

INSIDE: BUS ROUTES, STARTING ON PAGE 6



OUR 121<sup>ST</sup> YEAR

# Andover Townsman

Issue No. 51

AUGUST 27, 2009

75 CENTS

## You vote Monday on whether to raise taxes Town Meeting decides on local meal, hotel taxes Monday, 7 p.m. at AHS

By BETHANY BRAY  
STAFF WRITER

On Monday, Aug. 31, voters at a Special Town Meeting will decide whether to increase the taxes on restaurant meals and hotel stays in Andover.

The meeting, called by town leaders to combat a growing \$2 million deficit, will be held in the

Collins Center on the right side of Andover High School, 80 Shawshen Road. If residents support the two articles, Andover's meals tax would increase by 0.75 percent and the hotel/motel taxes by 2 percent.

Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski says Andover's estimated deficit for this fiscal year is \$2,186,000. Gaining extra revenue

from increased taxes is just one piece of the puzzle toward solving Andover's budget woes, he said.

"The town is well-run and we wouldn't be asking for this if there wasn't a clear need," said Stapczynski. "We're looking at getting reductions in various departments in other ways — reduction in hours and expenses,

some retirements and including layoffs ... We are doing the necessary belt-tightening, and this is an opportunity to raise money that's not a fee, and reduces our reliance on the property tax."

The increases would bring in an estimated \$596,407 in revenue for the rest of FY2010, decreasing the current shortfall to roughly \$1.5 million. Stapczynski wants

the school department to cover 65 percent of the shortfall, but met opposition from school leaders at an Aug. 17 tri-board meeting.

School Committee Chairwoman Debra Silberstein agreed with Stapczynski's assertion that tax increases will not solve the entire deficit problem.

"Most of us see this potential for additional revenue as one

piece of both short and long term financial planning. The other components are cost reductions, controlling labor costs (either through reduction in staffing or contract changes), changes in service delivery, consolidation of services (both internally and

Please see **TAXES**, Page 2

### FIRST SIGN OF FALL: FOOTBALL



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover High School head football coach John Rex watches his players during football practice.

## New era, attitude for Andover gridiron

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
STAFF WRITER

The Andover High School football team's last state championship banner hangs proudly in the school's gymnasium among other banners saluting sports teams.

But the football banner is bit more dusty than the others. It's 34 years old.

Like Patriots quarterback Tom

Brady, students and Warrior fans appear ready to get back in the game of winning. In fact, a page in the 2009 Andover High yearbook includes a colorful slice of high school life with its "What If..." page.

"What if...girls didn't wear UGGS, everyone didn't get colored hair extension, Facebook wasn't blocked at school and the football team was good." The team's record was 4-7 last year.

AHS Athletic Director Chris Bergeron said he's never seen that "What If..." page. He's focused on the future, not the past, when he talks about AHS football.

However, it seems the time had come for the Andover schools to take a hard look at the AHS football program, which has 110 kids participating this year.

For the first time in 13 years, Andover football will be led by a new coach. Just seven weeks

before this football season started, longtime head football and baseball coach Ken Maglio was told he would not be back. Bergeron stands by the decision.

Maglio was the head football coach for 13 years and his overall record was 65-68-2. Maglio's baseball team went 12-10 last spring and had gone 252-131 in his 17 seasons.

The Andover teachers union and

Please see **FOOTBALL**, Page 10

## Teen charged in party case

### Alcohol 'not contributory factor' in girl's death

By BETHANY BRAY  
STAFF WRITER

Andover resident Zachary Zimmerman, 19, pleaded not guilty to charges of providing alcohol to minors at a Feb. 14 overnight party at his William Street home from which a 16-year-old classmate wandered away and drowned.

The medical examiner investigating the death of student Elizabeth Mun found her drowning to be suicide it was revealed during a Thursday, Aug. 20 court proceeding.

"The ME further ruled that her consumption of alcohol was not a contributory factor to her death," said Essex Assistant District Attorney Jessica Connors.

Mun, a Concord Academy student and Wellesley resident, was reported missing to the Andover police at 6:50 a.m. on Feb. 15. After a four-hour search, Mun was found unresponsive in Hussey Brook Pond, and pronounced dead that afternoon in a Boston hospital.

"There is absolutely, utterly no connection whatsoever (to Mun's death and Zimmerman's charge). It could not be more unequivocal between what happened, tragically, to Ms. Mun by her own hand and what these teens engaged in," said Andover lawyer John Valerio, who is representing Zimmerman jointly with attorney Fred McAlary. "This satisfies the concerns the Zimmerman family has had since the death of Lizzie Mun. They have been devastated, and wanted to know the cause... This doesn't provide much comfort, but some measure of it."

"It's most important to the Zimmerman family, too, to hear for the first time publicly, that Zachary had no

*"There is absolutely, utterly no connection whatsoever (to Elizabeth Mun's death and Zachary Zimmerman's charge.)"*

John Valerio, attorney

Please see **PARTY**, Page 2

## San Fran treat: Alcatraz swim!

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
STAFF WRITER

Jack Hall escaped from Alcatraz while on his summer vacation.

But there is no outstanding warrant from the San Francisco, Calif. police department. Hall is no convict. Rather, he is a serious swimmer and has just emerged from a swimming event and vacation in San Francisco. The 61-year-old of Burnham Road took part in the Bay City's Alcatraz Swim Event.

The popular swim race is in its 17th year and this year had 800 swimmers participating. The competition through the famous, often frigid, sometimes shark-infested waters was held Aug. 15.

"It's the premier open water event and I enjoyed it," said Hall, who placed third in his age category.

It was his first time taking part in the event. He swam the 1.5-mile water course in a very respectable 44 minutes.

A daily morning swimmer at the Andover-North Andover YMCA on Haverhill Street, Hall said a trial swim in May left him wondering if swimming in the shadow of Alcatraz was such a good idea.

"The water was awful," Hall said. "There were rollers (waves) in the water and I initially was wondering if I should have signed up."

But Hall stuck with the Alcatraz



Courtesy photo

Andover resident Jack Hall, 61, emerges from the water at the finish line of the Alcatraz Swim Event. He finished third in his age group.

Swim Event and now is glad he did.

"I'm delighted I did it," he said. "It was a beautiful day. So nice — about 75, 76 degrees."

Wearing a sleeveless wet suit, he dove in with the other swimmers and remembers the water being warm and comfortable. The water race course arcs

somewhat due to the currents, and Hall adapted nicely.

His wife, Nancy, and their three sons, Will, Jaxon and Jake, and daughter-in-law, Felicia, were waiting for him at the finish line.

"I'd definitely recommend it (to other swimmers)," he said of the experience.

## Easy reading

Grace Reilly, 5, left, looks over her friend Ashley Chiango, 5, book she received from principal Liz Roos during story time at West Elementary School. Andover Public Schools open for students on Sept. 3.

TIM JEAN/Staff photo



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# In Brief

## PAST & PRESENT



**THEN:** These mill houses were torn down so developers could create Powder Mill Square at the intersection of North Main and Stevens Street.



**NOW:** The Powder Mill Square condos.

## QUOTE, UNQUOTE ...



IT FITS ON A COMPUTER SCREEN ...it's easier to read and is getting more and more popular.  
Andover editor Tara L. Masih on flash fiction, stories so short you can read them in minutes. Story in Arts, page 15.

YOU LOOK AT THINGS HERE AND YOU THINK, how can you get upset over that? How does that bother you?...Growing up in Andover and Brooks (privat high school), I had grown up in a bubble. I had not seen any of the real, deep poverty that exists in the world.  
- Andover's Adam Rousmaniere, who spent 10 weeks coaching soccer in the African country of Malawi. Story in Sports, page 18.



## NEWS CALENDAR

### THURSDAY, AUG. 27

**School Building Committee**, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 8 a.m.  
**Retirement Board**, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 8:30 a.m.  
**Information Technology Committee**, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 3 p.m.

### MONDAY, AUG. 31

**Special Town Meeting**, Collins Center, Andover

High School, 80 Shawsheen Road, 7 p.m. To view the warrant, Finance Committee report and other information, visit [www.andoverma.gov](http://www.andoverma.gov)

### TUESDAY, SEPT. 1

**Green Advisory Board**, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., first-floor conference room, 6:30 p.m.  
**Cultural Council**, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 7:30 p.m.  
**Conservation Commission**, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7:45 p.m.

### THURSDAY, SEPT. 3

**Zoning Board of Appeals** public hearing and deliberation, Andover Public Safety Center, 32 North Main St., first-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

### SATURDAY, SEPT. 5

**Zoning Board of Appeals**, Andover Public Safety Center, 32 North Main St., first-floor conference room, 9 a.m.

# New boarding rules on commuter rail

Massachusetts Bay Commuter Railroad Co. has announced that beginning Monday, Aug. 31, it will pilot new train boarding procedures on the Haverhill line that stops on Railroad Street (the Andover stop) and in Ballardvale.

MBCR requests that all customers use the high-level platform at the outer end of the platform at each station during off-peak hours. For stations

without high-level platforms, passengers are advised to board at the designated area that will be clearly marked with signs.

Inbound trains, during the peak hours of operation between 5 to 9 a.m. Monday through Fridays, will board as usual so that the large number of customers can be comfortably accommodated.

Passengers boarding at North Station before 4 p.m. or after 8 p.m. will be asked to board

at the outer end of the station on the coaches closest to the locomotive.

MBCR said it is making these changes to off-peak boarding procedures to improve the level of customer safety and the overall on-time performance of trains.

Asking customers to board at the high-level platform will offer a level transfer for both boarding and exiting the train, eliminating

the need to climb the stairs to board the train. Reducing the number of doors in use will allow staff to ensure outer doors are closed prior to departure.

Establishing customer occupancy to just two cars on any train during these off-peak hours will assist with the proper collection of fares, improve boarding efficiencies, and decrease delays, according to the railroad company.

## Cheerleaders' car wash on Aug. 29

This Saturday, Aug. 29, the Andover High School varsity cheerleaders will hold their annual fundraising car wash at West Middle School, 70

Shawsheen Road, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is no set price for the work, but the cheerleaders will be accepting donations.

## Veterans seeking honor guard members

American Legion Post 8 Andover and Andover's Veterans Services Director Michael Burke are looking for a few good men and women. Post 8 provides an honor guard for patriotic ceremonies and veteran's burials at town cemeteries upon request.

Post 8 is seeking to add qualified

people to its roster to continue providing this valuable service. Candidates should be an honorably discharged veteran of active duty service of any branch of the Armed Forces.

For more information call the Andover Veterans Services Office at 978-623-8218.

## Merrimack Valley business mixer Sept. 1

The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce and Co-Sponsored by TD Banknorth and Chase and Lunt Ins. will present "Business Networking Mixer" on Tuesday, Sept. 1 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Seaglass Restaurant

and the SurfSide5 Beach Bar and Grill, 25 Broadway, Salisbury Beach.

The cost is \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members. For more information call 978-686-0900.

# EEE mosquito is found in Essex County

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has announced that Eastern Equine Encephalitis has been found in mosquitoes in the town of Merrimac in Essex County. This is the first time that EEE infected mosquitoes have been found in the northeast corner of the state this season. This finding follows last week's announcement that an alpaca from Candia, in southeastern New Hampshire, had

tested positive for the disease.

"Southeastern Massachusetts is certainly our historical hotspot for EEE virus", said DPH State Epidemiologist Dr. Al DeMaria "In recent years, however, we have seen increasing activity in Essex county, activity which has been concentrated in the towns along the New Hampshire border. We should be careful not to think of this disease as restricted to only one area."

There was one human case of EEE during 2008, however there were 13 cases with 6 deaths from 2004 through 2006. EEE is usually spread to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. EEE is a serious disease in all ages and can even cause death.

WNV positive mosquito results from 2009 can be found on the Arbovirus Surveillance Information web page at

[westnile.ashtonweb.com](http://westnile.ashtonweb.com).

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## September health clinics

The Andover Health Department will offer mini clinics on Monday, Sept. 14, from 2 to 3 p.m. at Andover Commons and on Monday, Sept. 21 from 1 to 2 p.m. at Frye Circle. Senior-center clinics will be held 2 to 3 p.m. each Wednesday, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. No appointment is necessary.

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by **Bill Daly, M.D.**

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Treatment of prostate cancer depends on the extent of the cancer, the age of the patient, and the risks or complications of the various treatments. The standard treatments are surgery, radiation therapy and hormonal manipulation, but each of these can cause serious problems. Less destructive therapies are in development, such as prostate cancer vaccines, but they are not yet available for clinical use. Depending on the particular situation, complementary therapies sometimes become very important.

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**■ POLICE LOGS**

**ARRESTS**  
 Sunday, Aug. 23 – At 1:01 a.m., Nicholas R. Sylvester, 18, of 294 South Main St., was arrested and charged with driving without a license, operating under the influence of liquor, possessing or using a false/stolen RMV document and a miscellaneous equipment violation.  
 At 1:09 p.m., an officer responded to River Road for a drug arrest. At 1:47 and 2:03 p.m., Alan W. Dewhurst, 25, of 288 Pleasant St., North Andover, and Kyle R. Mosley, 29, of 100 Stockton St. Apt. 172, Chelsea, were arrested and charged with possession of a class A substance.  
 Monday, Aug. 24 – At 10 a.m., Julio Martinez, 27, of 156 Eastern St. Apt. 1, Lawrence, was arrested and charged on warrants for driving with a suspended registration and improper operation of a motor vehicle.  
**BREAKS**  
 Tuesday, Aug. 18 – At 6:18 p.m., a 911 call was received from Martha's Vineyard, reporting the caller was speaking with a resident of Kensington Street, and the Andover resident began yelling at someone to get out of her house. Responding officers found a male subject, wearing a hooded blue sweatshirt, had fled from the area of Poor and William streets. State police and authorities in neighboring towns were notified of the subject. An Andover canine officer assisted in the search. No arrests were made.

Sunday, Aug. 23 – At 7:06 p.m., a Regency Ridge Road resident reported returning home from being away and finding evidence of a forced entry.  
**THEFT**  
 Monday, Aug. 24 – At 1:15 p.m., police responded to a report of a shoplifter on Main Street and issued a criminal application to a person for shoplifting. The subject was transported to the police station to wait for his or her parents.  
 At 2:18 p.m., a resident reported identity theft.  
**AUTO INCIDENTS**  
 Tuesday, Aug. 18 – At 5:19 p.m., a Lowell Street resident reported coming home to find the tires slashed on his Buick.  
 Wednesday, Aug. 19 – At 6:40 a.m., a Clark Road resident reported two wheels were stolen off his vehicle the previous night.  
 Saturday, Aug. 22 – At 3:23 p.m., police assisted fire personnel with a car fire on Bartlet Street.  
 At 6:29 p.m., a driver stopped on North Street was given a summons for driving without a license and allowing an unlicensed operator.  
 Monday, Aug. 24 – At 2:16 p.m., a citation for operating to endanger and negligent operation was given to a driver on Union Street.  
 At 2:36 p.m. a criminal application was given to a River Road driver for operating after suspension.  
 At 11:47 p.m., an Andover Street motorist reported he was driving from Ballardvale center towards

town when a car passed him going the other way. Someone in the car threw an unknown item at his car, which broke a window.  
**INCIDENTS**  
 Tuesday, Aug. 18 – At 2:05 p.m., a Carisbrooke Street caller reported a suspicious person going door-to-door asking residents for money to keep the street lights on, saying she was assaulted in the area. A responding officer found the person, and spoke to her about going door-to-door.  
 At 11:50 p.m., a Bancroft Road resident called 911 to report fireworks being set off near Bancroft Elementary School. A responding officer spoke with the person that had set them off.  
 Wednesday, Aug. 19 – At 3:23 p.m., Tewksbury Police called with a report of a trash bag with blood coming out of it in front of the IRS, Lowell Street. Two responding officers found no such trash bag from the IRS to the Tewksbury line.  
 At 4:53 p.m., a caller from Wyeth Labs, Burt Road, reported a large group of protesters causing a disturbance in the area. Four responding officers found the protesters were on their supper break and would be returning to work shortly.  
 At 5:54 p.m., police responded to a report of kids on the roof of Doherty Middle School, Bartlet Street, and found roof workers on top of the school.  
 Thursday, Aug. 20 – At 10:42 a.m., police responded to a home alarm going off on Coventry Lane.

Upon entering the house with a keyholder, police found a balloon floating around. It was removed.  
 At 11:49 a.m., a William Street resident flagged down a passing officer to report the media were on his property. Sergeant Mark Higginbottom reported extra checks would be done of the area.  
 At 6:14 p.m., an Arthur Road resident called police after his wife received a package from UPS around 3:30 p.m. that had white powder on it. Andover fire and police responded, but found the package was not contaminated.  
 At 6:35 p.m., a Eastman Road resident called police reporting his neighbor was firing a pellet gun into his yard and he was struck in the leg. Both parties were spoken to by responding officers, and the caller declined medical attention.  
 At 7:38 p.m., a Bullfinch Drive resident reported a suspicious van parked with doors open, which the caller believed might be dealing drugs. Responding officers found the van owners to be visiting a relative in the building.  
 Friday, Aug. 21 – At 2:58 p.m., officers responded with the Fire Department to a resident who had overdosed.  
 At 7:50 p.m., a 911 caller reported two construction barrels had blown into the intersection of North Main and Railroad streets.  
 Saturday, Aug. 22 – At 2:48 a.m., police responded to a report of a loud party on Durham Road. Three responding officers gave a summons to the resident for

keeping a disorderly house, and the party was "shut down for the night," said the police log.  
 At 11:50 a.m., a person walked into the police station to report a past assault and threats.  
 At 2:01 p.m., a Timothy Drive resident called 911 because she had no power. National Grid was called on the resident's behalf.  
 At 3:46 p.m., state police contacted Andover police reporting a female resident had called, saying she had slit her wrists. A call with the resident was disconnected. Fire and police personnel responded, and the person was taken to the hospital.  
 Sunday, Aug. 23 – At 3:55 p.m., a Railroad Street resident called police reporting "she may possibly have a scorpion in her apartment and needs an officer to assist her," said the police log.  
 At 9:38 p.m., a Whittier Court resident reported a gathering of kids in the Park took some construction signs and put them all over his car. A responding officer found no damage to the caller's vehicle.  
 Monday, Aug. 24 – At 5:05 p.m., a Regency Ridge Road resident called 911 after hearing suspicious noises outside his home. A responding officer found the sound may have been the homeowner's sprinklers turning on.  
 At 1:24 p.m., a Powers Road resident called police reporting he found some bones in his backyard and was unsure if they were human. Detectives responded to take photographs.  
 At 8:13 p.m., a resident called police to report a neighbor she believes is dealing drugs.

**Town mourns Kennedy**

US Senator Edward "Ted" Kennedy died late Tuesday night at his home in Hyannis Port after a battle with brain cancer. He was 77.  
 Flags at public buildings in Andover and across the state were lowered to half staff Wednesday morning.  
 "We've lost the irreplaceable center of our family and joyous light in our lives, but the inspiration of his faith, optimism, and perseverance will live on in our hearts forever," said a statement from the family. "We thank everyone who gave him care and support over this last year, and everyone who stood with him for so many years in his tireless march for progress toward justice, fairness and opportunity for all. He loved this country and devoted his life to serving it. He always believed that our best days were still ahead, but it's hard to imagine any of them without him."  
 Local businessman Ron Hill, who chairs the Andover Chamber of Commerce, said Kennedy was "a force in the Senate" and "will be greatly missed by his constituents in Massachusetts."  
 "Anecdotally, I always heard that if you needed something done, his office was the place to call," said Hill. "He kept in touch with the people."  
 Meredith Price and his wife ran the Stearns House at Phillips Academy, where John F. Kennedy Jr. lived during his first year while attending Phillips Academy. Ted Kennedy's son, Patrick, also graduated from Phillips Academy. Price was asked to escort Ted Kennedy to the JFK Jr.'s graduation, and saw the love that many in the area felt for the senator.  
 "That meant walking with him and his wife and children et al from the Andover Inn to the graduation. Along the way, middle aged and older women dropped to their knees and clutched their rosaries, offering prayers for Ted - but not, I think, for (my wife) and me," wrote Price in an e-mail.  
 Democrat Nancy Stolberg of Andover said she was saddened to hear of Kennedy's death. "He contributed so much...he cared for so many, especially he needy," she said.

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**AUTO ACCIDENTS**  
 Saturday, Aug. 22 – At 6:03 p.m., a hit-and-run crash involving a lamp post on Brookside Drive was reported.

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practical and important information to help people plan for an uncertain future if they have already lost a job or are unsure of the status of their present job. The program will be resented by

John Spoto of Sentry Financial Planning, LLC.  
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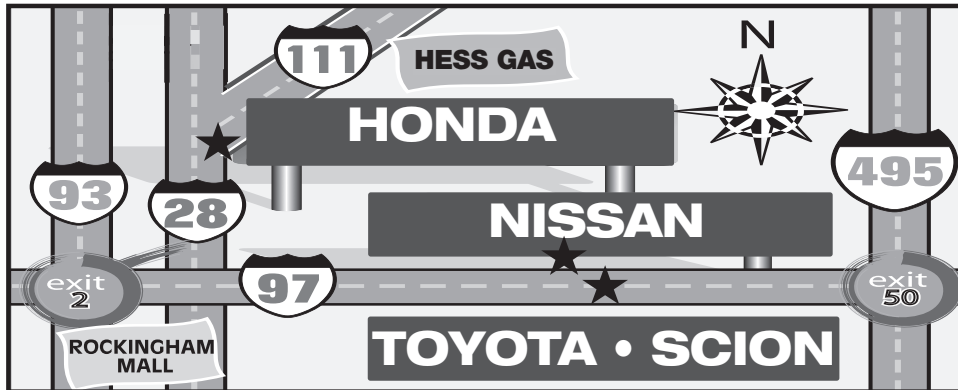
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# Opinion

## STAYING COOL & HAVING FUN

# Beyond the Aug. 31 tax requests

Residents should welcome the comments coming from many Andover quarters, acknowledging the need to go after "real savings" in the budget, by changing the salaries and to much greater degree, the benefits, offered to Andover employees. Such basic contractual changes are the way for Andover to truly get its spending under control long-term and offer the services residents want. Salaries and benefits make up more than 70 percent of the budget.

Of course, voters might be forgiven for expressing some cynicism, given that some unions have expressed no interest in helping to close the budget gap and some officials will ask for two tax increases first. Those requests will come Monday, Aug. 31 at a hastily called Special Town Meeting that will begin at 7 p.m. in the Collins Center, Andover High School, 80 Shawsheen Road. Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski is seeking the tax increases on Aug. 31 because if they are approved that day they can take effect in October. If they are approved after Aug. 31, they will not take effect until Dec. 1, he said.

Officials have made some changes regarding benefits in and outside of the most recent contract negotiations. But many of these will take years to have significant effect. For instance, take-home cars have been removed only after employees move on from one of the town's sought-after leadership positions. Changes to sick-leave pay may affect newer employees, but have meant the town is continuing to hand golden parachutes to longtime employees when they retire.

Whatever the result at Special Town Meeting Aug. 31, voters need to hold officials feet to the fire and see that they commit to real change and tough negotiating stances where needed, both to solve the current approximately \$2 million shortfall, and to solve the systemic budget problems.

## Taxing the outsiders

In Danvers' recently Town Meeting voters rejected the idea of imposing a tax on meals served in local restaurants, but had no qualms about increasing the tax on hotel and motel rooms. Several Andover officials are making the same recommendation for the Aug. 31 Town Meeting.

One reason is that the meals tax affects virtually everyone, including Andover residents. The hotel tax, on the other hand, is restricted mainly to directly affecting those from out of town.

It's a trend seen throughout the country: If you need to raise money, tax those who won't or can't complain about government picking their pockets once again. It's the reason lodging and rental-car taxes are through the roof in many locales.

The state legislature and Gov. Deval Patrick approved these local-option taxes earlier this year to help cities and towns make up some of the money they stood to lose in state aid. But it seems worth asking whether it feels right for a town to make people from out of town with no vote pay for its residents' services. Two hundred and forty years ago when Andover farmers were contemplating revolution and freeing themselves from the yoke of British rule they had a name for it: Taxation without representation.



Ella Finegold, 3, left, cools off with her sister, Ava, 6, as a car-wash turned into playtime for the pair on a hot afternoon last Friday in Andover.

ROGER DARRIGRAND/Staff photo

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Schools superintendent, town manager support new taxes

Editor, Townsman:

At the Aug. 31 Special Town Meeting the residents of Andover will be asked to vote on two important new local excise revenue options that have been authorized by the Massachusetts Legislature. The state provided these two local revenue options to cities and towns this year to help compensate for the reduction in state financial aid for education and law enforcement. Andover was hit with a \$662,000 reduction in state assistance this year.

Article 1 proposes the adoption of a local meals excise tax of 0.75 percent on sales of meals served by restaurants in Andover. This amounts to about 75 cents on a \$100 tab, or 37.5 cents on a \$50. Dining out is a discretionary expense for most people, and a luxury for high-end meals. Contrary to some opinions, this nominal amount is unlikely to cause people to forgo dining out or drive our very desirable local restaurants to move to Lawrence or Salem.

Article 2 would increase the existing 4 percent user excise on hotel/motel rooms to 6 percent. This surcharge increase will be borne primarily by out-of-town business travelers who are in town for meetings at the large corporations. Again, this modest increase is not going to drive those corporations to seek other hotels out of Andover.

The approval of these two local revenue options will help to permanently address the town's structural budget deficit. Article 1 will generate approximately \$276,000 and Article 2 approximately \$321,000, for a combined total of just about \$600,000 for FY10. These recurring revenues will reduce reliance on the property tax, provide a better alternative to other types of user fees, and help minimize the cuts to school and municipal services and personnel. We urge the good citizens of Andover to attend the Aug. 31 Special Town Meeting, and to cast their votes in support of these two important new revenue sources.

CLAUDIA L. BACH  
Superintendent of Schools  
REGINALD S. STAPCZYNSKI  
Town Manager

### Vote no: Give restaurants and hotels a break

Editor, Townsman:

Andover restaurants and hotels provide necessary services. They are innocent bystanders in a troubled economy, in a town and in a state that have for years spent themselves way beyond their means; and in a state that has passed local option taxes to provide cover for its enormous local aid cuts and unfunded mandates.

On Aug. 1, Massachusetts raised the sales/meals tax to 6.25 percent and added a new Alcohol Distribution Tax of 6.25 percent, passing these along to local restaurants, hotels and, yes, Andover patrons as well. The state also passed enabling legislation allowing towns to raise the meals from 6.25 to 7 percent and the hotel/motel from 4 to 6 percent.

Businesses already provide more than their share. In FY 2009, businesses in Andover were

taxed at a rate 64 percent higher than residents.

Anyone who has lived in Andover for any period of time knows that Selectman Brian Major and the editorial writer of the Andover Townsman have both warned for years about the unsustainable increases in our labor contracts. However, in March 2008, for example, then School Committee member David Samuels said of the recently negotiated teachers cost of living adjustment increase: "We're very happy with it... It's very fair, conservative." At best, there appears to have been an enormous lack of financial understanding by the School Committee and their financial consultants.

Andover is governed by two boards. A School Committee that has total budget authority over all school matters, which accounts for two-thirds of our total budget, and a Board of Selectmen that has budget authority over police, fire, maintenance and every other aspect of our town.

For 2010, five of the six town-side unions thoughtfully agreed on a 1-percent giveback that has resulted in a 3.25 percent average salary increase. The firefighters union was the only holdout. Also, between FY2002 and FY2009, the number of full time town-side employees decreased by 2.8 percent.

While we generally read about small contract increases like the teachers' 8.5 percent COLA over three years, this is but one component of their total salary. The other components are step increases, track increases and longevity increases. Consequently, the average teacher's salary increase for 2010 is 5.5 percent. Between FY2002 and 2009, full-time school employees increased by 14 percent while school enrollment went up 5 percent. By the way, the teachers union is the other union that has refused any givebacks, while residents in the private sector have either taken substantial salary cuts or lost their job altogether. If the teachers had agreed to a 0.5 percent giveback for 2010, we would not have a budget problem for 2010, all teachers would likely remain employed and we could have avoided two costly Special Town Meetings.

Our problem won't be cured or mitigated by further punishing our restaurants and hotels by raising their taxes. We need to fix our structural spending problems.

MIKE MOSCA  
44 Pleasant St.

### Town Republicans: Taxes bad for business, taxpayers

Editor, Townsman:

At our recent meeting, the Andover Republican Town Committee voted unanimously to recommend against adding an additional 0.75 percent tax on meals and 2 percent on hotel rooms.

Many business owners in town have closed shop as a result of the national recession, and many more are maintaining very thin profit margins. Consumers already have the opportunity to shop in bordering towns that collect little or no meals and hotel taxes of their own, including sales tax-free New Hampshire. Lawrence, Methuen and North Andover have decided against

raising their local meals taxes because, as Lawrence Mayor Michael Sullivan put it to the Eagle Tribune, "We're trying to get more restaurants to come to Lawrence, not drive them away."

Yet by adding higher taxes at town establishments, hotels and restaurants will be forced to raise prices just to break even, giving Andover an even deeper competitive disadvantage in relation to businesses in neighboring towns. Additionally, this comes on the heels of a 25-percent increase in the state sales tax which took effect Aug. 1.

Now more than ever, we need to be of service to our fellow residents and support local businesses during this time of economic need. On Aug. 31, we urge all Andover voters to attend the Special Town Meeting at the Andover High School Collins Center and vote no to higher taxes. It's bad for businesses and bad for taxpayers.

PAUL ADAMS  
12 Berkeley Lane  
Secretary, Andover Republican Town Committee

### 7 cents more for breakfast OK by him

Editor, Townsman:

Massachusetts, in a rare gesture of largesse, has recently allowed cities and towns to increase their revenues. The possibility for increased revenues from hotel and meals taxes can and will assist all communities in saving citizens' jobs and essential services. That is a fact. That Andover can and will receive approximately \$600,000 from approving these additional and meager tax increases is also a fact. That Andover is now scurrying to close a budget gap of approximately \$2 million is a fact. So, voting in favor of these opportunities will eliminate 30 percent of the budget gap and help prevent further draconian cuts to the educational excellence we provide to our children and the public safety services we demand.

But wait. In a moment of ostensible lunacy, some are saying they don't want \$600,000! It has been suggested it is advantageous to Andover to refuse this found money because, "We need the unions to work with us. We cannot afford things the way they are, and we're sending the wrong message to throw money at them without concessions." We are not giving this money to the unions. We will use it to balance the budget and preserve desired services. That town salary and benefit expenses are too great and unsustainable is a fact. That previously negotiated and in-force union contracts are one-sided and not in the best interest of the town's fiscal health is a fact. However, to link union employees and their contracts to the opportunity to garner 30 percent of the town's budget shortfall through painless additional levies is patently absurd. In fact, one could make a much stronger case that to refuse this opportunity actually reinforces some unions' contentions and continued unwillingness to help the town in this time of crisis.

None of us likes or wants additional new taxes. As a retiree, I certainly do not. But, passing the additional meal tax at the Aug. 31 Special Town Meeting means I will pay an additional seven

cents for my Saturday morning breakfast at The Shawsheen Luncheonette. No, I will not stop getting my breakfast there for the additional seven cents, nor will anyone. Business travelers, who will be paying the vast majority of the additional hotel levy of a \$1 or \$2 per night, will not suddenly look for lodging in New Hampshire or elsewhere either. These meager levies will not adversely affect local businesses. If shopping and purchases in downtown Andover are suffering maybe it has to do with local layoffs, current commercial options, product variety, pricing and ease of parking.

WILLIAM L. GIBSON  
125 Argilla Road

### Light shutoff plan is pound foolish

Editor, Townsman:

What a bunch of hooley ("Selectmen support shutting 626 street lights," Townsman, Aug. 20). The town continues to trip over dollars to pick up pennies. And Rome continues to burn. As one of the "fewer than a dozen citizens" who commented to the town on the plan, I guess I got my answer. It amazes me that on heavily-traveled cut through street (Pine), where children play, there will not be one operating street light. Pathetic.

TOM ADAMS  
89 Pine St.

### Broaden and diversify the sources of local revenue

Editor, Townsman:

The budget gap that the town of Andover is facing today has increased since the Annual Town Meeting this past May. New information about reduced state aid and lower than expected local revenues has caused the deficit to increase to \$2 million or more for this fiscal year.

The town has wisely chosen a course of action to confront and solve the budget gap by scheduling two Special Town Meetings: Aug. 31, and Oct. 7, 2009. The first STM will enable the town to act on two provisions authorized by the Massachusetts Legislature to enhance local revenues. The second STM will enable Andover to consider changes to the FY2010 budget approved in May, 2009 to balance this year's town budget.

However, even with the prudent actions planned by the town, the impacts from the ongoing economic downturn will continue to place a significant strain on Andover's resources in future years. Declining property values will most likely contribute to a continued reduction in local revenues over the next few years. The town must find ways to broaden and diversify its sources of local revenue. The local options plan being considered at the Special Town Meeting on Aug. 31 can offer the Town an opportunity to do just that, by broadening and diversifying the sources of local revenue and by reducing its dependence on local property taxes.

I concur with the town manager's recommendation that Andover exercise its right to increase hotel and meals taxes as authorized by the legislature. This increase of 2 percent in the hotel tax and 0.75 percent in the meals tax would provide

Please see LETTERS, Page 19

## WEB QUESTION

### Are Andover's costs sustainable?

#### Lights on, lights off

Selectmen voted Monday, Aug. 17, to adopt the Department of Public Works suggestion to shut off 626 street lights in town, saving an estimated \$4,000 each month in utility costs. With 43 responses:

"I feel crime will go up once the 626 lights go off" received 37.21 percent;

"Police have done their homework, and the 626 lights really aren't needed" and "There are other places the town should save money instead" received 20.93 percent each;

"I applaud the DPW for finding a creative way to save money" received 18.60 percent; and

"I pay for those street lights with my taxes. They should stay on" received 2.33 percent.

#### Are we over our heads?

At a Special Town Meeting on Aug. 31, Andover

will decide whether to raise restaurant meals and hotel/motel taxes. Several members of town boards have spoken out against the proposed increase, saying the new revenues would pay into overgrown cost structure the town can't maintain. As the town faces a \$2 million deficit, a second Special Town Meeting is planned for Oct. 7 to balance the budget.

Do you feel Andover has an unsustainable cost structure?

- Yes, and we need to trim down.
- No, it's just a bad economy, affecting state aid and town revenues.
- I'm not sure.
- Other.

To vote, go to www.andovertownsmen.com and scroll all the way to the bottom of the page. For different or lengthier answers, send an e-mail to Editor Neil Fater at nfater@andovertownsmen.com

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## Tips from the Coupon Queen

Jill Cataldo saves hundreds on groceries by making the most of the common coupon. You can, too. Here's how. Meet the Coupon Queen and Start Saving



### I am a coupon queen.

I wasn't always. In fact, it's not even a title I gave myself. But two years ago, I completely changed the way I shopped for groceries for my family. Perhaps you've seen stories in the news about some frugal person gleefully purchasing hundreds of dollars worth of groceries for pennies. Well, I am one of those people. And I've been getting a lot of attention over the past few months for something that anyone can do. I'm now dedicating a large portion of my time to educating other people in what I call "Super-Couponing," an easy and fun way to save money on groceries.

This isn't the coupon-clipping of our parents' generation. You won't find yourself spending hours cutting and sorting coupons when the Sunday paper arrives in your driveway. Nor will you struggle with carrying piles of loose, disorganized coupons to the store with you. The Internet has completely changed the way people use coupons. It's made finding the best deals and the best prices not only enjoyable but also incredibly addicting.

If you don't believe me, imagine walking out of the grocery store with 58 boxes of cereal and 40 boxes of granola bars, all name brands, for a total of \$5.15 - including tax. Or 66 packages of diapers for \$7.92, also including tax. I did both of those things last summer and I have the receipts to prove it. Those weren't even my favorite deals! Believe it or not, you can even get stores to pay you to shop. This summer, one of my favorite stores gave me a \$20 bonus coupon for a future visit after I purchased nine tubes of name-brand toothpaste for 63 cents.

Intrigued? When I'd hear of people getting great deals like this, I used to think, "There's no way that can be true," while simultaneously thinking, "I want to be one of those people." Now I am. I've also discovered that it's a lot of fun to show other people how to effectively use coupons to save more money than they ever thought possible.

With the economy worsening and food prices on the rise, I began teaching couponing classes at Chicago-area libraries. At the first class, our library anticipated 20 to 30 registrants. We had 162. Local media took notice, and one newspaper dubbed me a "coupon queen." More library workshops followed with similar turnouts. My coupon workshops broke registration records and shattered expectations of the men and women in attendance, who had no idea how valuable coupons can be. But more importantly, people learned a new, better way to shop that will save them thousands of dollars a year.

Forget all stereotypes you may have about coupons. Using coupons is smart, fun and becoming trendier by the day. It's also not just Mom's domain anymore. Plenty of men and young adults are using coupons and enjoying getting great deals on everything from razors to roast beef.

The principles of Super-Couponing will change the way you think about grocery shopping and will help you learn how to save money in other areas of your life - unrelated to groceries. In the weeks ahead, I'll share my knowledge with you.

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\*\*\*  
Jill Cataldo, a coupon-workshop instructor, writer and mother of three, never passes up a good deal. Learn more about couponing at her Web site, [www.super-couponing.com](http://www.super-couponing.com). E-mail your couponing coups and questions to [jill@ctwfeatures.com](mailto:jill@ctwfeatures.com).

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# Townspeople

## Something in the water

Virginia Perry Reck

All bottled water is not created equal.

Recently, I had a chance to become reacquainted with May Norris, a long time Ballardvale resident. She mentioned that a "Lithia Spring Company" used to exist in Ballardvale. She said the bottled water from the springs had lithium in it and was acclaimed for its calming affects. Even though my family has been closely associated with Ballardvale since 1929, I had never heard of the springs and was eager to learn more about them.

I spoke with long time residents John and Lorna McIntyre, who told me that the spring and bottling buildings were on Woburn Street, south of the intersection with Ballardvale Road, where Woburn Street is curvy and new homes have since been built. John went there when he was a child and found old Lithia Spring bottles that had been thrown on a near by dump.

The Andover spring water was carted from Woburn Street to Lowell Junction and shipped all over the world in barrels, carboys and bottles.

At the Andover Historical Society I found a write-up on the Lithia Spring Co. written by J.W. Robinson on Feb. 7, 1952. He was one of a group of men who, in the 1890s, bought out the founder of the Lithia Spring Co., Paul Hannigan of Lawrence. Paul Hannigan had set up the company in the 1880s. Mr. Robinson writes that the water was "purer than Poland Springs water" at its source and that Lithia salts were added by pipe to the water to turn it into an unparalleled mineral water, a hot commodity at that time.

I went online and found that there were other Lithia Springs water companies formed in the 1880s in Europe and the United States. The companies advertised their waters far and wide with glowing testimonials to the water's curative properties. Lithia Springs Water Co. in Georgia is still bottling water and advertising today.

Lithium was not discovered as a treatment for mania until 1948, and although it was used through the 1950s and 1960s to treat bipolar disease, lithium carbonate, the most common preparation, was not approved by the FDA until 1970. However, back in the 1800s doctors and their patients had discovered that spring water that was high in lithia salts had curative properties. In an ad for the Londonderry Lithia Spring Water (an ad that was typical),

Please see **WATER**, Page 14



Courtney Duffy, 5, Fallon O'Connor, 4, Tom O'Connor, Michael Ciacciarelli and Lucy Ciacciarelli, 5, play monkey in the middle at Poms Pond on Sunday. The pond officially closed for the summer at the end of the day.

KATE GLASS/Staff photos

## Summer fun comes to a close at Poms Pond



Alistair McBrien and his brother, Duncan, work on their last sandcastle of the summer at Poms Pond on Sunday.



Cate Margolis, 4, pours water over her head while cooling off at Poms Pond with her twin sister, Abby, before it closed for the season.

# Eagle Scout projects help town soar



COURTESY PHOTO

After receiving the Eagle badge at his Court of Honor ceremony, Matthew D. Quartararo of Andover accepts congratulations from his father Christopher Quartararo, a Troop 73 Committee member. At right is his brother, Christopher D., a Star Scout.

## Extending the boardwalk

When a group of Andover Scouts and leaders trekked across 81 miles of the rugged Rocky Mountain range on a July 19 to Aug. 1 backpacking expedition to the Philmont Scout Ranch, in Cimarron, N.M., Matthew D. Quartararo of Andover served as the group's crew chief.

Quartararo also had been given the Eagle badge, the highest honor bestowed by the Boy Scouts of America, during a lawn ceremony at his parents' home earlier this June. He received the honor after successfully completing an intensive land conservation project late last fall that improved trails at the Harold

Please see **QUARTARARO**, Page 14



COURTESY PHOTO

Eagle Scout candidate Matt Dorros glues a marker next to a storm drain, reminding residents not to dump pollutants into the town's storm water sewer system.

## Helping to keep town water clean

Boy Scout Matt Dorros has a personal reason for spearheading an ongoing environmental project. "A lot of my interests have to do with the outdoors, backpacking, and skiing, and I wouldn't want to see those things go away," he said.

As a candidate for the Eagle badge with Andover Troop 73, Dorros has led an effort to identify storm drains around town with plastic-coated markers that have a "no dumping" message. The markers remind people storm drains are meant for rainwater and not pollutants that can cause environmental harm and contaminate drinking water.

Please see **DORROS**, Page 14



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, Don Milligan, Eagle Scout Steve Moore and his dad Jonathan Moore.

## Drawing people to the Shawsheen

If Andover achieves its dream of a revitalized stretch along the Shawsheen River, 18-year-old Stephen Moore will deserve some of the credit.

As part of the advancement to Eagle Scout, each Scout is required to complete a community service project that involves other Scouts, friends and family.

Moore's project cleared land adjacent to the Shawsheen River, on a former industrial site near the Andover/Tewksbury town line. Completed with the support of the Andover Conservation Commission, the project included the creation of

Please see **MOORE**, Page 14



COURTESY PHOTO

Life Scout Tom Huntley, right, supervised a work crew, including Eric Heath, Max Tonks and Emily Zinsmiester, at AVIS's Keck Reservation.

## Opening up AVIS reservation trails

Tom Huntley continued a long standing tradition of Eagle Scout candidates by choosing AVIS reservations as the recipient of his efforts to better the community.

Huntley organized a work party early this summer to open up AVIS's newly-acquired addition at the Keck Reservation to the public.

Fueled by pizza and soda, Huntley, of Troop 76, Ballard Vale United Church, oversaw in excess of 20 fellow Scouts and friends as they removed thousands of feet of rusting wire fencing. The crew also completed a trail linking the new meadow to

Please see **HUNTLEY**, Page 14

## QUARTARARO: Boardwalk

Continued from Page 13

Parker State Forest where the land connects to the Skug River Reservation. The reservation is part of 1,100 acres owned and managed by the Andover Village Improvement Society.

"I wanted a project that I could run my hands over when I was done," said Quartararo. "Something that I could point to and say 'I built that.'"

He is the son of Christopher and Leslie Quartararo.

Quartararo, 18, joined Scouting in 1998 as a Wolf Cub in Pack 73, and crossed over to Andover Troop 73 out of South Church in May 2002. Throughout the years, he served as the troop's senior patrol leader, assistant patrol leader, and quartermaster.

Quartararo was honored with a letter of congratulations from US Senator Edward M. Kennedy, and a certificate from US Rep. Niki Tsongas, at his Eagle Court of Honor. Andover Town Manager Reginald "Buzz" Stapezyski also recognized him with a letter.

He is a 2009 graduate of Andover High School and will attend Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Rensselaer, N.Y., this fall where he will pursue an

engineering degree.

With help from an extended community of friends and family, Quartararo constructed a boardwalk for his project, which connected an area of the state-owned land with the AVIS reservation. The section had been characterized by beaver damming and annual flooding that made passage difficult for hikers during the spring months. Quartararo's boardwalk extended a previously constructed walkway that crosses the Skug River.

The project required months of planning and involved approvals from both the town's Conservation Commission and the state's Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Quartararo said the hurdles he cleared in completing the project made him a better leader, and his seven years of Scouting turned him into an avid outdoorsman and Scouting advocate. Through the years he participated in such troop activities as downhill skiing, backpacking, back-country canoeing and bicycling trips.

"Aside from the skills and life lessons (Scouting) teaches on the road to Eagle Scout," he said, "it's just plain fun."

This information was provided by Joyce Pellino Crane.

## ENGAGEMENT

### Erin Shepherd and Adam Finelli



Mr. and Mrs. Glenn J. Shepherd of Hamilton announce the engagement of their daughter, Erin J. Shepherd to Adam L. Finelli, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Finelli of Andover.

Ms. Shepherd graduated from Hamilton Wenham in 1998 and received a bachelor of arts degree from Wheaton College in Norton in 2002 with a double major in economics and psychology. She is employed at Capital Crossing Servicing Company LLC in Boston.

Mr. Finelli graduated from St. John's Preparatory in 1991 and received a bachelor of science degree from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 1995, majoring in marketing. He is also employed at Capital Crossing Servicing Company LLC in Boston.

The couple plan a September 2010 wedding.

## WATER: Gold medal for purity and lithia

Continued from Page 13

the product was said to cure: rheumatism, gravel, dyspepsia, acid stomach, indigestion, heart disease, Bright's disease, insomnia, nervous prostration, insanity, apoplexy, kidney disease and headache. The ad continued that as a "natural remedy it is a remarkable one."

In 1890, two doctors established a hospital in Lithia Springs, Ga., and called it the Lithia Springs Sanitarium. In an 1890 article, the resident physician there wrote that local doctors used natural lithium water

to treat alcoholism, opium addiction and compulsive behavior. The water acted as a sedative, calming nerves, preventing convulsions of the organs, and acting as a general aphrodisiac.

Soon spas, hotels and resorts were built by the springs to accommodate the people who came to partake of the water, and some still exist today. Apparently, none existed in Ballardvale, as no mention was made of that in Mr. Robinson's write-up, nor in articles about Ballardvale's history. Mr. Robinson did write that in 1912 when the U.S. Navy went on a

world cruise, the only carbonated water they used was made by Ballardvale's Lithia Spring Co. May Norris was told that the water was also sent to our soldiers on World War I battle fields to calm them.

In a pamphlet found at the Andover Historical Society entitled "The Greatest Thing in Water," W.H. Worden Jr., the general representative of Ballardvale Lithia Spring Water, writes that "in competition with French, German and other European waters at the World's Fair held in Brussels, Belgium, Ballardvale

Lithia was awarded the highest honor, a Gold Medal for purity and largest amount of lithia in water."

In 1915, the Lithia Spring Co. was sold to Liggett, the owner of the drug store chain, and in 1916 became the Ballard Vale Springs Company. The company ceased to exist in the 1920s.

I am tempted to find the old site and see if there are some bottles to be dug up, but the current residents might object!

Virginia Perry Reck is a long-time Andover resident.

## DORROS: Cleaning the water

Continued from Page 13

To help people dispose properly of hazardous materials, the town runs a collection day twice a year, according to its Web site, andoverma.gov.

Last November, leading a team of Scouts, adult leaders, and friends, Dorros spent several days affixing informational fliers to residents' front doors, and gluing 500 of the green and blue markers next to storm drains across town.

Contaminants "can kill wildlife, hurt fish, poison the water, and have a general negative effect on the ecosystem," said Dorros. "If you wouldn't put it in your drinking cup you wouldn't put it in the storm drain."

In addition to marking the drains, Dorros posted informational posters in several downtown storefront windows.

Dorros, who completed his sophomore year at Andover High School in June, said he took on the project at the suggestion of town officials. Since 2003, the town's Department of Public Works has been fulfilling federal regulations aimed at reducing pollution in waterways, said

Town Engineer Brian Moore.

"The work that Matt did installing the storm drain markers and door hangers is a required Public Involvement and Participation component of the town's plan to meet these EPA regulations," Moore wrote. "Hopefully, residents will become more aware of the actions needed to help protect the environment and prevent pollution."

Dorros joined Troop 73 in 2004 when he received the Arrow of Light, the highest rank in Cub Scouting, marking the transition to Boy Scouts. He completed the Scouts' National Youth Leadership training program in 2005, and served on staff in 2006. In 2007 he was inducted into the Order of the Arrow, the Scouts National Honor Society, and served as Troop 73's Senior Patrol Leader from 2007-08.

In July, Dorros and several Troop 73 Scouts backpacked along 81 miles of the rugged Rocky Mountain trails at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, N.M. The expedition was led by his father, Mark Dorros, an Eagle Scout and a Troop 73 Committee Member.

## MOORE: Draws people to Shawsheen River

Continued from Page 13

trails, picnic areas and a camping area to help take a formerly blighted industrial site and turn it into a natural asset for the community, said Scoutmaster Don Milligan. Since then, two other projects along the river have also been completed by Boy Scouts troops, leading to what has been referred to as the "Shawsheen River Renaissance."

Milligan, Scoutmaster of Troop 76, praised Moore's commitment to his project and the leadership skills he has developed through his scouting experience. "Steve is a wonderful example of how young boys join Boy Scouts at the age of 11 or 12 and grow through

### NESTING GROUND

While the national percent of Scouts achieving Eagle Rank is around 4 percent, more than 30 percent of Troop 76 Scouts reach this rank. In addition to Stephen Moore, Andover Scouts from Troop 76 who achieved the Eagle rank in the past year include Michael Kaluzny, Tommy Fuerst, John Wurts, Robbie King, Barrett Flynn and Max Tonks.

taking on leadership roles in the troop while experiencing camping, hiking, canoeing, and many other outdoor activities. He did a great job developing his project while working with the town Conservation Commission. Steve has matured, developed character and grown his self confidence right before

our eyes."

Moore spoke at the Boy Scouts of America Yankee Clipper Council Distinguished Citizen Award dinner this spring at the Andover Wyndham Hotel on the topic of "What Scouting Means to me." Steven Baddour, Sheila Balboni and Peter Anderson were honored by the Yankee Clipper Council with the Distinguished Citizen Award for 2009.

Boy Scout Troop 76 Ballard Vale celebrated Moore's achievement with an Eagle Court of Honor this spring at the Ballard Vale United Church in Andover. It recognized Moore's seven years in Boy Scouts, culminating in his rise to the top rank in Scouting.

## HUNTLEY: Connects walking trails

Continued from Page 13

the older section of the Keck Reservation and cleared a section of existing trail at the intersection.

Andover hikers can now extend their walks on the AVIS Goldsmith Woodlands by crossing South Main Street and entering the meadow on Gould Road and exploring the trails on the 48-acre AVIS Keck Reservation stretching over to Route 125.

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Flash forward

Book on short, short fiction shows its increasing popularity, deep roots

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
STAFF WRITER

It's a writing style that was pushed aside when television came on the entertainment scene. But now that so much of entertainment has gone handheld, it's back.

It's called flash fiction. Stories in this genre, defined as one to three pages and less than 1,000 words, can be read easily from a cell phone or small computer. The Chinese like to call these stories "Smoke-Long" as they can be read from start to finish while the reader smokes a cigarette. American writers label works as "short short stories" or "flash fiction."

As fast as you can google flash fiction, you'll learn that an editor from Andover brought together works by 25 writers for a hot new book on the genre.

Tara L. Masih, a longtime textbook editor and former English professor at Emerson College, got rave reviews from Publishers Weekly in its Web Exclusives Reviews on Aug. 17. The book reviewers there called Masih's introduction to "Field Guide to Writing Flash Fiction" (Rose Metal Press, \$15.95) "remarkably thorough," and a "smart, fun,



Tara Masih signs a copy of her book for novelist Lisa Borders at a recent event in Brookline.

provocative guide to an increasingly popular form."

Masih is herself an award-winning flash fiction writer. She is happy about the book's accolades, but says a reference librarian at Memorial Hall Library shares in them. Librarian Leslie Baskin tracked down the most obscure references for Masih's book introduction and Masih is very grateful.

"Without her, the book would have never happened," said Masih who has lived in town for 15 years.

Masih said she "felt like a detective" as she unearthed the history of the short short story.

"I was looking for a way to help (readers and writers) be educated on what flash fiction is," Masih said. "I was fascinated by its history."

Masih's research shows the short short story was popular centuries ago across the world. Italian, Asian and Indian writers kept their stories very short from the 1300s through the 1800s.

Masih dates the phrase "short short story" to Collier's Weekly in 1942. She also found an American advertisement for short short stories from 1947. It listed 10 magazines, including Atlantic Monthly and Cosmopolitan, that were looking for short shorts.

"It's a resurgence from the 1800s and 1900s," Masih said of the genre. "Now, it fits on a computer screen...it's easier to read and is getting more and more popular."

Publishers Weekly said Masih's book is "for pleasure reading but instructive enough for the classroom."

Masih said young writers will especially like this writing guide because flash fiction writing is considered less intimidating than short story writing. Flash fiction workshops for teachers and writers are becoming popular and this book aims to help them, too.

"Where to start" seems to be every writer's first question. This book answers the question - in a flash.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Andover resident Tara Masih, right, wrote a "Field Guide to Writing Flash Fiction" and credits Andover reference librarian Leslie Baskin with uncovering some interesting history of the quick-read genre.

### AUTHOR READING

**What:** "Field Guide to Writing Flash Fiction"  
**Who:** editor Tara L. Masih and flash fiction writer Sue Williams, both of Andover  
**When:** Tuesday, Sept. 22, 7 p.m.  
**Where:** Flint Memorial Library, North Reading

## Rain cancels show



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Pat Coffey, 14, of Andover practices his moves in the half-pipe at the Andover Community Skate Park. Famous skateboarders on the CIRCA team had been scheduled to skate but the heavy rains canceled the show.

## New voices welcome at Andover Choral Society

The Andover Choral Society is inviting new members to join for its 80th season.

Rehearsals will start on Monday, Sept. 21 at 7:20 to 9:30 p.m., Christ Church, 25 Central St., Andover. Past performances have included Orff's "Carmina Burana," Verdi's "Messa Da Requiem," Haydn's "The

Season," Handel's "Messiah," Mendelssohn's "Elijah," as well as works by Bach, Beethoven and other masters.

The January 2010 concert will feature J.S. Bach's "Mass in B-Minor." The Bach concert will feature soloists and orchestra with period instruments. The May 2010 concert is titled

"Songs of Love and Spirit: Choral Music of Johannes Brahms." This concert will feature special guests and the premiere of a new arrangement of the "Four Serious Songs," according to the group.

Both concerts will be conducted by Music Director Allen Combs, celebrating his 20 years

with the ensemble. The concerts are performed at the Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College.

For more information call 978-682-0196 or 978-688-6353.

The Andover Choral Society is sponsored in part by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### THURSDAY, AUG. 27

**ONE DAY WORKSHOP,** "How It Was Made," 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., explore history, physics and more. Learn about Andover's mill history and the technology that powered these mills, ages 9 to 13. \$20 members, \$25 non-members, bring lunch, includes snack; info@andover-historical.org.

**LIVE MUSIC,** veteran singer-songwriter Jon Shain, combines improvised piedmont blues with bluegrass, swing and ragtime, part of Maudsley 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. Mastercard and Visa are accepted by telephone or at the center an hour before the performance; www.maudsleyartscenter.org.

### FRIDAY, AUG. 28

**LIVE JAZZ,** Serene, an Italian American restaurant on Main Street, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m., with Sandi Bedrosian-Hyde (vocals), John Hyde (piano), Thomas Hebb (bass) & Paul Ahlstrand (sax); www.SereneRestaurant.com.

### SATURDAY, AUG. 29

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

**LIVE JAZZ,** with Rebecca Parris, called the "First Lady of Jazz," part of Maudsley 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. Mastercard and Visa are accepted by telephone or at the center an hour before the performance; www.maudsleyartscenter.org.

**LIVE MUSIC,** with Charlie Farren & Friends, 7 p.m., fireworks follow at 10 p.m., Salisbury Beach, Salisbury.

### SUNDAY, AUG. 30

**AUDITIONS,** "Scrooge," Pentucket Players, noon to 6 p.m., Pentucket Bank Community Room, 25 Merrimack St., Haverhill; www.pentucketplayers.org

### MONDAY, AUG. 31

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING,** 7 p.m., Collins Center, 80 Shawsheen Road, Andover.

### TUESDAY, SEPT. 1

**AUDITIONS,** Cantemus is seeking experienced singers in all voice parts for next season. Known for its eclectic programming, the chamber chorus will perform "Light in Winter: Season of Sun & Shadow" in December, and "The Woodland Quiet: Songs of Nature & Beauty" in May. Auditions by appointment, 6 to 10 p.m., First Church, 1 Arbor St. at Route 1A, Wenham; (617) 585-1307 to schedule audition, www.cantemus.org.

### THURSDAY, SEPT. 3

**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL,** Andover.

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 4

**LIVE COMEDY,** with Zach Galifianakis, co-star of "The Hangover," \$20 advance, \$25 door, Campus Recreation Center, UMASS Lowell East, 100 Pawtucket St., Lowell; www.umtickets.com, 978-934-5001.

### SATURDAY, SEPT. 5

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

**LIVE MUSIC,** Adam Ezra Group, 7 p.m., fireworks at 10 p.m., Salisbury Beach, Salisbury.

### MONDAY, SEPT. 7

**BREAD & ROSES FESTIVAL,** The Common, Lawrence, noon to 7 p.m., Free admission, lots of live music, puppets, dancing, historical tours, children's entertainment, food court & more; 978-794-1655, breadandroses99@hotmail.com, www.breadandroses.net.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9

**MUZZLELOADING COURSE,** Lawrence Rod and Gun Club, Webster Road, Andover, 7-9:30 p.m., Sept. 9, 11, 16 and 18; Must pre-register, 978-632-7648.

### THURSDAY, SEPT. 10

**LIVE JUGGLING,** with the flying Karamazov Brothers, to kick off 2009-2010 season, 978-632-7648.

Please see CALENDAR, Page 16

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

Continued from Page 15

Merrimack Repertory Theatre, Merrimack Street, Lowell, 7:30 p.m.; 978.654.4MRT (4678).

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 11

**OPENING RECEPTION**, for "Photograph," images by Larry Elardo of Groveland, Eva Timothy of Newburyport and Joseph Votano of Tewksbury, 5 to 7 p.m., Essex Art Center, 56 Island St., Lawrence; 978-685-2343

### SATURDAY, SEPT. 12

**DOWNTOWN MORNING COFFEE RETURNS**, 9 to 11 a.m., Andover Council on Aging sponsors, drop-in center at the front of Old Town Hall, 20 Main St., Andover. Council members will solicit donations of coffee and pastries from local businesses; members and other volunteers will serve as hosts.

**ANDOVER FARMERS MARKET**, Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St., Andover, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., 15 vendors; 978-475-2236.  
**GENTLY USED KIDS STUFF SALE**, toys, clothes, books, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Central Congregational Church, 1 Worthen St., Chelmsford, \$1 admission, under 14 free. Cash Only. Sponsored by the Nashoba Valley Mothers of Multiples, www.nashobavalley.com.org, 978-376-2939.

### SUNDAY, SEPT. 13

**ST. AUGUSTINE PARISH PICNIC**, Andover Recreation Park, Mass at 12:30 p.m., followed by a cookout, moonwalk, games and gift basket raffle. Tickets are on sale at the parish office, 35 Essex St., Andover, \$3/person, \$12/family; 978-475-0050.  
**OPEN HOUSE**, Temple Emanuel of the Merrimack Valley, 101 West Forest St., Lowell, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; www.temv.org, 978-454-1372.

**AUDITIONS FOR NUTCRACKER**, New England Civic Ballet, info regarding ages, times, and proper dress attire, www.newenglandcivicalballet.org, or call 978-975-0289 and press 4.  
**JOINT PICNIC**, St. Gregory Armenian and St. Michael's Church, 1 to 5 p.m. on Main Street in North Andover inside the town center.  
**RIDGEFEST 2009**, Rolling Ridge Retreat and Conference Center 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 660 Great Pond Road, North Andover. This is a Healing Arts Festival, sponsored by Rolling Ridge and includes a Blood Drive sponsored by the American Red Cross, a Wellness Expo, sponsored by Healthy Living Magazine, a Wellness Festival sponsored by Rolling Ridge and walking tours, free admission; 978-682-8815, www.rollingridge.org.  
**NORTH SHORE WALK-A-THON**, for Scleroderma, Proctor School, 60 Main St., Topsfield, noon, sign-in at Proctor School gym; www.scleroderma.org/chapter/newengland/2009NorthShoreWalk.htm.

## Live-eel tank slides into Newburyport wildlife refuge center

The Parker River National Wildlife Refuge is displaying a live eel tank. This tank is in the visitor center at 6 Plum Island Turnpike in Newburyport and is viewable from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
"The American eel is slimy, fascinating fish that lives an interesting life cycle," according to a release from the refuge center. "These eels begin their life thousands of miles away in the Sargasso Sea, which is in

the North Atlantic between the West Indies and the Azores. After hatching, the eel eggs float to the ocean surface and hatch into small, transparent larvae shaped like willow leaves. These larvae drift with the Gulf Stream and other currents, taking about a year to reach the Atlantic coast, and even all the way here to Parker River."  
These carnivorous creatures feed on fish, fish eggs, crabs, worms, clams, as well as dead

animals. They can absorb oxygen through their gills as well as their skin. This gives them the ability to travel short distances on land. The American eel is a special species of fish because it is what they call Catadromous. This means that they mature in fresh water and then return to the ocean to spawn.  
Joining the American eels will be a few Mummichog friends from the refuge's Stage Island impoundment.

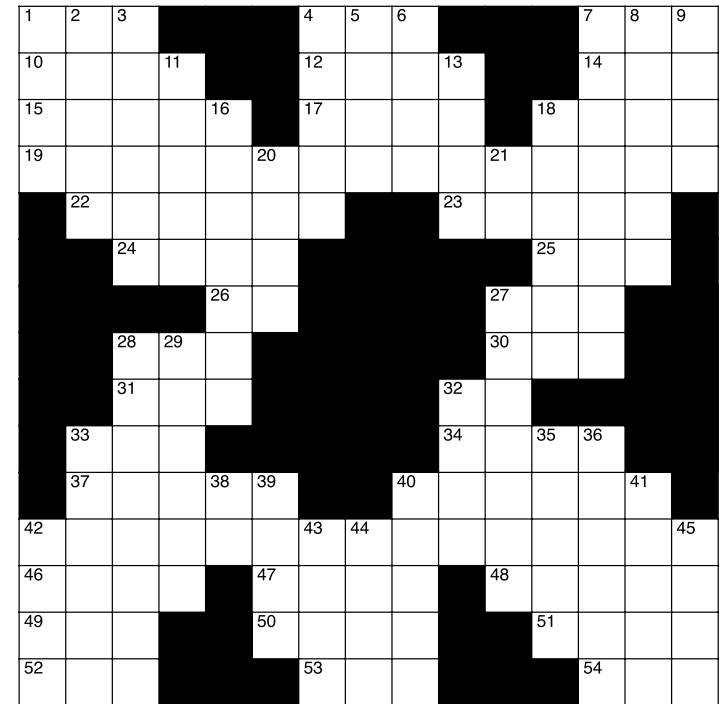
## ENTERING ANDOVER by Don Mathias



## Crossword puzzle

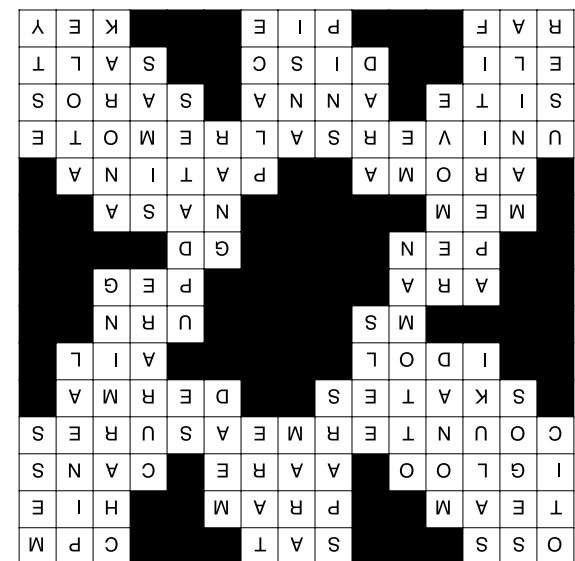
### CLUES ACROSS

- Former CIA
- Seated
- Cycles per minute
- 2 or more draft animals
- Baby carriage
- Go quickly
- Snow house
- Swiss river
- Metal containers
- Interference
- Glides on ice
- Inner layer of the skin
- Object of worship
- Feel ill
- Manuscript (abbr.)
- A tall vase
- Macaws
- A wooden pin
- Female swan
- Atomic #64
- 13th Hebrew letter
- Launched Apollo
- A pleasant odor
- Surface sheen
- Home entertainment controller
- Building plot
- Movie "\_\_\_ and the King"
- Gulf of, in the Aegean
- One of the Mannings
- Phonograph record
- Sodium chloride
- British air aces
- Sweet or savory baked pastry
- Lock opener



- Point midway between S and E
- Relays recent information
- Drink taken before a meal
- Take out
- \_\_\_ly; knotted tree
- Folder paper
- Lithuanian basketballer Jasaitis
- Parka
- Of I
- P\_\_\_ox: contradictory statement
- Topographic point
- Cornmeal mush
- Exploiter
- Clip
- Oversees U.S. standards
- Z\_\_\_: spicy

### Solution



### CLUES DOWN

- About organ of hearing
- Edible lily bulbs
- Gazelle hound
- Practice fights
- Biblical name for Syria
- Container weight deduction
- Fairy tale prince
- About a conifer
- Military food hall
- Atom with a valence of 1
- Anthropologist Margaret
- A cushioned foot stool
- Tubocurarine
- Anguilliformes

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## Auditions for Nutcracker ballet

New England Civic Ballet will hold open auditions to cast male and female roles for their annual production of the beloved holiday ballet, The Nutcracker, on Sunday, Sept. 13. The audition fee is \$10 and there is no production fee, according to the group.  
Performances will be Dec. 11 to 13 at the Rogers Center for the Performing Arts on the Merrimack College Campus in North Andover.  
For information on the time, ages and proper dress attire, visit Web site [www.newenglandcivicalballet.org](http://www.newenglandcivicalballet.org) or call 978-975-0289 and press 4. The contact person is Phyllis George.  
New England Civic Ballet studios is located at 4 Dracut St., Lawrence, which is off South Broadway.

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# Sports

## Andover's Rousmaniere teaches soccer in Africa

By DAVID WILLIS  
STAFF WRITER

For Andover's Adam Rousmaniere, life simply has a different meaning now.

"When I got home, everything seemed different," he said. "It was difficult to readapt. You look at things here and you think, how can you get upset over that? How does that bother you? Readapting to life in the United States was quite an experience."

No one should blame the Harvard senior for feeling changed.

This summer, Rousmaniere spent 10 weeks in the African country of Malawi, teaching soccer as a volunteer for Coaches across Continents.

"It was so much different than anything I had ever experienced," said the former Brooks star. "Growing up in Andover and Brooks, I had grown up in a bubble. I had not seen any of the real, deep poverty that exists in the world."

Last spring, Coaches across Continents founder and Harvard alum Nick Gates spoke to the Crimson soccer team about his program. While initially intrigued, Rousmaniere was not immediately sold.

"I thought about it for a while and did a lot of research," he said. "The more I thought about

it, the more I said, 'This is something I think I could contribute to.' I have been playing soccer my whole life, and I love to teach."

So Rousmaniere, along with Harvard women's standout Sophie Legros, signed on. But he admits it was very emotional when he arrived in Malawi, a country where an estimated 40 percent of its more than 13,900,000 population live under the poverty line.

"What is most shocking is the suffocating poverty that you see everywhere," he said. "Every day, everywhere you go, people that do not have homes sitting on the side of the streets. It was tough to deal with."

While his Crimson teammates were training in comfortable gyms, Rousmaniere began every day at 6 a.m. with his conditioning. At 7:30 a.m., he was taking local transportation then walking 45 minutes to a field where he helped teach a three-hour session for local soccer coaches.

After lunch, it was back on public transportation, and more walking, to meet up with 1,000 or more children for a three-hour soccer clinic. While it was grueling, Rousmaniere said it was worth it.

"The kids were amazing," he



Andover's Adam Rousmaniere demonstrate a move for a crowd of onlookers. Clinics he taught drew up to 1,500 children during his time in the African country of Malawi with Coaches across Continents.

COURTESY PHOTO

said. "A little more than half of them were orphans, living on the streets. Most of them get one meal a day — maybe. But 1,500 kids would show up, laughing,

smiling and jumping around. They just wanted to play soccer. That was really hard on me the first few days.

"Every time we showed up,

they were so excited. Our nickname was 'Mzungu' which means white person. They were so passionate about learning soccer, despite their disadvantages."

Rousmaniere and the rest of the Coaches across Continents volunteers found few luxuries in Malawi.

"We stayed wherever we could," he said. "I probably slept in 40 different beds. We stayed with host families, in hostels, inns and lodges. That was draining."

"I didn't mess with the food too much. Kids would walk around with sticks and impale mice on them, and they would roast them. I tried a small piece of one mouse, but it was disgusting. And all bone. I had to come back and play Division 1 soccer, so if I got sick and lost 30 pounds, it would have been really bad."

Now back in the US, Rousmaniere is set to begin his fourth season, and second as a starter, as a member of the Harvard soccer team.

"Last year I broke the starting lineup full-time (two goals, two assists)," said the third-generation Harvard student. "I am a center-mid, so I am a connector between the strikers and the back line and I am a playmaker. I think I am ready for a successful season."

And, despite the challenges of his time in Africa, Rousmaniere is thankful for the experience.

"It was fantastic," said the economics major. "So many of the kids were orphans. But all they wanted to do was play soccer. It was tough to deal with, but it was incredible to me. It was very moving."

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### Little League 10s are Baystate Champions

Andover Little League's 10-year-old team captured the Baystate Tournament of Champions title by defeating the Stoneham Spartans 14-1 in the championship game. The team compiled an 18-3 record throughout the summer, competing against teams from all over Massachusetts. Pictured are first row, from left: Cedric Gillette, Nathaniel Wiley, Jackson Quinn, Myles Bagley, EJ Perry; second row: Ben Andresen, Michael O'Connor, Sam Conte, Logan Bravo, Evan Christopoulos, Daniel Walsh, Mikey Comeau; coaches: David Walsh, Brian Wiley, Mike Bravo and Sam Conte.

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<b>High: 76°</b>	<b>Low: 50°</b>	<b>High: 71°</b> <b>Low: 53°</b>	<b>High: 75°</b> <b>Low: 59°</b>	<b>High: 76°</b> <b>Low: 62°</b>	<b>High: 76°</b> <b>Low: 55°</b>	<b>High: 73°</b> <b>Low: 56°</b>	<b>High: 78°</b> <b>Low: 57°</b>

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## TOWN TALK



Maeve Gaffney and her friend Anna Zdunczyk, both 8, recently ran a lemonade stand at the end of the Gaffneys' driveway. The girls raised \$27. "They were hoping to save the Health Program in town with the proceeds," reported mom Karen Gaffney.

### Andover-related band brings music to Paradise

After completely restructuring with three new members, the band McAlister Drive will play its first show ever at the Paradise Rock Club this weekend.

McAlister Drive describes itself as a Boston bred, indie pop band with worldly influences and a natural hatred for baseball teams from the Bronx. It was founded by former Andover High School graduate Christoph Krey, and its name comes from Tulane University's main street, where Krey attended college.

Since July, when the band added Scott Wilson (drummer),

Eric Thachuk (bassist) and Adam Richter (guitar and keyboard), it has been busy recording an album, due out this fall.

The band has performed at the Middle East Downstairs, Hard Rock Café and Bill's Bar, and will play the Paradise Rock Club, 967 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, on Saturday, Aug. 29. Doors open at 8 p.m. and McAlister Drives comes on at 11 p.m.

Also performing that night are Gold Star Morning at 9 p.m., Fire in the Field at 10 p.m. and Michael Bernier & the Uprising at midnight. Tickets are available at [www.livenation.com/artist/mcalister-drive-tickets](http://www.livenation.com/artist/mcalister-drive-tickets).

### Canvas-ing the town

Stop by Memorial Hall Library to see a little of Andover on canvas. Through the month of September, Andover natives and artists Jane Fitzgerald Bailey and Catherine Fitzgerald Meeks will have paintings on display at the Elm Square library. The series will feature Bailey's pen and ink and watercolor works, and works in pastel on paper by Meeks.

### Who's pitching?

We'll know tonight which of the Andovers is the bigger baseball town.

The minor league baseball team, The Fisher Cats based in Manchester, N.H., is promoting

a ticket sales contest between Andover and North Andover and the town buying more tickets to the game tonight, Thursday, Aug. 27, wins. The town manager of the town with the most fans throws out the first pitch.

Tim Hough, public relations representative, said Andover had a slight lead as of Wednesday morning.

It's not too late to buy a ticket: Go to [www.nhfishercats.com](http://www.nhfishercats.com) to order \$6 to \$12 tickets, fill in Andover's promotional code, "Slider," and head north. The first pitch will be thrown at 7:05 p.m. and the Fisher Cats are playing the Harrisburg Senators.

- Judy Wakefield

## did someone say PARTY?

It's one of the things we love to do at Palmers Restaurant & Tavern in Andover. Wanda Washington, the function coordinator at Palmers will help you with reserving your dining room and planning the perfect menu for the best party ever. Wanda has been helping people plan their special occasions at Palmers for the past three years and enjoys the process of working with people to ensure successful events and great memories. Many local companies enjoy the ease with which they can plan the perfect meeting and certainly know this is the place to wow their prospective clients or guests. In addition to the large Main Dining Room, Palmers has two smaller rooms which can be reserved for private gatherings- day or evening.



The cozy Cappuccino Room is on the second floor, has a full bar and a fireplace and can accommodate 35 people. The Wine Room on the first floor is perfect for 25 or under, also has a fireplace and French Doors for privacy.

Palmers provides several prix-fixe menu plans in addition to the regular menus as well as a variety of options for buffets and catering. Menus are posted on the website: [www.palmers-restaurant.com](http://www.palmers-restaurant.com) at the event page. Brochures are also available by e-mail or phone.

**SPECIAL PROMOTION: Reserve the Wine Room or Cappuccino Room at Palmers for your private gathering this year and receive a complimentary hors d'oeuvre platter!**

Choices include:

**-SHRIMP COCKTAIL - TOMATO BRUSCHETTA or- CRUDITE & DIP.**

\* This promotion applies new bookings only. Applies to parties of 20 or more which must be reserved by **OCTOBER 1st** (for events on or before 12/31/09).

\*\*Coupon and reservation form for this offer is available at [www.palmers-restaurant.com](http://www.palmers-restaurant.com).

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- III. Profiterole with Hot Fudge Sauce - Key West Lime Pie

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