover. Call 978-623-8321 for information. Upcoming activities include:

Frank's Famous Fish Fry: Stop by and pick up a ticket for the upcoming fish fry, which will be held tomorrow, Friday, Aug. 14 at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and dinner will include your choice of fried scallops or baked haddock along with cole slaw, grilled vegetables, French fries, dessert and beverages.

Outdoor Grill Nights: It's time to fire up the barbecue and enjoy patio grill nights again. Weather permitting, we plan on getting together on Wednesday evenings

from 5 to 7 p.m. until Aug. 19. Hot dogs, grilled chicken and burgers will be available each night along with weekly specials like steak tips, grilled shrimp, ribs and salmon. Entrée prices range from \$4 to \$8 and include side orders of fresh fruit, garden salad, potato or pasta salad, grilled vegetables, dessert and beverages. Advance tickets are required and seating is limited.

Simple Summer Pleasures: Monday, Aug. 17, 1:30 p.m. Remember the old fashioned fountain drinks in the corner drug stores of years past? Perhaps you even met your friends there on a summer afternoon. Well, gather up your friends and join us on the patio where we'll recreate some of those summer favorites including

old time lemonade, root beer floats, lime rickeys and ice cream cones. Tickets are not necessary; just drop in and pay as you go!

Healthcare bill: Call the Center for information on important AARP Sponsored Health Care Forum coming up this month – get the facts before the Congressional vote that may affect your health benefits.

Exercise Registration: Registration for the fall semester of exercise classes will be held at the center the week of Aug. 17. Classes will be offered in low impact aerobics, water workout, tai chi, Nordic walking, strength training for women, gentle yoga, tap dancing and Men and Women in Motion. The twelve week fall semester will get underway on

September 1st and run through November 19th. Class times, fees and additional information may be obtained by giving the center a call.

Free Blood Pressure clinic: The Andover Board of Health holds a free blood pressure and wellness clinic at the center every Wednesday from 2 to 3 p.m. The clinic is open to all Andover seniors on a first come, first served basis.

Book Club: Thursday, Aug. 20, 1:30 p.m. Open to all who enjoy reading a good book and gathering for a friendly discussion. This month we'll be discussing "Fever, 1793" by Laurie Halse Anderson. Books are available for check-out right from the senior center approximately two weeks prior to each discussion.



FILE PHOTO
Lily Puccia of Andover gives camp councilor Helen Kendall a greeting after scoring a goal during a 2006 soccer game at Camp Evergreen.

Revisiting a local tradition

A group gathered recently at the home of Olivia and Spike Sintros for what they called the "15th reunion of the official Ford's Coffee Shop Breakfast Club." The Sintroses are the daughter and son-in-law of Ford's owners Tom and Stella Korovas. Ford's was a staple on Main Street for decades, and the Sintros have recreated a bit of it in their home. Seated are Sheila Doherty, Marty Richards, Pam Christo, George Christo, Mary Leone, Bill Richards and Jim Doherty. Standing are Olivia and Spike Sintros, Chris Christo (a former Fords waiter) and Franny Doherty.



Soon, s'more than 45 years for Camp Evergreen Open anniversary party this weekend

When Jim Loscutoff's professional basketball career with the Boston Celtics was ending in 1964 he and his wife Lynn decided to start a day camp. Now Camp Evergreen in Andover is celebrating its 45th anniversary.

This Saturday, Aug. 15, marks the date of the anniversary celebration. Former campers and counselors are invited to attend an informal outing from noon to 4 p.m. at 166 Jenkins Road, the Andover address of Camp Evergreen. Swimming, old camp movies, a potluck picnic cookout and of course old camp songs will set the tone for the afternoon's events.

Starting out

After much thought and planning the Loscutoffs used all of their savings and their courage and bought an Andover farmhouse with acreage adjacent to the Harold Parker State Forest in 1964. The express purpose for this acquisition was to start a day camp for their three children and the children in the area. They spent six months prior to the summer opening putting in a pool, tennis courts, and arts-and-crafts buildings and carving a recreational area into the land, according to their son, Jim Loscutoff III, now in his 25th year of managing the camp. The pasture became the ball field. The garden was recreated into a swimming pool. A barn was insulated and made

into a changing area.

"The digging and the building and the hopes and dreams were all toward creating Jim Loscutoff's Camp Evergreen in Andover. Now 45 years later, the camp is still welcoming the children from the nearby areas as well as some of their grandparents and their parents as staff members," writes Jim Loscutoff III. "Sometimes [our family members] marvel that what was started so long ago is still as vital and energizing as it was when it began. The goal has always been to offer the most diversified and quality program."

Camp Evergreen, accredited by the American Camping Association, has become an institution. Lynn and Jim Loscutoff have seen their own children, their grandchildren and those of so many others pass through the program and return to share many memories. The family is still very involved.

Over time, the camp's program and its facilities have been expanded to offer year-round programming: school field trips, school-vacation camp and birthday parties. Some of the additions include a special Wiffle Ball field in "Fern-Way Park" and more "free choice" activities.

Former campers, parents, and friends are welcome to attend the party, Loscutoff said. Call Camp Evergreen for further information at 978-475-2502.

Andover man promoted

Andover native John Saalfrank was recently promoted from Chief Warrant Officer 3 to Chief Warrant Officer 4 and asked Congresswoman Niki Tsongas to read him the oath of office, which she did in Washington, D.C., according to John W. Noble, Tsongas' communications director. Saalfrank has served 23 years in the Army, 19 with the Army Special Forces. He comes from a family of six, all born and raised in Andover, three of whom have chosen to pursue military service.



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Stress is a major source of sleep disruption, so work on stress management, and avoid dealing with stressful issues, e-mail and TV before bedtime. A relaxing bedtime ritual can be very helpful, possibly including a warm bath, light snack, or a little reading.

Sleep usually improves if we avoid caffeine for 6 hours before bedtime, and avoid alcohol and nicotine for at least 3 hours. Large meals and vigorous exercise also should be avoided within 3 hours of bedtime.

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Arts & Entertainment

\$1,000? That's one expensive flash in the pan

Sue Tabb



The Jonas Brothers came to town this summer, and a family four-pack of tickets only cost about a grand and a night of your life you will never take back and put to better use.

Of course, you know by going your kids will love you forever – or at least

until The Naked Brothers Band comes to town.

Here's what I don't understand, besides the obvious question of why these clowns are even famous (and how does a concert in today's hyper-electronic age, make any sense at all)? Our kids have seen the Jonas Brothers on TV, in a movie, in a music video, on YouTube, on their iPods and anywhere else that has a USB plug and a Miley Cyrus marketing tie-in.

So how does a concert bring them any closer? Especially if you buy the dirt cheap seats for a measly hundred bucks up in the nose-bleed third balcony where, by the way, the stage is the size of your pea-size brain for even considering attending this circus act.

Wait, do I sound angry? I think it's just that once I saw the prices for good seats were going for between \$250 to over \$1,000 a piece, I was suddenly, like their little boy-band book, "Burning Up." I'd like to take their self-described "fan family experience" and put it off just "A Little Bit Longer" – like a few hundred years.

I understand that this pop trio is fairly benign by most standards, but I can't see paying as much to see this manufactured phenom as I would to see real music legends like Elton John and Billy Joel, who ironically, performed a concert in Boston on the very same weekend in July. Are you kidding me, comparable prices for these two shows? Sir Elton and Billy are two of the best-selling recording artists of all time with 10 Grammy awards between them, four decades of unparalleled success and over 350 million records sold collectively. Hello, does anyone see a problem here?

Joel and John's lyrics come from years of experience in the business and have stood the true test of time, still having relevancy today. Yet, I am supposed to weigh the lyrics of barely-through-puberty pretty boys equally? According to the Jonas Brothers' Web site, they have "grown exponentially as songwriters, musicians and recording artists." What do they mean, like in the last five minutes?

The site also says their lyrics have grown more in-depth. They explore "star-crossed standoffs and missed romantic opportunities...survey love's unequal playing field, bad break-ups and the defiant isolation that follows." Do these guys even have their driver's licenses yet?

So maybe I'm just old and miserably out of touch. Perhaps it's not fair to compare the Jonas boys with the likes of the Doobie Brothers, Aerosmith and Fleetwood Mac. Maybe they are more like REO Speedwagon, serving the purpose of the day. I'll admit I thought "Heard it from a Friend" was a classic.

And I liked David Cassidy in the '70s, when his only real world experience was that he allegedly slept with Susan Dey (but only once and he didn't inhale) and had an infatuation with guest star Meredith Baxter.

I suppose my kids are really no different than I was, except that I could see the Partridge Family in concert (and only two of them really sang) for about \$12.50, and that ticket probably included tours of the psychedelic school bus, a signed poster, and a Reubin Kincaid sandwich. (Yup, something to do with corned beef and sauerkraut I think.)

But back to the Jonas Brothers and their world concert; what's \$1,000 when we can hang with our good friends Nick, Joe and Kevin? They are living their dream and get to "wake up every morning and do what they love" ... with my money. Just like the automakers, I guess.



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Campers make their way around Poms Pond. The beach will close to swimmers in less than two weeks.

Only 2 weekends left at Poms Pond

An outdoor Department of Community Services golf program for kids moved indoors to a greenhouse in west Andover. The foul, rainy weather of July also forced swimmers out of Poms Pond a bit more than usual.

But overall, the expected beach crowd has been gathering at Poms Pond, the town swimming hole, this summer in spite of the rainy weather. "We've had good crowds so the rainy July weather has not affected us too much," said DCS Director Mary Donohue. "Kids are still

attending programs down there (at Poms) so it's been busy."

In fact, Andover youth don't seem to care about getting wet even when they're out of the water, as Donohue said the Beach Buddies program added an extra two-week session because kids liked it so much. As part of the program, kids ages 4 to 7 get swimming lessons, cookouts and all sorts of other activities at the pond every morning. The extra session ends tomorrow, Friday, Aug. 14.

"We've just been telling parents that their kids will most likely get muddy at the pond," Donohue said.

Unfortunately, now that the weather has turned hotter and more humid, residents have less than two weeks to enjoy swimming in the pond. The beach closes Sunday, Aug. 23 at 6 p.m. Poms closes around that time every year because its lifeguards are often college students who will be returning to school.

— Judy Wakefield

EVENTS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12

LIVE CLASSICAL JAZZ, with Quintessential Brass, the last concert of the Department of Community Services' summer music series, free, 6 p.m., The Park, Chestnut and Bartlett streets, bring chairs or blankets to sit on, if it rains, the concert moves indoors the following night to the Memorial Auditorium, next to The Park; 978-623-8276.

THURSDAY, AUG. 13

LIVE CLASSIC GUITAR MUSIC, Rogers Center Summer Music Series, with Gerry Johnson, 7 p.m., free, outdoors, Rogers Center, Merrimack College; 978-837-5000.

LIVE THEATER, Andover Community Theater, "From Stage to Screen," (from movie musicals), show includes a 3-course dinner, 7 p.m., Indian Ridge Country Club, Andover, \$40, Reservations are required for assigned seating; 978-289-41236 or Reservations@actandover.com.

FRIDAY, AUG. 14

GALLERY HAPPY HOUR, 5-7 p.m., with Dianne Caravellio at Van Ward Gallery, Main Street, Andover, now exhibiting "The Art Print" with works from Kathe Kollwitz, Robert Motherwell, Leonard Baskin, Wasily Kandinsky, Winslow Homer, Rockwell Kent and Carol Summers; www.vanward-gallery.com. Friday happy hours happen through the summer.

LIVE THEATER, Andover Community Theater, "From Stage to Screen," (from movie musicals), show includes a 3-course dinner, 7 p.m., Indian Ridge Country Club, Andover, \$40, Reservations required for assigned seating; 978-289-41236 or Reservations@actandover.com.

GRAMMY NOMINEE MARIA MULDAUR, and "Bluesiana," her brand of New Orleans flavored, swamp, funk, and R&B, Firehouse Center for the Arts, Newburyport, 8 p.m., \$28.



Andover resident Katherine Hall, 10, will play the orphan Oliver in the upcoming musical "Oliver!", which runs Aug. 20 through 23 at the Firehouse Center for the Arts in Newburyport.

LIVE MUSIC, with DJ Joey B Karaoke Show, 2:30 p.m., Marland Place, 27 Stevens St., Andover; 978-475-4225.

SATURDAY, AUG. 15

LOBSTER FEST, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. with lobster served from 1-2 p.m., \$35 for 2 lobsters, steamers, clam chowder, corn on the cob, watermelon, Knights of Columbus, One Market St., Lawrence; 978-857-9264, 978-686-5525.

LIVE JAZZ, The New Black Eagles Jazz Band, traditional New Orleans Jazz, part of Maudslay Arts Center summer season in Newburyport, 7 p.m., patio seating at tables is \$20 and lawn seating overlooking the stage bring your own chairs or blanket, is \$18. Children 12 and younger are invited to all performances and lawn seating is free. Concert goers are encouraged to bring a picnic dinner; 978-499-

0050, www.maudslayartscenter.org.

ANDOVER FARMERS MARKET, Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St., Andover, 12:30-3:30 p.m., 15 vendors; 978-475-2236.

GREEK CELEBRATION, The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, 7 Harris St., Newburyport, 6 p.m. on. This is a traditional day in Greek communities to have parties and celebrations with good food, including some lamb from the spit, souvlakia, Greek hors d'oeuvres and Greek Rice Pudding and Pastries for dessert, \$15; seniors and students for \$12; children under 12 for \$5; and children under 5 are free. Tickets will be available at the door; 978-465-5757.

LIVE MUSIC, with Ernie & the Automatics featuring two former members of the band, Boston, 7 p.m., fireworks follow at 10 p.m., Salisbury Beach, Salisbury.

MEADOW MAGIC, see peak meadow bloom from ground level and above on

the new Observation Dec, New England Wild Flower Society, Garden in the Woods, 180 Hemenway Road, Framingham, noon to 4 p.m.

SINGLES DANCE, The Social Life of Haverhill, American Legion, Main Street, Rte. 121, Haverhill, 8 p.m. to midnight, DJ, refreshments, \$9; Cindy, 978-373-3504.

SUNDAY, AUG. 16

WOMEN IN ROCK, live music event, 1-4 p.m., Winnekenni Castle, Kenozia Road, Haverhill, free, produced by local blues-rockers Elle Gallo of the Elle Gallo Band. Greta Schaefer at 1 p.m. followed by Lisa Marie at 2 p.m. and The Elle Gallo Band at 3 p.m., refreshments and food will be available.

LIVE MUSIC, with Carol Graves, Classical Pianist, 3 p.m., Marland Place, 27 Stevens St., Andover.

LIVE OUTDOOR MUSIC, with The Mystix, part of Maudslay Arts Center summer season in Newburyport, 2 p.m., patio seating at tables is \$20 and lawn seating overlooking the stage (bring your own chairs or blanket) is \$18. Children 12 and younger are invited to all performances and lawn seating is free. Concert goers are encouraged to bring a picnic dinner; 978-499-0050. Mastercard and Visa are accepted by telephone or at the center an hour before the performance; www.maudslayartscenter.org.

THURSDAY, AUG. 20

LIVE THEATER, Oliver opens, Firehouse Center, one market square, newburyport, 7:30 p.m., \$17, \$15 for Students, Members, Seniors \$15; 978/462-7336, www.firehouse.org; also being performed Aug. 22-23 at 7:30 p.m. and Matinees at 2 p.m.

ELTON JOHN TRIBUTE BAND, Bennie and the Jets, 7:30 p.m., Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham, \$25-30; 781-279-2200.

LIVE MUSIC, Singer/songwriter Tommy



Day for the dogs

Walk for Animals, activities planned by local MSPCA

On Sunday, Sept. 13, animal lovers of all ages will be walking statewide, taking part in the Walk for Animals – with or without their favorite canine companions. And for the first time, the local MSPCA at Nevins Farm will join in, by hosting a site for the walk at Spencer Peirce Little Farm in Newbury.

The mile long route for the walk will meander throughout the historical property, beginning and ending at the 17th century farm house, where family-friendly activities, contests, refreshments and merchandise for pets will be available.

Please see **EVENTS**, Page 14

Please see **DOGS**, Page 14

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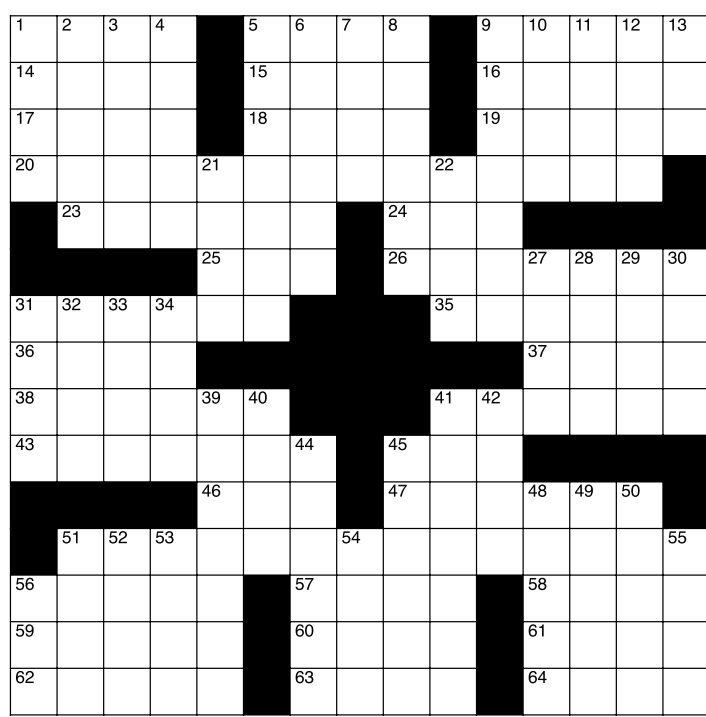
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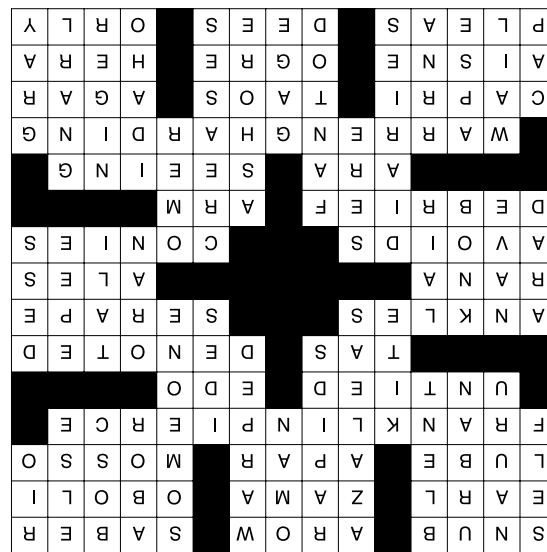
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Crossword puzzle



- CLUES ACROSS**
- Reject outright
 - Successfully in order
 - Sword with a curved blade
 - British nobleman
 - Hannibal's Waterloo
 - 1/6 drachmas
 - Lubricate
 - ___t: separate
 - Move rapidly in music
 - 14th president
 - Released a knot
 - Yeddo
 - ___mania: Australian island
 - Was an indication of
 - Leg joints
 - Blanket shawl
 - Frog genus
 - Brews
 - Staves off
 - Pikas
 - Report on a mission
 - An upper extremity
 - Macaws
 - Having vision
 - 29th president
 - Island in Bay of Naples
 - N.M. art community
 - Gelled culture medium
 - No. French river
 - Shreck is one
 - Queen of the gods
 - Supplications
 - Weekly Top
 - DJ Rick
 - Paris airport
- CLUES DOWN**
- Essence of your being
 - AKA Pleasant Island
 - About metropolis
 - Mixed
 - Subgenus of rhododendron
 - Fast river currents
 - Gulf and Sultanate
 - Twisted boards
 - A human being
 - ___al: away from the mouth
 - A type of pear
 - Other
 - ___ de Janeiro
 - Write bad checks
 - 15th of March
 - N.W. Algerian port
 - Anklebones
 - Fencing sword
 - ___ert: last course
 - W. Romanian city
 - Central area of a church
 - Drawer pull
 - Den of wild animals
 - Personal journals
 - Dried up vegetation
 - Pressed folds
 - H___: Greek poet
 - Outburst of emotion
 - Towards land
 - State and potato
 - African river & republic
 - A tree knot
 - Lament loudly
 - A domed or vaulted recess
 - Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
 - Gov. of Mass. until 1775
 - Between black and white
 - A bottle top

Solution



DOGS: Take a walk to help the animals

Continued from Page 13

Participants in the Walk can register as an individual or as a team. Registration is \$25 and includes a Walk for Animals T-shirt. Prizes are awarded for those who raise over \$300 in pledges. To register online, visit www.walkforanimals.com, or visit the MSPCA at Nevins Farm in Methuen.

"The Walk for Animals is a fun way for us to celebrate the companion animals in our lives and it's a great opportunity for animal lovers to give back to an organization that cares for and adopts out thousands of

homeless animals in your community every year," said Mike Keiley, manager of the Noble Family Animal Care and Adoption Center at Nevins Farm.

As one of the largest animal care facilities in New England, the MSPCA at Nevins Farm is a temporary home to small domestic animals such as cats and dogs, as well as horses and large farm animals. Annually, the adoption center cares for over 8,000 animals, without any financial support from state or federal agencies.

Event organizers chose the Nevins Farm Walk location because of the long-standing foster care relationship with

Spencer Peirce Little Farm, one of 36 Historic New England properties. Currently, over two dozen farm animals from Nevins Farm are living at the educational farm, where visitors can learn about life on a farm over the centuries through hands-on activities.

Keiley states, "Although the Walk for Animals is dog-oriented, we want to remind people that all of our animals need support, from hamsters to horses. As people enjoy the Walk and the day's activities, they will see many types of animals who have been cared for at Nevins Farm." The historic farm is also a large venue that allows for the many activities taking place

throughout the day, including canine agility demonstrations and contests, kids' fun such as an inflatable moon bounce, face painting, tie-dyeing, and raffles.

The MSPCA at Nevins Farm is at 400 Broadway, Route 28 in Methuen and is open to the public from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays; noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. To contact the MSPCA at Nevins Farm regarding adoptions and programs call 978-687-7453 Ext. 6101 or on the Web at www.mspca.org/nevins. For more information about the Walk for Animals, contact Heather Robertson at 978-687-7453 x6118.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Continued from Page 13

Sands, music and stories of peace in a benefit concert, First Church, One Meetinghouse Green, IPSWICH, 7:30 p.m., Suggested donation \$15; seniors and students \$10, Merrimack Valley People for Peace is co-sponsor of event; 978-687-7864.

FISHY FUN FOR TOTS, hosted by Parker River Refuge. Introduce preschoolers to the world of fish through stories, songs and more in this hands-on, interactive program, 10:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-2 p.m., for Ages 3-5, meet at visitor center, 6 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport. Free but space is limited and advanced registration is required; 978-465-5753, <http://parkerriver.fws.gov>.

FRIDAY, AUG 21

LIVE MUSIC, with Eileen Ivers & Immigrant Soul, 7:30 p.m., Boarding House Park, 40 French Street, Lowell, \$20, \$16 advance; 978 970-5200, www.lowellsummermusic.org.

BOSTON COMEDY NIGHT, featuring stand-up

comedy by Jane Condon, Jimmy Dunn, and Maureen Langan, 8 p.m., Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham, \$22-27; 781-279-2200.

SATURDAY, AUG. 22

ANDOVER FARMERS MARKET, Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St., Andover, 12:30-3:30 p.m., 15 vendors; 978-475-2236.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL, 3 p.m., Marland Place, 27 Stevens St., Andover.

HAVERTHILL'S BATTLE OF THE BANDS, all genres of music are welcome including cover bands. All entrants will receive a DVD of their two-song performance. Haverhill Community Television will broadcast the bands beginning in July when viewers can visit online HaverhillRocks.com and vote for their favorite band. The top eight bands will move on to perform live on the outdoor stage at Winnekenni Castle and compete to win a \$1,000. Prerelease tickets cost \$5, visit online at www.HaverhillRocks.com. For more information, call Chris McCarron at 603-233-5761.

LIVE JAZZ, with Grace Kelly, jazz

saxophonist, singer, songwriter, composer and arranger, part of Maudslay Arts Center summer season in Newburyport, 7 p.m., patio seating at tables is \$20 and lawn seating overlooking the stage (bring your own chairs or blanket) is \$18. Children 12 and younger are invited to all performances and lawn seating is free. Concert goers are encouraged to bring a picnic dinner; 978-499-0050; www.maudslayartscenter.org.

LIVE MUSIC, with Del Sol, 7 p.m., fireworks follow at 10 p.m., Salisbury Beach, Salisbury.

SUNDAY, AUG. 23

LOCAL HIKE, the Andover Trails Committee hosts the second segment of its 4-segment hike series. Series covers Andover's entire 18-mile stretch of the Bay Circuit Trail, 1-4 p.m., rain or shine. Meet at the Horn Bridge on the corner of Red Spring and Reservation roads, Andover. Shuttles will take hikers to the beginning of the hike at the Ward Reservation on Prospect Street, and then hikers will hike back to their cars near the Horn Bridge. Final segment is Sept. 27.

ENTERING ANDOVER by Don Mathias



Beginner ballroom dance for adults

Want to dance like the stars? The Andover/North Andover branch of the Merrimack Valley YMCA will offer an eight-week beginner class designed to teach the basic steps in swing, salsa, tango, rumba, merengue, foxtrot and waltz. Classes are taught by instructor Tom Webster from Dance New England School of Dance in Chelmsford.

For questions or specific information about the class, contact Tom at 978-251-1700. Couples and singles are invited.

The classes will be held in the YMCA's dance studio. Cost per person is \$68 for YMCA members and \$118 for non-members. The session begins on Sept. 11 and runs through Oct. 23. Residents can register at the Andover/North Andover YMCA, 165 Haverhill St., Andover.

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Attorney Marybeth McInnis, together with her father, Attorney James McInnis, believe foremost in establishing a good working relationship with clients. This happens when clients are comfortable and confident that their decisions and wishes will be heard and respected. For much of their work, McInnis Law Offices charges a flat fee so clients can feel free to explore their feelings, express their wishes, and become informed by asking questions.

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assets are distributed. Dying without a will forces the state to take charge. Children and family members in that situation are subject to the decisions of strangers. For the elderly, selecting someone they trust to have Power of Attorney is a decision that should be made while healthy and clear thinking because it is as important a decision as one can make in a lifetime.

Attorney Marybeth McInnis grew up in North Andover and continues to live in the community with her husband. She is a member of the American Bar Association, the Boston Bar Association's Estate Planning Committee, and the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. She is also a Director of the Friends of Merrimack College, Trustee of the James W. O'Brien Foundation, Inc., and is also licensed to practice in New Hampshire as well as Massachusetts.

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Education

Words of praise for Speak

MARI MIYACHI
WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

It is often difficult to find meaningful novels geared toward younger readers. Speak, by Laurie Halse Anderson, however, does not share this problem. The book packs a huge impact, and holds the reader till the very last words, not due to an action-packed plot but an endearing emotional arc.

Speak is told from the point of view of Melinda Sordino, a high school freshman undergoing a massive internal struggle.

Melinda is ostracized by her peers, misunderstood by her parents, and struggling to motivate herself in school. This book is no angst-ridden teen novel, however, and as the story unfolds, Melinda slowly reveals the events that led to her outcast status. Melinda's journey to recognize what she so badly wants to forget is both empathetic and multidimensional.

Anderson's form certainly caters to the modern reader. Told in series of short montages divided into four "marking

BOOK REVIEW

'SPEAK'
BY LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON

periods," Speak is full of back-and-forth dialogue, reminiscent of instant messaging chats. Melinda's narrative is humorous at times, even sardonic, but always relatable. These methods prove to be extremely effective, as Speak deals with a difficult subject in an approachable manner.

I would give Speak a 9 out of 10. While I thoroughly enjoyed this novel as a high school reader, and I believe adults would similarly enjoy it, Speak caters to a younger audience as well. While the book deals with many heavy topics, I think it is a great transition novel for middle-school readers looking for more depth and dimension in their literature.

Mari Miyachi is an Andover resident and student at Phillips Academy private high school in town.



David Field of Andover recently brought home a silver medal from the International Physics Olympiad. Field, who will be a Phillips Academy junior, is pictured here working on a lab on the refraction of radio waves as part of his training for the Olympiad.

Courtesy photos

Separating pipedreams and attainable dreams

Ken Seifert



There is nothing more satisfying than to have your dreams come true. To some people Aug. 8 may have been just another day.

To me, it was a reminder that dreams do come true. On that day 40 years ago, we arrived in Andover at about 6 p.m. The moving van from Las Vegas had not yet arrived and we decided to camp overnight on our living room rug. It was our home, 16 Ivy Lane, on the south side of town. We still live there.

It was a fresh start in a new town and we planned to stay. As the day ended and my family had fallen asleep, I had two dreams for the future. One dream was to raise hard working, decent children with my beautiful wife Norma. The second dream was to work with a group of people to see if we could make a positive difference in the lives of children.

Since I was about 8 years old I have always known the difference between a dream and a pipedream.

Dream - To conceive as possible or probable, a dream must have a mission, a plan and a willingness to achieve it.

Pipedream - This is and old guy sitting on the front porch smoking a pipe. He is regularly thinking of past dreams that never came true. His best friends are Couлда, Woulda and Shoulda. He never learned that all it took was a destination, a road map and some elbow grease. He is probably still sitting on the porch smoking his pipe, and continuing to have pipe dreams.

In the blinking of an eye I am no longer that 34-year-old man who came to New England in search of the American Dream. Our children now have children. After the usual trials and tribulations in the growth process, they are fulfilling their dreams. Although they live in Africa, Virginia and Concord, Mass., 16 Ivy Lane is still home base.

People ask me what I miss about my job. I can honestly say I do miss the day-to-day interaction with some of the finest educators and parents a superintendent has ever experienced. That is not to say it was Camelot. There is no such place. However I can think of many experiences where we shared,

Please see SEIFERT, Page 16

Science standout on world scene

Andover teen competes in International Physics Olympiad

BY BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Andover native David Field took a trip to Merida, Yucatan, Mexico last month. But this wasn't any tropical vacation - he competed in the International Physics Olympiad, bringing home a silver medal for the U.S. team.

Field estimates he spent close to 300 hours studying in preparation, including a two-week training camp that taught and tested participants on higher-level physics concepts.

Field, who is going into 11th grade at Phillips Academy, was one of five students chosen to compete at the olympiad on the U.S. team.

"I've always liked math, and physics is sort of like math, applied," said Field. "It's applicable, but the problems are very math-oriented. The experimental aspect is very challenging and interesting. You're exploring the nature of the universe (in physics). It's a very fascinating subject to me - all of our technology is based on it. Physics is what our society is based on, and



David Field of Andover (front and center) recently competed in the International Physics Olympiad in Mexico, helping the US team to bring home a silver medal. Field says he studied more than 300 hours in preparation for the olympiad. Field is pictured with his coaches and teammates, Bwei Liu and Marianna Mao (both of Fremont, California), Joshua Orem (of Los Angeles) and Anand Natarajan (of San Jose, California).

it's critical to development."

The olympiad, held each year at a different location around the globe, tests secondary school students on material that goes beyond the average high school class. That's why the two-week

training camp is needed, said Field. After a series of qualifying tests, the top 20 students from around the U.S. are invited to this training camp.

This year's camp was held at the University of Maryland. Field

and other students from around the U.S. were fully immersed in physics for two weeks, doing lab work and taking three-hour practice tests every day.

"Everyone's very interested in learning physics (at training camp), but everyone is friends too," said Field.

A team of five are selected to go to the International Physics Olympiad.

Last year, Field made it to training camp but was not selected for the olympiad team. This year, he and another Phillips Student, Yunfan Zhang, went to training camp.

Field said he's happy with the silver medal he brought home last month, but hopes to qualify again next year and compete for a gold medal.

Looking back on this year's experience, Field says he is thankful for the U.S. team coaches and Dr. Peter Watt, his physics teacher at Phillips Academy.

While a middle-schooler at West Middle School, Field took math and science classes at Andover High School. As

Please see OLYMPIAD, Page 16

ON CAMPUS

Boston University awarded academic degrees to 5,863 students in May 2009. Andover residents receiving degrees were:

Michael W. Reidy, bachelor of arts in history;

John T. Formichella, bachelor of science in business administration in business and management;

Prashant Kumar, master's degree in business administration and management;

Michael C. Brucato, bachelor of arts in economics;

John F. McCarthy, bachelor of arts in economics, cum laude;

Priscilla T. Chan, master of arts in psychology;

Marc S. Azer, master's degree in business administration in information systems, high honors, and

a masters degree in business administration and management, honors;

Aysha R. Rabbani, bachelor of arts in biochemistry and molecular biology, magna cum laude;

Megan E. Gardner, master's degree in social work;

Emily A. Griswold, bachelor of fine arts in painting;

David P. Pilla, bachelor of arts in economics;

Emily R. Schwarz, bachelor of science in business administration and management;

Nicole R. Ortiz, bachelor of science in hospitality administration, cum laude;

Jeremy S. Peterman, bachelor of arts in international relations, magna cum laude; and

David E. Dreyfus, doctorate in

business administration and management.

Merrimack College conferred 505 degrees at the 59th commencement exercised held on Sunday, May 17.

The following Andover students were among the graduates:

Nicholas Carleton, bachelor of arts

Suzanne Chandler, bachelor of science, summa cum laude

Andrea Faris, bachelor of arts, magna cum laude

Kristina Hanson, master's degree in education

Abbi Hermosa, bachelor of arts

Jonathan Hosmer, bachelor of arts

Ashley Lawton, bachelor of arts

Ellen McCarthy, bachelor of arts

Nicole Prencipe, bachelor of arts

Kara Spang, master's degree in education

Wake Forest University student

Leslie Uldine Walker of Andover has been named to the university's dean's list for the 2009 spring semester. Students who achieved a 3.4 or higher grade-point average were named to the list.

Walker, a Spanish major with minors in education and linguistics will study in Salamanca, Spain for the fall semester. She is the daughter of Brian and Mary Walker and a 2007 graduate of Andover High School.

Virginia Tech student Colin U. Ng of Andover was named to the spring semester dean's list. To

qualify for the dean's list, students must attempt at least 12 credit hours graded on the A-F option and earn a 3.4 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale during the semester.

Ng of Andover is a sophomore majoring in general engineering in the College of Engineering.

Amy Barbara Hilman of Andover was named to the dean's list for the spring semester at Scripps College in Claremont, Calif.

Scripps College is the women's college of the Claremont Colleges, and academic community of five undergraduate and two graduate institutions. The dean's list recognizes students who have achieved a grade-point average of at least 11 (A-)

in four, letter-graded courses in one semester. Out of a total of 924 enrolled undergraduate students at Scripps, and 14 post-baccalaureate students, 294 students qualified for the list.

Tabitha Liversidge of Andover graduated from the University of the Arts with a bachelor of fine arts degree in modern dance at the institution's 131st commencement on May 21. One of nearly 500 undergraduates in the University of the Arts class of 2009, Liversidge is a 2005 graduate of Andover High School.

The following Andover students received a degree from

Please see CAMPUS, Page 16

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OLYMPIAD: Phillips sophomore a top physics student

Continued from Page 15

a freshman at Phillips Academy, he took Advanced Placement physics, an upper-level course usually reserved for upperclassmen.

Field said he's thinking about graduating early from Phillips, and possibly majoring in physics or math in college.

David Field is the son of Joan and Randall Field. Besides physics, he runs cross-country, does rock climbing and is interested in politics and philosophy.

First held in 1967, this year's International Physics Olympiad saw more than 350 students from 70 countries participate.

During the competition, students take two different exams over the course of three days. The first exam consists of three theoretical problems involving at least four areas of physics taught in secondary schools. The second exam consists of one or two experimental problems. The time allotted for solving the problems is five hours. To earn a medal, participants must score a specific number of points on the exams.

SEIFERT: A dream became reality

Continued from Page 15

debated and agreed on how to make things better. One fundamental reason for the successes was we defined the goal and who had to do what part to make it work. When we were unsuccessful, it was because the design and involvement or lack of involvement was inappropriate. It is for the historians to judge what our batting average was!

Andover is a town that is better off than 85 percent of the world's population. I am not referring to the almighty dollar. There is much that any city or town can do to make things better that does not cost a penny. Some things require money, some do not. How expensive is common courtesy, good planning, assumptions of the future and properly raising a family?

I dream that Andover can be a model community. We can have the best schools in Massachusetts. We can become a true community and not a town. It is not semantics. Maybe we should have a Web site: How To Convert Pipedreams Into Dreams/Andover Townsman.

Sincerely, we thank Andover for what they have given us these 40 years. Andover can be better. It has the potential. I hope I am around 40 years from now to see what the future will bring. I bet I won't be shocked.

Ken Seifert is a former superintendent and 40-year resident of Andover.

ON CAMPUS

Continued from Page 15

Clark University on Sunday, May 17, during Clark's 104th commencement exercises:

Delcarne Francois, earned a master's degree in business administration.

Laura E. Berger, a graduate of Andover High School earned a master's degree in teaching.

More than 300 Northern Essex Community College students received awards honoring academic excellence, special or unique accomplishments, and outstanding contributions to the college at the Annual Awards Convocation, held on Tuesday, May 12, in the Sport and Fitness Center on the college's Haverhill Campus.

President David Hartleb and Senior Vice President Mary Ellen Ashley presented co-curricular awards to students who had distinguished themselves with their leadership in student government, clubs or athletics. President Hartleb and Vice President of Academic Affairs Lane Glenn presented excellence awards to the top student graduating from each of the college's programs.

"This is one of my favorite events at the college," said Hartleb. "The students we are honoring today are the cream of the crop. They have worked incredibly hard during their time at the college and it's so rewarding to see them celebrate their success with their family and friends."

Honored students from Andover include:

Kristine Cunningham, award for academic excellence, associate in science radiologic technology

Jennifer Luber, award for academic excellence, certificate information technology fluency

George Montgomery, award for academic excellence, certificate alcohol drug abuse counseling

John Priest, award for academic excellence, associate in science respiratory care

Victoria Roark, award for academic excellence, certificate dance education

Cristina Santiago, award for academic excellence, certificate paralegal

Theresa Sheehan-Smith, award for academic excellence, associate in science nursing

Courtney Lyons Harkins, daughter of Caryn and Michale Harkins of Andover, is a sophomore English and journalism major at the University of Colorado, Boulder, has made the College of Arts and Sciences dean's list for the 2009 spring semester. The dean's list requires that a student hold a 3.75 grade-point average or better and be enrolled in at least 12 graded credit hours of coursework for the given semester. This achievement ranks Harkins among the top

students.

Greg Pennington, a freshman at Gettysburg College, has been named to the First Year Recognition List for both the fall 2008 and spring 2009 semesters. Greg is the son of Brooke and Bill Pennington and a 2008 graduate of Pingree School in South Hamilton.

John Edmund Linnemann of Andover was awarded a bachelor's degree at Colorado College on May 18. He is the son of Patricia and Roger Linnemann Jr. of Andover.

Linnemann was one of 447 undergraduates and nine Master of Arts in teaching students who received their degrees at Colorado College's 128th commencement ceremony.

Michael Bennet, the new U.S. Senator of Colorado, addressed the Colorado College graduating class of 2009. Bennet and authors James Salter and David Quammen received honorary degrees from Colorado College.

Endicott College announces its dean's list students for spring term 2009. To qualify for the dean's list, a student must obtain a minimum grade-point average of 3.5, receive no grade below a "C" and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits for the semester.

Meeting those requirements was **Karen M. Chretien**, the daughter of Guy and Donna Chretien. Karen is a junior majoring in communication.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison has recognized **Ryan James Beechior**, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences; and **Rachael Corey Westgate**, College of Letters and Science to the dean's list for the spring semester of the 2008-09 academic year.

Students who achieve at a high level academically are recognized by the dean at the close of each semester. To be eligible for the dean's list, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in the semester. Schools or colleges typically require students to rank in the top 10 percent of their class or achieve a grade-point average of 3.75 or higher in order to receive this honor.

Rebecca Cairns, a junior, majoring in government, daughter of Glenn and Jane Cairns and **Matt Therkelsen**, a sophomore, son of Beverly and David Therkelsen both of Andover, have been named to the dean's list at Hamilton College for the 2009 spring semester.

A student must achieve a grade-point average of 90 or above during the term to be placed on the dean's list.

Cairns and Therkelsen are both graduates of Andover High School.

Brittany Pierce of Andover made Lasell College's spring 2009 dean's list. Pierce is a member of the class of 2011 and is majoring in fashion and retail merchandising.

Lasell College is a four-year, co-educational, professional liberal arts college.

Joshua Samuel Jacobs of Andover was named to the 2009 dean's list at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C. Students who achieved a 3.4 grade-point average and no grade below a C were named to the list.

On May 17, Regis College graduated 479 students, the largest single graduating class in its history. Mary Richardson, co-anchor of Chronicle on WCVB-TV, Channel 5, was the commencement speaker. This was the 79th graduation class for Regis, which was founded 82 years ago by the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Boston.

The following Andover students were among those who graduated:

Luanne Nugent received a Doctorate of Nursing Practice degree.

Jacqueline Morando received an associate degree.

Babson College in Wellesley has announced the following Andover residents graduated in May: **Katherine Mary Nichols** and **Elissa Michelle Slovin**.

Audrey Cristina White of Andover, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward G. White, received a bachelor's degree with a major in history from Roanoke College in Salem, Va., during its 167th commencement ceremony held on May 2.

White is a graduate of Andover High School.

Roanoke College is an independent, co-educational, four-year liberal arts college in Salem, Va.

Michael Primes of Andover has been named to the president's list at Bentley University for the 2009 spring semester for extraordinary academic achievement. Primes is a sophomore and is an undecided business major.

To be named to the president's list, a full-time student must have a grade-point average of 3.7 or higher with no course grade below 3.0 during the term.

Bentley University announces the following Andover students who were named to the dean's list for the 2009 spring semester for outstanding academic achievement.

Jennifer Rachel Berger, a junior and an accountancy major.

Laura Ann Manfredi, a senior and a corporate finance and accounting major.

Matthew Aaron Jacobs, a senior and an economics-finance major.

Aron Hillel Finkelstein, junior and an economics-finance major.

Zachary George Gostanian, a senior and a marketing major.

Meghan Joanna Thomann, a sophomore and an undecided business major.

David LeCompte Boudreau, a sophomore and an undecided business major.

Francis Joseph Conway, a sophomore and an undecided business major.

To be named to the dean's list, a full-time student must have a grade-point average of 3.3 or higher with no course grade below 2.0 during the term.

David McGrath, a 2002 graduate of Andover High School, received his bachelor's degree in political science from Saint Anselm College in May 2006, and received his JD from the University of Connecticut School of Law in May 2009. He is employed in family law with Loudon Legal Group in Hartford, Conn.

Amy Olsheskie, a communications major and presidential scholar at the University of San Diego, was inducted into Mortar Board, a national honor society that recognizes college seniors for excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership and service.

In addition, she was elected chapter president of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority this spring. She is a 2006 graduate of Andover High School.

Emily Israel Guerin of Andover was one of two students awarded the Non-Fiction Prize at Bowdoin College's annual Honors Day ceremony in May.

This prize, established in 2008, is awarded for the best work of creative non-fiction. Guerin 2009, was a history and environmental studies major with a minor in Spanish. A Sarah and James Bowdoin Scholar, she participated in the Study Away Program at SIT-Chile. Guerin is a graduate of Phillips Academy.

Guerin was also one of three graduating students awarded the Community Service Award in Environmental Studies. She was also one of five Bowdoin College seniors have been awarded the Nyhus Travel Grant.

The Nyhus Travel Grant is to support original research that uses archival or other primary source material for an independent study or honors project in history, and for the related costs of travel, whether in this country or abroad, according to the college.

Tufts University announces its dean's list for the School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Engineering during the spring 2009 semester. The dean's list includes Andover students **Fred Huang**, Class of 2010, and **Jillian Kenney**, Class of 2010.

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Andover resident Stefano "Steve" Leone's painting was chosen for the Atria company's calendar.

Courtesy photo

TOWN TALK

Call him Mr. January

He's living at Atria Marland Place in Andover and one of his paintings has made the national company's calendar for 2010. Stefano "Steve" Leone is Mr. January.

A competition was held among the 126 Atria communities across the country, with each submitting artwork from three residents. Ann Sico, Engage Life director, wrote in an e-mail. Leone's painting of gondolas in Venice was selected.

Born in Italy, Leone inherited his artistic talent from his father, said Sico. He came to the U.S. in 1961 and has lived at Atria Marland Place since 1996.

Leone put away his brushes for many years, but resumed painting about five years ago. His landscapes reflect his memories of Italy.

"We are all very excited for Steve and are planning a 'send off' party [this] week for his painting. It needs to be sent to the home office in Louisville," Sico wrote.

— Judy Wakefield

Looks like he'll stick to Town Meeting appearances only. His next one is Aug. 31.

— Judy Wakefield

He'll stick to directing

Well, he's no Ben Affleck.

Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski recently made his acting debut as planned. But even his own review of his role as a nightclub owner in the Summer Theatre Ensemble's *Guys and Dolls* was "thumbs down."

"Everyone agreed that I best keep my day job," he responded in an e-mail. "Very simply, I couldn't remember my lines and I kept ad-libbing." It was his first and last venture into acting, he wrote.

Published and at Phillips

William Lyhack, the writer-in-residence at Phillips Academy during 2009 has a new short story appear in the spring 2009 *The Southern Review*, published by Louisiana State University. The fiction is called "Calvary."

Athlete's Corner closing

Athlete's Corner, a longtime tenant on Main Street, is closing Sunday, Sept. 13. The closing sign went up late last week. A telephone call to owner Tom Belhumeur was not returned before Townsman presstime.

— Judy Wakefield

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