

INSIDE: MERRIMACK COLLEGE HOCKEY 2009-2010 SEASON



OUR 122<sup>ND</sup> YEAR

# Andover Townsman

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75 CENTS



ROGER DARRIGRAND/Staff Photo

Gas company employees look over the site of a natural gas leak on Sweetbriar Lane in Andover Tuesday afternoon.

## Gas-line explosion forces evacuation

### Police: It sounded 'like the roar of a jet engine'

BY BETHANY BRAY AND JUDY WAKEFIELD  
STAFF WRITERS

A neighborhood was evacuated and more than 100 homes had gas service shut off Tuesday afternoon, after a natural gas explosion on Sweetbriar Lane.

Bay State Gas Company trucks got a police escort to Sweetbriar Lane so workers could shut off and repair the underground high-pressure gas main. The line ruptured around noon on Jan. 26, leaving a gaping hole six feet deep in the middle of the roadway. "It was really, really lucky that

no one was driving (over that area). It was lucky, that could have been really devastating," said Courtney Casper, who was at 5 Sweetbriar, at the home of friend Anna Vecchi, when the explosion happened. Courtney, Anna, Ben Cook and Rachel Corraera were at the Vecchi

home that morning, about to leave to take afternoon final exams at Andover High School. "It sounded like a bomb exploded, and it looked like a geyser," said Anna, an AHS junior. "We were all in shock, we had no idea what was going on. We were supposed to be studying for anatomy, but we didn't really get

Please see **EXPLOSION**, Page 2

## BEARDS FOR BUCKS



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

The bearded Andover Youth Services staff, from left, Sobhan Namvar, Jamey Greico, Tony Lombardi, Afton Cuomo, Glenn Wilson, and Bill Fahey, AYS director, would shave off their beards to raise money for youth programs during an upcoming telethon.

## Youth Services staffers will shave for telethon pledges

BY JUDY WAKEFIELD  
STAFF WRITER

When former Selectman Jerry Silverman died last July, his family asked friends and family members to forego sending flowers and instead make donations to the proposed youth center in Andover in his memory. Andover Youth Services Director Bill Fahey said about \$10,000 has been donated in Silverman's memory. "We miss him a lot," Fahey said. "He was such a strong AYS supporter." Andover Youth Services Director Bill Fahey has been growing a beard for four months. He still has his trademark ponytail. Both may soon be gone at the upcoming Andover Youth Services telethon that will raise money for youth programs and the proposed youth center in town. At the telethon, hair equals money. Fahey pledged to shave his head if

\$100,000 was raised at the last telethon in 2005. With pledges hovering around \$96,000 at the end of the night, Fahey thought he was razor-safe. He was, until Andover residents Carmen and Jeannie Scarpa pledged \$5,000. The razor came out and Andover's most popular ponytailed program director got a whole new look. Fahey was bald as he counted \$124,000 in proceeds from that telethon. It's been five years since that telethon and Fahey has doubled the ante. He said his head shaving has lots of potential when it comes to raising money. He figures residents will donate big bucks twice this year - to shave his beard and to shave his head. "I'll do anything for the kids," he said. "This department took a 22 percent cut last year and we need money to keep our programs going...that's why I do things like this." Fahey pulled in three other male AYS staffers to grow beards with him for the

**This February: New language lab for Andover High. Page 5**

telethon. Only one - Tony Lombardi - normally has a beard. Lombardi seemed a bit nervous about shaving it off. "My wife has never seen me without the beard," Lombardi said. "She will kill me." Fahey laughed as organizers talked about the telethon last week from the AYS office on Pearson Street. It's hairy and hectic as AYS has been busy recruiting talent for the seven-hour telethon on Feb. 4 and 5. Performer applications were due by last Friday, Jan. 22, and local kids will showcase all sorts of talent. Andover's version of American Idol will feature singers, bands, comedy acts, a homegrown segment of the MTV show "Cribs," a buffalo

Please see **BEARDS**, Page 5

## No contest

### With week left, no challengers for selectmen, most town offices

BY BETHANY BRAY  
STAFF WRITER

After an exciting U.S. Senate race, Andover town election in March could be a real snoozer. ■ **Republicans look at state offices. Page 2.** As of Tuesday, not one challenger had taken out papers to run for Board of Selectmen, moderator, Andover Housing Authority or the Greater Lawrence Technical High School Committee. The only contested race as of Wednesday morning was the School Committee race, where attorney Paula Colby-Clements will challenge Dick Collins and Debra Silberstein. Nomination papers are due Feb. 2 and require 50 signatures for each position. Town election

will be Tuesday, March 23. Last year, Andover saw a robust race with five candidates for two seats on the School Committee and three residents for two selectmen seats. A majority of the candidates had pulled nomination papers before the Christmas holidays. Colby-Clements, a professor at the Mass School of Law in Andover, came in fourth behind then-incumbent Art Barber, taking 11 percent of votes. "My commitment remains the same, and that's really my motivation (to run again). Having kids in the schools, I recognize that there's a lot of tough decisions that had to be made and a lot of changes that need to be made," said Colby-Clements, naming

Please see **RACE**, Page 2



ANN HERMES/Staff photo

From left, Courtney Comeau, Amit Deliwala, Catherine Haut, Nick Woods and Chris Tivnan prepare to launch their robots for Steve Cogger's eighth-grade engineering class at Doherty Middle School.

## Learning how to build a better robot

BY BETHANY BRAY  
STAFF WRITER

What do you get when you combine eighth-graders, batteries, wheels, small motors and a lot of creativity? At Doherty Middle School, that combination yields radio-controlled robots. For nine weeks eighth-graders

have engineering classes, where they are taught the mechanics of building a working robot, but also problem-solving, ingenuity and patience, said teacher Steve Cogger. Last week, two professional engineers from iRobot, the Bedford-based company that makes controlled robots. Please see **ROBOT**, Page 5

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# In Brief

## PAST & PRESENT



**THEN:** This photo of Elm Square shows the horse had not been entirely replaced by 1941, as one can be seen trotting up Main Street. The street's cobblestone surface was paved over in the summers of 1949 and 1950. Notice the parked cars along the Musgrove Building and traffic boxes where police stood to direct cars and people walking.



**NOW:** This is what Elm Square in downtown Andover looks like now.

### Tsongas: No raise for those of us in Congress

Congresswoman Niki Tsongas cosponsored legislation to prevent a scheduled pay raise for members of Congress from taking effect next calendar year, Jan. 2011. Tsongas was part of the successful effort last year to block the 2010 Congressional pay raise, which would have gone into effect Jan. 1. Because of a 1989 rule change, Congress automatically receives a pay raise unless they vote specifically to reject it. "Families across Massachusetts and our nation are facing historically difficult economic circumstances. Many have lost their jobs, homes, and retirement savings since the beginning of this crisis. The economy has also forced our cities and towns to lay-off workers and reduce essential services. This is not the time for members of Congress to receive a pay raise," said Tsongas in a release. Tsongas did not accept the Congressional pay raise in either 2008 or 2009, donating the amount to charitable organizations, according to her office.

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by Bill Buck, Broker/Owner

**GETTING FROM  
HERE TO THERE**

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HINT: Bridge loans benefit buyers by enabling them to immediately place their homes on the market without restrictions.



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Please send your questions or comments to me at:  
bbuck@stonewallre.com  
www.stonewallre.com

## QUOTE, UNQUOTE ...

“ Finally! It's been a long project, but we're happy to be able to use the steps for our annual winter concert.  
– *Doherty Middle School Principal Theresa McGuinness Darby on the reconstructed steps at the Memorial Building across from the Park. People attending the school's concert will be the first guests to use the stairs. Story, page 4.*

” We wanted to do something a little different to raise money for our youth mission trip and who wouldn't come out for chocolate on a cold winter's day?  
– *The Rev. Marie Lucca, associate pastor at West Parish Church, on Chocolate Extravaganza, an event to raise money to send youth to help on an American Indian reservation. Story in Arts, page 11.*

## NEWS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JAN. 28	TUESDAY, FEB. 2	WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3	THURSDAY, FEB. 4
<p><b>Board of Assessors</b>, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., assessors conference room, 9 a.m.</p> <p><b>Superintendent search screening committee</b>, candidate interviews, School Administration Building, School Committee room, 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Tri-board subcommittee</b>, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 8 a.m.</p> <p><b>Green Advisory Board</b>, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>School Committee</b>, School Administration Building, School Committee room, 6 p.m. executive session and regular meeting at 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Board of Assessors</b>, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., assessors conference room, 9 a.m.</p> <p><b>School Building Committee</b>, School Administration Building, School Committee room, 6:30 p.m. (8 a.m. meeting CANCELLED)</p>	<p><b>Zoning Board of Appeals</b>, monthly meeting, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7 p.m.</p>
FRIDAY, JAN. 29	SATURDAY, FEB. 6		
<p><b>Board of Registrars</b>, final count of overseas ballots, Town Clerk's office, 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Zoning Board of Appeals</b>, deliberation meeting, Memorial Hall Library, the hall, 9 a.m.</p>		

## Opportunity for youth to do something special this summer

Although it will be a few months before winter gives way to spring, high school and middle school students can get a jump on their summer plans by attending Phillips Academy's 20th annual Summer Opportunities Fair on Sunday, Feb. 7. This event is open only to Phillips Academy students from 11 a.m. to noon, and is then open to the general public from noon until 2 p.m. It will be held in the Cage on the Phillips Academy campus, which is the gymnasium building off Route 28, south of the intersection with Salem Street. Admission is free.

The fair gives students and their families a chance to meet with representatives from more than 80 local, national and international summer programs as well as gap-year programs. Among the wide range of programs at the fair are those that focus on academic enrichment, outdoor adventure, international homestay, travel, internships, community service, camps, arts and sports for middle and high school students.

One Phillips Academy student who took advantage of a summer opportunity last year was John Ingram class of 2011, of Andover, who traveled to Los Angeles to participate in a three-week filmmaking program sponsored by the School of Cinema and Performing Arts. "During the day," Ingram was quoted as saying in a release, "we had classes on filmmaking techniques, writing, learning how to use the video cameras, and editing. Although there are classes, they were fun. Each week, we wrote, shot, and edited our own movie." He also got the chance to see some of the sights in Los Angeles, Hollywood, and Pasadena, including visits to studios such as Dreamworks and Universal.

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## ROBOT: Eighth-graders engineer mechanical devices

Continued from Page 1

Roomba vacuums, visited Cogger's classroom to talk about engineering and see the eighth-grader's robots in action. Wheels and motors for the robot project were donated by iRobot.

Motors whirred as teens drove one-of-a-kind robots around the classroom floor. One robot with a hammering arm knocked down pieces of wood as another tossed a ball with a catapult.

"There is a lot of creativity," said eighth-grader Dylan King, looking around the classroom. "What people thought they could do is actually happening. That's cool to see."

Dylan and his classmate Jonathan Tetreault designed and built a robot that lowered a wooden drawbridge and then drove over it. The design process was not without its frustrations, they agreed, but they learned to focus on priorities and persevere.

"We tried to think of the most out-of-the-box design, something we thought someone could actually use," said Dylan.

"We didn't think you could really lay out a bridge with a robot. But we're eating our words now," said Jonathan.

For the project, Cogger breaks his class into teams of two, and gives each team a motor and two wheels. The assignment is to build a robot that can be driven via remote-control and does some other type of task.

From there, the sky's the limit. Teams have built robots that shovel, lift or push things. One



ANN HERMES/Staff photo

Kristen Stubbs, left, and Andrea Okerholm, right, off iRobot, talk with engineering teacher Steve Cogger about his eighth-grade robot construction project at Doherty Middle School in Andover. iRobot donated wheels and batteries for the kids to experiment with robot design and construction.

team installed an electromagnet on their robot, built from instructions they found online, said Cogger. Another installed a digital camera that shot photos as the robot drove.

After a few weeks, once students have designed a chassis and attached the motor, Cogger has them drive their robots through a slalom course. Robots that have problems maneuvering the course are tweaked or rebuilt before extra design elements are added.

"It's good to see students come up with an idea, and stick with it until it works. It's meaningful

because it's their idea," said Cogger.

Several Doherty eighth-graders will demonstrate their robots during a School Committee meeting, said Cogger.

Sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders at all three of Andover's middle schools have engineering lab for a trimester as part of their integrated arts rotation.

Partially funded by grants and donations, Andover's engineering labs teach concepts tested on the eighth-grade science MCAS test. Andover middle-schoolers take engineering in addition to other science classes.

Each eighth-grader at Doherty Middle gets a chance to build a robot in engineering classes. At West Middle School, eighth-graders build radio-controlled airplanes. Wood Hill Middle School's engineering program is in its second year, so airplanes, robots or another building project will be added to curriculum in the future.

Cogger formed a relationship with iRobot through a Cornell University alumni event, introducing himself to the company's chief engineer, a fellow Cornell alum.

From there, Cogger and Assistant Superintendent Susan Nicholson visited iRobot's STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) outreach initiative. Using Roomba parts he'd bought online, Cogger had built a prototype robot to show the company what he'd have students doing. iRobot agreed to donate parts for the project, and sends engineers every nine weeks to speak to students about the field of engineering.

Last week, Andrea Okerholm and Kristen Stubbs visited Doherty Middle eighth-graders, speaking about what it's like to work at iRobot and how they became interested in engineering.

They showed video clips of robots that climb stairs, drive through water, climb hills, over rocks and even through snow and ice. One video showed a remote-controlled robot used by the military, sent in ahead of soldiers, which shot video of a unsecured area and checked for bombs.

## High School to say 'hola' to foreign language lab

Much sooner than it expected, the Andover Coalition for Education has announced that it is ready to give Andover High School a new foreign language lab, the group's most ambitious funding project to date.

It is expected that the new lab will replace its current, antiquated counterpart during the February school vacation, according to a release from ACE. "Once language teachers have been trained, over 1,400 students will begin reaping the benefits of this state-of-the-art digital equipment," according to the group.

Andover High School students will now have the opportunity to work by themselves, with their teacher, or as a group. With the teacher at a central station, students will have more time to practice speaking the language and even engage in real-time conversations with students from around the world.

ACE plans to host a public language lab open house with Andover High School Principal Jonathan Harris, and the High School PAC sometime in early spring.

ACE was able to fund the lab through the support of Andover citizens. To encourage that support, ACE's most recent annual appeal featured a matching gift opportunity: every donor's contribution was doubled. In addition, the project was supported by a donation from the High School PAC and a significant grant from the Horne Family Foundation, it reported.

"The people of Andover continue to demonstrate that our schools are a priority, that quality education does matter, and that even in bleak economic times, we need to and can find ways to improve curriculum and to help our students prepare for the 21st century," said ACE President Tina Girdwood in a release.

According to a recent article in "Education Week" about high-tech language labs compatibility with the system's current software and teacher training on the new equipment are paramount to success.

For more information about ACE, log on to [www.aceandover.org](http://www.aceandover.org).

## Ski to fight cancer Feb. 6

Hit the slopes at Nashoba Valley Ski Area to help the Jimmy Fund in the fight against cancer.

Put on your boots and goggles. Grab your skis or snowboard. It is time to hit the slopes for the 15th annual CSC Jimmy Fund Snow Challenge. Skiers and snowboarders of all abilities are invited to Nashoba Valley Ski Area on Saturday, Feb. 6, for team and individual racing to support cancer research and care for adults and children at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute through its Jimmy Fund. The day-long event includes an outdoor barbecue lunch, après ski party and auction.

The entry fee for a four-person race team is \$240 and for individual racers, \$60. For every \$150 raised above the registration fee, one second is deducted from the final race time, so everyone has a chance to win. Skiers and

snowboarders who don't want to race have the option to buy a lift ticket with lunch for \$60 to benefit the Jimmy Fund. Registration is at the mountain the day of the event beginning at 9 a.m. Lunch starts at 11:30 a.m., racing at noon, and awards get underway at 3 p.m. There will also be a silent auction featuring some great prizes in the lodge all day.

The CSC Jimmy Fund Snow Challenge is Nashoba Valley's only charity race at the mountain. Nashoba Valley is in Westford, just 45 minutes from Boston, featuring 100 percent snowmaking and wide-open, tree-lined trails. For directions, go to [www.skinashoba.com](http://www.skinashoba.com).

For more information on the CSC Jimmy Fund Snow Challenge, visit [www.jimmyfund.org](http://www.jimmyfund.org)/snow, or call Didier Putzeys at 781-290-1447 or [jfski@csc.com](mailto:jfski@csc.com).

## BEARDS: Fundraiser for Andover youth center

Continued from Page 1

wing-eating competition and lots more.

"It's been a great response. Kids really look forward to this. They come up with the ideas," said organizer Diane Costagliola co-president of the parents' group at Andover High School.

Fahey said there's been talk of turning his department into a fee-based department like the Department of Community Services where people pay for all AYS programs. Currently, AYS only charges for some programs.

The change would save the town money, but Fahey said it simply won't work.

### RAISING THE ROOF TELETHON

- Thursday, Feb. 4, 6-9 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 5, 6-10 p.m.
- Live on local cable television
- Comcast channel 8, Verizon channel 47
- Benefits Andover Youth Services programs, proposed youth center
- More info: 978-623-8241

"Look, as kids grow up in town, the choices to do stuff outside school when they get to middle school and then high school narrow. Some come here to just

talk and hang out...What am I supposed to do, start charging (money)?" he asked.

Fahey said research shows teen trouble starts for most "when they are not connected."

"It's been proven. That's when risky behavior starts," Fahey said.

"People forget why Bill was hired in the first place," Costagliola added, referring to the public outcry following three youth suicides in one year's time. Youth Services was formed shortly thereafter, in 1994, with Fahey hired as its director.

So, if he has to be bald for the rest of the winter, Fahey will wear

lots of hats and focus on what's been accomplished during his tenure.

"There's lacrosse at the high school, which we started, wrestling now, which we also started. And the skate park. We're adding another ramp next spring," he said.

There's also the long-talked about youth center.

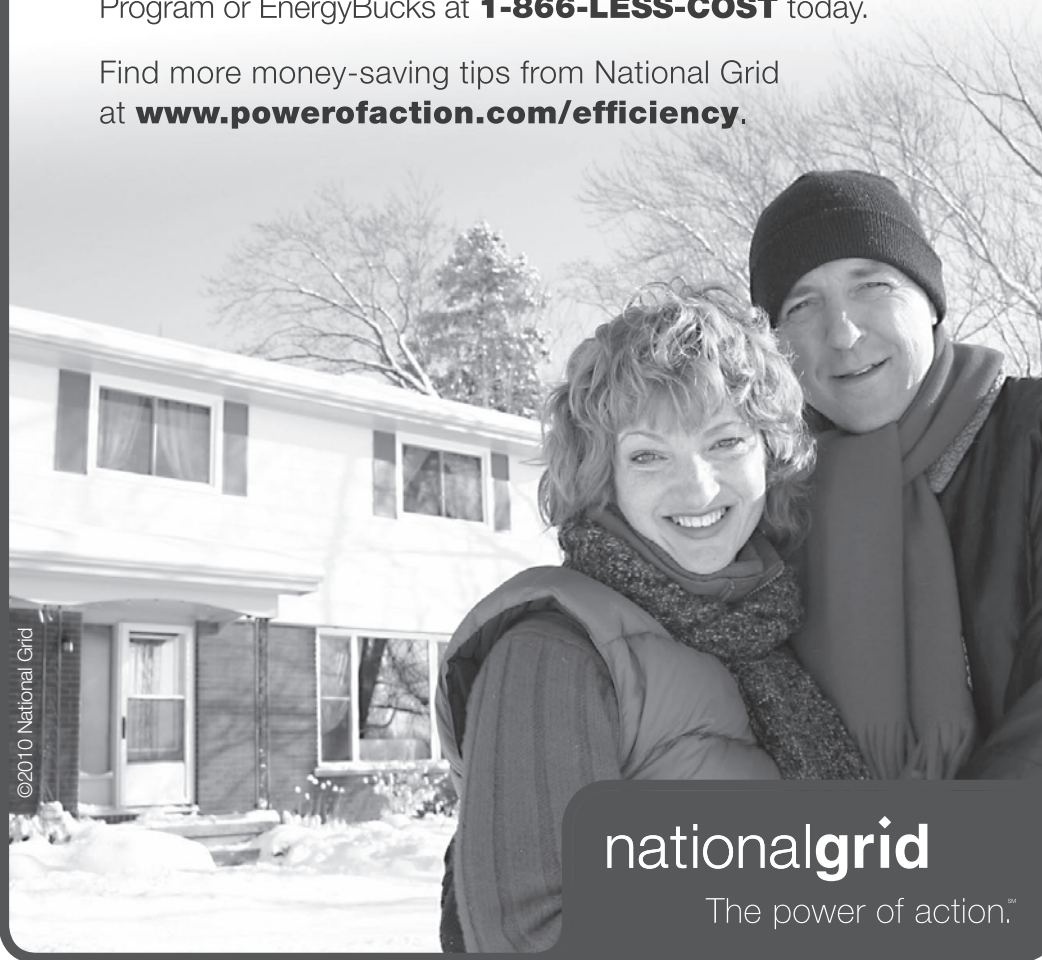
"No, it's not dead in the water," Fahey said of the center. "Telethon proceeds will also be used for that account." He said there remains over \$2 million in the Youth Center account.

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# Sports

## Mat Warrior: Chartier a star for Andover wrestling

By DAVID WILLIS  
dwillis@eagletribune.com

What most would view as tremendous pressure, Joe Chartier sees as excitement.

The Andover senior has no interest in passing the blame of a loss off on a teammate. He is not only willing to accept all of the fault, he embraces it.

"The biggest element that draws me to wrestling is that it is a sport where the outcome is solely on your shoulders," he said. "You can't put it on the rest of the team. It's just you against the opponent. That's where my hard work shows most, and at the end of the match — win or lose — I have no one to look at but myself."

That approach to the sport has served Chartier well on the mat so far this season, as he has excelled at 171 pounds for the impressive Andover High wrestling team. He has surged to a 18-4 record on the season going into this week.

"He has had a great season," said Golden Warriors head coach Sobhan Namvar. "He's very, very dedicated and is an extremely smart wrestler."

Chartier's wrestling career began the same year the Andover Youth Wrestling program opened its doors. But the then-eighth grader didn't initially click with



PAUL BILODEAU/staff photo

Andover's Joe Chartier may be all alone on the wrestling mat, but he loves the challenge. He has excelled for the Golden Warriors this season.

the sport.

"The first year was tough," he said. "I probably won one match the entire season. It's easy to like something when you're winning, but hard when you're struggling. But, over time, I learned to like it more and more. Then I started putting more time into it, and started loving it."

Chartier following the sport

into high school, wrestling for the Golden Warriors during their club year in 2006-07, going 18-0 against JV competition at 160 pounds, and the Warriors' primarily JV schedule in 2007-08, finishing 13-3 mark with all of his losses coming on the varsity level.

With Andover going to a full varsity schedule for the first time in the program's young history

last season, Chartier continued to elevate his performance. Now at 171 pounds, the then-junior finished with an impressive 20-6 mark.

"I wrestled well last year," he said. "I wanted to make the state tournament, but my only losses were to wrestlers that at least placed at States. I felt very confident I could be a serious competitor this season."

But Chartier wasn't resting on confidence. Heading into his final high school wrestling campaign, he also set out on the toughest training schedule of his life.

"I wrestled all year at Brickhouse Wrestling in Lowell," said Chartier, who also traveled to Fargo, North Dakota for a tournament.

"There weren't many people (at Brickhouse), but the level of competition was high. We had Division 1 college wrestlers working out with us. I took my lumps and had a few injuries, but the (high school) season is short, so you need to be ready right away."

Ready he was.

In Andover's first dual meet of this season, Chartier scored a victory by pin in just 52 seconds against archrival Central Catholic. One meet later he won both of his matches handily as the Golden Warriors beat Beverly and Greater Lowell for their first two victories of the season.

Chartier continued his success by placing third at the ultra-elite Lowell Holiday Tournament.

"Placing at the Lowell Holiday is a real accomplishment," said Namvar. "He was 8-1 and beat ranked guys from New Hampshire. He is so comfortable wrestling anywhere, on top or on the mat. He has built a lot on his strengths and is a dedicated wrestler, hard worker and smart kid. He can definitely wrestle in college."

With three victories at his latest meet on Sunday, Golden Warrior wins over Malden, Josiah Quincy and Minuteman, Chartier now holds a stellar 18-4 mark for this season.

While he has authored plenty of blink-or-you'll-miss-it victories by pin in his career, Chartier said he isn't always out for the rapid win.

"A quick pin is fun," he said. "I had a win against Billerica in like 10 seconds, and it pumps up the team and gives you momentum."

"But sometimes it's wins you really have to work for that you remember most. They can be more rewarding. I had a match at the Lowell Holiday Tournament that lasted the full six minutes. It was two good wrestlers battling."

Chartier plans to continued his wrestling career once high school has ended. While he has

not made a decision on college, he has been accepted to the likes of Roger Williams, the University of Rhode Island and Southern Maine, and has discussed wrestling at every school.

Wherever he does go, he will bring his impressive skills and mindset for wrestling with him.

"I don't like to think a lot ahead of time," he said. "And I'm not an angry person. I'm pretty calm. I'm not someone that has to go onto the mat mad. Wrestling is like a chess game. I look for opportunities to open up, and when they do I take them."

### WRESTLING

2008-09 season: 12-14 with non-league schedule, placed 11th in Division 1 North

Returning starters (7): Brian Martin, Sr., 160; Joe Chartier, Sr., 171; Mike Tiwali, Jr., 119; Brett Welch, Jr., 125; Tito Brito, Jr., 130/135; Caleb Lynch, Jr., 140; David Ortiz, Jr., 215/285

Returning lettermen: Andy Klempa, Sr., 285; Michael Olivieri, Sr., 119

Promising newcomers: Matt Barker, Jr., 112; Zach Johnson, Frosh., 112; James Kelly, Jr., 189; Evan Mecheras, Soph., 285; James Bourque, Frosh., 103; Rey Brito, Frosh., 135

Returning Division 1 North placers: Tito Brito

Candidates in all grades: 40  
Co-head coaches: Sobhan Namvar and Kevin Cote

## Andover dominates state relays, Cronin sets new record

BOSTON — If the state's best wasn't already aware of Andover track this season, the Golden Warriors delivered a statement in a big way over the weekend.

Behind a simply dominant performance, the Andover boys cruised to victory at the Division 1 state relays with a whopping 52 points, well ahead of second place Lowell (23) on Sunday at the Reggie Lewis Center.

The girls were nearly as good, taking second with 41 points, trailing just Newton North (50) and far ahead of third-place Lincoln-Sudbury (28).

"It was unbelievable," said Warriors coach Peter Comeau. "The boys are just amazing, and the girls were excellent too. I was especially proud of what they did."

Well known for their relay dominance, the Andover boys scored four first-place finishes. The Golden Warriors won the 4x200 relay (Christopher McConnell, Mark Vetere, Kerrick Stevens, Troy Cayon) in 1:31.84 and the 4x400 relay (Adam Vetere, M. Vetere, Stevens, Connor O'Neill) in 3:28.35.

They also cruised to victory in

the 4x800 relay (A. Vetere, Simon Voorhees, Chris Goodwin, Will Ossiff) in 8:11.04 and the 1,600 spring medley (A. Vetere, McConnell, Cayon, O'Neill).

Andrew Osborne also tied for second overall in the high jump (6-0 3/4) and Mark Vetere was second in the long jump (19-7). Both of those relays finished in third.

The girls were led by a first-place finish in the high jump relay thanks to the performances of Moira Cronin (5-8 3/4), Jess Salley (5-1) and Rosie Forster (4-11) who placed first, third and

sixth respectively.

The Golden Warriors added seconds in the 4x400 relay (Kayla Baldwin, Vanessa Singleton, Emily Shields, Eve Bishop), 4x400 relay (Sydney Eberth, Rae Bronenkant, Salley, Singleton) and 4x50 shuttle hurdles (Cronin, Emily Belluche, Jordane Smith, Forster). They also chipped in with a third in the 1,600 spring medley and a sixth in the long jump.

"This was great," said Comeau. "We can't wait for the rest of this season."

### RECORD DAY FOR CRONIN

Andover's Moira Cronin continues to reach record heights.

The Golden Warrior junior smashed her own school record in the high jump with a 5-10 as Andover cruised past Billerica 63-22 last Wednesday. Cronin had previously set the mark with a 5-9 in the spring.

For good measure, Cronin won the hurdles and ran on the winning 4x400 relay.

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### BOYS BASKETBALL

Jan. 29 Haverhill 7:30 p.m.  
Jan. 31 O'Bryant 3 p.m.  
Feb. 2 at Central Cath. 7:30 p.m.

#### GIRLS BASKETBALL

Jan. 29 at Methuen 7:30 p.m.  
Jan. 31 Central Catholic 7 p.m.  
Feb. 3 Notre Dame (Hingham) 6:30 p.m.

#### BOYS HOCKEY

Jan. 30 at Waltham 8 p.m.  
Feb. 3 Tewksbury 8 p.m.

#### GIRLS HOCKEY

Jan. 30 at Acton-Boxboro 8 p.m.  
Feb. 3 at Arlington 6 p.m.

#### BOYS GYMNASTICS

Jan. 28 Burlington 7 p.m.  
Feb. 2 Salem 7 p.m.

#### GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Jan. 28 at Dracut 7 p.m.  
Feb. 1 Chelmsford 7:30 p.m.

#### BOY TRACK

Jan 30-31 State Coaches Invitat. TBA

#### GIRLS TRACK

Jan 30-31 State Coaches Invitat. TBA

#### BOY SKIING

Feb. 1 at North Andover and Masco 3:30 p.m.  
Feb. 3 at Bishop Fenwick and Haverhill 3:30 p.m.

#### GIRLS SKIING

Jan. 28 at North Andover and Austin Prep 3:30 p.m.  
Feb. 2 at Bishop Fenwick and Haverhill 3:30 p.m.  
Feb. 4 at Masconomet 3:30 p.m.

#### SWIMMING

Jan. 29 at Chelmsford 3:30 p.m.

#### WRESTLING

Jan. 30 quad meet 10 a.m.  
Feb. 3 Cambridge 7 p.m.

WEEKLY ROUNDUP: SEE ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM

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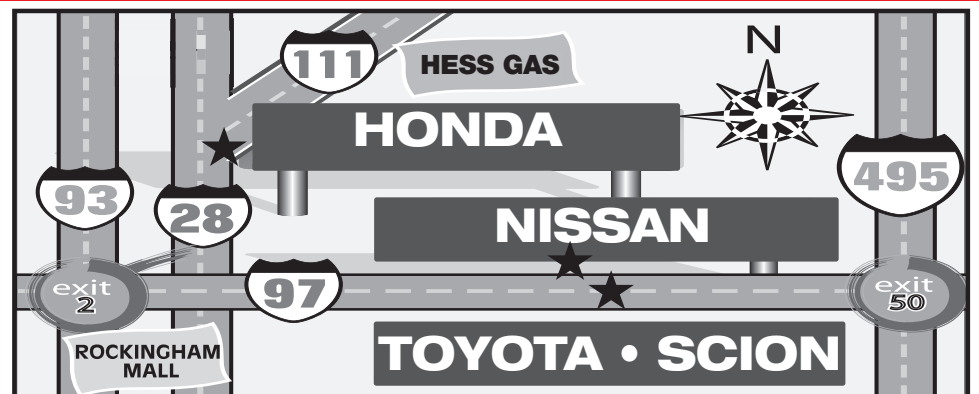
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## TOWN TALK

### Remembering Spenser author

When crime writer Robert Parker, 77, of Cambridge died last week, his connection to Andover came to mind. His book-turned-television-show "Spenser: For Hire," brought the late Hollywood actor Robert Ulrich to town.

Ulrich starred as Spenser and moved his family to Phillips Street (near Phillips Academy) because the show was filmed in Boston.

Parker himself was seen in Andover from time to time during the last few years. A few years back he was here with his wife, Joan Parker, a fan of Coco Collection clothes. While his wife shopped at Coco Collection in Olde Andover Village, he opened his sportcoat and showed a Townsman reporter that he also had a favorite clothes store in Andover. His sportcoat label was from the

Andover Shop on South Main Street.

He said the couple started out their married life living in a Chestnut Street apartment, because Robert Parker worked at Raytheon in Andover as a younger man.

— Judy Wakefield

### Tax-hike votes coming

For years, Andover has been planning to move its town yard and build a new elementary school and fire station. Now, residents are getting a better idea of the price tags and their timing. Residents will be asked to pay for each through temporary tax hikes — called debt exclusion overrides that usually raise taxes for 20 years to pay for one specific project each — within the next 15 months.

Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski said the first of these, to build

a new town yard at a cost of at least \$10 million, will come before Annual Town Meeting this spring. If approved there, residents will need to vote in favor again at a special ballot-box election shortly after Town Meeting.

Currently, the town yard is located downtown, on Lewis Street, near the police station and Andover commuter rail. The town yard is where Andover repairs many of its vehicles and stores road salt and sand.

A task force is considering whether it would be better to move the yard to 5 Campanelli Drive, near the Interstate 93 River Road exit, or 146 Dascomb Road, near the I-93 Dascomb Road exit.

— Brian Messenger

### Presidential donation

Vanity Fair is reporting this month that the cold winters and elite intellectual atmosphere of

Phillips Academy Andover were a jarring change for President George W. Bush. He flunked his first English paper and stuck with fellow southerners and Texan classmates, it says. But Bush eventually grew to appreciate Andover, becoming head cheerleader, earning the nickname "the Lip" for his sharp tongue, and coming in second for the title of "Big Man on Campus," Vanity Fair reports.

Now Bush is giving back to Andover. The magazine reports that Bush gave somewhere in the range of \$5,000 to \$9,999 to his alma mater between the years 2005 and 2009, taking the info from a PA alumni donation list. Some others gave more money, but Vanity Fair says "nothing stands out quite like a president's name tucked inconspicuously into a long list of donors."

— Judy Wakefield



The Andover Boys Squirt 1 Hockey Team traveled to Lake Placid, N.Y. this month and came home with a slew of memories. The boys not only won their hockey tournament, but went skating on the Olympic speed skating ice and went bobsledding down the Olympic bobsled run, shown above.

# COUPON QUEEN

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### Why Coupon Shoppers Love Rainy Days

Q: "In a previous column, you mentioned shopping Sunday through Wednesday, or the days the sales cycles overlap at the store. A disadvantage is the stores may be out of sale items by the last day or two, but you can get rain checks and then purchase when needed or when you get a coupon. Just this past week toothpaste was on sale for \$1.50 a tube, but my store had sold out. I had four coupons for \$3 off two tubes of toothpaste, so I got a rain check and went back to get my toothpaste once it was back in stock. With those coupons, I got 8 free tubes! That's what I call a deal."

A: Rain checks are an excellent way to ensure you'll get the products you want, even if the store has sold out. They're also a way to extend the sale for yourself, buying a little more time to come up with coupons to match to a good sale price.

**By Jill Cataldo**  
**The Coupon Queen**

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In a previous column, I discussed a promotion at my store in which dog food went on sale for \$3.99 a bag ... and there were \$3 coupons for the dog food in the newspaper inserts. Clearly, dog food for 99 cents is already a steal. But during that sale, after I purchased my bags of dog food with the coupons I had in hand, I also got a rain check for the same brand of dog food. Why?

Because in doing so, I bought myself another 30 days worth of time to purchase that dog food at \$3.99 a bag. And over the next few weeks, I got in touch with friends and family members who don't own dogs and asked if I could have their \$3 dog food coupons. About three weeks after the sale ended I went to the store, where the shelves were fully stocked, and I brought home even more 99-cent bags of dog food.

Any time I find bare shelves, I make sure to get a rain check for the items I'm looking for — but for a particularly good sale, it never hurts to get a rain check just to extend that sale a little longer for you, too. Even if you don't have anyone to trade coupons with, you might find coupons online or in upcoming newspaper inserts, weeks after the sale ended — and then you can match them to the rain check and continue to stock up on that item at a great price.

Q: "What happens to the thousands and thousands of coupons that are printed for inserts to the newspapers that never get sold? I would like to find a way to have these sent to me. I am an avid coupon person and it makes me sick to think these go to waste."

A: You're probably not going to like this answer: inserts are typically recycled along with the unsold newspapers. (The horror! I'm also appalled at the thought of so many wonderful coupons going to waste. It's not time- or cost-effective for any newspaper to go through every single unsold newspaper, pull the coupon inserts and then find a way to get them into the hands of people who might want them. And, the coupon inserts are intended to be sold as part of the newspaper, not separately. Legally, coupons cannot be sold at all. (Read the fine print on any coupon for further information on this.)

But all is not lost. Avid couponers have found creative ways to get their hands on those extra coupons. Many gas stations and convenience stores will simply give you the unsold papers the next morning, especially if they're going to throw them out anyway. Ask the staff if you can stop in each week to pick them up! I know quite a few coupon enthusiasts who have also made arrangements with their newspaper delivery person to receive their surplus of undelivered newspapers. I know a woman who leaves a shopping bag filled with free and cheap groceries on her front porch for her paper carrier each Monday morning — and the carrier, in turn, leaves her a stack of his extra papers!

In short, it never hurts to ask.

© CTW Features

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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 own couponing victories and questions to [jill@ctwfeatures.com](mailto:jill@ctwfeatures.com).

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# Townspeople

## Thrilled to be shot

Bill Dalton



"Thrilling Night For Police," said the front page headline in the Andover Townsman 90 years ago.

"Thrilling" seems an unusual word for what happened. Dictionaries say it means a sudden feeling of excitement and pleasure. Perhaps the word was different 90 years ago, meaning something fraught with violence. If "thrilling" was the word to use, then Officer David May must have been most thrilled, since he was shot.

It was a time of violence and death: a World War had just ended, and the Spanish Flu pandemic was killing 50 million people, including several in Andover. Reading the 1919 news, a person ought to conclude that violent crime was too common, even in Andover. On top of all that were the deaths and injury caused by automobile drivers, far more common than I'd thought.

But let's return to the story of the officer being shot. After dark, on Jan. 15, 1919, Raymond Buchan, on his way home from a wedding, decided to check his Main Street garage business. As he approached in his automobile, he spotted a man running away. Buchan looked at the garage door and saw that the man had sought forced entry but failed.

Buchan called the police station (located in the back of the Old Town Hall, 20 Main St.) and Officer May answered. Buchan picked up May and they drove around town looking for the unsuccessful thief. At Punchard and Bartlet streets they saw two men. One was a victim: James McKee of High Street, who had been held up at gunpoint by the man Buchan had seen running from the garage. The other was the gun holder, William Lawrence,

who lived in the home of Edward McCabe on Elm Street. However, for the last 30 days, Lawrence, age 21, had lived in jail for stealing an auto from another Andover garage. He liked autos; in his home state of Minnesota, he'd been jailed for stealing one.

Officer May arrested Lawrence and walked him to the police station; Buchan soon followed in his automobile. When he got there he heard a gunshot and saw May and Lawrence scuffling at police station door. Although May had been shot, "he had pulled out his night-stick and was using it freely," according to the Townsman.

Buchan jumped from his auto to assist May. Buchan was a brave man since he knew a gun was involved. Soon, Lawrence had his head bashed against a wheel of Buchan's car, and his head profusely bled. The fight was over.

The shot Buchan heard was the second of two. One shot had hit Officer May above his left hip. The other shot would have been killed May but it hit a brass button on his uniform, bending the button, deflecting the bullet. "Most miraculous," said the Townsman of the shooting and deflected bullet.

You might ask about the gun. No answer was provided in the news. Either Lawrence had not been disarmed of his revolver, or somehow he had regained it.

Police Chief Smith was called to the scene as was Dr. Look. The chief took Lawrence to the Lawrence City Jail, while the doctor cared for May's wound, which was serious but not disabling.

May was nursed back to health at his home on Washington Avenue. Within a month, he was healthy enough to be a witness against his shooter. Judge Webster Thayer presided at the trial. (Months later, Thayer would be locally famous for presiding over the lengthy murder trial of

Please see DALTON, Page 10

## Take a hike — in town



TIM JEAN/ Staff photo

At right, Helen Palmer, from the Appalachian Mountain Club -Andover Committee, leads a group of local residents on a snowshoe/hike in the Goldsmith Reservation Sunday afternoon. The next AMC trip in Andover is Sunday, Jan. 31 and will be a cross-country ski/snowshoe hike that meets at 10 am. at the Rafton Reservation on High Plain Road, Andover.

## Fun Fridays at Family to Family

### Group makes activities available for kids

By ERIC BRYDEN  
WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

When teacher Dianne Caraviello first visited the Memorial Circle public housing complex in Andover, she planned only to tell parents about a state education test. What has resulted is a broad program that provides fun activities for Andover youth of all economic means.

Almost eight years since its start, the Family to Family program offers children at Memorial Circle access to scouting, sports, summertime and other programs for kids at Memorial Circle. At its core, the Family to Family mission is to promote equity among youth in Andover. The neighborhood known as Memorial Circle consists of a 54-unit low income housing complex. Within the Bancroft Elementary district, the complex is surrounded by primarily affluent single family homes. Caraviello lives just one street over from Memorial Circle and is a kindergarten teacher at Bancroft Elementary.

She first strengthened her acquaintance with the neighborhood while doing a community project at New Horizons for Youth in Memorial Circle. She wanted to increase parent involvement by informing families of the MCAS testing dates, and by giving out pamphlets with test-taking hints, she said.

Her assistance to this community continued in the fall of 2002 when her son, Van, in fourth grade at the time, told her about a girl at Bancroft who stunned everyone with her basketball abilities. Caraviello arranged for the girl to join her son's YMCA basketball team. Natalie Gomez-Martinez, starting point-guard of the Andover High girl's basketball team, has been playing avidly ever since.

Since then, the Family to Family program has developed, helping all Andover youths receive similar opportunities. The YMCA Basketball League, the Andover Junior Football League, Andover Youth Soccer, and Andover Little League Baseball have all willingly waived registration fees for children who could not afford them. As a result, about five new kids participated in town sports every season. Family to Family also receives donations for athletic equipment.

Caraviello noted that Andover High boys basketball coach David Fazio is "more than happy to waive the fees so these kids can attend Hooptown." "We had the kids make signs for the AHS football team, and



PHOTOS BY ERIC BRYDEN

Andover High School sophomore Alyssa Wall (center) brought Scrabble and snacks to the table with, from left, Niziah and "Boo Boo" Taveras, Sabrina and Sarah Mackey, Nicole Maldonado, Liam Sotherland and Nimzay Vasquez.

the athletic director gave the kids free tickets to attend and cheer for Andover," she said. "Even the Merrimack Junior Theatre and the Andover Drama Guild have given us free tickets for the kids to attend their shows."

Additionally, as not every family owns a vehicle, the program organizes carpools, so that no child is unable to attend an event.

The program not only makes it possible for kids to participate in town activities, but has installed regular activities for the children living in Memorial Circle and surrounding neighborhoods. One such event is called "Fun Friday," and it takes place one Friday every month.

Jan. 15 was such a Friday and at least 20 kids varying in age from 6 to 11 piled into the Stowe Court Community room, the basement of the Andover Housing Authority. As each child entered, he or she seemed delighted to see the many friends formed through the Family to Family program. Many of them were sporting pajamas because "it was pajama day at Bancroft," said Claire Stahley. Stahley was the master chef while the kids made vanilla cupcakes, and she is an active member of Family to Family.

Among the children showing off their cooking skills was Austin Holland, 8, who attends Bancroft Elementary. Austin said

Please see FAMILY, Page 10



Family to Family creator Dianne Caraviello plays a puzzle game with youth from Memorial Circle and the surrounding neighborhood, Joshua Ramos, Rachel Souza and Sarah Mackey.



A crowd of Andover youth enjoyed a Family to Family event at the Andover Housing Authority on Jan 15.

## ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

COMPILED BY SUSAN MCKELGIGET

### 100 Years Ago Jan. 28, 1910

The scene at Pomp's Pond last week when the Andover Ice Co. began its work of cutting ice preparatory to the summer trade was a varied and attractive one and to many people no doubt would be unusual.

The Bradlee Hall was packed to the doors on Monday evening, the occasion being the first grand minstrel show of the Ballardvale Drum Corps.

The three weeks of evangelistic meetings came to an end on Sunday evening at the West Church and a very successful end it was, coming as it did after what must have been, for the evangelists, days of severe mental and physical strain.

### 75 Years Ago Jan. 25, 1935

At least one candidate has filed for each position on the ballot including Moderator, Frederick Butler; Town Clerk, George H. Winslow; Treasurer, Thaxter Eaton; Collector of Taxes, William Cheever.

The Natural History Society and the Andover Historical Society are uniting for a February meeting which will be held on Monday evening, February 4, at 8:00 o'clock at the Historical House, 97 Main St.

Andover and the whole country woke up Thursday morning to find itself buried under the heaviest blanket of snow that had been recorded in almost

forty years, a snowfall which found the most modern of snow-fighting equipment almost useless.

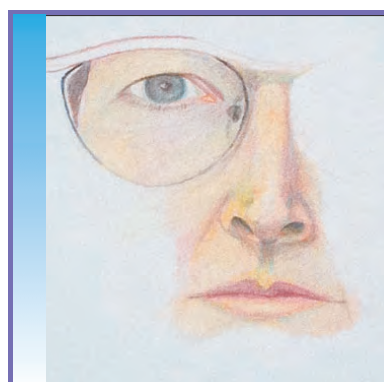
Advertisement: For 1935, the Ford V-8 (truck) gives you an entirely new development - forward load distribution. This makes possible more uniform tire and brake wear - better trade was a varied and attractive one and to many people no doubt would be unusual.

### 50 Years Ago Jan. 28, 1960

The entire Rogers Brook appropriation of some \$195,000 will be acted on again at the Town Meeting in March even though voters thought they disposed of the question over three years ago. There was an error in the method of appropriating the funds discovered by bonding counsel in Boston.

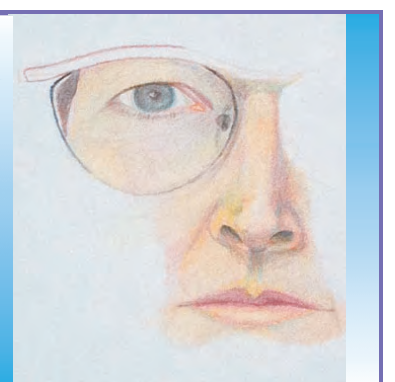
Editorial: The serious proposal by the Raytheon Co. that a Bailey Bridge be installed over the Shawsheen river at Kenilworth Street warrants close study by town officials. The company has pointed out that installation of the bridge is actually suggested as a means of solving part of the town's traffic problem.

Advertisement: Andover Value Days offer big bargains to shoppers including girls' lined corduroy slacks for \$2.19 at Sutherlands, Jumping Jack children's strap shoes for \$4.99 at Reinhold's; Wear Ever aluminum kitchen utensils for 88 cents at Hill Hardware; bath mat sets by Martex for \$4.99 at Simeone Pharmacy.



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■ JANUARY FIRST BIRTHDAYS



**Keaghan Marie Murphy**  
Keaghan Marie Murphy turned 1 on Jan. 19. She is the daughter of Dan and Beth (Everett) Murphy. Grandparents are Bob and Eleanor Everett of Andover and Diane Murphy of Springfield. Keaghan enjoys listening to music and playing with her big brother, Garrison, 2 1/2.

The Townsman typically prints first birthday messages for babies in the last issue of the month they were born. First birthday messages for babies born during February 2009 are due Friday, Feb. 19 for inclusion in the Feb. 25 Townsman.

**FAMILY: Program has no economic boundaries**

Continued from Page 9  
he could not choose a favorite Family to Family event, because he "likes them all the same."  
Archie Lopez, 10, another student at Bancroft, said that he has been going to these events for a "long time," and that he also "likes them all the same." Nimzay Vasquez, 7, also attending Bancroft said she has "made friends" through these Family to Family events. After Nimzay's move to Andover from Lawrence not long ago, the programs provided her with opportunities to feel welcomed in Andover.  
A voice declaring that the cupcakes were finished was almost drowned out by the laughter and playing of young kids. Caraviello looked around at the fun scene and smiled, saying that the Family to Family program is given such a name because it does "what families used to do for each other."  
There are more than 80

volunteers in Andover for the Family to Family program. With so many volunteers, and programs and events available, "if [kids] need anything, they have a place to ask, and people who will find a way. There will always be someone in Andover to call."  
The Family to Family program continues to grow, and Caraviello believes its goal of dissolving the economic barrier within Andover has been further realized in the past eight years. Family to Family has been sponsored by: The Andover Rotary Club, The Andona Society, The Service Club of Andover, Hooptown Basketball, Andover Soccer Association, Andover Junior Football League, Andover Youth Baseball, The Boy Scouts, St. Vincent DePaul, and many individual family donations.  
To become involved, contact Caraviello at [devaraviello@comcast.net](mailto:devaraviello@comcast.net).

**DALTON: Officer's 1919 shooter was given 10 to 12 years in prison**

Continued from Page 9  
an Andover nurse, Bessie Mae Skeels. Later, the judge became internationally famous for his role in the Sacco and Vanzetti case. Skeels was found innocent; Sacco and Vanzetti were executed.  
William (also called Wilfred) Lawrence was sentenced to 10 to 12 years in prison, not much for shooting and almost killing

a policeman. Judge Thayer ordered that the sentence be at hard labor except for one day of solitary confinement.  
Less than five years later, another Andover police officer, Robert Black, had two shots fired at him. He died.  
Bill Dalton ([billdalton@andovertownie.com](mailto:billdalton@andovertownie.com)) writes a weekly column for the Andover Townsman and enjoys receiving your comments and e-mails.



Andover Sister Towns Association members who toured the Massachusetts Statehouse were, front row, from left: Marjorie Snell, Nan James, Diane Huster, Jane Vondell, Barbara Mc Govern; and back row: Frank Hopkins, Bob James, Fred Snell and Marcia O'Donnell.

**Sister Towns group visits Statehouse**

Andover Sister Towns Association of Andover and North Andover, traveled to the Massachusetts Statehouse in Boston as the guests of Andover state Rep. Barbara A. L'Italien and her staff.  
During the visit, members had an opportunity to learn

more about the governing process and some of the bills pending before the Commonwealth. Then the ASTA group received a comprehensive tour of the House and Senate chambers, including architectural detail, artifacts, and paintings as well as their historic

significance, according to the group.  
This Statehouse visit was included among the varied monthly program activities of the ASTA organization. At this time, the group is finalizing its plans to host an official visit of a group of citizens from

Andover, England in June.  
The group reports that arrangements are being made for the English visitors to tour the Massachusetts Statehouse to better understand our constitutional process during their visit to Andover and New England.

■ SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

By KAREN PAYNE-TAYLOR  
SENIOR CENTER STAFF

**Witches Among Us in Andover:** Jan. 21, 28 and Feb. 4, 1 to 2:30 p.m.; \$15. Revealing probe into Andover's involvement in the witch hunt frenzy which swept our area (even more than Salem. Find your own property on a historic 1692 map of Andover and learn the history of the families involved.  
**Addison Gallery:** Revealed: Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9 and 16, 1:30 to 3 p.m.; \$20. First public preview of the changes ahead for re-opening of Phillips Academy's Addison Gallery. This unique series is a combination of the historic collection point of view and the museum's contemporary response, with a discussion of the influential works owned by the gallery and how the renovation will impact their presentation and preservation. Series to be held at Andover Senior Center.

**New, Beginner's Tai Chi:** Tuesdays, Jan. 12 - Mar. 9 from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m., \$32 Registration has begun for this class.  
**Soup's On:** Feb. 8, noon; \$4. Journey to the Galapagos Islands and hear first-hand about the unusual reptiles and birds that Charles Darwin documented and still remain today. Soup, dessert and drinks provided; pre-registration required.  
**Portland Museum of Art:** Wed. Feb. 10; 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., \$35. Guided tour of this extensive American & European collection, lunch and then time to revisit your favorite galleries afterward. Lunch on your own.  
**Fun and Games:** Feb. 10, 1:30 to 3 p.m., \$1 Donation. Love Scrabble? Checkers? Or just company on a cold winter's day. Bring your friends and games of choice for an afternoon of fun in our sunny Four Seasons Room. Hot cocoa, cookies and a bit of friendly competition. Call so we

can set a place at the table for you. Four-season room is available daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to enjoy games, or just a quiet spot to relax and read. Stop by.  
**Friday Forum:** "It's Not Easy Being Wheezy," Feb. 12, 9:30 a.m. Explore ways to better manage your daily pulmonary routine. Christine Dube, Respiratory Therapist/LPN Academy Manor. Free forum, pre-registration appreciated. Light refreshments.  
**Valentine's Brunch:** Feb. 14, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; advance tickets only, \$9. Fabulous Valentine's Day brunch will feature hot entrees, omelets made to order, waffles, dessert station and more. Special surprise entertainment.  
**Cuban Missile Crisis and the Bay of Pigs:** Men's Breakfast, Feb. 19, 8:30 a.m.; \$4. Visit the Cuba of yesterday, today and tomorrow. Local Spanish language teacher, Anita Adams, will give us insight through photos and her family's unique story, into the "frozen in time" unique aspects of our neighboring country Cuba. Advance registration necessary for this talk and generous breakfast.  
**Support Groups:** Pain Management, Feb. 8 at 1:30 p.m.; Parkinson's Support, Feb. 11 at 1:30 p.m.; Bereavement Support,

Feb. 25 at 1:30 p.m. Call for information.  
**Lunch Box Café:** Our deli-style café is open for lunch Monday through Friday for reasonably priced wraps, hot Panini, freshly made salads, and daily specials. All priced under \$5. Call ahead and we'll have it ready. Daily full lunch by reservation to all 60+ residents, \$2.75 suggested. Stop by for menu.  
**Free Blood Pressure Clinic:** The Andover Board of Health holds a free blood pressure and wellness clinic at the center every Wed. from 2 to 3 p.m. The clinic is open to all Andover seniors on a first come, first served basis.  
**Snow Policy:** When Andover Public Schools are closed for weather related issues, the center is also closed for all programs, lunch and meals on wheels. Call our info line at 978-623-8377 for specific classes which may be affected by weather.  
Registration will begin Feb. 15 for aerobic, strength-training, tap and yoga sessions. Groups available in wood carving, art instruction, quilting, knitting, crafting and more. All classes may be audited first time, pending available space. Call the Senior Center at 978-623-8321. Or drop by for a tour.

■ BOOMERVENTURE

By KAREN PAYNE-TAYLOR  
**Serenity Yoga:** Gentle yoga, suitable for beginners. Bring yoga mat. Wednesdays, 2:50 to 3:50 p.m., to March 24. \$60 per 11-week session.  
**Energize with Exercise:** Great basic exercise designed for 40-plus bodies! Work out hard without going to the gym. High results with low impact, floor aerobics, weight training and stretching. Mondays, 3:25 to 4:25 p.m. to March 22, \$55 for 10-week session.  
**Boomer Bridge:** Calling all bridge players. Each week play duplicate hands that enhance your bridge skills. Great handouts & analysis

weekly. This is not an introductory course but is appropriate for beginners and more experienced players. ACBL accredited bridge instructor Terry Kay Bargar. Mondays, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., to March 22, Drop in fee \$25 per day.  
**Beginner's Tai Chi:** Call for information. Program is in Old Town Hall, started Jan. 12 at 1:15 p.m.  
Boomers are invited to join any senior class one week before class begins, pending space. Drop by and see what's happening.  
Pre-registration required. Call 978-623-8321 for information or visit [www.boomerventure.com](http://www.boomerventure.com) to download registration form.

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Calories for a cause Church uses sinful treats to help reservation

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
STAFF WRITER

A local church group has set out to make the world a sweeter place.

It will use a buffet overflowing with Boston cream pie, eclairs, brownies, chocolate donuts, candies, whoopie pies and fudge to bring relief to one of the poorest areas of the United States.

The upcoming Chocolate Extravaganza at West Parish

### CHOCOLATE EXTRAVAGANZA!

**When:** Sunday, Jan. 31, 2 to 4:30 p.m.  
**Where:** West Parish Church, 129 Reservation Road (just off Route 133), Andover  
**What:** Buffet of chocolate treats, chocolate fountain  
**Cost:** \$8 advance, \$10 door, free for children under 4  
**More info:** 978-475-3528  
**Reason:** Proceeds benefit West Parish Youth mission trip to Pine Ridge Native American Reservation in South Dakota.

Church in Andover is a fund-raiser sure to stimulate your

"We wanted to do something a little different to raise money for our youth mission trip and who wouldn't come out for chocolate on a cold winter's day?" asked Rev. Marie J. Lucca, associate pastor at West Parish.

There should be no guilt with this chocolate splurge, Lucca said because the delicious desserts and all their calories are for a good cause.

Please see **CHOCOLATE**, Page 12



Courtesy photo

Youth involved with West Parish Church hope to sell chocolate to pay for their mission. They are, from left: Joanna Fischer, Ford Fischer, Geena Denny, Morgan Muggia, Grace Leslie, Amy Lowe, Michaela Olson, Joanna Olson and Samantha Vano.

## Hike up Weir Hill by moonlight this Saturday

Experience nature under the stars with a moonlight hike, with the opportunity for snowshoeing, at Weir Hill on Saturday, Jan. 30, weather permitting. The hike is sponsored by the Trustees of Reservations and will take place from 8 to 9:30 p.m. It begins at the entrance to the Weir Hill reservation on Stevens Street in North Andover. More directions are available at the Trustees Web site, [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org).

The Trustees of Reservations describe Weir Hill as a special place. "It's the striking vistas of both scenic Lake Cochichewick and of the broader landscape of the Merrimack Valley that will charge your imagination. Whether you prefer to wander the property's eastern border along the lake shoreline or ascend to an overlook for a westward panorama, Weir Hill Reservation will replenish body and soul," the group says in a

release.

On the North Shore, The Trustees of Reservations own and manage some 20 reservations in Essex County including Castle Hill, Crane Beach, Stevens-Coolidge Place, Ward Reservation and Weir Hill. Encompassing 5,794 acres, its properties contain natural, historic and cultural resources and offer woodlands and hilltops, coastlines, great estates, historic houses and gardens.

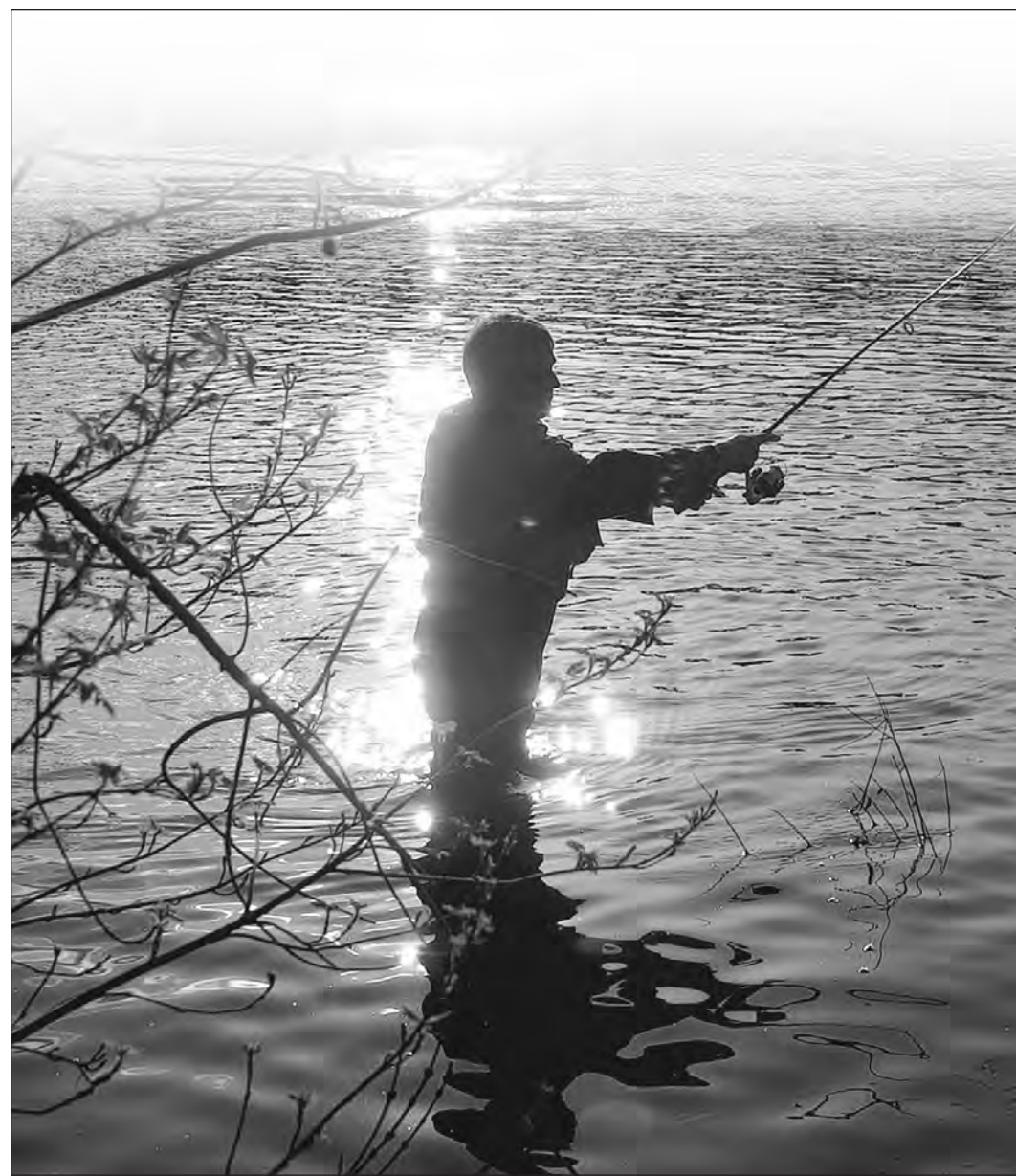
For the Jan. 30 hike, Yaktrax or ice cleats and warm clothing are recommended.

The hike will take place with or without snow on the ground.

All children under 16 free; TTOR adult members are free, non-members the cost is \$5.

For more information, call the Trustees of Reservations at 978-682-3580 Ext. 1, or e-mail [cward@ttor.org](mailto:cward@ttor.org).

## February Tuesdays spawn Fish On! at library



Local anglers can learn from fishing experts at the annual February series called Fish On! at Memorial Hall Library.

Memorial Hall Library and the Friends of the Library will kick off their 11th annual month-long series of fishing programs in February. Fish On! Andover 2010 runs on Tuesday evenings, Feb. 2, 9, 16 and 23. The programs begin at 7 p.m. and are free and open to the public.

Each week features fishing movies at 6 p.m., door prizes, and a room filled with free fishing catalogs, magazines, and maps. Fish On! Tuesdays will feature presentations by the following fishing experts:

### Crane Beach Estuaries & Ocean Top Water Fishing: Feb. 2, 7 p.m.

Brian O'Connor will share how and when to fish Crane Beach estuaries and ocean front with a spinning reel and top water plugs. O'Connor, who has fished Crane Beach for 14 years, will cover the fishery, the fish, and the angling techniques for fishing all summer long at Crane's.

At the beginning of the program, Capt. Chuck Casella will speak about the new required Saltwater Fishing License in Massachusetts. Casella is a past president of the Massachusetts Striped Bass Association, the state's oldest and largest saltwater fishing club. He sits on various advisory panels for the New England Fisheries Management Council, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistical Program. He is also member of the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Commission.

### Stellwagen Tuna & More: Feb. 9, 7 p.m.

Capt. Bart Waldo will share his experiences fishing bluefins on Stellwagen Bank, including a description of the gear that worked (and didn't) and the fight to catch bluefin tuna ranging from 225 to 998 pounds.

Please see **FISH ON**, Page 12

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### THURSDAY, JAN. 28

**BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOUR**, 1:30 to 4 p.m., Northeast Document Conservation Center, which preserves paper-based materials for libraries, archives, museums and other collections-holding institutions, free to Essex Heritage Explorer subscribers, \$15 non-members, 100 Brickstone Square, Andover; reservations required, 978-740-0444 or [explorers@essexheritage.org](mailto:explorers@essexheritage.org), [www.HeritageExplorers.org](http://www.HeritageExplorers.org).

**CHAMPAGNE TOAST**, with Don Tardiff, 3 p.m., Atria Marland Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover; 978-475-4225, ext. 110.

**LIVE MUSIC**, The Marshall Tucker Band, 8 p.m., \$40, Tupelo Music Hall, 4 Oceanfront North on Salisbury Beach, Salisbury.

### FRIDAY, JAN. 29

**COCKTAIL HOUR**, with Ginny Cahill, 2:30 p.m., Atria Marland Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover; 978-475-4225, ext. 110.

### SATURDAY, JAN. 30

**FLAMENCO DANCE PROJECT**, 8 p.m., Mission Oak Grill, 26 Green St., Newburyport, \$25; [www.drinkwaterproductions.com](http://www.drinkwaterproductions.com).

**LIVE MUSIC**, with Abi Tapia, 8 p.m., \$14, \$12 seniors and students, The Ivy Chord Coffee House, Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading, 239 Woburn St., Reading; <http://www.uureading.org>.

[org/ivychord.htm](http://www.ivychord.htm), 781-944-0494.

**MOONLIGHT HIKE**, snowshoe weather permitting, Weir Hill, 8-9:30 p.m., begins at the entrance on Stevens Street. Yaktrax or ice cleats and warm clothing recommended, under 16 free, \$5 adults; [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org), 978-682-3580 Ext. 1, [cward@ttor.org](mailto:cward@ttor.org).

**GALLERY SLIDE TALKS: ART MEETS SCIENCE**, Brush Gallery & Artists Studios, 256 Market St., Lowell, 2-4 p.m.

### SUNDAY, JAN. 31

**AVIS RAFTON X-COUNTRY SKI/HIKE**, 10 a.m., park on High Plain Road near leaf composting area, beginners welcome, no pets, rain cancels; Burt Batcheller, 978-475-3665; David Dargie, 978-996-4475.

**LIVE MUSIC**, with guitarist Brian Corcoran, 3:15 p.m., Atria Marland Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover; 978-475-4225, ext. 110.

**SONGFEST**, opens the 2010 Jean C. Wilson Music Series, 4 p.m., Unitarian Church, 26 Pleasant St., Newburyport. This first of three concerts in the series will feature soprano Jayne West, clarinetist Thomas Hill, and pianist Randall.

**CHOCOLATE EXTRAVAGANZA**, 2-4:30 p.m., West Parish Church, 129 Reservation Road (Route 133), Andover. Buffet of Delicious chocolate treats including cakes, pies, cookies, Candies and a chocolate fountain, \$8 advance, \$10 door, children under 4 - free; 978-475-3528 (Proceeds for West Parish Youth Mission Trip

Please see **CALENDAR**, Page 12

### ALSO AT THE LIBRARY

Other February events at Memorial Hall Library include:

- "In Love" concert on Sunday, Feb. 14 at 2 p.m. Enjoy a Valentine's Day concert featuring Andover singer-songwriter Camille Breeze. This performance will include love songs written over the last 75 years exploring the themes of love, loss and hope. From her roots in a cappella and musical theater, Breeze emerged on the Boston-area music scene as a frank storyteller who uses song to explore timeless emotions. She has been called the "sultress of song" and

- "a local treasure." Several fellow musicians including Steve Rapson and David Jackson will join her in this performance. Camille's CD, "In Love" will be available for sale and signing.
- "A Celebration of American Musical Theatre" concert on Sunday, Feb. 21 at 2 p.m. Journey through "A Celebration of American Musical Theatre" with solos, duets, and trios performed by Susan Bishov, pianist; Diane Hagelstein, soprano; Lynne Johnson, alto; and Paul Johnson, tenor. Their repertoire includes musical show and operetta ranging from Gershwin through Simon.

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# Education

## BOOK REVIEW

### Epic poem an essential read

By MARI MIYACHI  
WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

'THE ILIAD'  
BY HOMER

While a number of books remain popular from decade to decade, there are far fewer that stand the test of time beyond a century. Such pieces of literature – Shakespeare's plays and sonnets come to mind – are true classics, whose value is immeasurable.

The book in question today is the fabled epic poem, the Iliad by Homer. According to lore, the warrior Alexander the Great slept with an annotated copy of the Iliad under his pillow, further sealing the book's nearly 3,000-year legacy.

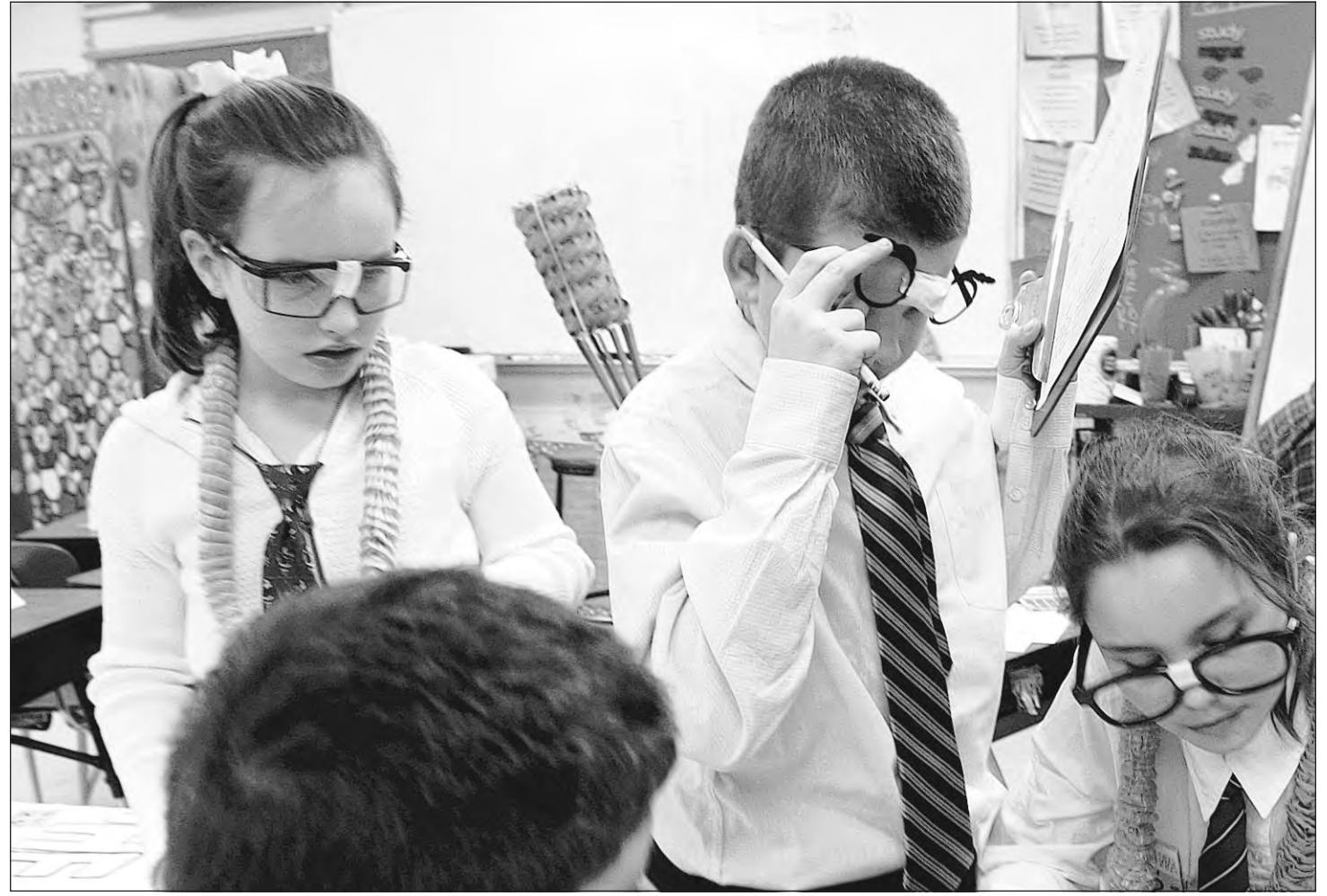
The Iliad is an ageless story, much of which is so ingrained in Western culture that the tales will sound immediately familiar. Not quite as well circulated as its brother, the Odyssey, the Iliad is undoubtedly made of the same quality and thought. Yet each subplot of the Iliad maintains the same sense of humor, suspense, or poignancy even after the words are reread and the pages frayed with wear. The story of the Trojan War, and of the beautiful Helen of Troy who began the entire ordeal, is made real through images

and lyrical words, especially in Robert Fagles' translation.

More than a currency of entertainment value, the Iliad makes complex statements on the relationship between men and women, the nature of war, and the fate of mankind. The delicate interaction between Hector and his wife, as he prepares for battle, reveals both the tenderness of a father and the bittersweet destiny of Trojan men. The familiar rise and fall of Ajax, one of the greatest warriors of all time, acquaints the reader with the meddling of the Gods and oftentimes-futile nature of fate.

I would give the Iliad a 10 out of 10. The beauty of this book lies in its versatility: a younger reader could break the Iliad into parts, reading isolated sections at a time, while an older reader could take on the whole poem at once. For all, this is an essential book.

The writer is an Andover resident and Phillips Academy high school student who writes reviews for young adults.



ANGIE BEAULIEU/staff photos

The Geeky Graphs team members, from left, Catherine Cox, Charlie Ziegenbein and Jenna Manning, all 11, work on math problems during a schoolwide "Survivor" game at the Sanborn Elementary School Friday morning.

## Added to math: Survivor challenges

### Parents cook up reality-TV-themed offering

By BETHANY BRAY  
STAFF WRITER

Math lessons at Sanborn Elementary School went a little wild on Jan. 22. The entire school participated in "Math Survivor," a math challenge fashioned after the TV reality show "Survivor."

Classrooms in kindergarten through fifth grade broke into "tribes," as contestants on the show do, to complete Survivor-themed math problems and challenges last Friday morning. In between math problems, tribes could try a surprise bug-eating challenge – like true contestants scrounging for food in remote locales – but the bugs at Sanborn were gummy worms.

Each tribe came up with a name and designed a tribal flag, which students brought to schoolwide "tribal council" ceremonies to begin and end the game. Sanborn staff got into the excitement, wearing tropical attire for the day.

In the end, every classroom received a prize, picking an extra recess, an ice-cream party or a movie with popcorn.

"The enthusiasm was phenomenal. The kids were so excited to work on math, and work together with their classmates on math challenges. There was a great energy," said Principal Patricia Barrett. "One of the things we always strive for is working collaboratively. When you're looking at the jobs these kids will have, the skill they'll need, besides academics, is to work collaboratively."



Sanborn School second-graders from left, Madison Ros, Abby Maines, Sarah Park, Will Granger and Maddie Kessel all chew on gummy bugs candy for a "bug eating challenge" during a schoolwide "Survivor" game.

Math Survivor was the brainchild of two Sanborn mothers, Mina Patel and Jodi MacDonald, who enlisted the help of 55 parent volunteers to run the event.

"The true moral and story behind Math Survivor is that math is fun and you can achieve a lot together with teamwork," said Patel. "Kids learn more when they're engaged ... They're learning and they're not even realizing it."

Math Survivor makes the subject fun, agreed Barrett, while fostering creativity,

team building and good sportsmanship.

MacDonald is an engineer and Patel has a background in finance. The woman organized Sanborn Elementary's first Math Survivor challenge three years ago, as a way to prepare students for the MCAS but also meet a void they saw in curriculum enrichment.

Schools have science fairs and art shows, but never events centered around math, said Patel.

"We wanted to put an emphasis on math, and make it not such a frightening thought.

We wanted to bring in something that made math fun and more approachable," said Patel.

As the idea got rolling, teams of parents and teachers created age-specific math challenges for each classroom. Finding parent volunteers was not a problem, said Patel.

"We at Sanborn are a really strong and tight community," she said. "Parents are eager to help out."

Barrett agreed, noting that some moms and dads took a day off from work to help with Math Survivor.

## Learn about aid for community college

Northern Essex Community College will host a free financial aid program open to all college-bound students and their parents on Sunday, Jan. 31, at 2 p.m., in the atrium of the John R. Dimitry Building, 45 Franklin St., Lawrence.

The event, part of Massachusetts College Goal Sunday, will provide information on college financial aid availability and on-site help in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. For more information, including a list of the financial information needed to complete the form, visit [www.MassCollegeGoalSunday.org](http://www.MassCollegeGoalSunday.org) or

call 877-CGSMAS.

College Goal Sunday is a non-profit program that provides free information and assistance to Massachusetts families applying for financial assistance for higher education. In 2009, the Merrimack Valley Massachusetts College Goal Sunday served 26 sites and reached over 2,000 families.

For additional information on NECC's financial aid day, call Yohanka Rodriguez, M. Ed., enrollment/academic advisor at NECC, at 978-556-3716 or e-mail her at [yrodriguez@necc.mass.edu](mailto:yrodriguez@necc.mass.edu).

## Curious about Shawsheen School? Parent teas planned

People can learn about Shawsheen School at Prospective Kindergarten Parent Teas on Thursday, Feb. 4 at 6:30 p.m. or Friday, Feb. 5, at 9:30 a.m. Shawsheen School is a kindergarten through grade 2 choice school

that accepts students from all Andover districts.

Those who plan on attending a tea are asked to RSVP by calling 978-623-8856 or e-mailing [mkpoe@aps1.net](mailto:mkpoe@aps1.net).

## Turning on WAHS Radio still a good idea

### Ken Seifert



It was 1973 or '74. Al Greenberg, chairman of the Finance Committee, and I had just finished our monthly review of the school budget. We both had something in common. He attended a Boys Club in New York City. I attended the Babcock Boys Club of Buffalo.

I told him we had a radio station that was piped into the three floors of the clubhouse. It was run completely by the boys. Al said he was an avid ham radio operator.

Within minutes we had formulated an idea: Station WAHS.

He could obtain the radio license and Mr. Wormwood, the principal of the high school, and I could

construct a general plan. I called Mr. Wormwood and he said, sounds good to me!

Al and I estimated it would cost \$5,000 for the license and equipment. We had the space and the labor. I always had a category in the budget, New Initiatives.

It was the early '70s and the economy was not doing well. The tone

of the town was essential services, just balance the budget and nothing new. Al and I showed the trade-offs for the proposal. WAHS never made it to Town Meeting. In my judgment there were a few basic reasons for this. I did not sell the idea as well as I should have. There was not sufficient time to involve the community, faculty and students to gain

their support. I should have waited until the next year's Town Meeting and followed the steps I knew should have been done. I should have followed through on the idea, but I did not.

Andover High School still could have its own radio station WAHS.

Please see SEIFERT, Page 14

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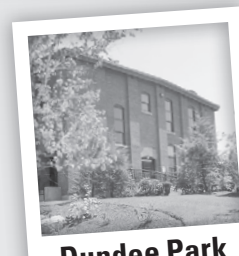
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# Obituaries

## Tina M. Vitale, 38



**ANDOVER** — Mrs. Tina M. (Coufas) Vitale, 38, loving wife of John A. Vitale, died Sunday, Jan. 24, 2010 in the Brigham & Women's Hos-

pital in Boston following a courageous battle with stage-four breast cancer.

Born in Lynn, she was the daughter of Nick and Jean (Vemis) Coufas of North Andover. Tina was raised and educated in North Andover and earned her bachelor's degree from Merrimack College, Class of 1994. Tina had been employed as a design center consultant for the Ashwood Development Companies in Hudson, N.H.

A resident of Andover, she was a member of the Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Andover. Tina was a loving wife, a caring and nurturing mother who lived for her

children, a daughter, sister and friend who will be missed by all who knew her.

In addition to her husband and parents, she is survived by her two sons, Jason and Zachary; her brother, Nicholas G. Coufas and his wife Melissa of Bradford. She is also survived by several brothers and sisters-in-law, aunts and uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews, and the countless friends she touched throughout her life.

**ARRANGEMENTS: Family and friends may call on Thursday, Jan. 28, 2010 from 2 to 4 and 6 to 9 p.m. at the Cataudella Funeral Home, 126 Pleasant Valley St., Methuen. Her funeral service will be held on Friday, Jan. 29 at 11 a.m. at St. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 71 Chandler Road, Andover. Burial will follow in the West Parish Cemetery, Andover. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in Tina's memory to St. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. For directions and condolences, please visit our website and online guestbook at [www.cataudellaFH.com](http://www.cataudellaFH.com).**

## Gina E. Guidoboni, 53

**DENMARK, Maine** — Gina Elizabeth Guidoboni, 53, died suddenly Monday, Jan. 11 at Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston.

Born in Middleboro, Mass. on Nov. 13, 1956 she was the daughter of Donald and Mary (Eldridge) Guidoboni. She had lived in Denmark with her beloved partner, Edward Toomey for 25 years, who predeceased her by three days. They are survived by their loving daughter, Mary Florence.

Gina had recently graduated with an associate degree in Applied Science from Central Maine Community College. She also had training in nursing that allowed her to care for Eddy at home over the last year throughout his courageous struggle with cancer. Gina was a loving and kind person who accepted people from all walks of life. She was an avid swimmer, reader, and loved walking outdoors especially with her daughter. After graduating from Middleboro High School in 1974, Gina attended Lock Haven State College in Pennsylvania. She worked in Middleboro for several years before moving to Bridgton, Maine in 1983. In

Bridgton, she worked at the Sebago Shoe Factory for many years before attending nursing school. Gina loved Maine for its natural beauty, and was a nature and animal lover all of her life. Gina had spent time in the past as a volunteer at the Harvest Hills Animal Shelter in Fryeburg. Gina was a lifetime member of The Soule Homestead in Middleboro. She loved the farm and cherished her time there when she was in the area visiting her parents.

Survivors include her daughter, Mary Toomey of Denmark; her parents, Donald and Mary Guidoboni of Plymouth; her brother, Donald Guidoboni and his wife, Jo, of Andover; her sister, Lisa Guidoboni and her husband Tom Adie, also of Andover; and her sister, Mila Galloni and her husband Ray of Littleton. Gina was also survived by nine nieces and nephews.

**ARRANGEMENTS: A memorial and graveside service will be held in Maine in the spring. In lieu of flowers, people may contribute to: The Mary Toomey Education Fund at: Andover Federal Credit Union, 19-C Lupine Road, Andover, MA 01810.**

## Agnes Gallagher, 94

**ANDOVER** — Agnes Gallagher, 94, of Andover, died Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010 at her home.

Agnes was born in Glasgow, Scotland and had lived in Andover for over 80 years. She was a graduate Phi Beta Kappa of Tufts University and Simmons College.

For many years, Agnes worked as a librarian at Harvard University and as a librarian with the United States Air

Force. Her family members include her two nephews, Owen Gallagher and Alan Gallagher.

**ARRANGEMENTS: There are no calling hours. Services will be private and interment will be in West Parish Cemetery, Andover. Arrangements are by The Charles Dewhirst Andover Funeral Home, 33 Pearson St., Andover. To send an online condolence please visit [www.dewhirstfuneral.com](http://www.dewhirstfuneral.com).**

### SUPPORT GROUPS

#### Coping with Loss

A bereavement support group will be held at the Dracut Council of Aging, Mammoth Road, Dracut on the second and fourth Wednesday each month from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The group is free and open to the public. All interested individuals must register. Call Lu Bonanno at 978-372-4211 for additional information and to register.

#### Chronic disease

Chronic disease self-management is for anyone living with an ongoing medical condition such as arthritis, asthma, cancer, chronic back pain, chronic fatigue syndrome, diabetes, fibromyalgia, heart disease, high blood pressure, lupus, Parkinson's disease or stroke. Sponsored by Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley and Lowell General Hospital. Meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 1 to 2 p.m. in Hanchett Auditorium. Call 978-937-6038.

#### Diabetes

Diabetes support group meetings: third Wednesday of the month, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Mary Breen 603-898-5023.

#### Down syndrome

"Celebrating Our Special Gifts," a Down syndrome LGH Support Group provides support and education for the parents of children with Down syndrome. Parents encourage and strengthen each other, sharing experiences, knowledge and understanding, to enrich the lives of their children so they may reach their fullest potential. Meets the third Monday of each month, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Clark Auditorium at Lowell General Hospital. Parents and children of all ages are welcome. Call group leader Linda at 978-459-6854.

#### HIV/AIDS

AIDS Action of Andover Mothers Group, for mothers and other family members of people who are HIV positive or have AIDS, twice monthly; 978-470-2626.

#### Lyme disease

Lyme disease support group, offering information and support, second Tuesday of every month, 7 to 9 p.m., Heritage at Danvers, 9 Summer St., Danvers; Kay Lyon 978-468-6336; [www.lymesite.com](http://www.lymesite.com).

#### Mental health

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI), Greater Lawrence, meets every third Thursday of the month, 7 to 9 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 57 Peters St., North Andover; 978-475-0875.

Emotions Anonymous support group meetings: Saturday, 10 a.m., First Congregational Church, 25 Woburn St., Reading. Call Dottie at 978-851-7655.

#### Multiple sclerosis

There are three support groups for multiple sclerosis in the area: Dracut — TW'S Pub, 10 a.m., second Wednesday of month, call Lori at 978-441-0515 or Carolyn at 978-459-7531; Atkinson, N.H., at Atkinson Community Center, 10 a.m., third Wednesday of month, call Helen at 603-382-1222; and Methuen at Nevins Nursing Facility, 10 a.m., fourth Monday of month, call Marcia at 978-474-0075.

#### Food Addicts in Recovery

Weekly meetings for anyone suffering from food addiction, food obsession, over-eating, obesity, bulimia and under-eating. Meetings are free. There are no weigh-ins; Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m., Lawrence Elks Club, 652 Andover St. in Lawrence.

#### Pacemakers

Pacemaker-Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator Support Group is a support group for Pacemaker and ICD recipients, their families and friends in the greater Lowell area. Sponsored by the Lowell General Hospital with the help of device manufacturers, the group offers a forum for education and network for support. Meets the second

### RELIGION

#### MV Chapter of Hadassah hosts new members meeting

Merrimack Valley Chapter of Hadassah new member coffee: Meet some chapter representatives and learn about Hadassah at a new member coffee to be held on Wednesday Feb. 24 at 10 a.m. at Panera Bread in North Andover. For more information or to RSVP send an email to [HadassahMV@gmail.com](mailto:HadassahMV@gmail.com).

Thursday evening every other month at Lowell General Hospital at no cost to participants. To register or for more information, call 978-937-6326

#### New mothers

LGH New Mothers Support Group is a drop-in support group for new mothers. Provides a place to come with questions and concerns or to meet other new mothers. Meets in the Lowell Room every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon. Free and registration is not necessary. LGH registered nurses and lactation consultants lead this group. Call Doreen Gallant or Laurie Sanz at 978-937-6334.

#### Advocates

Self-advocates are forming a new group in the Greater Andover area. It is an opportunity for people with cognitive disabilities to learn about empowerment, learn about rights, meet new people and get involved in the self-advocacy movement. This movement educates people about working together to make choices that enrich their lives. The meeting will be held Tuesdays at the North Andover/Andover YMCA on Haverhill Street from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The meeting is open to people with disabilities as well as their supporters. Contact Barbara Pandolfi, program manager, The Arc of Greater Haverhill-Newburyport, Formerly The Arc of Northern Essex County, Inc., 57 Wingate St., Suite 301, Haverhill, call 978-373-0552, fax 978-373-0552 or e-mail Barbara.Pandolfi@TheArcofGHN.org.

#### Coalition for the Preservation of Fatherhood

The Merrimack Valley chapter meets at the Senior Citizens Center, 10 Welcome St. in Haverhill, on second and fourth Tuesdays each month, 7 p.m.; Alan Finger 978-372-2648.

## Brooms and stones won't break your bones

Throwing stones on frozen lakes, rivers or ponds led to a wonderful winter sport that will be played in Vancouver in just a few days.

Curling started in Scotland in the early 1500s.

Early curling stones were formed by nature. Each stone was unique. The rocks would curl or curve as they slid down the ice. The name "curling" was given to the game.

British troops brought the sport to North America during the Revolutionary War in the 1700s.

Curling is a non-contact sport. It requires sportsmanship, teamwork, skill, and endurance.

The match is played on an indoor ice surface called a "sheet." It is about 150 feet long and 16 feet 5 inches wide. At each end of the sheet is a 12-foot bull's eye target. The target is called the "house." The center of the target is called the "tee" or "button."

The polished granite curling stone weights between 38 to 44 pounds. A handle is bolted to the stone.

Two teams of four players take turns sliding the stone toward the button, which is lo-



ated 126 feet from where the shooter starts.

The shooter pushes off from a foothold that provides traction, called a "hack," at the end of the sheet. The shooter releases the stone with a twist of the wrist, allowing the stone to curl.

As the stone slides along the ice, the other three team members sweep the ice with brooms. This sweeping causes the stone to speed up or change directions. The captain of the team is called "skip." The skip shouts out sweeping instructions.

The team tries to position its stones so that the other team can't knock the stones



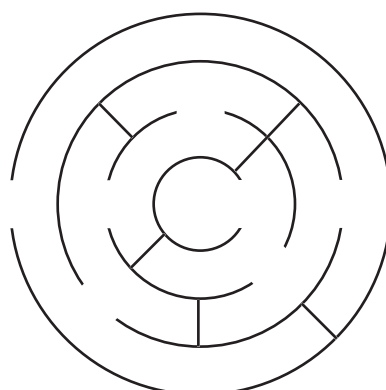
out of the house.

Players must read the ice and know what will happen as the stone slides down the ice.

Each round is called an "end." Each team member shoots twice in the end, so there are 16 shots.

The score for that end is figured after all stones are shot. The team with the stone closest to the button gets one point for each of its stones that is closer than the opponent's closest stone. A stone must be in the house to score.

A match consists of 8 to 10 ends. The team with the most points wins the game.



#### Maze

Find your way through the maze to the button in the center.



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<b>High: 36°</b>	<b>Low: 16°</b>	<b>High: 24°</b> <b>Low: 7°</b>	<b>High: 24°</b> <b>Low: 11°</b>	<b>High: 27°</b> <b>Low: 14°</b>	<b>High: 32°</b> <b>Low: 16°</b>	<b>High: 33°</b> <b>Low: 20°</b>	<b>High: 35°</b> <b>Low: 25°</b>

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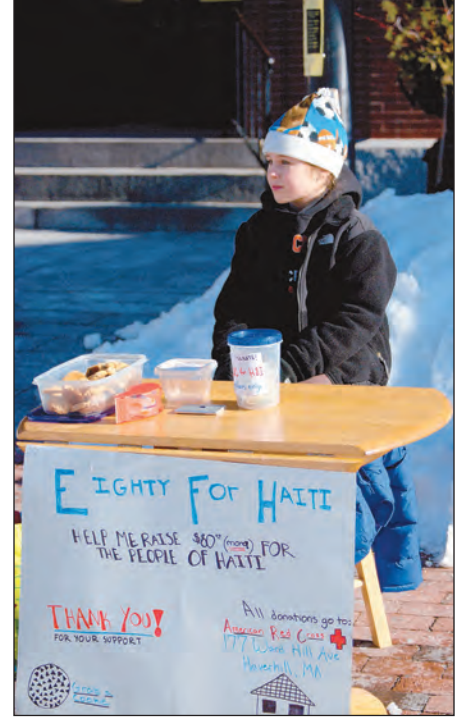
### Pajamas for Haiti

Students and staff at Sanborn Elementary School wore pajamas to school on Wednesday, Jan. 27. Not because they were sleepy or lazy, but to be active in helping Haiti earthquake relief efforts. Every youngster who wore PJs donated \$2 to the Red Cross.

The "Help Haiti Have Hope" fundraiser was the brainchild of a group of Sanborn Elementary fifth-graders, said Nancy DiSalvo, Sanborn learning specialist. The group set up a meeting with Principal Patty Barrett, showing her a power point presentation on their cause and ideas to raise money for Haiti earthquake victims.

The children have also organized a concession stand for the Sanborn play this weekend.

— Bethany Bray



Charlotte Reeves raised more than her goal by setting up a table downtown.

### Eighty for Haiti

Charlotte Reeves, a West Elementary fifth-grader, raised \$405.31 for the Red Cross' Haiti earthquake relief, collecting donations for three hours in front of Old Town Hall on Main Street Saturday, Jan. 23.

"She wanted to do something for the people of Haiti and came up with the idea of an 'Eighty for Haiti' campaign with the goal of raising \$80 for Haiti. With permission from the town, Charlotte set up a table in front of the Town Hall on Saturday," wrote her mother, Lindsey Reeves, in an e-mail to the Townsman.

— Bethany Bray

### NOTE TO READERS

Town Talk will be moving from this page as of next week. Additional Town Talks can be found on Page 8 this week.

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