

INSIDE: ANDOVER FUND FOR EDUCATION'S HONEY OF AN EVENT, PAGE 11

OUR 122ND YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 33

APRIL 15, 2010

75 CENTS



TOWN TALK

Decision tonight on schools' No. 2 leader

Andover students should know by tonight whether they will have both a new schools superintendent and assistant superintendent next school year.

Andover Assistant Superintendent Susan Nicholson is a finalist for the North Reading superintendency, and the School Committee there is expected to announce its decision tonight, Thursday, April 15. North Reading will choose between Nicholson and Kathleen Willis, the assistant superintendent of the Triton Regional School District.

The salary was advertised between \$150,000 and \$165,000 with a July 1 start date. Nicholson's base salary in Andover this year is about \$135,406, according to the Human Resources Department.

Nicholson was one of four finalists to become the Andover superintendent. The Andover School Committee hired former Andover assistant superintendent Marinel McGrath, who will start on July 1.

Neighbors fear hunting in backyard

At least 27 residents of the Sawyers Lane and Pipers Glen neighborhood have signed a petition seeking to prohibit the Conservation Commission from developing a town lot that could connect the area with Harold Parker State Forest. Among several concerns is "trespass by hunters and armed persons" interested in animals living in Harold Parker.

Conservation Director Bob Douglas said he was "more than a little bit surprised" to receive a copy of the petition because the Conservation Commission has met with residents of the area.

Having any kind of weapon on town property is unlawful, said Douglas. Hundreds of dollars have been spent on "no hunting" signs for the Harold Parker State Forest area, he said.

"We don't want hunting on conservation land, and frankly its unlawful to hunt on conservation land," said Douglas.

70 days of summer

Barring any freak snowstorms (or flood or wind events), this year's last day of school will be Tuesday, June 22. Andover used just two "snow days," one of which was really a flood day.

The School Committee and superintendent have set students' first day of school next school year for Sept. 1, 2010. This means teachers will report back to school in August, which was agreed to by the Andover Education Association teachers union this month.

-Bethany Bray

Mid-June opening

Construction of Andover's next restaurant, Bin28, is moving along on the first floor of the Musgrove Building in Elm Square. Alison Morello, who is opening the wine bar and tapas restaurant with her chef husband Matthew, said they seek a mid-June opening.

Please see TOWN TALK, Page 4



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Jason Mandelbaum, 18, from the Andover Robotics Club, watches his team's robot perform during the Botfest/Botball robotics competition at UMass Lowell on Saturday. The team received the top award for online documentation, as well as winning the Alliance Challenge with Innovation Academy.

Lease income from new town yard

Would offset part of \$21.9 million cost to buy, retrofit

BY BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Town leaders see the purchase of 146 Dascomb Road for a new town yard as a win-win-win situation.

The town yard could be moved from the small lot and deteriorating buildings of Lewis Street. A portion of the 274,400 square foot warehouse on Dascomb Road could be leased, earning the

town revenue to help pay off the debt of buying the property. And moving the yard would free up its three acres of prime downtown real estate, opening it up to development and giving "an injection and infusion of new energy to downtown," according to Paul Matarazzo, director of community development and planning.

But it would cost taxpayers \$21.9 million to buy the property and retrofit it to serve as a town yard.

Town yard is a facility with a garage to repair town vehicles, gas pumps to fuel town vehicles, piles of sand and salt for winter roads and room for some town vehicles to be parked at night. Selectmen have recommended

approval for buying the 24-acre property and Brockway-Smith warehouse at 146 Dascomb Road with a debt exclusion override of Proposition 2 1/2. The project would need to be approved at Town Meeting on April 29, and then again during a special,

Please see INCOME, Page 2

Media center elite



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Lisa Smith, center, and her son Haywood Schwartz, 7, have their photo taken by Luke Terry, right, who was dressed as Charlie Chaplin and taking "Paparazzi" photo souvenirs on a red carpet at "Memorial Hollywood" night at Memorial Hall Library, Andover, on Saturday, April 10. For more photos see Arts, page 6.

Better forecast for AYS summer program

BY BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

A man who planned to ask Town Meeting to add up to \$50,000 to the Andover Youth Services seasonal budget may withdraw his article because

selectmen have added back some of the money cut last year.

Will English has penned a private warrant article asking Town Meeting voters to appropriate up to \$50,000 to the Andover Youth Services seasonal staff account, replenishing a fund slashed by

budget cuts between 2009 and 2010. The AYS seasonal budget decreased from \$45,303 to \$1,362 between fiscal years 2009 and '10, and was expected to stay at the lower figure for next year, FY '11.

The money is used to hire high school and college students as AYS staff, run

the skate park and fund summer programs and trips.

For several weeks this winter, Andover youth and young adults who have benefitted from the program

Please see YOUTH, Page 2

TOWN MEETING PREVIEW

Selectmen only say 'no' to turning streetlights back on; back all else

BY BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

There are more than 50 articles on the 2010 Town Meeting warrant, and selectmen so far recommend disapproval of just one: Chester Darling's private article to turn all the street lights back on.

As of April 13, selectmen had taken positions on all but 10 articles on the 56-item warrant. Big-ticket items the board has yet to recommend include the FY2011 budget, which remains unbalanced this week, as well as a more than \$1 million capital projects list of maintenance and improvement projects.

The Finance Committee has recommended disapproval of Darling's \$55,650

request and disapproval of a \$400,000 article to purchase 3 Blanchard St., a 1.04 acre property next door to land on which the town plans to build ball fields. Buying the 3 Blanchard St. property would improve the access and parking at the proposed playing fields, according to supporters.

Overall, the selectmen and Finance Committee are recommending approval of 10 articles with at least six-figure price tags so far. The list includes a \$225,000 ambulance and improvements to water and sewer mains and town and school buildings (see box, page 2).

Darling, a retired civil rights litigator, said he's not surprised town boards are against his plan to illuminate 626 street

lights shut off by an August selectmen vote. The 626 lights, roughly one-third the street lights in town, were determined to be unnecessary for safety by the Andover police and went black as a cost-savings measure.

Darling had lights shut off in front of and behind his Mayflower Road home, and says his neighborhood is now "pitch black" after sundown. The reduced visibility creates a danger to public safety, a hazardous situation for motorists, pedestrians and school children and an increased opportunity for crime, he says. The litigator also believes the decision opens the town up to liability.

Please see SELECTMEN, Page 2

INDEX

Arts & Entertainment	6
Business	15
Classified/Real Estate	18
Crossword	7
Editorial	9
Education	13
Letters	9
Obituaries	8
Police Log	4
Sports	16
Townspeople	11



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YOUTH: Finding funding

Continued from Page 1

posted online comments and wrote letters to show support for the AYS summer program.

Since then, Selectman Brian Major said the board has asked Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski to find \$30,000 for the AYS seasonal budget, replacing some of the money cut between 2009 and 2010.

English could withdraw the article on the floor of Town Meeting, if the AYS portion of the FY2011 operating budget has been increased and approved, he said.

"We'll only withdraw it on the floor of Town Meeting, if the town manager restores the AYS seasonal budget. Right now it's restored in the recommended budget," said English this week. "The selectmen put pressure on

"We'll only withdraw it on the floor of Town Meeting, if the town manager restores the AYS seasonal budget."

Will English

the town manager, and he has recommended funding AYS at the appropriate level."

English said he is going ahead with his warrant article, written on behalf of the Andover Youth Council, "until the budget is approved."

Neither the Finance Committee or selectmen have taken a position on Article 35, as they expect it to be withdrawn.

INCOME: Yard move presents possibility of redevelopment

Continued from Page 1

secret ballot election. The warrant lists a purchase price of \$26 million, but Joe Piantedosi, plant and facilities department director, says the amount will be amended to \$21.9 million on the floor of Town Meeting.

The average single-family tax bill will see an average increase of \$124.37 over 20 years from the debt exclusion, said Piantedosi. He says money earned from leasing about half of the building, and from selling the current town yard would be targeted to reduce this annual cost, and to pay for a second phase of the project.

The phrase "once in a lifetime opportunity" was mentioned several times at the April 12 selectmen meeting.

"There are not many towns that are built out like Andover is, and have the opportunity to redevelop a core downtown area," said Selectman Alex Vispoli.

"This opportunity isn't going to sit and wait," agreed Granli Drive resident Bonnie Zahorik.

Brockway-Smith, a distributor of doors, windows and millwork products, closed its warehouse and shop operations more than a year ago, leaving only office staff at its Andover facility near Interstate 93.

Second \$3.9 million cost

This week, Piantedosi and Materazzo revealed a plan to relocate the town yard in two phases. The first, if approved by Town Meeting later this month, would purchase, renovate and retrofit 146 Dascomb Road for \$21.9 million.

Once ready, town departments currently housed at town yard on Lewis Street - water and sewer,

TOWN YARD 101

Residents have several opportunities to hear about the town yard project before voting at Town Meeting:

- Thursday, April 15, 7 to 9 p.m.: open forum and "community conversation" on moving the Town Yard, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room

- A 40-minute presentation on the project will air on Andover community access cable featuring Paul Materazzo, director of planning, and Joe Piantedosi, director of plant and facilities. Andover Townsman Editor Neil Fater posed questions to the officials. An online link to the video can be found at www.andoverma.gov.

- Further history and details are at www.andoverma.gov/planning/townyard/.

highway, vehicle maintenance, forestry and the fuel depot - would relocate to Dascomb Road.

Brockway-Smith has expressed interest in leasing 27,300 square feet of office space back from the town once the purchase is complete. The company is also in negotiations with a tenant to lease 109,000 square feet of warehouse space, which the town would lease to in addition to Brockway-Smith, said Piantedosi. The town would not reveal the company because of the ongoing negotiations, but officials believe that information could be available at Town Meeting.

At a cost of \$3,850,000, phase two would relocate to Dascomb Road the parks and grounds department housed at the Spring Grove Cemetery; the building, mechanical, electrical and plumbing divisions; the plant and facilities supply inventory, and its department offices. Also, archives housed at Town Offices could move to Dascomb

Road. This additional \$3.8 million would need to be approved at a future Town Meeting, although Piantedosi believes this money would be raised by leasing space in the building.

In the five-year lease, tenants would pay their own utilities, maintenance and cleaning costs, said Piantedosi.

Sale of the Lewis Street property, estimated at between \$2.5 million and \$3 million, would also bring in that revenue and potential property taxes of \$811,000 per year.

"It's the kind of opportunity we can't afford to pass up," said Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski on April 13. "This is a tremendous opportunity for the town, the kind that comes up very, very infrequently, especially having the (lease) income."

New property's benefits

The Dascomb Road property is located in an industrial zone district, near exit 42 of Interstate 93 and the Tewksbury line. It is within two miles of the geographical center of Andover, said Piantedosi.

Past attempts at moving some or all of town yard in 2000, 2004, 2007, 2008 and 2009 gained little traction because the intended destination was always in a residential area, and abutters complained, he said.

In addition to the lease revenue, Selectman Brian Major said he was in favor of the town yard relocation because vehicles would have easy access to I-93, and wouldn't have to drive through town roads as often.

"For many, many reasons, this is an exciting prospect," said Major.

Town yard was built in 1965 with temporary structures, meant to last 10 years. It is one-third of the size of what is recommended for

facility to serve a town the size of Andover, said Materazzo.

"It's basically a larger version of a lawn shed," said Piantedosi.

By contrast, the new facility would serve the town's needs for at least 50 years.

Because vehicles and fueling facilities have been housed at the Lewis Street property for so many years, there are restrictions on how it can be used. The town has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars removing underground fuel tanks and contaminated soil, but the site could not be used for a playground, for instance.

The site has "background levels" of petroleum distillates in the soil, said Piantedosi, and it may need to be capped before any construction takes place, whether by the town or a future owner. The town might be eligible for a grant to clean the brownfield site, say officials.

Redeveloping the downtown

Town Meeting voters will also vote on a "smart growth overlay district" plan for development of the town yard site this month.

The plan, which includes a the commuter rail train station in a 24-acre triangle, opens the space to business, office space, condominiums, a parking garage and other projects.

"(With the smart growth plan), the town is essentially in the driver's seat, developing a master plan," said Materazzo. "We want an organic looking downtown. We don't want a mini-Disney downtown ... This is writing the rules of the game, to benefit the community."

Additional parking for the Andover commuter rail stop is expected to be part of any plan.

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Advertising copy must be in the Townsman office by Monday at 5 p.m.
Camera-ready advertising copy is due by Tuesday at noon.
No cancellations honored after these deadlines.

SELECTMEN: Articles to be decided at Town Meeting

Continued from Page 1

"This isn't right. To put the lights back on, this is one-tenth of 1 percent of the budget," said Darling. "There are some people that are really concerned. It's an annoyance to me. Besides the liability feature of it, it's wrong. The streets are dark."

If approved by Town Meeting voters, Darling's Article 16 would transfer up to \$55,650 from free cash to the town's street light expenditure account and "take every affirmative act to ensure that the restoration of the street lights shall be permanent." The \$55,650 sum includes \$15,650 to turn the lights back on and \$40,000 to replenish the budget for the continuing operating expenses.

Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski noted Andover does have "municipal immunity" - which makes it difficult for people to sue

A list of the 2010 Town Meeting warrant articles, with cost estimates, recommended for approval by selectmen and, in most cases, Finance Committee members:

Article 15: \$54,000 for paving of Pomeroy and Foster's Pond Roads, two private ways. The town would front the initial cost, and the project would be repaid, divided evenly among the neighborhood's 37 landowners.

Article 17: \$12,000 for the Jerry Silverman Fireworks on the 4th of July

Article 18: \$78,128.02 for insurance recovery transfer

Article 21: \$258,120 for the Other Post Employment Benefit Trust Fund (transfer from free cash or available funds)

Article 22: \$12,000 for an elderly/disabled transportation subsidy program

Article 28: \$26 million (to be amended to \$21.9 million on the floor of Town Meeting) for

towns for an injury believed to be caused by officials' decisions. "It could be streetlights, could be

MEETING WITH APPROVAL

the purchase and renovation of 146 Dascomb Road as the site of a new town yard, to be funded by a debt exemption override (see story, page 1). The Finance Committee has not yet voted on this article.

Article 30: \$225,000 for a fire rescue ambulance

Article 31: \$500,000 for water main construction and renovation

Article 32: \$500,000 for sewer main construction and reconstruction

Article 33: \$1 million to replace the granular activated carbon in the filter beds at the water treatment plant

Article 34: \$250,000 to replace or repair HVAC (ventilation) equipment at the water treatment plant

Article 40: \$252,000 to purchase Department of Public Works vehicles

Article 41: \$2,525,000 for school building

maintenance and renovation

Article 42: \$465,000 for town building maintenance and renovation

Article 46: \$225,000 for a Lincoln Street sewer extension. Although neighboring streets have sewer, eight houses at the end of Lincoln Street were left off the sewer line and built with septic systems when the neighborhood was built more than 80 years ago. Two-thirds of the project would be paid by the eight Lincoln Street homeowners, either up front or through betterments over a maximum of 20 years.

Article 50: \$60,000 to install and repair parking meters and "pay and display" units

Article 51: \$75,000 transfer from the Wood Park Memorial Trust Fund (not tax money) for additional repairs and improvements to Wood Park at the corner of Routes 133 and 28

a stop sign or malfunctioning traffic signal," said Stapczynski. "People can sue anyone for anything, but

whether or not it sticks is another matter. The case law on street lights just isn't that extensive."

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National Health Care Decisions Day - April 16

On Friday, April 16, National Health Care Decisions Day, I urge you to take time to have a thoughtful conversation with family members and loved ones about your end-of-life healthcare decisions, and to complete an advance directive. By having these conversations and documenting your wishes in an advance directive, your health care decisions will be carried out by health care professionals and your personal wishes will be honored.

No one likes to think or talk about death, but making end-of-life decisions before they are needed can help you be prepared for any emergency. By completing an advance directive, you can provide valuable guidance to loved ones, family members and health care providers so that your wishes will be honored in the event you cannot speak for yourself.

Massachusetts recognizes two main forms of advance directives:

- A "Massachusetts Health Care Proxy" is a simple, legal document that allows you to appoint someone you know and trust to make decisions on your behalf if you cannot speak for yourself
- Five Wishes is a "living will," a legal document that instructs your family and your health care providers about your personal, emotional and spiritual needs and your medical wishes at the end of life

It is important to ask yourself: Who will speak for me and respect my health care choices if I am unable to do so? You owe it to yourself to think about and plan for a life threatening illness or end-of-life care. You can fill out an advance directive without hiring a lawyer. It is easy to do and it is free.

You can find more information on advance directives at www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org.
If you would like a free copy of the Massachusetts Health Care Proxy or Five Wishes, please contact Merrimack Valley Hospice at 978-552-4611.
www.MerrimackValleyHospice.org

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In Brief

PAST & PRESENT



THEN: A horse drawn buggy trots up Main Street in 1941 with a cobblestone surface that was paved over in the summer of 1949 and 1950. The cars are parked along the side of the Musgrove building, and a traffic box where police stood to direct cars and people sits in the middle of the square.



NOW: Of course, today's Main Street, looking north toward Elm Square, features traffic lights and paved roads.

QUOTE, UNQUOTE ...



It sure did help the winter go by fast.
— Andover resident Boston Neary on the cable show "There Is Something About Andover" creating a special show about volunteers. Story in Arts, page 6.

I tell people about manufacturing and they ask where I do that. I have to tell them, 'No, no, it's happening right here in the basement.'
— Mark Spencer, best known as a photographer by many, on his new business Water Analytics, which manufactures water quality analysis equipment in his School Street building by the railroad tracks. Story in Business, page 15



NEWS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

Board of Assessors, Town Offices, Bartlet Street, assessors conference room, 9 a.m.
Housing Authority, 100 Morton St., 7 p.m.
Town Yard community/informational meeting, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., third-floor conference room, 7 p.m.
School Committee, School Administration Building, School Committee Room, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

Bancroft Elementary School Improvement Council, Bancroft Media Center, Bancroft Road, 8 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

Finance Committee Subcommittee, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor

conference room, 5:30 p.m.
Disability Commission, Memorial Hall Library activity room, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 26

Housing Trust Fund Board of Trustees, Memorial Hall Library, the hall, 7 p.m.
Cultural Council, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., second-floor conference room, 7:30 p.m.

FEMA help for those affected by floods

If the recent March flooding did more damage to your personal or business property than your insurance will cover, or if you had no insurance at all, don't panic, you may be eligible for a variety of state and

federal disaster aid programs. By registering with FEMA, applicants with insurance preserve the option to talk to FEMA about possible assistance if coverage shortfalls occur when claims are settled.

To keep your potential state-federal assistance options open, recovery specialists recommend a simple action plan: If you have insurance call your insurance provider to start the claim process;

Call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). Those with speech or hearing impairment may call TTY 800-462-7585 to apply from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily until further notice.

Hike Conservation Commission's possible purchase

The Andover Conservation Commission, in cooperation with the Foster's Pond Improvement Association, will be sponsoring a hike along the shore of Foster's Pond Saturday April 25 at 1 p.m. Participatns will hike through

town conservation land abutting the AVIS Goldsmith reservation; representatives of the Conservation Commission will be showcasing two pieces of adjoining lakefront property proposed in a Town Meeting warrant article

for purchase. The hike will include the proposed acquisition, the existing town conservation land, and part of the AVIS reservation. Parking will be available on Wil-

lard Circle trail entrance at 1 p.m. and last about two hours. Follow the signs to the parking area. The hike is classified as easy. For further information call 978-623-8314.

Kelley to speak at St. Augustine's

The Adult Education Ministry of St Augustine Parish is pleased to welcome an outstanding professor and author, Joseph T. Kelley. The topic is based in part on his book Saint Augustine of Hippo: Selections from Confessions and Other Essential Writings (SkyLight Path Publishing, 2010). Attendees will learn about the new pattern for the spiritual life that Augustine developed in confessions, that is, of reflecting on our life experiences in light of

God's Word in scripture. Kelley holds a Ph.D. in religious studies from Boston University, a D. Min. in clinical pastoral psychology from the Andover-Newton Theological School, an M.A. in theology from the Catholic University of America, and a B.A. in philosophy from Villanova University. Join us for an important and meaningful discussion. The program is free and open to the public.

April health clinics in Andover

The Andover Health Department will offer mini clinics on Monday, April 12 from 2 to 3 p.m. at Andover Commons, and on Monday, April 26 from 1 to 2 p.m.

at Frye Circle. Senior-center clinics will be held 2 to 3 p.m. each Wednesday, April 7, 14, 21 and 28. No appointment necessary.

Sisterhood of Temple Emmanuel to host author

The Sisterhood of Temple Emanuel is pleased to announce Anita Diamant, best selling author of "The Red Tent, Good Harbor, and her newest book Day After Night, will be the guest speaker at their annual Ways & Means dinner on Wednesday, May 12.

"Each year we invite a guest to our annual dinner to share their story with our members. We are thrilled Anita Diamant, who has truly inspired women everywhere with her wonderful novels, has accepted our invitation," said Kathy Hurst, co-chairperson of the Ways and Means Dinner. "Diamant will discuss her work as well as her involvement in the creation of the Mayyim Hayyim Living Water Community Mikveh in Newton. The Sisterhood is opening this

event to women in the community who would also like hear Diamant speak." Tickets will be \$72 and will include a sit down dinner.

Diamant's writing career began in Boston in 1975. As a freelance journalist, she contributed to local magazines and newspapers, including the Boston Phoenix, the Boston Globe, and Boston Magazine. Diamant's features and columns covered a wide variety of topics, from profiles of prominent people and stories about medical ethics, to first-person essays ranging from politics, to popular culture, to pet ownership. She also wrote about Jewish practice and the Jewish community for many publications. In 1997, Diamant published

her first work of fiction, The Red Tent, inspired by a few lines from Genesis. The book became a word-of-mouth best-seller thanks to reader recommendations, book groups, and support from independent bookstores. She is also the author of Good Harbor. Her new novel, Day After Night, returns to the land of The Red Tent to tell the stories of women who lived through the Holocaust and await the future in a British internment camp. For tickets and additional information regarding this event, contact the office of Temple Emanuel at 978-470-1356 or email Kathy Hurst at fourhursts@comcast.net.

The Sisterhood of Temple Emanuel is a vibrant, dynamic

group of women dedicated to contributing time and talent to enrich the lives of Temple Emanuel congregants, and the greater Jewish world and communities.

For more information, visit <http://www.templemanuel.net/community/sisterhood/>.

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Eating well



Andover Girl Scout Cadette Troop 60104 recently delivered a donation of Girl Scout cookies to Bread and Roses soup kitchen and the Greater Lawrence Community Action Council's child care center in Lawrence. Pictured inside the GLAC child care center are, from left, standing in the back: Lydia Kelley, Elizabeth Day, Meghan Stickney and Dayna Thibodeau; in the front sitting on the bench: Mary Cate Sullivan, Andrea Papa, Amanda Devine, Kristina Day and Rachel Major. The Scouts are in sixth grade at Doherty and West middle schools.

Courtesy photo

POLICE LOG

COMPILED BY BETHANY BRAY

ARRESTS

Tuesday, April 6 - At 12:50 p.m., Lopez Augustine Ciriaco, 22, of 8 Exchange St. Apt. 2, Lawrence, was arrested and charged with driving without a license.

Wednesday, April 7 - At 1:19 p.m., Nicole A. Corriveau, 29, of 7 Roosevelt Ave., Methuen, was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended license.

At 8:40 p.m., Christopher Cabassa, 23, of 14 Pilgrim Road, Lawrence, was arrested and charged with driving with a revoked license, subsequent

offense.

Thursday, April 8 - At 1:08 a.m., Nguyen K. Tran, 45, of 487 River Road, Tewksbury, was arrested and charged with a marked lanes violation and driving with a license suspended for operating under the influence; also on warrants for marked lanes violation and operating under the influence of liquor.

Friday, April 9 - At 10:08 p.m., Yordyn Gonzalez Jr., 21, of 10 Tremont St. Apt. 1, Lawrence, was arrested and charged with attaching wrong plates to a motor vehicle, driving with a revoked license, uninsured vehicle trailer and unregistered

vehicle.

Saturday, April 10 - At 4:26 a.m., Juan A. Santiago, 43, of 493 Haverhill St., Lawrence, was arrested and charged with a red light violation and driving under the influence of liquor.

At 3:44 p.m., Fawn L. Neptune, 34, of 15 William St., Haverhill, was arrested and charged on a warrant for assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Sunday, April 11 - At 8:53 p.m., four officers responded to LaQuinta hotel, River Road. At 9 p.m., Nicole Adriana Pinero, 21, of 121 Stadium Way, Alston, was arrested and charged on a warrant for sexual conduct for

a fee.

Monday, April 12 - At 1:04 p.m., Bryan C. Schreyack, 26, of 440 North Ave., Apt. 36, Haverhill, was arrested and charged with driving with a revoked registration and uninsured vehicle trailer; also on a warrant for malicious property damage.

At 10:25 p.m., Benjamin C. Law, 21, of 7 Old Lawrence Road, Pelham, N.H., was arrested and charged with distribution of a class B substance.

At 10:43 p.m., Joshua L. Zimmerman, 22, of 31 Haigh Ave., Salem N.H., was arrested and charged with distribution of a class B substance.

Tuesday, April 13 - At 5:47 p.m., Matthew J. Jurczak, 51, of North Street, North Reading, was arrested and charged with violating an abuse-prevention order.

TOWN TALK

Continued from Page 1

bass and vocals.

Tennis club accepting members

The Morellos, who managed the restaurant and bar at Andover Inn before it closed for renovations, have all their permits. Plans on file in Town Hall show they have permission to seat 120 patrons inside and 36 people outside on the privately-owned Post Office Avenue. Selectmen approved the liquor license last January. Planning Board Chairman Paul Salafia says Bin28 is "within the vision for downtown now that the Main Street Improvement Project is complete."

- Judy Wakefield

The Andover Tennis Club offers outdoor recreational tennis at Phillips Academy to its members during the summer months.

There are no courts fees during the summer. During the winter season, the club plays indoors at the Willows Racquet Club. It is a club for men, women and youth, and features singles, doubles and mixed-doubles play at all levels. The club is now accepting new memberships through the end of May: families for \$75 per year and individuals for \$50 per year. Those interested in more information may visit www.andovertennis.org.

Schools begin search for perm. business boss

This week, Superintendent Claudia Bach announced the schools are launching a search for a permanent business administrator and will begin advertising for the job. Bernie Tuttle stepped in as interim to replace outgoing school business administrator David Keniston. Tuttle was also an interim administrator before Keniston was hired in April 2008.

- Bethany Bray

Earth Day Yard Sale

The Giant Earth Day Yard Sale in The Park is set for Saturday, April 24 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you would like to sell items or recycle by cleaning out your garage, cellar, and attic, reserve your \$10 spot by calling DCS at 978-623-8274. Set-up is at 7 a.m. Participants must bring their own table(s). The rain date is Sunday, April 25.

Crafts in Park May 8

The Andover Crafts in the Park Committee has met to finalize plans for its 35th annual show. Crafts in the Park is scheduled to be held on Saturday, May 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the rain date scheduled for Sunday, May 9. More than 110 artisans will be at the Park, presenting a variety of handmade goods including jewelry, pottery, quilts and clothing. There are more food choices for visitors this year, including kettle corn, Italian ice, and Thai, Taiwanese and typical American grilled foods.

Pulitzer connection

West Middle School was excited to hear the novel "Tinkers" by Paul Harding (Bellevue Literary Press) won a 2010 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. Harding is the husband of WMS special education teacher Meg Lawler. In the book, "a New England father and son, through suffering and joy, transcend their imprisoning lives and offer new ways of perceiving the world and mortality," according to www.pulitzer.org. The fiction Pulitzer comes with a \$10,000 prize.

Watch your mailbox

Town Meeting's bible, the printed, bound Finance Committee Report that offers details about all 56 warrant articles, will be dropped off at the post office on Friday, April 16. One copy will be mailed to every household in Andover.

Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for April 28 and 29 at 7 p.m. at the Collins Field House at Andover High School, 80 Shawshen Road, and May 3 and 4, if needed, in the Collins Center for the Performing Arts at AHS.

- Bethany Bray

Twice the music: Two Andover bands to rock Collins Center

Teen band One Step Away was selected to perform at Six Flags on April 21 with national touring bands during the Six Flags Spring Break Stride-A-Palooza in Agawam, Mass.

On April 24 both One Step Away and popular Andover band Apollo Sunshine will perform at the "Play it Forward" benefit concert at the Collins Center. Members of One Step Away include: 17-year-olds Adam Carrington of Andover, the lead singer, and Mike Nuzzolo of Andover, on

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30 Mass. Ave., North Andover 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
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For now, the new town clerk is a retired town clerk

By BETHANY BRAY
STAFF WRITER

Residents will see a familiar face sitting at the town clerk's spot on the podium at Town Meeting: former Town Clerk Randy Hanson.

Hanson, who retired March 12 after serving two decades as town clerk, has been appointed acting town clerk for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Hanson will be making \$50.43 per hour. As a retiree, she also collects a pension of \$4,820.91 per month, according to Rita Marconi, benefits and compensation manager in Andover's human resources office.

The appointment comes after Town Manager Buzz Stapeczynski put the search to hire a new town clerk "on hold" this spring to accept another batch

of resumes.

After receiving 37 resumes for a Jan. 22 deadline, Stapeczynski interviewed four candidates for Hanson's job.

"I felt, after that, it was in the best interest of the town to stop that process and take another look at candidates," said Stapeczynski. "I'm looking forward to filling the position and re-starting the (search) process."

The second wave of resumes are due by mid-May, he said, and he wants to hire a new town clerk to start fiscal year 2011, which begins July 1.

Selectmen unanimously approved Stapeczynski's recommendation to reappoint Hanson on Monday, April 5, jokingly asking if she was qualified enough for the post.

After just over one month away from the job, Hanson, 64, is

expected to serve April 7 through June 30. She lives with her husband, Dick, on Pasho Street.

Assistant Town Clerk Kathy McKenna had been working as acting town clerk in Hanson's absence, overseeing town elections on March 23.

But Hanson's expertise was needed to cover Town Meeting later this month, said Stapeczynski, as well as the reports and paperwork that must be sent to the state after votes are taken.

"We'll bring her back for Town Meeting purposes," he said. "And there is quite a bit of work after the meeting."

Upon her retirement, Hanson was making more than \$100,000 per year.

The salary range for a new town clerk will be between \$60,000 and \$80,000, depending on experience and education,

said Stapeczynski.

After resumes are collected, Stapeczynski will interview the top three to five candidates selected by a search committee. Finalists are presented to the Board of Selectmen, who have the ultimate say in who is hired.

Stapeczynski said he hopes to bring finalists before the board in June. If they reapply, it is possible a candidate from the first round of resumes this winter could be in the mix, he said.

In addition to election and Town Meeting preparation, the town clerk's office handles marriage, dog and liquor licenses, passports and voter registration. Census data is accumulated and the town clerk's staff fields questions about pulling papers to run for office or getting a private article on a Town Meeting warrant.



ANN HERMES/Staff photo
ANSWERING THE CALL: Former and interim Town Clerk Randy Hanson is shown working at the recent special senate election.

Warriors claim title



COURTESY PHOTO

The Junior Valley Warriors mite select team recently won the NEHL championship when its players defeated the Manchester Monarchs during a weekend tournament. Andover players on the team are Michael Feeney, Tyler McGoldrick, Matt Comeau, and Connor and Michael Finneran.

RELIGION

Monthly breakfast

West Parish Church, 129 Reservation Rd., Andover at the corner of Route 133 and Reservation Road, will host their May Breakfast on Saturday, May 1 from 7 to 10 a.m. Full breakfast will be served. Bay Baskets will be available for purchase. Suggested donation is \$6 for adults and \$3.50 for children under 12.

Eldercare Fair on May 5

Interfaith Caregivers of Greater

Lawrence, a coalition of faith communities, social service agencies, and health organizations working together to serve elders and caregivers, will sponsor an Eldercare Fair at St. Michael Church Parish Hall, 196 Main St., North Andover on Wednesday, May 5, from 4 to 6 p.m. Representatives from a variety of providers will be on hand to share literature and talk about the different resources and types of services that are available to your aging loved ones. Some of the

topics to be covered include adult day health programs, Alzheimer's resources, assisted living facilities, companion programs, caregiver assistance, emergency services, home health care, homemaker services, Medicaid planning services, medical supply companies, senior centers, skilled nursing care, and transportation services. Join us and find out how to get the help you need. This event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

Friday fashion, dance event helps suicide prevention

By COURTNEY CASPER
WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

LIVE FOR FASHION RUNWAY SHOW

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Tickets: \$10 Students with ID; \$12 Adults

This Friday, the Merrimack College Diversity Department will host *Live For Fashion*. The show, directed and coordinated by Andover residents Taylor and Courtney Martel, was created to unite the students of the Greater Boston area while also raising awareness of suicide prevention. The event, geared towards teens and young adults, will combine entertainment, performance, and divisions of runway production showcasing 12 different collections from around the area.

When they were students of Andover High School, the Martel twins joined The Samaritans Organization. Samaritans Inc. is non-denominational, non-profit, and voluntary, serving the Greater Boston and Metropolitan West communities. Reaching more than 100,000 people each year, the group is committed to suicide prevention through reaching out to people in crisis and educating communities about effective prevention strategies.

After successfully completing their training, the Martels became teen spokeswomen, traveling to churches and schools, and operating the counseling hotlines. Their commitment to the organization continued on past their arrival at Merrimack College. During their sophomore year, the sisters were pressed to cut back on their volunteer work as the rigor of their academic coursework increased. However, Taylor Martel kept in close contact with The Samaritans.

One year later, another suicide in Andover occurred, much to Taylor Martel's dismay. "It really touched me," she said. "It was then that I

realized I needed to get back to working again...I was motivated to do something so people knew where they could go."

Live For Fashion is the product of that motivation. The event has been ranked as the foremost fashion event of the college scene in this year. Along with all the entertainment, there will be a speaker from The Samaritans Organization present to provide information about and raise awareness of suicide prevention. Performances will include:

- The Merrimack College Dance Team
- "Envy," Tufts Female Step Team
- R&B Musical Group 24/7
- Jam'n 94.5's DJ Lus

There will also be a special half time performance by the Hip-Hope Dance Crew "Status Quo" from MTV's hit series "America's Best Dance Crew," and the event will be hosted by "Urban Nerdz." All proceeds will be donated directly to The Samaritans Organization.

Questions? Contact Taylor Martel at 978-349-1696 or email: MartelT@merrimack.edu.



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Arts & Entertainment

Show proves there's something about town volunteers

By COURTNEY CASPER
WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

In honor of National Volunteers Month in April, Andover's local access TV show, "There Is Something About Andover", has dedicated its entire 30-minute April section to an array of Andover volunteers.

The program focuses on people who volunteer in three areas in Andover: town services, the Andover Senior Center, and the schools. The show interviewed more than 20 local volunteers, comprised of both current workers and retirees. Two easily recognizable interviewees include Andover Town Manager Reginald "Buzz" Stapczynski, and Director of Elder Services Kathy Urquhart.

Additionally, the production team concentrated on numerous volunteers who have stayed under the radar and out of the spotlight for years.

"We felt it was important to recognize a few of the dedicated individuals who volunteer their time to make Andover the great town it is," said Executive Producer Moe Murphy, "and dedicating our entire program to volunteers was a way for us to

BROADCAST BASICS

Air times during the month of April for "There Is Something About Andover" on Comcast Channel 8 and Verizon Channel 47 are:

- Monday, Saturday, Sunday: 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- Tuesday and Thursday: 9 a.m.
- Wednesday and Friday: at 7 p.m.

showcase their talents."

"We've really tried to infuse some excitement and push the envelope," said Boston Neary, "so this year, we did something totally different for April."

The production of "There Is Something About Andover" is a collaborative effort of the group Andover Chroniclers, with program editing and direction done by Marty Epstein and Neary. Sponsored by the Andover Senior Center, the Andover Chroniclers are volunteers themselves. The show, which was five months in the making this year, will celebrate its 10th anniversary on access television this coming May.

"This was truly an enlightening and fun project to work on," said Neary. "And it sure did help the winter go by fast."



Luke Terry, dressed as Charlie Chaplin snaps photos in the "Paparazzi" photo souvenir area of Memorial Hollywood night at Memorial Hall Library, Andover.

'Hollywood,' camera, action



Kyle Fielder, 8, is picked up by Michael Koski as he helps children explore the remarkable world of forces and perception that reveals the science behind magician's tricks during the Magic of Science show at Memorial Hall Library, Andover.

Concerts at Phillips this weekend

Tenor Allen Combs will perform the music of Robert Schumann during a faculty voice recital on Friday, April 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Timken Room at Graves Hall on the Phillips Academy campus.

Combs is a native of Idaho Falls, Idaho, and received his education at the University of Idaho and the University of Lowell. He has been a soloist with such groups as The Dedham Choral Society, Salisbury Singers, Cambridge Community Chorus, Polymnia, Lawrence Choral Arts Society, the Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Society, Reading Symphony Orchestra and Thayer Symphony, as well as the choirs of Harvard, Brown and Tufts Universities. He also performs frequently at Phillips Academy, Andover, where he is a member of the voice faculty.

Also active as a choral conductor, Combs has served as music director of the Andover Choral Society since 1990. He has been a soloist and cantor at the Church of the Advent and at Trinity Church, Copley Square. Combs is a member of the renaissance vocal ensemble "Blue Heron" and has also performed with Schola Cantorum and Cappella Alamire. He is also the vocal

director for the Composers' Conference and Chamber Music Center at Wellesley College and Music Director for the New England Dance Ensemble.

The Timken Room is handicapped accessible. For more information call the Academy at 978-749-4263 or e-mail to music@andover.edu.

New England String Ensemble

On Saturday, April 17 at 2 p.m. the Phillips Academy Music Department will present the New England String Ensemble in the Cochran Chapel on the Phillips Academy campus at 180 Main St.

Music Director Federico Cortese will lead an interactive discussion 45 minutes prior to the performance. Admission is free to all ticket holders. The program will include works by Tippett, Vivaldi, Purcell, Benjamin, and Britten.

Tickets start at \$25, with a \$10 discount for students. Tickets are on sale through New England String Ensemble's Web site at www.newenglandstringensemble.org, or by contacting the NESE office at 617-566-0430.



After making a donation to the Friends of Memorial Hall Library, Isabel Tu, 6, left, and her sister Annbel, 3, pick out books to take home during the Memorial Hollywood night at Memorial Hall Library, Andover.

Memorial concert remembers Armenian genocide

A memorial concert in the Merrimack Valley by the Greater Worcester Armenian Chorale will highlight the 95th anniversary of the Armenian genocide on Sunday, April 18.

The event will take place at 3 p.m. in North Andover High School, sponsored by the Armenian Genocide Commemorative Committee of Merrimack Valley. More than 350 are expected to attend this musical tribute to

those who died, according to a release.

The observance will also honor six remaining survivors in the region: Verjin Chilingirian, Ojen Fantazian, Mary Garavanian, Thomas Magarian, Nellie Nazarian and Jennie Vartabedian. Fifteen years ago, the area recorded as many as 75 survivors.

"The Armenian Genocide is an important fabric of world history

and cannot be forgotten," said Sossy Jeknavorian, committee chairman. "We owe it to these survivors as well as the 1.5 million martyrs who perished under the Ottoman Turkish yoke during the years surrounding World War I. Recognition and reparations continue to remain steadfast with Armenians throughout the world."

The 25-member chorale was founded a decade ago by Maestro

Konstantin Petrossian, a world-renowned conductor and musician who continues to serve as artistic director, joined by accompanist Karine Avanesov. The group has performed near and far, joined by the Arevig Children's Dance Group, an ensemble of 21 youngsters in costume, including several from this area. Much of their success can be attributed to choreographers Alin Sarkisian and Ani Yaghmourian.

EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

AUTHOR READING, Elyssa East reads from DOGTOWN: Death and Enchantment in a New England Ghost Town, 7 p.m., Andover Bookstore, 89 Rear Main St.; 978-475-0143.

YIAYIA'S KITCHEN, 5-7 p.m., Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, 7 Harris St., Newburyport, \$12 adults; \$10 seniors, students; children under 12 free; 978-465-5757.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON, The Shawsheen Village Woman's Club is holding a Card & Game Scholarship Luncheon, First United Methodist Church, 57 Peters St., No. Andover 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

MEXICAN-AMERICAN AUTHOR TALK, Maria Hinojosa, award-winning Mexican-American journalist, author, wife, mother and role model,

will speak on "The Political Responsibility of Owning One's Voice: A Personal Story of Lessons Learned," 12:30 p.m., free, Northern Essex Community College's White Fund Room of the college's Louise Haffner Fournier Education Center, 78-82 Amesbury St., Lawrence.

FASHION SHOW, hosted by The Merrimack College Diversity Department, 8-10 p.m.,

Please see **CALENDAR**, Page 7



Good Neighbor Healthy Heart Screenings
www.TheCASFoundation.org

We're screening hearts to save lives.

Is your family Heart Healthy?

Take this opportunity to protect your family today!

Good Neighbor is an initiative working to prevent Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) in our communities. This preventive heart screening program allows for screenings to take place in your community, at **no cost** to you, thanks to the generosity of the event sponsor, **Enterprise Bank**.

- 4 out of 5 times, potentially fatal Sudden Cardiac Arrest is the first sign of a congenital heart condition.
- Seemingly healthy, active children can be at risk without exhibiting any symptoms.
- Each year 7,000 American adolescents ages 6-18 die from SCA. If detected, the conditions that may lead to SCA are treatable and allow for long healthy lifespans.

Sign-up today! It just may save a life.

When:	Saturday, April 24th 9:00am - 12:30pm
Where:	Enterprise Bank, 8 High St. Andover, MA 01810
Who:	Community member ages 6+
Sign-up:	Visit www.TheCASFoundation.org Click Sign up for a Screening Appointments are required by 4:00pm Friday, April 23rd. No walk-ins accepted.
Cost:	Thanks to the generosity of Enterprise Bank , screenings are available at no cost.

Your **Good Neighbor** Screening is made possible by:




Town of Andover

Mercury Recovery Program

Mercury is an element that can be harmful to human health and the environment if not managed properly.

Thermostats - Thermometers

Mercury Switches - Button Cell Batteries

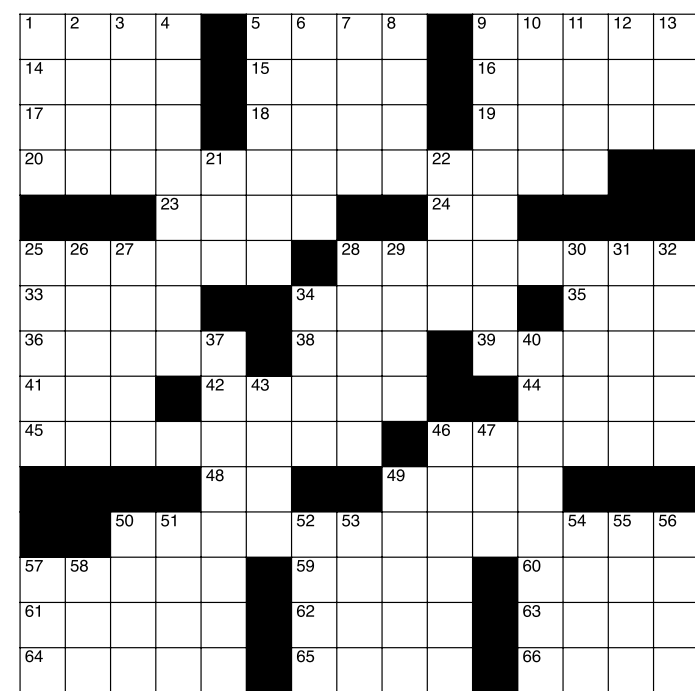
Exchange your mercury fever thermometer for a new digital thermometer (while supplies last)

Please bring these products containing mercury to:

Place: Town Hall - Health Department
DPW Offices- 397 Lowell Street
Day: Monday through Friday
Time: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

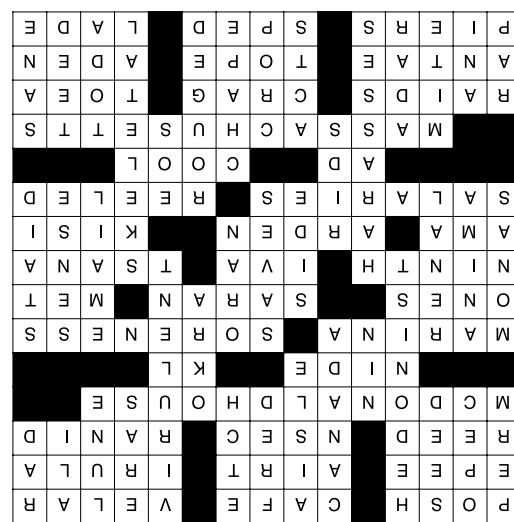
Sponsored By
Wheelabrator North Andover Inc.

Crossword puzzle



- CLUES ACROSS**
- One of the Spice Girls
 - Restaurant
 - About velum
 - A fencing sword
 - Direction (Scottish)
 - Dravidian language spoken in SW India
 - Army surgeon Walter
 - Nanosecond (abbr.)
 - True frog
 - Ronald's charity
 - Brood of pheasant
 - Kiloliter
 - Boat area
 - Tenderness
 - Digits
 - Clear wrap
 - Came together
 - Come after the eighth
 - Marsh elder
 - Ethiopian lake
 - Doctors' group
 - English forest
- CLUES DOWN**
- Hair curling treatment
 - Oil cartel
 - Fertilized plant germ
 - Pleasure seeker
 - No. Am. country
 - Church passage
 - Cartoon Wilma's
44. a.k.a. Jixi
45. Wages
46. Staggered
48. A public promotion
49. Become less warm
50. 6th smallest state
57. Forays
59. A rugged rock or cliff
60. 1/100 of a kina
61. Greek doorway posts
62. Drink habitually
63. Arabian Gulf
64. Boat access platforms
65. Hastened
66. Burden
- husband
8. Engrave
9. Extremely infectious
10. Geological times
11. Moon (French)
12. 4th Caliph of Islam
13. Radioactivity unit
21. Ohio rock band (abbr.)
22. Gumbo pod
25. "___ Hieroglyphica," by John Dee
26. Jung's male soul image
27. Neophytic
28. Rescues
29. Algeria's gulf
30. Electronic communication
31. Taste is one
32. Sedate
34. West ___ Story
37. Heckles
40. Emaciated
43. Disembarrasses
46. Painted cheeks
47. Goddess of the dawn
49. Metal tip on a scabbard
50. Acarine
51. 6th Jewish month
52. Performs in a play
53. Harvest
54. South Dravidian
55. Commun founder Cyrus
56. Mentally healthy
57. Pop music style
58. Black tropical Am. cuckoo

Solution



EVENTS CALENDAR

Continued from Page 6

Sakowich Complex Multi-Purpose Room, Merrimack College, North Andover, five segments of exciting runway production from 12 different collections, entertainment by the Merrimack College Dance Team, Tufts Female Step Team "Envy," R&B Musical Group 24/7 and DJ Lus from Jam'n 94.5. The show will also feature a special half time performance by the Hip-Hop Dance Crew "Status Quo" from the MTV series, "America's Best Dance Crew," benefits The Samaritans; Taylor Martel, 978-349-1696, Martel@merrimack.edu.

ANDOVER SINGER CAROL LEARY, of Lovejoy Road, performs with pianist Steven Hershman, 8:11-30 p.m., Black Olive Restaurant, 1866 Main St. (Rt. 38), Tewksbury; 978-640-8883.

ALOHA HULA DANCER, 2 p.m., free, Atria Marland Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover; 978-475-4225.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

1-MILE WALK OR RUN, benefits Homes For Our Troops, 8:30 a.m., The Park, Bartlett and Chestnut streets, Andover, free t-shirts, pancake breakfast, donations accepted. Mail registration to: Bill Pennington, Homes For Our Troops, 46 Clark Road, Andover, MA 01810.

FREE INTRO TO YOGA, UnionStudio Yoga, 305 North Main St. (Rte. 28), Andover, class continues May 15, June 5, July 10, Aug. 14, Sept. 11, 9:30-10:30 a.m., for those new to yoga but not quite ready to jump into your first class; www.unionstudiyyoga.com, 978-886-7944.

SOUP'S ON FUNDRAISER, Chester's, 60 Island St., Lawrence, 6:30 p.m., with entertainment, auctions, and soup samplings. Guests receive a handcrafted pottery bowl. Benefits Neighbors in Need, \$50 per person; Linda Zimmerman, (978) 771-2353.

VERNAL POOL SAFARI, 1 to 2:30 p.m., for families with children 5 years and older, hosted by Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary, explore life cycles of the animals of the vernal pool, \$9/adults, \$7/children, pre-registration required; 978-887-9264.

HEALTHY KIDS' DAY, Andover/North

Andover YMCA, 165 Haverhill St., Andover, 1-4 p.m., featuring family Zumba class, family yoga class, indoor obstacle course, a bounce house, decorating flower pots and plants seeds, HOP-Sports interactive sports system and Trazer, a new interactive workout system.

FREE MOVIE NIGHT, Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6 Locke St., Andover, 7 p.m., featuring Michael Moore's "Capitalism: A Love Story." Bring a beach chair to sit on, something to drink, popcorn provided; 978-475-4454.

ARTIST RECEPTION, for Bill Giavis: On the Road and Home Again exhibit, 2-4 p.m., exhibit features intimate views from the inside of his home and cityscapes from Lowell and New York, through May 15, Whistler House Museum of Art, 243 Worthen St., Lowell; 978-452-7641.

GENTLY USED CHILDREN'S EQUIPMENT, toys, clothes, books and more, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., \$1 admission, under 14 free, cash only, Central Congregational Church, 1 Worthen St., Chelmsford, sponsored by the Nashoba Valley Mothers of Multiples; www.nashobavalleymom.org, (978) 376-2939.

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

PAINTING DEMONSTRATION, by Ipswich artist Paul George, hosted by the Andovers Artists Guild, 2 to 4 p.m., North Parish Church-North Andover (corner of Academy & Great Pond roads); Nella, 978-975-0015, Andoversartistsguild.com. Meetings are free to members and a guest donation of \$5 is suggested.

EASTER CONCERT, Rev. Andre Patenaude (Fr. Pat) will present "Seeing Him Again," \$20, 2 to 5 p.m., Andover Country Club, 60 Canterbury St., Andover, benefits Rev. Patenaude's ministry. Refreshments will be served; Fran, (978) 851-2186.

WOMEN'S HISTORY LECTURE, "Female Spiritual Heritages of Crete, Greece & the Aegean," a visual presentation by Max DASHU, sponsored by the Women's Spirituality Series, 7 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Andover, 6 Locke St., suggested donation \$15; 978-475-0187.

MUSICAL RECITAL, 3 p.m., Atria Marland

Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover; 978-475-4225.

MONDAY, APRIL 19

MUSIC MASTERS, 7 p.m., Atria Marland Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover; 978-475-4225.

TUESDAY, APRIL 20

BIBLE STUDY, 10 a.m., Atria Marland Place, 15 Stevens St., Andover; 978-475-4225.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A COLLEGE STUDENT, Northern Essex Community College hosts, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Haverhill campus, free; 978-556-3722, admissions@necc.mass.edu.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

"PICTURE YOUR IMAGE" EVENING, Night & Day, 63 Park St., Andover, 6 p.m., benefits The Esperanza Academy. Fashion Coach Susan Kanoff and Photographer Linda Jennings offer tips, free head shot photograph to use for on-line profiles, refreshments and appetizers, free, but limited to the first 25, \$10 donation suggested for Esperanza Academy; info@night-anddaylingerie.com, 978-475-0343 by April 20. Must be 21 to attend.

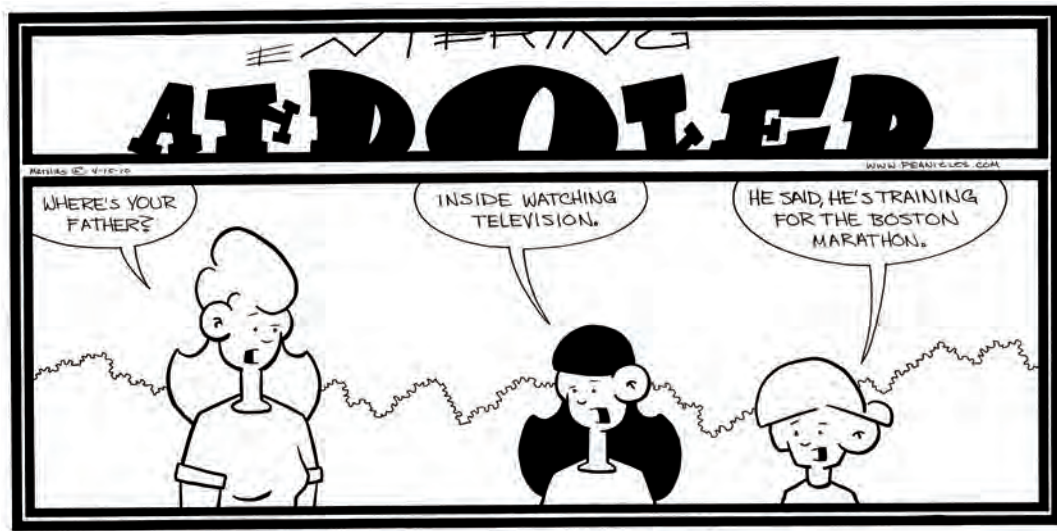
AUTHOR READING, Catherine Walthers, RAISING THE SALAD BAR-Inventive Salads with Beans, Whole Grains, Pasta, Chicken, and More, samples follow, 7 p.m., free, Andover Bookstore, 89 Rear Main St.; 978-475-0143.

LIVE THEATER, Stoneham Theatre presents "My Fair Lady," through May 2, \$40-\$42 for seniors, \$20 for students, Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham; 781-279-2200, www.stonehamtheatre.org.

DISCOVER A HIDDEN GEM, a history of Harold Parker Forest, Flint Memorial Library, 147 Park St., North Reading. Free and open to the public; 978-664-4942.

LIVE THEATER, award-winning actress Karen MacDonald in "The Blonde," Merrimack Repertory Theatre, Lowell, through May 16, 7:30 p.m.; 978.654.4MRT, www.MerrimackRep.org.

ENTERING ANDOVER by Don Mathias



Water, water everywhere

From space, our Earth looks like a beautiful blue marble orbiting the sun.

Blue oceans cover almost 71 percent of the Earth's surface. The oceans are home for many beautiful fish, plants and animals. That's why it's important for our oceans to be healthy.

Many people make a living based on the oceans, so changes can impact not only the ocean, but humans on land as well.

Scientists worry about two problems in our oceans today.

The first problem is low oxygen in the top layer of the ocean. Fish and other sea creatures need oxygen, just like animals that live on land.

The top layer of the ocean is filled with sunlight during the daytime. Most fish, creatures and plants live in this warm, sunlit zone.

Ocean plants use the sunlight for photosynthesis. This process puts needed oxygen into the water.

However, too much fertilizer in the water causes small algae to grow too fast. Algae live a very short time. As dead algae decays, it uses up oxygen. When the oxygen level

gets too low, fish and other sea creatures die.

Low oxygen off the coast of Oregon and Washington State left large piles of dead crabs, sea stars and sea anemones on the ocean floor.

Oxygen levels have gone down in the ocean off the Southern California Coast and in the Gulf of Mexico.

Scientists think that keeping sewage, animal waste and fertilizer out of our rivers and oceans would make the oceans healthier.

The second problem is plastic trash in the oceans.

For many years some countries used the oceans like a trash can. Today scientists can measure the effect of trash in the oceans.

A team from Japan collected and studied samples of water from the United States, Europe, India, Japan and several other locations. The scientists found chemicals from plastics in the water.

Polystyrene is a common plastic used in plastic silverware, Styrofoam™ and DVD cases. Scientists found that it releases dangerous chemicals into the water.

Plastic also breaks into



small pieces. These pieces soak up other pollutants in the water. Fish and sea creatures swallow the plastic particles along with their food, causing health problems and even death.

- What can you do?
- Use paper instead of plastic when possible.
 - Recycle plastic household trash.
 - Use a water bottle that can be used again instead of disposable water bottles.
 - Use shopping bags that can be used again.

If we want to live on this beautiful blue marble called Earth, we need keep it clean. If we don't take care of what we have, what we have won't take care of us.

EARTH DAY A I P
O B X F R O G A V R L
C C R A B L T R T E A
T U E L Y P U G E T N
O F L A W H R N T S K
P I A R N I T I R B T
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S H W C T R E S B L N

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Newspaper in Education activity
Search your newspaper for stories that might have an impact on the environment. Share your thoughts about the story. Talk about what you and your class members can do to help keep our Earth clean.

Pioneer.

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Mollie Berger

NORTH ANDOVER — Mollie (Prolman) Berger passed away on Monday, April 12, 2010 at the age of 88 at the Lawrence General Hospital.

Born in Lawrence, she moved to Andover after her marriage and lived there for over 45 years. At the time of her death, she was a resident of Edgewood, North Andover. Mollie had a long and active life, teaching nursery school at the Jewish Community Center in Lawrence. Even well into her 80s, she often met her former students and remembered their families and children. After the death of her beloved husband, she remained active in the community, volunteering at the Lawrence General Hospital and at elementary schools in Lawrence and Andover where she assisted children in the reading programs. She was a long time member of Hadassah.

Whether spending time with her adored grandchildren or playing bridge at the Andover Senior Center, Mollie displayed a sharp wit and a generous

spirit which was appreciated by all who met her.

She was the loving wife of Attorney J. John Berger who predeceased her. She is survived by her children, Attorney Howard M. Berger and his wife Susan Shepard of Andover; and Attorney Carl W. Berger and his wife, Mamie of Reading; her six grandchildren, Alex, Jesse, Nicholas, Meryl, Samantha and Ned Berger; and several nieces and nephews.

ARRANGEMENTS: Relatives and friends were respectfully invited to attend her funeral service on Wednesday, April 14, at 1:30 p.m. at the Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover. Burial will follow in the Temple Emanuel Cemetery, Lawrence. A memorial observance was to be held Wednesday following the interment until 8:30 p.m. at the home of her son Carl Berger, 25 Green Meadow Drive, Johnson Woods, Reading. Contributions may be made to Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover, MA 01810, or to the charity of one's choice. Condolences to her family may be made at www.farmerfuneralhomes.com.

Joseph W. Lahood, 73



ANDOVER — Joseph W. Lahood, 73, of Andover, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, April 7, 2010.

He was the beloved husband of Sandra (Arcidy) Lahood. Joe was raised in Lawrence and attended the public schools. He later graduated from Lowell Tech Institute and Northeastern University.

He was employed as a quality engineer/manager for over 50 years and most recently completed a 31-year career at B.A.E. Systems.

He was a lifelong parishioner of St. Anthony's Maronite Church, and also a long-standing member of the YMCA. Joe enjoyed racquetball with his friends, loved the ocean and cherished

spending time with his family.

Joe is survived by his wife Sandra and two sons, Joseph D. of Andover and John W. and his wife Ilene of North Andover. He is also survived by one brother, Albert Lahood, and three sisters, Adeline Keamy, Sally Lahood, and Charlotte DiHarce. He is also survived by 12 close nieces and nephews and many lifelong friends.

ARRANGEMENTS: Family and friends called on Friday, April 9, 2010 at the Cataudella Funeral Home, 126 Pleasant Valley St. Methuen, from 4 to 8 p.m. A celebration of Joseph's life was held at St. Anthony's Maronite Church in Lawrence on Saturday April 10, 2010 at 10 a.m. Burial was at St. Anthony's Cemetery. Donations may be made to The Beacon Hospice Inc. 350 Main St., Haverhill, MA 01830. For directions and online guest book, please visit our Web site at www.cataudellafam.com.

John E. Kinsky, 76



ANDOVER — John E. Kinsky, 76, long-time resident of Andover and North Andover, died peacefully Sunday, April 11, 2010 at Lahey Clinic in

Burlington.

John was born in Rochester, N.Y., the son of Edwin and Marion Kinsky. He was the husband of Kay Kinsky for 53 wonderful years. He was a manufacturing engineer who worked for several companies in New York, Massachusetts and Singapore and retired from Textron in Wilmington.

John was a gentle and loving man whose greatest passion was his family. He enjoyed family gatherings filled with card games, laughter and music, particularly at their lake house in Maine. He entertained everyone with his stories, sense of humor and piano playing. Ready to lend a helping hand to anyone in need, he gave generously of his time and carpentry skills to various community service projects. His community volunteerism was recognized with the honor of being an Olympic Torch bearer in 1994. He was a sports enthusiast who enjoyed playing, watching,

coaching and encouraging his children and grandchildren in all endeavors. He enjoyed extended canoeing and camping trips. He will be sorely missed but joyfully remembered by his loving family and friends.

In addition to his wife, he leaves behind four sons and two daughters, John and June Kinsky of West Granby, Conn., Andy and Beth Kinsky of Framingham, Tom and Deena Kinsky of Wareham, Julie and John Garvey of Wellesley, Greg and Kristin Kinsky of Shrewsbury, Jennifer and Todd Abbott of Waterboro, Maine; and 16 grandchildren. He is also survived by his sisters, Joan Ryan, MaryAnn Fischer, Judy Gage, Paula Staiger, and brothers, David, Steve and Mike, as well as many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by brothers, Dick, Bob and Ted.

ARRANGEMENTS: Relatives and friends are cordially invited to attend his funeral Mass on Thursday, April 15 at 10 a.m. in St. Michael Church, North Andover. Interment will be held on Friday. Calling hours were to be on Wednesday, April 14 from 4 to 8 in The Conte Funeral Home, 17 Third St., North Andover. In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Bread & Roses, 58 Newbury St., Lawrence, MA 01840. For funeral home directions or to sign the family guestbook, please visit www.confetfuneralhomes.com.

Ziegman Dugal

ANDOVER — Mr. Ziegman "Ziggy" Dugal, beloved husband of the late Jennie (Doroszkiwicz) Dugal, died at his home in Andover on Sunday, April 11, 2010. He celebrated his 100th birthday last summer and was one of the featured centenarians on the Today Show.

Ziggy will be remembered for his great smile, warm blue eyes and friendliness. Of course he will also be remembered for his hobbies of bird houses, cradles, light houses and doll houses, etc. which were on the counters of doctors offices, banks, lumberyard, Kentucky Fried Chicken and priests' homes, in addition to being extensively on display throughout the extended family. His secret to a long and joyful life was simple:

appreciate what you have in front of you, such as family and friends and always show affection, write letters and don't eat anything which wasn't deep fried in bacon fat.

He is survived by his daughters, Barbara Serbowicz of Grand Rapids, Mich. and Connie McMullen of Canton, Mich.; and one son and one daughter-in-law, Gerald M. and his wife Marge Dugal of Andover; and his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

ARRANGEMENTS: Funeral services will be in Michigan where he will be buried next to his love for more than 65 years, his wife Jennie. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Burke-Magliozi Funeral Home of Andover. For additional information, please visit, www.burkemagliozi.com.

George S. Roman, 89



ANDOVER — George S. Roman, 89, of Andover, died Monday, April 5, 2010 at Edith Nourse Rogers Veterans Hospital in Bedford.

George was born in S. Milwaukee, Wis. on June 2, 1920 to the late Simon and Kiva (Doboson) Roman.

He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II from 1941 to 1945. George was a graduate of Oklahoma A&M earning a degree in industrial engineering, and was employed as an industrial engineer at Western Electric until his retirement. He was a member of the American

Society of Professional Engineers and enjoyed golfing, bowling gardening and traveling all over the world. George enjoyed playing the piano, a talent he learned at age 65.

He is survived by his wife, Sally (Lopardi) Roman of Andover, and his daughter, Barbara Roman and her husband Jeff Turton of Melrose. Also among his survivors are his sister, Kiva Hayen of South Milwaukee and his grandson, Ben Turton.

ARRANGEMENTS: Funeral services were held on Monday at South Church in Andover. Burial followed in Spring Grove Cemetery in Andover. Family and friends called on Sunday from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover. For online condolences visit www.confetfuneralhomes.com.

Barbara A. Snow, 66

SALEM, N.H. — Barbara A. (Hopper) Snow, age 66, of Salem, N.H., died peacefully at the Merrimack Valley Hospice House, Haverhill.

She was born in Moline, Ill., where she grew up and was educated. She later graduated from Merrimack College in North Andover in 1988. She was a resident of Salem for the past 20 years, formerly of Andover.

Barbara was an Executive Accountant for Watts Regulator in North Andover. She enjoyed traveling and trips to Mexico. She loved doing crossword puzzles and sudoku. She also enjoyed reading, trips to Mexico and hot weather.

She is survived by her daughters: Catherine and her husband

Kevin Griffin of Salem, N.H., Elizabeth Morgan of Salem, N.H.; son, Michael Snow of Salem, N.H.; best friend, George Bouchard of Salem, N.H.; brother, Wilbur Hopper of Florida; sister, Elizabeth Tobler of Wisconsin; seven grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and several nieces and nephews.

ARRANGEMENTS: Private funeral services will be held for the family. There are no calling hours. Douglas & Johnson Funeral Home, 214 Main St., Salem, N.H., has care of the arrangements. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Merrimack Valley Hospice House, 360 North Ave., Haverhill, MA 01830. To send a message of condolence to the family, please view the obituary at www.douglasandjohnson.com.

Marianna R. Bouse, 85



THE VILLAGES, Fla. — Marianna R. Bouse, 85, of The Villages, Fla., died on Sunday, March 21, 2010.

She was born in Lawrence, and she moved to The Villages in 2004 from Andover. She was a member of St. Augustine Catholic Church, Andover.

She worked for 25 years for The Raytheon Company and was a member of IBEW Local 1505, Andover.

She enjoyed working the vegetable and flower gardens, swimming and cook-outs. She was a humanitarian and loved spending time with family and friends.

She is survived by two daughters: Rita (Paul) Cavallaro and Diane (Ron) Roe, Haverhill; four sons: William (Clare) Bouse, Haverhill; Richard (Pauline) Raymond, The Villages, Fla.; Henry (Patti) Raymond, The

Villages, Fla.; Renee (Lenir) Raymond, Hudson, N.H.; five sisters: Doris Theberge, Massachusetts; Claire Pinkham, Massachusetts; Delia Blake, New Hampshire; Rita Urquiza, Florida; and Theresa Hniedzijko; Alabama; brother, Henry Bolduc, Texas; 19 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Roy; son, Maurice Raymond; and two brothers: Emil and Wilfred Bolduc.

ARRANGEMENTS: A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 216 East Dunstable Road, Nashua, NH 03062-2344. Inurnment will follow the Mass at Edgewood Cemetery, Nashua, N.H. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Marion County, P.O. Box 4860, Ocala, FL 34478-4860. Online condolences may be left at www.beyersfuneralhome.com. Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory, Lady Lake, Fla.

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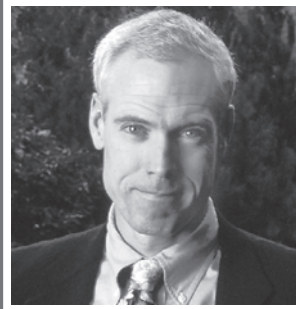
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Registration begins at 8:00am, Program runs 9:00am-4:00pm



JIM COLLINS
Author of "Good to Great", "How the Mighty Fall", and co-author of "Built to Last"

Jim Collins has authored or co-authored four books, including the classic Built to Last. Collins' book, Good to Great, attained long-running positions on the New York Times, Wall Street Journal and BusinessWeek best seller lists, has sold 3 million hardcover copies and has been translated into 35 languages. His most recent book, How the Mighty Fall, was published in May 2009.

Also featuring:
TONY DUNGY Retired head coach for the Indianapolis Colts
JOHN C. MAXWELL Leadership expert & best-selling author
CHIP HEATH Author, Columnist & Stanford professor

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- VPs/Directors
- Managers
- Leaders in Training
- Non-Profits
- Entrepreneurs
- Business Owners

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Opinion

Youth action got results

Andover youth this spring have seen a lesson in the power of the pen... augmented by the cell phone, text message, Web-site comment and tweet.

After weeks of letters, calls and online comments from Andover youth and young adults who have benefitted from Andover Youth Services, selectmen asked the town manager last month to again include money for Andover Youth Services seasonal programs. The money had been removed from the current year's budget (and replaced by fundraising), and was again left out of the town manager's recommended budget for next fiscal year. The money is used for the skate park, summer jobs for older kids who run programs and do work around town, for out-of-town trips and other summer programs for youth.

Although the seasonal programs account will still see a cut it will no longer drop from about \$46,000 to about \$1,300. Instead, it is expected to be around \$30,000, based on a selectmen decision last month.

To be sure, Andover Youth Services provides as much, if not more, bang for the taxpayers buck than any other town or school department. The young adults who support it made a convincing case on the effectiveness and importance of the youth services program. They should be applauded for taking an interest, taking action and saving something that had been valuable to them when they were growing up.

Casinos are not the answer

Casino gambling is not a golden goose. That is something Massachusetts residents should keep in mind while some elected leaders promise casinos and slots at racetracks will rescue the state from recession and high unemployment. If gambling really was the route to fiscal stability, Connecticut, Rhode Island and New Jersey would be swimming in surpluses. They aren't. Connecticut is looking at an impending \$600 million deficit by July. Rhode Island's projected deficit is \$660 million. New Jersey's deficit for the fiscal year starting in July could reach \$11 billion. Gambling is not about creating or making anything. It simply profits from people losing their "hard-earned" money. It yields revenue for government, but at a cost in human misery that can turn tragic. Some legislators, such as Andover's Sue Tucker, recognize this. Others do not.

While one might make the argument that government should not control what adults do with their money, to argue that casinos are the cure for a poor economy seems difficult.

Gambling revenue at existing casinos and the Massachusetts lottery is down. It does not make economic sense to create more supply for gamblers when demand is declining. Finally, legislators are addressing a short-term fiscal problem with a long-term, risky cultural shift. The recession will end and jobs will come back – economic indicators and business confidence are slowly increasing. But casinos and slots, with their attendant crime and other social costs, will continue forever. Short-term gain for long-term pain is not the way to create a sustainable economy.

LETTERS POLICY

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

Mail to:

33 Chestnut St.,
Box 1986, Andover, Mass. 01810

Fax to:

978-470-2819

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

WEB QUESTION

Yard: Once-in-lifetime or too much?

This week, town leaders unveiled a plan to relocate the town yard in two phases, purchasing property and retrofitting a warehouse at 146 Dascomb Road for \$21.9 million. Town Meeting voters have the ultimate say, as a warrant article approves the purchase with a debt exclusion override. How do you feel about the project?

■ 146 Dascomb Road is the ideal location.

■ Town yard should move, but we can't afford \$21 million.

■ Town yard should stay

where it is.

■ Town yard is not a priority.

■ I don't have enough info to form an opinion.

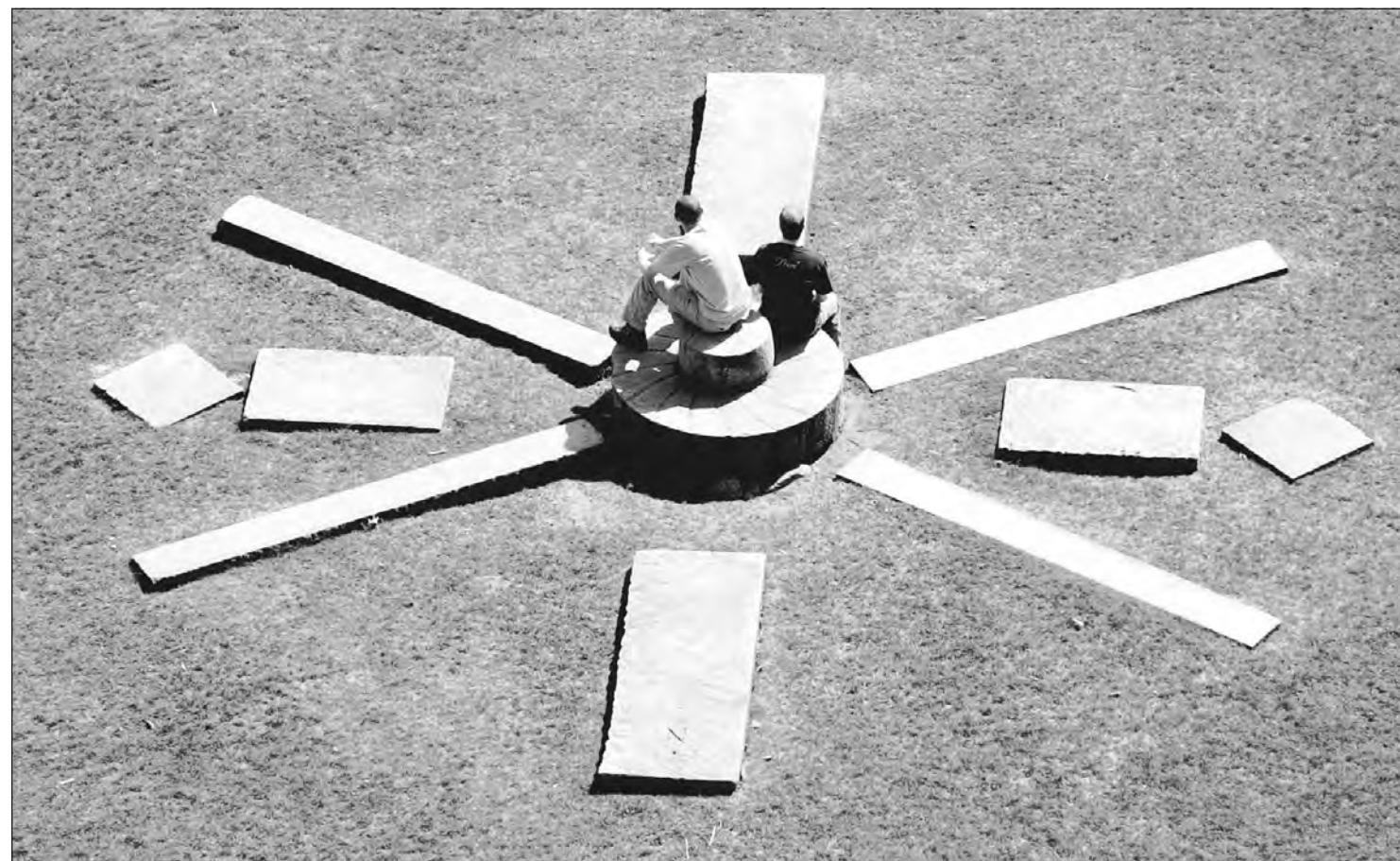
■ We must move town yard soon, and this seems a creative solution.

■ What's a town yard?

■ None of the above.

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

SPRING TIME



Two hikers take a rest on the sundial atop of Holt Hill in Andover.

PAUL BILODEAU/Staff photo

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

If leaders can't agree on how to cap spending, we should reject budget

Editor, Townsman:

As we approach Town Meeting, it is apparent that we have another budget crisis on our hands. The entrenched school department and town bureaucracies have been promoting budgets that collectively appear headed, unless the citizens intervene at Town Meeting, to hit everyone in our already overstretched household budgets. (If you believe that Prop. 2 1/2 keeps things in check, look again, since Andover's property taxes have escalated at a compound rate of over 5 percent a year over the past 25 years, turning Andover into a community that is rapidly becoming unaffordable for both current residents and young couples who seek to move here.)

With just two weeks to go to Town Meeting as of the writing of this letter, we see a School Committee that disagrees at the multi million dollar level as to what budget to propose to the town, and we can anticipate a Town Meeting warrant that again will likely have major portions of the proposed budget without consensus among the town's leaders. I will not be surprised if we see, in the printed warrant, the withholding of positions on major budget items until Town Meeting itself, denying the residents an opportunity to know, well in advance of Town Meeting, exactly where each of these officials stand on each of the proposed budget items and the budget as a whole.

If the town's elected and appointed leaders cannot figure out a budget prior to Town Meeting, it is unreasonable and absurd to ask town voters to make snap, on-the-spot, \$130 million decisions there. Voters are owed ample time to probe the positions and recommendations of these people, and we are not getting this information when the elected and appointed officials are unable to figure these things out prior to Town Meeting. As things work right now, we are asked to resolve the budget crisis and effectively sign blank checks to the school department and town with a take-it-or-leave-it vote. I recommend that this year, given the inability of town leaders to present us a budget that will cap people's property taxes as we continue to struggle through this still-bad recession that has dramatically reduced household incomes, home values and household net worths, we say "leave it." A "no" across the board on all budget items at Town Meeting will force town leadership to step up to the plate and finally tackle the monster that consumes 80 percent of every budget dollar and has created annual crisis and huge annual increases in our property taxes – out of control labor contracts.

If the School Committee and selectmen don't have the courage to reign in compensation packages and are incapable of presenting the town later with a combined budget that caps property taxes at the current level, we as town voters need to say "enough is enough" and vote no on all budget items as the means by which we get the

School Committee and selectmen to fix the problem they created.

BOB POKRESS
3 Cherrywood Circle

We can't bankroll \$20M+ town yard

Editor, Townsman:

Well, if our town is seeking to become a Dilbert cartoon parody, I believe it has succeeded! On the April 8 front page I see two headlines. The first states "\$26M plan to be unveiled: Town yard move would be costly." The second states "Town searching for budget solutions."

How about this for a "solution"? Stop spending money on non-essential things. Things like a \$26M move of the town yard! I know the center of town would look better. I know it would be a nice thing to have. But we simply DO NOT have the money.

Put those wacky ideas in a big cookie jar and, if some philanthropic citizen wants to fund one, only then should we reach our hand into the jar.

RICH MICHALIK
7 Hearthstone

Town yard plan is rare opportunity

Editor, Townsman:

Andover has a rare opportunity to give voters control of development of future Andover downtown, expand the tax base and receive state aid.

Since June, 2006, 10 voters appointed to a task force mandated by Town Meeting have participated with town officials to prepare for the relocation of the town yard and eventual development of centrally located properties that lay between North Main and Railroad streets and the developed properties on Essex Street.

The two-plus acres occupied by the town yard are no longer sufficient to serve the needs of the town. Residents have soundly rejected proposals to locate separable portions of its operations to other Town properties in Andover.

After three years of searching, good fortune has made an ideal location available with an advantageous building at a net cost that will be lower than the cost to replace current facilities with new buildings at any location.

The redevelopment of the present town yard site in conjunction with adjacent properties, some already owned by the town, provides the opportunity to increase Andover's tax base significantly. A 2009 market analysis demonstrates there is a substantial market in Andover for new office space, one- and two-bedroom apartments, and certain retailing. Andover is under served by medical and health care services, Massachusetts' fastest growing industry. Small apartments near the railroad station will attract young professionals and allow many Andover senior citizens to remain in Andover.

The Legislature has facilitated town planning for future development with a "Smart Growth" law, which allows towns to prescribe architectural and landscape-design specifications. Also, it overcomes a flaw in the

original Low Income Housing statute that results in the need to replenish LIH stocks, and it provides subsidies to meet any new LIH requirements.

With the benefit of funds approved at the 2009 Town Meeting, the task force procured a market analysis and retained the professional urban/suburban design and planning firm, The Cecil Group, to prepare verlay district specifications. The design developed is based upon three public meetings in which design options were offered and attendees' preferences recorded. Final design specifications were worked out with members of the task force whose experience includes architecture, property management, business management, engineering and law.

Town Meeting voters have the opportunity to put Andover in the driver's seat in place of a variety of independent developers, to determine the appearance of an exciting future section of our downtown area.

NORMAN VIEHMANN
Town Yard Task Force member
16 Martingale Lane

A longer version of this letter appears online.

Town yard plan deserves attention, support

Editor, Townsman:

Several years ago at Town Meeting, I spoke against an appropriation for improvements to the buildings at the Public Works yards off Lewis Street. With a site that is too small to provide suitable working conditions for employees and adequate protection for valuable vehicles and equipment, it seemed to me that the town was just wasting money.

I urged Town Meeting to find a better site for DPW operations, so the Lewis Street area could serve higher and better purposes. Some combination of housing, office space and retail shops would help meet important needs and would also take advantage of easy access to the rail line and to downtown Andover.

As a result, I was asked to be the Finance Committee liaison to the Town Yard Task Force, which has met for many months. We learned early on that the Lewis Street site was less than half the size necessary to adequately house our public works and related departments. The buildings there have serious structural problems that would be expensive to remedy on such a confined site. Several town departments are operating less efficiently because they are scattered around town in various locations.

The task force spent months reviewing possible town-owned sites and seeking private proposals with six or more acres. Many of these alternative sites had environmental constraints, and almost all would have met stiff resistance from residential neighbors.

Moreover, because of the state's prevailing wage laws, building a DPW facility from scratch would cost the taxpayers an estimated 25-30 percent more than similar private construction.

The current proposal to purchase land with buildings at 146 Dascomb Road provides a well-located site, with good accessibility to all parts of town, and it will not impact our residential neighborhoods. It is large enough to consolidate DPW and Plant & Facilities operations, allowing real efficiencies, and will provide adequate indoor space for vehicles and equipment that will extend their lives. Finally, it will provide safe, professional work space for town employees who have endured poor working conditions for too many years.

The proposal to purchase and retrofit the 146 Dascomb Road site is complicated, and town officials are still working to propose financing that reduces its impact on taxpayers. But this proposal is an excellent opportunity for the town, and I urge all voters to review and understand it before casting their votes at Town Meeting.

RICHARD HOWE
3 Robandy Road

Plan your end-of-life care with simple documents

Editor, Townsman:

On Friday, April 16, National Health Care Decisions Day, I urge people to take some time to have a thoughtful conversation with family members and loved ones about end-of-life health-care decisions, and to complete an advanced directive. By having these conversations and documenting your wishes in an advanced directive, your health care decisions will be respected by health care professionals and your personal wishes will be honored.

No one likes to think or talk about death, but making end-of-life decisions before they are needed can help you be prepared for any emergency. By completing an advanced directive, you can provide useful guidance to loved ones, family members and health care providers so that your wishes will be honored in the event you cannot speak for yourself.

Massachusetts recognizes two main forms of advanced directives:

A "Massachusetts Health Care Proxy" is a simple, legal document that allows you to appoint someone you know and trust to make decisions on your behalf if you cannot speak for yourself.

Five Wishes is a "living will" a legal document that instructs your family and your health care providers about your personal, emotional and spiritual needs and your medical wishes at the end of life.

It is important to ask yourself: Who will speak for me and respect my health care choices if I am unable to do so? You owe it to yourself to think about and plan for a life-threatening illness or end-of-life care. You can fill out an advanced directive without hiring a lawyer. It is easy to do and it is free.

You can find more information on advanced directives at www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org.

JOAN STYGLES HULL RN, MBA
President/CEO
Merrimack Valley Hospice

Andover Townsman

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Enterprise Bank is first and foremost a community bank. The deposits you make at Enterprise Bank become the loans to the businesses that sustain our local economy. These deposits become the funds to provide the mortgages that strengthen and stabilize the neighborhoods in which we all live. And having a strong, local, community bank such as Enterprise, leads to an unwavering support to the many non-profit organizations and charities that are so important to the quality of life in our communities.

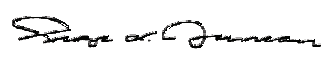
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- Dividends to stockholders totaling \$0.38 per share were paid in 2009, a 6% increase over 2008. Our annual dividend has increased every year since we began paying dividends in 1992.

- We undertook and successfully completed a stock offering raising \$8.9 million in capital to provide flexibility to seize growth and market opportunities.
- Both total loans and total deposits surpassed \$1 billion for the first time in our history;
- Total loans were \$1.08 billion at December 31, 2009 compared to \$948.6 million at December 31, 2008, an increase of 14%.
- Total deposits, excluding brokered deposits, were \$1.12 billion at December 31, 2009 compared to \$872.5 million at December 31, 2008, an increase of 28%.
- Over \$100 million in residential and home equity loans were originated in 2009, a 65% increase over 2008.

When you choose to work with Enterprise Bank, you are really making a choice to help your neighbors and friends. By providing loans to area businesses, we help to create vibrant local economies. **When you choose to work with Enterprise Bank, you have decided to add strength and stability to the community where you live and work. And when you choose to work with Enterprise Bank, you are making a statement about how important your community is to you.**

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Townspeople

At bee, the spell of fear

AHS teachers win on 'triskaidekaphobia'

The 13th Annual Andover Spelling Bee drew a crowd Friday night for an evening of entertainment and friendly competition that raised cash for teachers to implement "new and creative projects that reinforce the curriculum."

Hosted by the Andover Fund for Education, the Bee offered local schools and civic organizations an opportunity to support educational innovation in the Andover Public Schools by entering teams of adult spellers.

For the second year in a row, Andover High School's team, the

"Word Warriors," won the bee, beating out the West Elementary team called "Westspellingmentary" by correctly spelling "triskaidekaphobia." The high school was given a team trophy to display at school, and individual trophies were awarded to team members Scott Aubrey, Laurie Francis-Wright, John Kosartes and Patricia Whalen.

West Elementary School took home the Spirit Trophy, given to the school supported by the most enthusiastic fans, and

Please see **SPELLING**, Page 12



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

The Andover Fund for Education presented its 13th annual Andover Spelling Bee at the West Middle School Friday night. The West Elementary School team, from left, E.J. Perry, Lauren McCarron, Kathryn Price and Margo Spinale (not seen) react to misspelling a word.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Bancroft Elementary School students Julie Stabile, left, a third-grader, and Carly Dyer, a second-grader, dance and cheer for their team at the adult spelling bee.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

The Andover Fund for Education presented the 13th annual Andover Spelling Bee at West Middle School Friday, April 9. The "Bees" from the Andover School of Montessori were Farzana Palsetia, Nancy Keenan, Jane Triano and Ardian Mici. Here, Palsetia, left, cheers as Mici holds up the correct spelling of the word.



COURTESY PHOTO

This Andover High School team of teachers won the spelling bee. Pictured with Principal Jonathan Harris (far left) are, from left: John Kosartes, Patricia Whalen, Laurie Francis-Wright and Scott Aubrey.

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ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

COMPILED BY
SUSAN MCKELLIGET

100 Years Ago April 15, 1910

Andover seems to be having numerous experiences with thieves just at present. On Friday evening a freight car was broken into and five bags of grain stolen. The stolen property belonged to Smith and Manning.

Among the cases entered at the monthly return day of the Superior Court at Salem was the following of interest to Andover: Robert H. Johnston of Andover vs. Tyler Rubber Co. for \$15,000, the plaintiff claiming he was injured December 2, 1909, by reason of a defective condition of the ways, works and machinery.

Brooks F. Holt discovered this morning that some time during the night a thief had visited his barn. A bay mare, an open buggy, harness, laprobe, whip - in a word, a complete outfit - had been stolen from the premises. The matter has been reported to the police, who are working on the case.

75 Years Ago April 12, 1935

One of the most fiery legislative hearings in which a matter concerning Andover was being argued took place at the State House Wednesday when the feeble-minded school question [note: meaning the school for the developmentally disabled] was discussed before the Joint Committee on Public Welfare. The hearing developed into a three ring circus with Senator Langone [of the North End] as ring-master and Representative Coyne [of Fall River] as head-hunter. The bill argued was one that was presented to the Senate on petition of Ralph W. Emerson of Shawsheen Village "for legislation to provide for the construction and maintenance of a school for the feeble-minded in the West Andover district of the town of Andover."

The River Road construction job, which it has been hoped would be done by the Board of Public Works and so entirely by town labor, may have to be let out on contract, according to information received by Town Clerk George H. Winslow over the telephone from the State Department of Public Works yesterday.

50 Years Ago April 14, 1960

"I'm going to stay in my job until they throw me out," ousted Junior High School Principal Benjamin F. Dimlich told the Townsman this week. Dimlich said he has made up his mind not to accept a post as administrative assistant, which was created by the [school] committee and to which he was appointed at \$7,400 yearly.

Students from the three upper Junior High grades turned out enthusiastically last Saturday to reconstruct an area of former lawn at the side of the [Junior High School] building. The Student Council raised the money for loam and seeds, gifts of trees and plants have been received, and the manpower was happily donated by students. Under the direction of Guidance Counselor William Hart, the boys and girls dug up the old area, spread loam and seeded the area. An arch and fence, made in the school, will be erected around the area.

History: What do we know?

Bill Dalton



The following is part of a speech given by Townsman columnist Bill Dalton during the Andover Historical Society's 30th Annual Lecture on Tuesday.

There's a famous quote from Edmund Burke (1729-1797) and later, George Santayana (1863-1952), the exact wording of which varies. It is: "Those who don't understand history are doomed to repeat it," or "Those who cannot learn from history are doomed to repeat it."

No matter the exact wording, history is important.

In 1979-80, I was in the Kennedy School mid-career MPA program. My fellow students

were members of the CIA and FBI, generals in the Israeli Army, former and future Congressman and future heads of foreign governments. I have no idea why I was accepted into the program.

The most popular course was "Uses of History," taught by Ernest May and Richard Neustadt, both experienced in high levels of government and academia. They were old

Please see **DALTON**, Page 12

ANDOVER STORIES

Andover is home of 'America'

By DON ROBB
ANDOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Each spring, Andover's Annual Town Meeting opens with the singing of "America," or as it is also known from its first line, "My Country, 'Tis of Thee." (A few years ago, Town Moderator Jim Doherty was astonished, after introducing the young lady who would perform, to hear her sing, exquisitely, not America, but America, the Beautiful.)

Why is America a part of the tradition of Andover Town Meeting? Simply because Andover is America's home town - the song was written here early in the 19th century.

One day in February 1831, a young student at the Andover Theological Seminary, Samuel Francis Smith, was busy translating a series of German songs from a book given to him by his friend, Lowell Mason. Inspired by the lyrics of one particularly

patriotic song, Smith paused in his translating, took a scrap of paper, and jotted down five verses of a patriotic song of his own, one which exalted the virtues of his native country, America.

Smith, born in Boston in 1808, graduated from Boston Latin School in 1825, and from Harvard in 1829. Fluent in several languages, he worked as a translator and journalist for several years before deciding he wanted to become a minister.

He arrived at the Andover Theological Seminary (now the Andover-Newton Theological School in Newton, but then located on the campus of Phillips Academy) in 1830, and rented rooms in a home at what is now 147 Main St.

Smith needed a mere half hour to produce the lyrics to a song that has become an American favorite over the years. The

Please see **STORIES**, Page 12

Free event this weekend to support troops

Several hundred people have already signed up to walk and run through downtown Andover this Saturday as part of an outdoor event to show support for American troops.

Bill Pennington, of Clark Road, has planned a free 4-mile walk or run, and breakfast in the Park, with any money donated

helping to build homes for troops who return home from the war on terrorism disabled. Previously, Pennington was a founder of the Feaster Five Road Race, which has become a Thanksgiving morning tradition for thousands.

While the new April 17 event itself is free, any money

voluntarily offered will go to Homes for Our Troops, a national organization that builds specially adapted homes and gives them free to new disabled veterans returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan.

"People can walk. People can

Please see **TROOPS**, Page 12



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SPELLING

Continued from Page 11

West Middle School's team, the "Spellraisers," won for Best Team Costume.

A high-energy audience periodically filled the West Middle School auditorium with cheers for their favorite team. Supporters of the elementary school teams strutted their stuff in a freewheeling "Spirit Parade" that wound its way through the auditorium prior to the championship round.

Pronouncers for each round were the following school principals: Theresa McGuinness Darby of Doherty Middle School, Pamela Lathrop of High Plain Elementary, Francine Goldstein of Bancroft Elementary) Jonathan Harris of Andover High School), and former principal

at Sanborn Elementary Steve Jankauskas. Master of Ceremonies was Selectman Alex Vispoli and judges for the Spelling Bee were Eileen Woods, former principal of South School, and Selectman Brian Major.

Live music was provided by Left Hand Blue, a local rock band featuring high school students Matt Minigell, Carissa Johnson, and Sean Duggan, who entertained the audience between rounds.

In addition to posters displaying the range of AFE grants, the evening featured a live demonstration by West Middle School engineering teacher Dan Miley of a solar energy project funded by a recent AFE grant. Assisted by students, Miley demonstrated how energy generated by rooftop solar panels and stored in batteries can be used to run lights in the engineering lab or to power a hybrid bicycle.

TROOPS

Continued from Page 11

run the four miles. They can just come for breakfast or to watch," he says. "It's going to be very patriotic. We want to show our support for their service and sacrifice."

Pennington became involved with Homes for Our Troops last year, when Andover resident Jay French hosted a North Andover fundraiser to help build a home for Sgt. Peter Rooney, who lost both legs when his vehicle hit a roadside bomb in Ramadi, Iraq. The

home has since been dedicated, said Pennington.

The Massachusetts School of Law in Andover has donated 500 T-shirts, which will be given free to race participants.

To sign up for the walk or run visit www.homesforourtroops.org, click on "events" and find the event on the calendar. People can also visit coolrunnings.com and click on "races/results." People can also register the day of the event.

The event will begin on April 17 at 8:30 a.m. with people gathering in the Park, at the corner of Bartlet and Chestnut streets. Breakfast will also be served.

SPRING BOOMERVENTURE PROGRAMS

Serenity Yoga: Gentle yoga, suitable for beginners, will create strength and balance through mind/body connection; helps improve alignment and create harmony. Bring yoga mat. Wednesdays, March 31 to June 30, 2:45 to 3:45 p.m., \$70 per 13 week session.

Energize with Exercise: Great basic exercise designed for 40+ bodies. Work-out hard without going to the gym. High results

with low impact; floor aerobics, weight training and stretching. Mondays, March 29 to June 28, 3:30 to 4:30p.m., \$60 for 10 week session.

Boomer Zumba: Thursdays: April 1 to June 17, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., \$60 for 10 week session. Cardio fitness with a Latin flair. Dance to Afro-Caribbean music and Latin beats, with flamenco, belly dance, rock and hip hop thrown in to mix it up. You'll

party instead of working out. No class April 22 or May 27.

Boomer Bridge: Mondays: April 5 to May 17, 6 week session. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., \$100 or \$25 drop in fee, no class on April 19. Each week we'll play duplicate hands that practice your bidding and strategic skills. Great handouts and analysis weekly. This is not an introductory course but is appropriate for returning players and

those who want to advance their games. Terry Kay Baragar, ACBL Accredited Bridge Instructor.

Pre-registration began March 15. Call 978-623-8321 for information, stop by to register. All classes held at Andover Senior Center, 30 Whittier Ct., Andover. Class sizes are limited. Please call for information on Organizing, Nordic Walking, and Tai Chi classes for April.

STORIES

Continued from Page 11

book where he found the original German lyrics also contained the accompanying music. Smith had no idea that the German tune to which he wrote new English lyrics was also the melody to God Save the King, the British national anthem.

Most Americans are well

acquainted with the first verse of the song, "My country, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty..." Fewer, perhaps, are as familiar with the second verse, which has particular significance for Andoverites. That verse contains the lines "I love thy rocks and rills, Thy woods and templed hills."

It is widely believed that those lines refer to the part of Andover which Smith could see from his home on Main Street. Looking

west toward rolling hills in those early days of the 19th century before the town had built up, and especially in winter when the trees were bare, Smith could see two church steeples – the "templed hills" of the song.

The two spires were those of Andover's first two churches, the South Parish Church on School Street and the West Parish Church on Reservation Road. The South Parish church was established in 1711; although the first

church building had no steeple, a replacement built in 1788 did adopt the late 18th century style of churches with steeples. West Parish, built in 1826 – and the oldest church building in town – was constructed with a spire.

America was first performed in public at an Independence Day service at the Park Street Church in Boston on July 4, 1831. Since then, it has become one of the country's favorite patriotic songs.

DALTON

Continued from Page 11

fashioned, look-for-the-truth scholars and ideology never affected scholarship. These were not the kind of people who today would look for spots on Oprah Winfrey or Larry King.

May had written "Lessons of the Past" (Oxford University Press, 1973). In 1986, with

Neustadt as his coauthor, the book was expanded and called, "Thinking in Time" (The Free Press). The book was well-read, and my copy is a 20th printing.

In the book's preface, the authors state: "We started the course because we noticed politicians and media did not know any history to speak of. Yet we also saw that, despite themselves, Washington decision-makers actually used history in their decisions, at least for advocacy or for comfort, whether they knew any history or not."

The authors had modest expectations about their book and course and the effect they would have. They said, "Marginal improvement is worth seeking. We would be satisfied to see a slight upturn in average." By "average" they meant the average knowledge of history decision-makers had.

Students were given packets containing 1,000 to 1,500 pages of

writings and contemporary news coverage about specific, recent historical events (within the previous 20 years). As the course progressed, there was a feeling that, although it was impossible to agree on "The Truth" of the events, it was possible to learn more about each event and to pick up insights. We further concluded that some widely held beliefs concerning historical events were wrong.

Although there are parts of historical events for which we have empirical or unequivocal evidence, most of people's interpretations of history are based on lack of knowledge and their personal bias, as well as the bias of historians and teachers.

We can agree that World Wars I and II happened, but can we agree on the causes?

Certainly there was a Great Depression, but the causes are not as clear as one might hope.

Surely FDR was president, but did he help us get out of the Depression, or did he make it worse?

President Kennedy was assassinated, but are we all sure why?

The problem of gaining insights into recent history and current events is especially acute today, because so many historians and people who call themselves "experts" are biased ideologues who get too much attention from a media that has the same bias, and because our schools and colleges are doing a poor job of teaching history. There is a general dumbing down of American culture.

A week ago, AOL News

released a study done by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute. The Institute gave a 60-question, multiple choice quiz about basic American history to a number of people. The questions were taken from the U.S. Department of Education's 12th grade National Assessment of Educational Progress exam and from the U.S. Naturalization Exam. I've taken the test and it is basic civics and history such as who has the power to declare war, what is the electoral college, what is *Roe v. Wade*, name two of our enemies in World War II. You can go online and find the test and results.

Several groups took the test. The first were 14,000 incoming college freshmen, who answered 49 percent right. (Remember, this was multiple choice with only four choices per question, so if you answered randomly, you'd get 25 percent right.) More frightening was that graduating college seniors scored, on average, 54 percent. None of our elite schools did better than 69 percent. This is not a difficult test.

The general public (sample 2,508) got 49 percent right. Of this group, 164 self described themselves as present or past holders of elected public office, and they did worse than the general public, getting only 44 percent right. There is a legal term, used by many outside the profession: *Res Ipsa Loquitur*. It means, the thing speaks for itself.

Bill Dalton writes a weekly column for the Andover Townsman and welcomes e-mails at billdalton@andovertownie.com.



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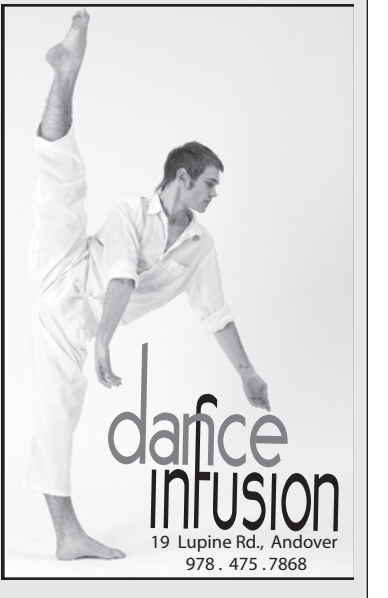
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Education

Six from Andover High heading to DECA nationals



Andover High School students, from left, Mitch Slovin, Henry Tian, Kevin Yang, Christine Zhou, Joe Dalton, Jared Rosen, Thomas Payne and Derek Monson (not shown) will be headed to Kentucky to compete in the DECA International Conference, a business- and marketing-education event.

Eight Andover High School students are headed to an international Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) competition in Louisville, Ky., April 24 through 28.

This marks the most students AHS has sent to the national competition in its 30 years of competing in DECA, said Joe Spanos, DECA advisor and AHS marketing teacher.

Each of the eight students headed to Kentucky placed within the top four of their categories at the state DECA conference in Boston the weekend of March 6. The students are:

- **Henry Tian** – first place in Accounting Applications
- **Kevin Yang** – first place in Marketing Management Services
- **Mitch Slovin** – first place in Retail Merchandising Series
- **Derek Monson** – second place in Restaurant and Food Marketing
- **Christine Zhou** – second place in Marketing Management Services
- **Thomas Payne** – third place in Automotive Services
- **Joe Dalton** – third place in

Food Marketing Services

- **Jared Rosen** – fourth place in Marketing Management Services

Top-10 finishers

At the state competition, 30 AHS students competed in a variety of business related events, including role-play situations and 100 objective question tests. Other AHS marketing students who placed in the top 10 of their category included:

- **Greg Joyce** – Restaurant and Food Marketing
- **Panayioti Kostakis** – Automotive Services
- **Ned Dean** and **Tom Dempsey** – Buying & Merchandising (team event)
- **Emy Lemay** – Food Marketing Services
- **Michael Cohen** – Food Marketing Services
- **Ethan Davis** – Principles of Business Management
- **Ben Cook** and **John Moffitt** – Travel and Tourism (team event)
- **Danielle Dizenzo** and **Justin Lippa** – Travel and Tourism (team event)

■ **Michael Principe** – Business Services

Andover High School fielded a team for the first time in the DECA Quiz Bowl competition, which encompassed over 4,000 business and marketing related questions. The AHS team, **Rebecca Kadima, Madhu Narayan, Dimitri Roumeliotis** and **Yanni Wallingford**, qualified through three separate rounds before losing to the state champions from Westford Academy.

DECA, an association for students of marketing, has chapters all over the world. DECA says its objective is to support the development of marketing and management skills in career areas such as hospitality, finance, sales and service, business administration and entrepreneurship. Programs and activities are tailored to the specific career interest of students and include technical skills, basic scholastic and communication skills, human relations and employability skills and a strong emphasis on economics and free enterprise.

Ending business as usual on budget

Ken Seifert



Let's assume we are interested in buying a home in Andover. We plan to stay here the rest of our lives. We have a child we plan to enroll in

the public schools this September. We have rented in Andover a few years.

Based on the front and opinion pages in last week's Townsman, we'd be having second thoughts. In addition we have observed how the town has handled the financial crisis.

Here are a few observations.

There is a growing feeling in the town that the citizens give advice but are not heard. It seems the primary goal is to balance the budget and make cuts that will hurt the least. Not one successful candidate for the chief policy-making boards, selectmen and School Committee, proposed a suggested policy or policy change that would help solve our problems or make things better. Last year residents were asked how to cut the budget deficit. The selectmen and town manager turned off half the street lights to save an estimated \$47,000. It will take an article in this year's Town Meeting to light up the town again. We allocated big bucks for two ball fields last year and need a parking lot. We are considering closing community use of some schools and lowering the temperature 2 degrees.

This past year there seemed to be no reason to change the budget process, the planning process or to provide some hope for the future. In other words, after all we went through, it would be business as usual. I am not sure the selectmen or School Committee has well written policies with procedures for either of these vital mechanisms that make a quality community. The front page article for the school budget summarized how it would be balanced. The committee has accepted the superintendent's recommendation by a vote of 3-2. There was no mention of

new initiatives, increased efficiencies without hurting the classrooms, or providing an air of confidence. There is an old saying: tell me what you can do to make a positive difference as well as how it will hurt. There is an objective balance. What were the stated priorities from the policy makers?

David Whitney wrote a letter to the editor that basically said, let's not destroy the lighthouse school in Andover. I am sure he realizes the high school accreditation process begins next year. Majorie Andresen wrote a letter that hit the target: Let's drop the us-vs.-them, forget personal conflicts and focus on what needs to be done and the cost of inaction.

The editor provided a caution that capital projects without communication is a set up for failure. It is especially true when the people who are left in the dark are the ones who vote yes or no and pay the bills.

No one disputes that these are challenging times. It is during these times that you can judge the maturity and wisdom of a community. We are going through the same issues that every community in the country faces.

If there is one thing I know about the town of Andover and that is that it might take people a while to address the task of doing the right thing. When they do, they finally get it right. I think we are at that point. We are a bit out of kilter in doing the right thing in community discussion, proper planning, budgeting and programming. I think a policy that solves problems, makes things better, and instills confidence in a community that has tremendous potential is in order. When we get through this Town Meeting it would be refreshing to construct a roadmap to excellence and get on the road again. We certainly have the talent. There is also a basic goodness in our town. When the town as a community gets involved and understands reality the collective judgment shows it.

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

ACE-donated lab has nice sound to it



Claire Stahley and Susan Hughes, Andover Coalition for Education Board members, join young William Hughes in testing Andover High School's new language lab at a recent open house. ACE held the event to highlight the gift of the lab, made possible by hundreds of ACE donors. The Townsman will feature a story on the lab as it is incorporated into the foreign language program.

Graduating early, PA's Field collects scholarship

Andover resident David Field, 17, has been recognized for top marks in Advanced Placement courses, earning him a \$2,000 Siemens Foundation scholarship.



COURTESY PHOTO
Andover resident David Field, 17, received a \$2,000 Siemens Foundation scholarship.

in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

This year, Field took AP computer science, AP U.S. history and AP English literature and language. He is graduating high school one year early.

In summer 2009, Field traveled to Mexico as one of five American teens to compete in the International Physics Olympiad, bringing home a silver medal for the U.S. He spent close to 300 hours studying in preparation, including a two-week training camp that taught and tested participants on higher-level physics concepts.

For extracurricular activities, he enjoys running, hiking and rock climbing. He is interested in politics, philosophy and competitive math and physics.

Field applied to MIT and Stanford and plans to double major in physics and applied math. He is the son of Joan and Randall Field.

– Bethany Bray

College fair at PA April 26

Phillips Academy will host its annual College Fair from 5 to 7 p.m. on Monday, April 26, in the Case Memorial Cage, 5 Highland Road, Andover. Students and parents are invited to attend and meet representatives from more than 130 colleges and universities from around the world.

Representatives from participating institutions will be available to answer individual questions and to distribute informational literature about their schools.

Among the colleges and universities scheduled to attend the fair are Amherst, American University, Bates, Boston College, Boston University, Bowdoin, Brandeis, Carnegie Mellon, University of Chicago, University of Colorado, Cornell University, Furman, Johns Hopkins, University of Massachusetts/Amherst, Pomona, Providence, Smith, Stanford, Syracuse, Tulane, Villanova, Wake Forest, Whitman, Williams, and Worcester Polytechnic Institute. International schools include St. Andrews in Scotland, American University of Paris and University of Toronto and McGill in Canada.

For more information, call the College Counseling Office at 978-749-4155 or e-mail collegecounseling@andover.edu.

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SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

Here's what is for lunch in the Andover public schools next week, April 26-30:

Elementary schools

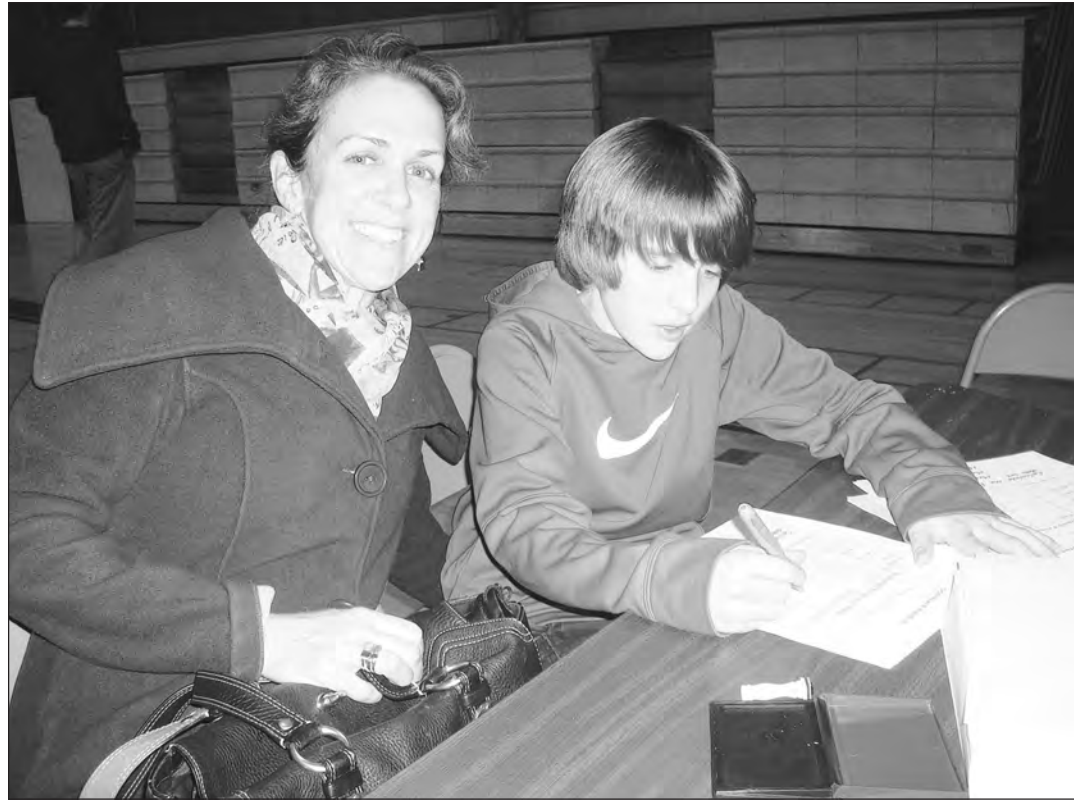
- Monday:** Grilled hotdog, white bean and chard soup with bacon and cheese panini, manager's choice, roasted potatoes, barbecue beans and fresh fruit.
- Tuesday:** Barbecue chicken with a dinner roll, mexican turkey lasagna, manager's choice, seasoned corn, applesauce with cinnamon and juice.
- Wednesday:** Fresh blueberry and yogurt parfait with graham crackers, raviolis, sauce and cheese, manager's choice, caesar salad with croutons, vanilla pudding with bananas and fresh fruit.
- Thursday:** Bosco cheese sticks with marinara sauce, macaroni and cheese, manager's choice, carrots and broccoli with dip, oven fries and fresh fruit.
- Friday:** No Lunch - Early Release

Middle schools

- Monday:** Beef nachos and toppings, ham and cheese panini, manager's choice, spanish rice, black beans and fresh fruit.
- Tuesday:** Chicken caesar salad, raviolis, sauce and cheese, manager's choice, caesar salad with croutons, vanilla pudding with bananas and fresh fruit.
- Wednesday:** Lasagna with meat sauce, fresh blueberry and yogurt parfait with graham crackers, manager's choice, carrots and broccoli with dip, seasoned peas and fresh fruit.
- Thursday:** Thanksgiving in April - turkey and all the fixings served in a bowl, macaroni and cheese, butternut squash, seasoned green beans and blueberries and cream.
- Friday:** Barbecue chicken sandwich, veggie wrap, manager's choice, macaroni salad, cole slaw, dinner roll and jello with fruit.

Andover High School

- Monday:** Quesadilla, toasted turkey and ham panini, hot veggie wrap, Rib-A-O on a bulky roll, baked beans, mini corn on the cob, cheeseburger panini and chilled fruit.
 - Tuesday:** Cheeseburger with lettuce and tomato, meatball sub, manager's choice, ravioli with meat sauce, garlic bread, seasoned veggies, chicken caesar wrap and fresh fruit.
 - Wednesday:** Grilled hotdog, grilled cheese panini, pastrami on a bulky roll, baked potato bar with toppings, tossed salad, grilled chicken panini and fresh fruit.
 - Thursday:** Teriyaki chicken sub, gyro, manager's choice, mozzarella sticks with sauce, french fries, garden salad, buffalo chicken and fresh fruit.
 - Friday:** Lemon pepper grilled chicken with lettuce and tomato, crispy chicken burger with lettuce and tomato, steak-and-cheese sub, tacos with toppings, refried cheesy beans, spanish rice, manager's choice and fresh fruit.
- Also available a la carte daily at the elementary and middle schools: bottled water and 100 percent juice, low-fat ice cream and yogurt, bagel with light cream cheese, yogurt, fresh fruit of the season and milk.
- At Andover High School there is a wrap/deli bar with sandwiches made to order with favorite toppings, plus a daily sandwich offering, daily specials and panini specials.
- For prices or other information about lunches, call Gail Koutroubas, food services director, at 978-623-8622.



Karen Hoyt and her son, Jack, work on a problem at West Middle School's recent math night, where sixth-graders and families visited the school for a variety of math-themed activities.

Baseline mathematics
School uses basketball, fun to teach math

From math-themed board games to a Jeopardy-style quiz competition, fun activities had West Middle School sixth-graders and their families crunching numbers at the school's Math Night on March 25.

More than 40 sixth-grade families came to the school for games and activities tied directly to the mathematics curriculum and to the Massachusetts state educational standards, said West Middle School math teacher Tara Brink.

The evening, organized by Brink, teacher Virginia Rossini and Anne Ogden, a parent who works at the school, was meant to encourage learning while making math fun, she said.

Families were given "passports" for the evening, and collected stamps at each activity.

At one station, students, siblings and parents played basketball to learn about data analysis and statistics. The activity was timed, and groups rotated to six different baskets, recording their score on a large graph in



David Tringale and his son, Matt, record a measurement at West Middle School's recent math night for sixth-graders. The Tringlaes are pictured working on a basketball math game, where points are tallied and graphed for each basket made.

the gym. Using the collected data, they calculated the mean (average), median (middle score) and mode (most frequent) of the data, said Brink.

West Middle Principal Steve Murray joined the fun, running the basketball activity for the evening.

- Bethany Bray

Be college student for a day at NECC

Have you ever wondered what a day in the life of a Northern Essex Community College student is like? Are you a high school student thinking about attending NECC or an adult who has always toyed with enrolling for a long sought after degree or certificate? NECC's "College for a Day," program on Wednesday, April 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on the Haverhill campus will give participants first-hand experience in a college classroom.

"We want to give people a

taste of what it's like to be in college," says Charles Diggs, Northern Essex's director of enrollment services. "People can choose to sit in on just one course or spend the entire day with us."

This event is free and open to the public. Interested individuals can register to attend by contacting admissions at 978-556-3722 or admissions@necc.mass.edu. Participants will start their day in the lobby of the Behrakis One-Stop Student Services Center on the Haverhill campus,

100 Elliott St. From there they can attend any or all of the course samplings, which change every hour. In addition, campus tours, assessment testing and information sessions will be available.

Courses that will be open to the public during that day will range from Environmental Issues to World Literature to Journalism to Jazz Dance. For additional information and a full list of courses that will be offered, visit www.necc.mass.edu/collegeforaday/index.php.

ON CAMPUS

Merrimack College recently announced those students named to the fall 2009 dean's list and president's list.

President's List: Michael J. Sukiennik and Andrew E. Whiting
Dean's List: Brooke L. Borstell, Lauren A. Brennan, Emily Cummings, Stephen D. Daniels, Shelby T. Donovan, Matthew R. Hogan, Cristina J. Lucin, Courtney A. Martel, Victoria A. Quilliam, David W. Selima, Amanda J. Stumpf, Marie M. Wagner, Jason C. Westgate, and Nicole V. Zaffini

Alexandra Donovan, a freshman at The Governor's Academy in Byfield and a former St. Augustine School student, has been named to the academy's honor roll for the first semester of the 2009-10 academic year for receiving high honors. She is the daughter of Greg and Carol Donovan of North Andover.

Babson College has announced the following Andover residents qualified for the fall semester dean's list, which recognizes outstanding student scholarship:
Varun Vinod Bhandari, John Alexander Chartier, Jessica Huang and Taylor Wailes.

Andover students named to the dean's list at Boston University for the fall semester include: Ashley E. Cohen, Arjun Kannan, David M. Keohane, Alexa L. Moccia, Gaetano P. Morello, Jessica L. Morrow, Jade A. Mosquera, Hannah E. Nichols, Emily J. Pallotta, Laura C. Wang, Kristine H. Xue, and Elizabeth Zigmont.

Marc Turaino, a resident of Andover and a student at Salem State College, has been selected by the Massachusetts Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance as an "Outstanding Future Professional." This award is given to undergraduate students who have demonstrated dedication to the health, physical education, recreation and dance profession and have shown contributions to their college and community.

The award was presented to Turaino at MAHPERD's Honors/Award Banquet in mid-March, according to the group.

Turaino will graduate from Salem State College this spring after transferring from Fordham University to study physical education. He currently boasts a 3.9 grade-point average and is a frequent recipient of dean's list honors. He is involved on campus and in the community as assistant volleyball coach to Salem State College and St. John's Prep. He serves as head coach for the U-15 North Shore Junior Olympic Volleyball program. Among his involvement in volleyball, he is involved in various professional clubs and organizations. He is currently a member of the MAHPERD Council of Future Professionals and serves as an executive board member for Salem State's Sport and Movement Science Club.

University of Massachusetts Lowell has announced students named to the dean's list for the fall 2009 semester. They are Lynette Adams, Michael Baglio Jr., Mikaila Bourgeois, Sarah Ciras, Katelyn Daly, Joshua Devine, Caitlin Dowd, Nicole Dwyer, Kane Guthrie, Yenitza Hernandez, Kader Kapadia, Ryan Mackay, Raysa Mateo, Gerald Mohan Jr., Cynthia Morell, Erik O'Connell, Aidan O'Donnell, Daniel Piercy, Michael Pliskaner, Alyssa Rastiello, Alexander Rindone, Nicole Sambursky, Rachel Simili, Jared Taylor, Rishi Vangapalli, Ryan Ward, Caitlin Watts, and Emily Welsh.

Nicole Gagnon, majoring in psychology, and Brittany Isenhart, majoring in business management, were named to the 2009 fall dean's list at Westfield State College in Westfield.

Christina Pierro of Andover has been selected for membership in the Order of the Cross and Crown, which is the oldest and most prestigious honor society in the College of Arts and Sciences at Boston College. Members of the Order are distinguished by both outstanding academic performance and by unusual service and leadership on campus throughout their undergraduate years.

Alison Lindsay Fessler, daughter of Amy and Scott Fessler of Andover, was named to the dean's list at Brandeis University for academic achievement during the fall 2009 semester.

University of Massachusetts Amherst has announced the names of students from Andover who qualified for dean's list for the 2009 fall semester. In order to qualify, an undergraduate student must receive a 3.5 grade-point average or better on a four-point scale.

The students are Nathan R. Aldrich, Leslie A. Barber, Lauren M Barry, Joseph F. Bill, Michael F. Bill, Lisa Marie Bourgeois, Zoe-Charlotte Oriana Cabaret-Salameh, Jillian Margaret Caraviallo, Clara Chekanov, Eric A. Cox Jr, Jonathan A. Crush, Matthew A. Dion, Stephanie M. Eng, Nicole Elizabeth Foxworth, Virginia May Gibson, Noortje Astrid Groosman, John Hamilton, Michael Brooks Hamilton, Gary Stephen Hinds, Aimee E. Jen, Naveen Kanthavelan, Julianne Konjoian, Donna P. Lamontagne, Michelle Elizabeth Laracy, Alexander B. Levine, Dorothy Y. Liu, Allison E. Loscutoff, Lauren J. Martin, Meghan Joyce McDonough, Katherine J. McKelliget, Kyla Z. McRoy, Wendy E. Melin, Jonathan Richard Morgan, Olympia Marie Papadopulu, Danielle B. Perry, Anthony P. Prochilo, Natalia Elizabeth Przewozniak, Brendan K. Richardson, Sonia K. Righter, Alycia M Robbat, Katherine F. Rogers, Christopher J. Seero, Rebecca Leigh Spires, Joseph I. Terranova, Kevin S. Thompson, Victoria B. Vasilakis and Ryan D Walsh.

Sarah Jennings Hathaway of Andover made the Seattle Pacific University 2009 winter quarter dean's list.

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Business

Open house at new Wingate Gym tonight

Community members are invited to Wingate at Andover, 80 Andover St., to view the new Gym at Wingate on Thursday, April 15 from 4 to 7 p.m. Tours of the newly refurbished space and light refreshments will be served.

Call the facility directly at 978-470-3434 for more information or to reserve your space for the event.

The Gym at Wingate is "a brand-new cutting edge rehabilitation and therapy gym featuring patient focused short-term and post acute care."

Available at Wingate Healthcare locations throughout Massachusetts and New York, The Gym at Wingate at Andover offers rehabilitative care designed to meet each patient's unique healthcare needs. From state-of-the-art rehab gyms equipped with top-of-the-line equipment to specialized, physician-directed programs of care, The Gym at Wingate ensures recovery is personalized, according to a release from the company.

"The Gym at Wingate is truly unlike any other rehab care available and has created a beautiful space with the best therapy equipment in the industry," said Debbie Donovan RN, Wingate Healthcare regional marketing director for the Eastern Mass. region. "Wingate Healthcare and our staff in Andover are proud to offer patients a program of care that goes beyond what they would expect from a rehab experience."

In-house teams of experienced physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech pathologists, assistants, nurses, and nutritionists provide cutting edge care in a supportive, well-appointed environment tailored toward each patient's personal comfort, according to the release.

"At The Gym at Wingate, the length of stay for our patients is a day and a half shorter than the national average," said Michael Flaherty, Wingate Healthcare administrator for Wingate at Andover.

Offering therapy sessions seven days a week, The Gym at Wingate features cardio machines, free weights, and fitness center amenities including flat-screen TVs, towels, and bottled water.

On the Bone steakhouse opening

A new steakhouse concept will hit the grill tomorrow at the recently renovated Wyndham Boston Andover hotel at 123 Old River Road.

Beginning April 16, Merrimack Valley residents can feast at On the Bone, which is billed as "a new concept in dining that features the finest meats and chops served on the bone."

On the Bone is owned by the Shamrock - Hostmark Hotel Fund, an investment

and management partnership which has chosen Andover as the venue for its On the Bone restaurant. The first is celebrating its one year anniversary this month in Princeton, N.J.

According to General Manager Don Corbosiero, "Meat is always sweeter and tastier when it's served on the bone to preserve the juices. Folks really enjoy it that way."

In addition to naturally raised and preservative-free beef, pork and poultry, the restaurant says

it features a full menu of offerings including sustainable and line caught east coast seafood, organic produce in season and whenever possible, ingredients sourced from local farmers. At lunch there will be hand-carved sandwiches showcasing a different cut of meat each day, the Farmer's Market display will have an array of salads made from locally grown organic produce, and local Artisan breads and fresh soup will be available Monday through Friday. The

small-plate section of the menu highlights items that are suitable for sharing as appetizers or as a main course for those looking to dine on the lighter side.

The establishment also has adjoining bar nicknamed "Off the Bone."

"People here work hard and like to play hard in their off time," said Corbosiero in a release. "So whether it's a business lunch or a time to relax and socialize they are looking

for what we are offering - great food and libations, in a pleasant atmosphere all delivered at prices they can afford." He added, "At On the Bone you won't need to take out a loan to dine with your colleagues, friends or family."

On the Bone is open seven days a week for lunch and dinner, from 11 a.m. until midnight. Reservations are recommended by calling 978-683-BONE (2663) or by visiting www.onthebone-andover.com.

Shutterbug goes scientific

Spencer closes photography studio, opens Water Analytics

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

A well-known Andover photographer has traded in his camera for water quality analysis equipment.

In fact, Mark Spencer's Carriage House Photography business sits shuttered on one side of his historic 100 School St. building near the Andover commuter rail stop, while his new business has taken over the other side of the building. That space, also near the intersection of School and Essex streets, formerly housed an ice cream shop, Main Line Creamery.

Photographer Spencer is also Dr. Spencer, as he holds a Ph.D in physical chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was last director of technology for Agiltron, a contract R&D company, and spent a decade at NASA Ames Research Center measuring infrared absorption of atmospheric species. He expects to use that experience in securing and managing government funded R&D programs to expand the technology of water-quality analysis.

Spencer's research side may be lesser known around town as he is best known for his photography business. He started Carriage House Photography in 1995. But, the time has come to do something else, he said.

Spencer said the studio space



PAUL BILODEAU/Staff photo

Mark Spencer, who for years operated a photography business in Andover, has opened a water-quality testing business. He manufactures the technology here in his small School Street building in Andover.

is closed and for sale.

"I closed Carriage House because I was getting restless and yearning for a change back to doing something in science," he said.

Spencer will continue to photograph portraits of Andover's "Citizens Who Care" selections. He's been photographing those given the honor since 1996 for an exhibit that is shown in banks, Memorial Hall Library and Old Town Hall. Becoming involved with the "Citizens Who Care" project was part of being

a Rotarian, an affiliation he continues as he switches careers.

Spencer, who lives in Andover with his family, is one of 10 employees at his new company, Water Analytics, who will research and make water analysis equipment such as pH probes and controllers. He bought the Toronto-based business about four months ago and now manufactures state-of-the-art, durable and cost effective water quality analysis equipment in the basement of the building, which he owns.

"I tell people about manufacturing and they ask where I do that. I have to tell them, 'No, no, it's happening right here in the basement,'" he said with a laugh.

Water Analytics products are used primarily in the municipal and waste-water industries, and the products are distributed around the world, Spencer said.

The scoop at this former ice cream shop location? It's a whole new look at the School Street building.

Home-buying workshop April 26

The Andover Housing Trust Fund Board of Trustees will host a Home Buying Workshop on Monday, April 26 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library.

Jim Wilde, Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership will discuss Steps to Purchasing a Home. Lisa Schwarz, senior planner and Paulette Zuena, realtor at Remax will discuss Home Buyer Opportunities in Andover and around the region. Beth Phelan from Enterprise Bank will discuss how to qualify for a mortgage. Attorney Scott Lakin will discuss closing and legal information.

For more information contact Lisa Schwarz at 978-623-8310 or at lschwarz@andoverma.gov.

Ring attends hearing-care conference

Wendy Ring, audiologist and owner of the Andover Hearing Center LLC at 11 Chestnut St., recently returned from a national conference that looked at the impact of hearing loss on cognitive ability. If staying sharp is on your wish list to maintain as you gracefully age, Ring recommends considering a hearing exam before investing in pricey mind strengthening gadgets.

"Most experts agree that the most effective way to maintain cognitive function is by maintaining a healthy social network," Ring says. "We know that people with untreated hearing loss often drop out because it is simply too difficult for them to engage effectively in the give-and-take process of social interactions."

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Andover Massage Therapy Joins Forces with First Health of Andover
Dave Sollars & Judy Brezner

Andover Massage Therapy Joins Forces with First Health of Andover

Andover Massage Therapy is pleased to announce its collaboration with First Health of Andover. In addition to our existing beautiful new location at 90 Main St., we have opened a satellite location at One Dundee Park. For 17 years, Andover Massage Therapy (est. 1993), has been a pioneer in providing both relaxation and therapeutic massage to Andover and the surrounding communities. Now we join forces with First Health of Andover, celebrating its ten-year anniversary. First Health has long been considered the areas' largest provider of premium integrative medicine therapies such as Acupuncture, Chinese herbal medicine, Homeopathy, Naturopathic Medicine and Massage Therapy. We've always been friends even though we are technically competitors in massage. We have referred many patients to each other over the years. We are both grateful for the continued rise in popularity of integrative medicine and the acknowledged benefits that are attracting informed consumers as well as local companies.

Over the last decade, the massage industry has grown significantly. Given so many choices, how do you choose a therapist or establishment to fit your needs? The answer is by the quality of your experience. Andover Massage and First Health have earned the loyalty of our clients by the level of care that we provide. Genuine concern, personalized care, and a quality experience are our standards. From the moment you step in our door, you will be in good hands! At Andover Massage, it is our goal that you experience the best relaxing,

rejuvenating, and healing massage therapies inspired by proven wellness practices. Our skilled therapists are concerned about your well-being and go the extra mile to make sure that you get the best massage experience. We specialize in deep tissue massage for chronic and acute pain, sports massage, relaxation and pre and post natal massage. We also have a Certified Reflexologist, Reiki Master/Teacher and Infant Massage Instructor. We tailor each client's massage based upon their individual requirements. We work in conjunction with the acupuncturists, doctors, chiropractors, physical therapists, personal trainers and other holistic practitioners.

Andover Massage is a small local business. Owner/Therapist Judy Brezner has 17 years experience. Our other skilled therapists, Ken St. Pierre, Debbie Tessier, Christina Kelley, Cindy Campbell, and Dawn Currier and former First Health therapists, Diana Edwards and Ellen Marie Joyce, R.N. have experience ranging from 8-15 years and offer a unique approach to their massage treatments. We are licensed by the State of Massachusetts and are current on all certifications. Our 30 minute massage price of \$35 has remained the same for the past 17 years and our \$70 for 60 minutes and \$95 for 90 minutes has been the same since 2004. We recently added a 45 minute massage for \$50.

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Sports

Roundup

Torres, girls lacrosse get offensive

GIRLS LACROSSE

Jaclyn Torres scored four goals and Meghan Morris and Jackie Pelletier each had a hat trick as Andover downed Masconomet 19-13 on Saturday. Jenn Caro, Ally Fazio, Anne Farnham and Emily Shields each scored two goals for the winners.

Meghan Morris tallied four goals as Andover earned its first win of the season, 17-6 over Notre Dame last Wednesday. Jenn Caro added a hat trick while Ally Fazio (two assists) and Emily Shields each scored twice for the winners.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Machado clinches a win

Sophomore Eduardo Machado notched all six of his kills in the final frame, as Andover bested Dracut 25-22, 25-23, 25-15 on Monday. Joe Kuykendall added 20 assists and Zack Verrette chipped in with six kills and three blocks.

Joe Kuykendall tallied a team-high 11 assists and five kills to lead Andover to a 25-7, 25-21, 25-21 win over Billerica last Wednesday. Brian Gianopoulos added 16 service points and Colin Rivet had 20 digs for the winners.

Despite 14 kills for Pat Morrow, Andover fell to Methuen 23-25, 25-21, 25-16, 25-18 on Friday. Colin Rivet added 12 digs for the Warriors.

BASEBALL

Hennessy helps Warriors explode in opener

John Hennessy opened the season with a bang, going 4 for 4 with four runs and three RBIs as Andover blasted Westfield 16-8 on Saturday. Mike McQuillan was 3 for 4 with three RBIs, while Ned Deane and Jake Ponti each also drove in three runs for the winners.

"John (Hennessy) has been hot all spring and it rubbed off," said first-year coach Dan Grams.

GIRLS TENNIS

Arvidson, Ochs roll

Sarah Arvidson won No. 1 singles 6-0, 6-0 and Rachel Ochs took No. 2 singles 6-0, 6-1 as Andover topped Chelmsford 4-1 on Monday. Kirsten Arvidson added a win at third singles for the winners.

Maggie Carter and Melanie Zakin swept a victory at No. 1 doubles to lead Andover to a 5-0 win over Tewksbury last Wednesday. Sarah Arvidson (No. 1 singles) and Savannah Deady (No. 3 singles) added sweeps for the winners.

Sarah Arvidson battled to a 6-2, 2-6, 6-2 win at No. 1 singles, and sister Kirsten Arvidson teamed with Rachel Holzman for a victory at No. 1 doubles as Andover downed Lexington 4-1 last Tuesday. Rachel Ochs added a win at No. 3 singles for the winners.

BOYS TENNIS

Bendetson helps squad stays perfect

Austin Bendetson won 6-1, 6-0 at No. 3 singles as Andover earned its third sweep in three matches, cruising past Chelmsford 5-0 on Monday. Andrew Mack and Christian Waters added a 6-0, 6-1 win at No. 2 doubles for the winners.

Bjorn Merinder, Jeff Birenbaum and Andrew Mack earned victories at No. 1, 2 and 3 singles respectively as Andover swept past Lowell 5-0 last Wednesday. Shane Higgins and Nitin Mahesh added a win at No. 1 doubles for the Warriors.

GIRLS TRACK

Bishop, Belluche each take two

In her first time competing in the event, Eve Bishop won the pole vault with a 9-0, and complimented that with a 12.5 win in the dash as Andover downed Chelmsford 99-45 last Wednesday. Emily Belluche added victories in the triple jump and 100 hurdles and Jess Salley took the 400 hurdles for the winners.

BOYS TRACK

Warne plays the field

Chris Warne won the shot put (45-7) and discus (110-10) while Kerrick Stevens took the javelin (151-9) to lead Andover to a 113-29 season-opening pounding of Chelmsford last Wednesday. Chris Chu added wins in the triple jump and 110 hurdles for the Warriors.

BOYS LACROSSE

Mclver's efforts for naught

Despite a pair of goals for Matt Mclver, Andover fell to Chelmsford 10-5 on Friday. Crosby Nicholson made 14 saves in the losing effort.

BASEBALL PREVIEW

Ponti one of region's most feared hitters

By DAVID WILLIS
STAFF WRITER

The moment Andover's Jake Ponti stepped to the plate for the first time this season, everything just felt different.

"Last year I put a ton of pressure on myself," Ponti said. "Now, as a senior, I don't feel so nervous at the plate. Everything has toned down now, and I can just go out there and play baseball."

The slugger will have plenty riding on his big bat this season, as the No. 3 hitter for the Andover High baseball team that opened the season with a 16-8 drubbing of Westfield.

"It's great to start out hot because it sets the tone for the first few weeks," Ponti said. "That first at-bat is a tough one, but to hit it hard is a great start."

After spending his sophomore season on JV, Ponti delivered a breakout campaign at the varsity level last season. Inserted into the leadoff spot and as the starting right fielder, Ponti led the Golden Warriors in batting average (.368) and runs (24) while tying for fourth in RBIs (12).

"As the leadoff hitter, it was all about working the count," said Ponti, who hit three homers for the Andover Legion team in the summer. "The first pitch might have been a meatball, but I would have let it go because you want them to throw five or six pitches."

Following the high school season, Ponti was voted a captain, along with Boston College-bound infielder John Hennessy. That role took on more importance when longtime baseball head coach



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover's Jake Ponti, far left, is mugged by teammates after a walkoff RBI single in the Lawrence Invitational Baseball tournament last year. The Golden Warriors' leading hitter a season ago, Ponti will be counted upon in a big way with the bat this season.

Ken Maglio was let go, eventually replaced by Dan Grams.

"Jake is a big reason the transition has been smooth," said Grams. "He has made my job coming here a lot easier. He works so well with the younger kids and is a tremendous leader."

Grams and his staff were also impressed by Ponti's abilities at the plate, moving him to the all-important No. 3 spot in the order.

"Jake is a heck of a hitter," said Grams. "Last year he was more of a slap hitter. But this year he seems to have really found his stroke and has shown some power. He is looking for pitches to drive, and hitting them hard."

Ponti also noted a change in his approach at the plate going from leadoff, where he was charged with getting on base, to No. 3 where his main job is to drive in runs.

"My job now is to see the ball and hit it," he said. "Hennessy and (Alex) Driscoll are great at the top of the order. They have set the tone. I have to step up and drive them in."

That approach served Ponti well in Andover's season-opener on Saturday. He notched a double, a triple, drove in three runs and scored two more to help the Golden Warriors blast Westfield.

On top of others responsibilities, Ponti has also made the move from right field to center field, a position he played on occasion last season.

A future in medicine

Call it an epiphany, but Ponti's future goals became clear on one day.

"I took an anatomy class last year," he said. "I got to shadow an

open heart surgery at Mass. General Hospital. Seeing the atmosphere and what it was like, I fell in love and knew that's what I wanted to do. I want to become a doctor."

Ponti plans to major in pre-med in college. He said he is "90 percent sure" he will be attending UMass Amherst, where he has been accepted into the honors program.

Clinic for youths

The Andover varsity baseball team and coaches will hold a clinic for Andover Little Leaguers on Tuesday at the Andover varsity baseball field. For more information visit andoverwarriorsbaseball.com.

BASEBALL

2009 season: 12-10, lost in Division 1 North first round

Returning starters (4): John Hennessy, Sr., SS; Jake Ponti, Sr., CF; Christian Lightner, Sr., 2B; Vince Bellino, Sr., OF/C

Returning lettermen: Kris Riemer, Sr., 1B; C.J. Leary, Sr., C; Akira Sembomatsu, Sr., OF; Bryan McNiff, Sr., P; Jonathan Levenson, Sr., P; Mike McQuillan, Sr., 3B; Alex Driscoll, Jr., OF

Promising newcomers: Spenser Rose, Sr., P; Colin Norris, Jr., P; Ned Deane, Jr., P/1B; Bennett Deady, Jr., P/SS; Nate Bryant, Jr., P; Tom Dempsey, Jr., C; Connor Clancy, Jr., C/1B; Sean McQuillan, Jr., INF/OF; Adam Risman, Soph., 3B; Michael Davidson, Soph., P; Nathaniel Spellacy, Frosh., 3B; Cam Farnham, Frosh., OF

Captains: John Hennessy, Jake Ponti

Head coach: Dan Grams (1st year)

Assistants: Brian Carey (JV), Rich Robinson (Frosh), Dave Geaslen (varsity), Kevin Shepard (varsity), Ryan Shepard (varsity), Rob Carpentier (varsity)

SOFTBALL PREVIEW

Captains invaluable for inexperienced Andover

By DAVID WILLIS
STAFF WRITER

Any fears new Andover softball coach Steve Tisbert had about the transition into his new role were quickly alleviated in the first days of the season thanks to a trio of leaders.

"I teach at the middle school," Tisbert said. "I got to practice at the high school, and my captains already had the team on the field working on their skills. They have done such an amazing job."

Key to Tisbert's easing into the job are senior tri-captains Katie Kucharski, Jenn Musto and Joanna Robie, who lead the Golden Warriors softball team that opened the season last Monday.

"We are just thrilled," Robie said. "I think it's so exciting to be charged with a leadership role. We are trying to create a bond and set a tone for the entire team."

It was announced in January that Tisbert, a longtime volunteer assistant, would replace Stephanie Ragucci, the 13-year head coach for Andover that resigned in the offseason.

While the adjustment could have been a challenge, Tisbert says his captains have been a major reason the move has been nearly seamless.

"They are so special to this program," Tisbert said. "I can't say enough about what they have done. Watching them early in the season I just thought to myself, 'Wow, this is just wonderful.' It has been so important to have them around."

All three of the captains agreed with



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover's Katie Kucharski slides into second base last season. Kucharski and fellow tri-captains Jenn Musto and Joanna Robie have been keys to the Andover softball team this season.

Tisbert's assessment of the change.

"It's been great," said Musto. "Coach Tisbert may be the most excited of any of us. He just seems to be more into the sport and focused on the girls. We are thrilled to have him here."

On the field, Musto and Kucharski are leaders of the offense, while Robie does her work in the pitching circle.

Musto quickly established herself as the designated hitter last season, driving in four runs in a victory over North Andover. She finished the season with a .324 average, 12 RBIs and eight runs scored. Musto, now the first baseman.

Setting the table for many of Musto's RBIs was Kucharski, an outfielder that scored 12 runs last season, and added a three-hit game against powerhouse Amesbury. She started in center field for each of Andover's first two games.

Robie appeared in 14 games as a pitcher last season, either as a starter or a reliever, recording four wins for the squad that finished 8-12. She has started one game at pitcher this season, and in the second through Monday she was the designated hitter.

"I think that coach expects a lot out of us," said Kucharski. "But it is a good kind of pressure. We want to lead by example and not make the mistakes of the past. We want to be good role models and create a new attitude."

SOFTBALL

2009 season: 8-12, didn't make tourney

Returning starters (6): Joanna Robie, Sr., P; Katie Kucharski, Sr., RF; Jess Musto, Sr., 1B; Taylor Faris, Soph., P/OF; Molly Awiszus, Soph. 2B; Shannon Tully, Soph., C

Returning lettermen: Irena Kushner, Sr., SS

Promising newcomers: Jen Powers, Jr., P/OF; Samantha Okum, Jr., 3B; Taylor Johnson, Jr., OF; Meaghan Molloy, Jr., OF; Dina Hagigeorges, Jr., 1B; Katie Conti, Jr., SS; Alex Allocca, Jr., C; Lauren LeBlanc, Soph., 3B; Shannon Murphy, Soph., INF/OF; Alexis Belliard, Soph., OF; Meaghan Leary, Frosh., C/3B; Jordan Day, Frosh., 3B/2B

Captains: Katie Kucharski, Jenn Musto, Joanna Robie

Head coach: Steve Tisbert (1st year)

Assistants: Michelle Carpentier, Lisa Rodger; Betty Iannuccilli, JV; Ben Gibson, Frosh.

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