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1,000 POINTS
PAGE 15



OUR 123RD YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 17

DECEMBER 23, 2010

75 CENTS

Subway shop coming to downtown

Franchise will fill hole left by Raspberries

By DUSTIN LUCA
STAFF WRITER

Construction is set to begin for a new Subway sandwich shop in downtown Andover, and it will be open as early as mid-February.

The shop will be located at the back of Andover Spa, a general store located at 9 Elm St. and within quick walking distance of almost the entire downtown area.

The shop will take the place of Raspberries Eateries, a familiar destination for sandwiches in town until it closed and relocated outside of Andover last year.

According to Steve Giordano, who owns two Subway shops in Methuen and will run this one as well, the shop will fit well with the downtown Andover business district.

"It's a good town, good people... We thought (Subway) would be a good match," Giordano said. "We thought it was a very vibrant downtown area, and we thought (Subway) would add to the hustle and bustle."

In fact, the spot that Raspberries left open is perfect for Giordano's Subway location, he said.

"The Andover Spa is very popular," Giordano said. "You go in and grab your newspaper or lottery, and people will come in to grab a sandwich. We're just going to add to it."

Sheila Doherty, Andover's town moderator who works at Doherty Insurance Agency next door to Andover Spa, said she welcomes the sub shop's arrival.

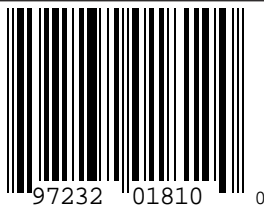
"The one thing that was great about Raspberries is that you met with so many business people coming into the area," Doherty said. "Raspberries going out left a huge void in this end of town."

But the proposed Subway will likely fill that void, according to Doherty.

"It will be another touch-point for people to connect in downtown Andover," Doherty said. "The downtown business district is a very close-knit community, and this will help."

For feedback on this story, or for other story-related inquiries, please email dluca@andover-townsman.com.

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MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo

Seventh-grader Aidan Manning is joined by teachers Thyra Sherman, left, and Chip Gregory as he poses with a guitar signed by the members of the band Boys Like Girls at Wood Hill Middle School in Andover. Aidan's mom paid \$900 for the guitar and the money will be donated to a Guatemala village that Sherman visits every year.

VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS IN GUATAMELA... FROM WOOD HILL SCHOOL

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
Staff Writer

You can call this a sort of 12 Days of Christmas from Andover story.

It starts with one middle-school dance where lords were probably leaping as the ladies were dancing. The drummers were strumming, not drumming, as a guitar was the magical musical instrument at this year's dance (sorry, French horn).

It was a recent dance at Wood Hill Middle School that would make any partridge in a pear tree smile this holiday season. The annual dance raises money for a teacher's trip to Guatemala at holiday time where she hands out Christmas gifts to children living in rural villages. Those gifts are from Wood Hill.

In Guatemala each December, a very, very long line of

children anxiously awaits Thyra Sherman who works with seventh-graders at Wood Hill. Most have been awaiting Sherman's arrival for hours.

Escorted by police, she arrives with 24 hockey bags stuffed with some 2,000 gently used toys, medicines and vitamins, all donated by Wood Hill's school community.

"...the last few years I've gone with my parents (Ben and Judy Sands of North Reading) and husband (Andy) to bring toys to impoverished children in rural villages. We work with a woman (from Vamos Adelante agency) who runs a clinic and some schools there...we travel over rough mountainous terrain to deliver (gifts) to children who wait for hours in the hot sun just to get one toy.

"We also visit an orphanage in Guatemala City to take 'Mama' Carmen grocery

shopping — she takes in unwanted and abandoned children in a very dangerous zone of the city. She has 72 kids there now, some handicapped," Sherman, who lives on Wethersfield Drive, wrote in email about her annual trip.

In Andover, two events were planned to supply and fund the annual trip. One was the dance, which raised \$900 and netted the best toy collection ever, Sherman said. The other was a PTO fundraiser at Wood Hill that promised even more toys, but the fundraiser was canceled. Seventh-grade teacher Chip Gregory had already bought an electric guitar as a donation for the PTO auction fundraiser, and that's when the school's telephone tree dialed up a plan.

Former Andover Schools

Please see TOYS, Page 2

Family says holiday spirit alive, well

Sanborns to Andover community: 'Thank you'

By DUSTIN LUCA
STAFF WRITER

Edith Sanborn, who currently lives out of a Haverhill-based Comfort Suites hotel after a fire ravaged her home of 50 years, says Christmas spirit is alive and well throughout the area.

A fire at the Sanborn home at 60 Jenkins Road put the family's holiday plans in a state of disarray; but the greater Andover community, for them, has saved Christmas.

The cause of the Dec. 10 two-alarm fire is still under investigation, according to Fire Chief Mike Mansfield.

The house was occupied by five members of the Sanborn family — elderly parents Edith

and Robert; son Everett and his wife Lorna; and Everett and Lorna's toddler Caleb. All five Sanborns were present when the fire started.

During the fire, which is believed to have started in a garage attached to the right-side of the house, flames quickly shot up to the garage's ceiling and across the house's roof, Everett Sanborn said.

It took fire crews 20 minutes to respond to the blaze, due to the fact that the house is one of the farthest in town from a fire station, according to Everett.

"Within two minutes, the house was filled with black smoke," Everett Sanborn said.

Please see FIRE, Page 2

Memorial Day opening slated for Stop & Shop

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
Staff Writer

The town will have a new grocery store, but not for a few months. A Memorial Day 2011 opening date has been announced by Stop & Shop.

Stop & Shop spokesman Bob LaRochelle met with Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski last Thursday, Dec. 16, and announced the opening date. The opening will

be almost a year after Market Basket closed at the Shawshen Plaza on North Main Street (Rte. 28). The site has been vacant since the June 2010 closing.

"Our plans are to begin construction immediately after the first of the upcoming New Year, with Stop & Shop of Andover opening by Memorial Day. ... Due to the deteriorating state,

Please see STORE, Page 2

A song on the Green



JAN LEE SEEGER/Staff photo

Standing together, left, Francesca Ardini, 8, Alexandria Ardini, 8, and Nicole Major, 8, sing carols Sunday as community members congregate on Ballardvale Green for the ninth annual Ballardvale Tree Lighting. Richard Bowen led everyone in the countdown to light the tree, which is now over 1,000 lights. For more on the event, see page 8.

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TOYS: School pitches in to help orphans in Guatemala

Continued from Page 1

music teacher Regina Stein took the guitar to the Topsfield Fair and tracked down Andover native Martin Johnson of the pop band "Boys Like Girls." The band was performing at the Fair. Stein had Johnson in music class and got Johnson and the entire band to sign the guitar.

Then, a generous Andover family matched the dance's donation and paid \$900 for the signed guitar.

"I had just seen the band in concert at Topsfield Fair with my brother and I told my mom it would be great to get that signed guitar," said Wood Hill seventh-grader Aidan Manning, who saw a short slide show at

school presented by Sherman that encouraged kids to come to the dance.

His mom, Lisa Manning, thought so, too, and said the donation was for a great cause.

Meanwhile, Sherman beamed with Wood Hill pride as the guitar cash will be used to build a new village home for a family taking care of a school.

Over the years, money has been used to pay for wood stoves for the tin huts the people live in so they don't burn open fires in the home (\$150) and a piglet that they can raise and fatten up and sell (\$50).

"It is so wonderful to spread a teeny bit of Christmas cheer there from Wood Hill," Sherman said.

Andover Recycling

Don Gottfried

During the holiday season who hasn't lost sight of family members, friends or neighbors behind rising mounds of paper and packaging? Recent statistics show that Massachusetts residents produce 25 percent more trash and use about 5 percent more energy between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. Here are a few easy ideas to simplify, reduce waste, and save money this time of year:

Single Stream Recycling: Starting

last July, Andover residents can mix all paper (including boxboard), glass, plastic, and metals together in a blue recycling bin or a garbage can labeled with two red recycling stickers (available at the Robert McQuade Water Treatment Plant on Route 133). Waste that goes into the recycling bin instead of the garbage can saves Andover taxpayers' money.

Reuse wrapping: boxes, wrapping paper, tins, and ribbons can all be reused. Gift bags with tissue paper save wrapping time, are attractive and can be used repeatedly.

LED lighting: Due to their long

life and low energy consumption, LEDs are being seen throughout the lighting world. An average display can save \$50 in electricity over the holiday season, allowing these bright little gems to pay for themselves in short order.

Donate: As you move out the old to make room for the new, consider donating items and keeping them out of the trash. There are many great organizations in the Merrimack Valley that will find grateful families that can use them. Contact the Andover Recycling Committee (dpw-business@andoverma.gov) for ideas on where to give.

Styrofoam: Styrofoam is not recyclable in Andover. Packing pellets can be reused or dropped at most local shipping stores.

Trees: Trees go curbside with the regular trash. The staff at the Andover Youth Services Tree Lot recently educated buyers on putting the big plastic bag under the tree prior to mounting it in the stand - this makes wrapping the tree and cleanup a cinch. The tree skirt then covers the bag.

Get more details on these and other ideas in the Andover Recycling and Trash Guide at andoverma.gov/publish/recbrochure.pdf.

FIRE: Family thankful for help they've received

Continued from Page 1

"(The fire) was rushing right across the house. It pretty much took off the roof."

As the house burned, the family stood outside with just the clothes on their backs, Edith Sanborn said.

They didn't even have any shoes to wear, Edith Sanborn said.

By the end of the day, they were able to remove a few pieces of furniture, family heirlooms, from the house. But so far an ongoing insurance claim has prevented them from getting anything else out of the house, they said.

Since the fire, the family has lived together at the Comfort Suites hotel in Haverhill, off Interstate 495. In recent days, Lorna and Caleb have moved to another location to help alleviate a case of "cabin fever" developing in Caleb, the family said.

As they settled in another location, Everett's brother - Peter Sanborn, who lost his home in Rhode Island to a fire in January of 2008 - has come up from Rhode Island to help his family.

But there is a brighter side to the story, a warmer side about community, caring and the gift of giving during the holiday season.

While they are living in a hotel room, everything they have has been donated to them by residents of Andover, North Andover and North Reading.

Donations included over \$5,000 in cash, a full week's worth of clothing and a complete, fully-cooked Christmas



STAFF FILE PHOTO

Firefighters finish battling a blaze at 60 Jenkins Road in Andover that badly damaged the home and destroyed the garage.

dinner, according to Senior Pastor George Ray of Trinity Evangelical Church.

The family also received a significant amount of toys for Caleb, Everett Sanborn said.

"I was overwhelmed with (the response)," Everett Sanborn said. "It was humbling. I feel undeserving, honestly."

The first three days at the hotel were provided free of charge, compliments of Red Cross, and the family has received a significantly discounted rate to stay there ever since, Everett Sanborn said.

And they all have shoes, compliments of a local shoe store employee who gave up her associate discount so the

family could buy a full set of new footwear.

The family expects to stay at the hotel until Christmas, when they will travel to visit family. When they return, they will move into a new home they've secured in Newburyport, right on the beach, until they can return to their house on Jenkins Road in roughly a year.

"It doesn't feel like they're replacing the house," Everett Sanborn said. "It is a change."

For Peter Sanborn, the support from others, many of whom were previously unknown to the family, makes him want to help others more.

"The fact that people who make their living on money give

up their profit is remarkable," Peter Sanborn said. "People opened their hearts, their wallets, their lives."

Following the fire in his home almost three years ago, Peter Sanborn said that some people followed them for a full year, continually checking in to make sure they were still okay.

"You see the church and the neighborhood come out of (the fire)," Peter Sanborn said. "The fire has been one of the worst, and best, experiences of my life."

Individuals wishing to donate to the Sanborn family can do so at the Trinity Evangelical Church, 105 Haverhill Street in North Reading.

STORE: Construction set to begin shortly after Jan. 1

Continued from Page 1

the building required more time than originally estimated to complete a comprehensive study of the existing structure, utilities and equipment. As a result, the building has required

much more extensive rehabilitation work than was originally planned," LaRochelle wrote in an e-mail to the Townsman.

"Following our analysis of the structure, we were then able to begin work on detailed plans for the renovations and

improvements to be made on the building. Those have since been completed," he wrote.

Planning Director Paul Materazzo said the paperwork with town departments, including the planning and health departments, has been submitted by

Stop&Shop. He sees no problem with the company's start date for construction.

"They (Stop&Shop) are poised to pull permits and begin work in the new year," he said. "No, I don't see a problem with their plans."

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In Brief

PAST & PRESENT



THEN: Main Street in Andover circa 1951. One can see the holiday lights, wreaths and a lighted bell suspended above downtown on Main Street in 1951. Photo courtesy of Andover Historical Society.



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

NOW: Holiday lights on trees and wreaths on the old-style light posts help light up Main Street this year.

One question on ballot in January

The Andover Special Town Election will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2011 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

All nine Andover precincts will vote at the Andover High School Field House on Shawshen Road.

There will be a single question on the ballot calling for a Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion to construct a new Bancroft School:

QUESTION 1. Shall the Town of Andover be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition 2 1/2, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to pay costs of constructing a new Bancroft School on Bancroft Road, including the payment of related offsite improvements, and all other costs incidental and related thereto?

The Election Warrant is now available on the Town web site andoverma.gov.

The last day and hour to apply for an absentee ballot is noon on Monday, Jan. 24, 2011.

The last day and hour to

register to vote for this election is 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2011. The Town Clerk's Office will be open until 8 p.m. that evening for voter registration.

There will be an election shuttle bus, modified Route 21, from

the Senior Center on Whittier Court that will make stops at the Town Offices, Railroad St. apartments and Frye Circle as well as the High School. Questions may be directed to the Town Clerk's Office at 978-623-8255.

Half-million for Andover document center

Twenty-five Massachusetts cultural initiatives have received National Endowment for the Humanities grants totaling \$2,230,219, including an organization in Andover, according to U.S. Senator John Kerry.

"These investments will help promote the value of learning and historical preservation across Massachusetts," said Kerry.

Among those receiving a grant is the Northeast Document Conservation Center in Andover, which received \$500,000 for preservation education and training.

Stiffer fees for stealing water

The Massachusetts Water Works Association was successful in getting the legislature to pass a bill that would increase the fines for those caught tampering with water meters or stealing water.

The existing statute was passed in 1914 and capped fines at \$100. On Nov. 17, Gov. Deval Patrick signed Chapter 374 of the Acts of 2010 into law, increasing the fines for interference with water meters to triple the amount of

damages or \$1,000 whichever is greater. The law also allows for the damages to include the value of the water used and the cost of labor and equipment repair or replacement.

"Utilities across the Commonwealth have seen an increase in meter tampering, we hope that these new fines will be a deterrent to those who consider stealing water from our utilities," said Jennifer Pederson, MWWA executive director.

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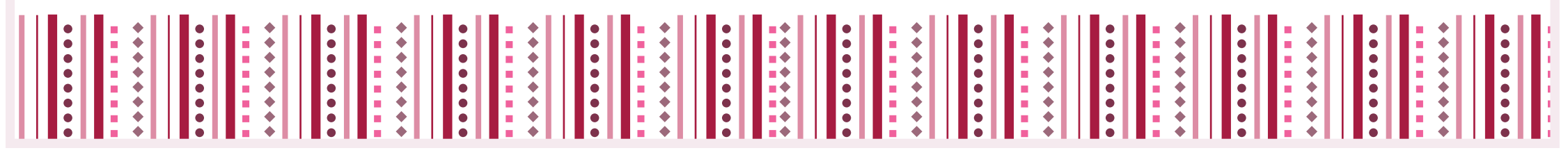


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Andover Townsman

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Joyce Perillo, Corinne Towler, Judith Wakefield



Arts & Entertainment



Kelli Carberry, 26, of North Andover won a gold medal in the Adult Female Solo category at the World Tap Dance Championship in Germany.

Artist Malis has showing in Miami

Each year in early December, the international art world, including thousands of collectors, dealers, and curators, descends on Miami for a high-energy week of fairs, exhibitions, special events, and installations, showcasing the works of both established and emerging artists, and among those "up and coming" this December was Andover native Jon Malis. Malis has had his photos and artwork exhibited in multiple venues since his graduation from George Washington University in 2007, but according to him, "nothing quite on the scale of last weekend."

His work appeared in Miami at PULSE, a contemporary art fair, known for its particular cutting-edge blend of both established and emerging young talents. Malis' PULSE exhibit was part of the Camper Contemporary Art Residency Program. The brainchild of artist Calder Brannock, Camper Contemporary is a unique venture: a fully functional mobile art gallery, set up in an altered 1967 Yellowstone camper. Its aim is to present work in a controlled gallery environment without being tethered to high rents or a stationery geographic location.

Brannock also sponsors the Adventure Residency Program. This past October, Malis joined director Brannock and five other artists on a four-day excursion to the abandoned town of Centralia, Pennsylvania, site of a notorious underground coal fire that has been burning for over 40 years. The Camper installation at PULSE contained the work created in response to this "adventure". This was Malis' second residency tour with the Camper. Malis, a 2003 graduate of Andover High School. His interest in the visual arts ranges across the media spectrum, and he is currently completing his Masters in Fine Arts in documentary filmmaking and new media at American University in Washington D.C. His artwork can be seen online at jonmalis.com.



The dance group Cross the Line from Nancy Chippendale's Dance studio won the Gold Medal, which is equivalent to First Place in the world, in the Children's (ages 11 and under) formation event at the World Tap Dance Championship in Germany.



Ebony & Ivory dance group from Nancy Chippendale's Dance studio won the Gold medal in the Adult (16 and older - Formation Event) at the World Tap Dance Championship in Germany.



Pictured from left, front row, are Joseph Collins, Myra Bhatena, Jessica Wu, Michaela Jones, Zenia Bhatena and Emily Jackson. In the back row are: Edward Lu, Anna Lang, David Yu, Amy Bordogna, Julia Jackson, Arman Kohl and Alex Zhang.

Local tap dancers bring home gold medals from Germany

Kelli Carberry, 26, of North Andover, just returned home from the World Tap Dance Championships in Reisa, Germany, where she won the gold medal in the Adult Female Solo category, beating dancers from more than 30 countries and bringing home the title of world champion for the United States for the first time since 2002. "It is really more like a life time achievement award," Carberry, a dance teacher at Nancy Chippendale's Dance Studios in North Andover, said in a release. "I cried tears of joy during the national anthem. That moment marked the culmination of years of training, hard work and resilience."

Carberry traveled to Germany with 39 other dancers from Nancy Chippendale's who also won the 2010 Gold Medal in the Children's trio, small group and formation

categories as well as the Adult Formation. "This was the biggest win for the United States in over 15 years," said Nancy Chippendale, who opened her dance studio in North Andover in 1978. "We came home with the highest medal count of the 30-plus countries in attendance and the most Gold medals of the entire world competition. It was quite an achievement."

Andover dancers who performed in Germany were:

- Holly Mulkern, 18
- Lauren Rushton, 15
- Aissatou Thiam, 9
- Hayley Licata, 11

Having danced at the World Championships before, Carberry was no stranger to this tough competition. She won the gold medal in 2004 in the Production category, finished 11th in the Solo category in 2008

but brought home two gold medals during this year's championships. "The best part about this whole experience was that my students and their families were there to experience this win with me. I am able to show them that hard work and dedication pays off," she said.

Carberry was contacted to perform alongside Jason Samuels Smith, Chloe Arnold and Dorel and Costel Surbeck in "Tap Reloaded", a European tap production. "What a great Christmas present," laughed Carberry.

Another great Christmas present for the dancers at Nancy Chippendale's was delivered last Thursday, Dec. 16, when 18 Nancy Chippendale Dancers including Andover's Holly Mulkern opened for the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes at Boston's Wang Center.

Andover piano students propel teacher to top honors

Andover piano teacher Linda Shen has received the designation of high honor roll from American College of Musicians due to the outstanding performance of her students in the national piano playing auditions.

On May, 21 students, including 19 from Andover, registered as candidates for membership in the National Fraternity of Student Musicians, sponsored by the National guild of piano teacher division of the American College of Musicians. Students are required to perform various scales, cadences and music from four periods — Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Contemporary

— by memory to receive award and certificates.

Students who performed 5 to 10 pieces and received Superior rating are:

David Jiang, Amber Li, Amy Bordogna, Myra Bhatena, Alex Zhang, Ashley Li, Ashley Li, Emily Jackson, David Yu, Mara Bhan, Joseph Collins, Laurie-Maude Chenard, Angela Li, Eric Zhang.

Students who received superior plus Top-talent Circle rating are:

Michaela Jones, Edward Lu, Julia Jackson, Jessica Wu, Zenia Bhatena, Anna Lang, Koda Wei.

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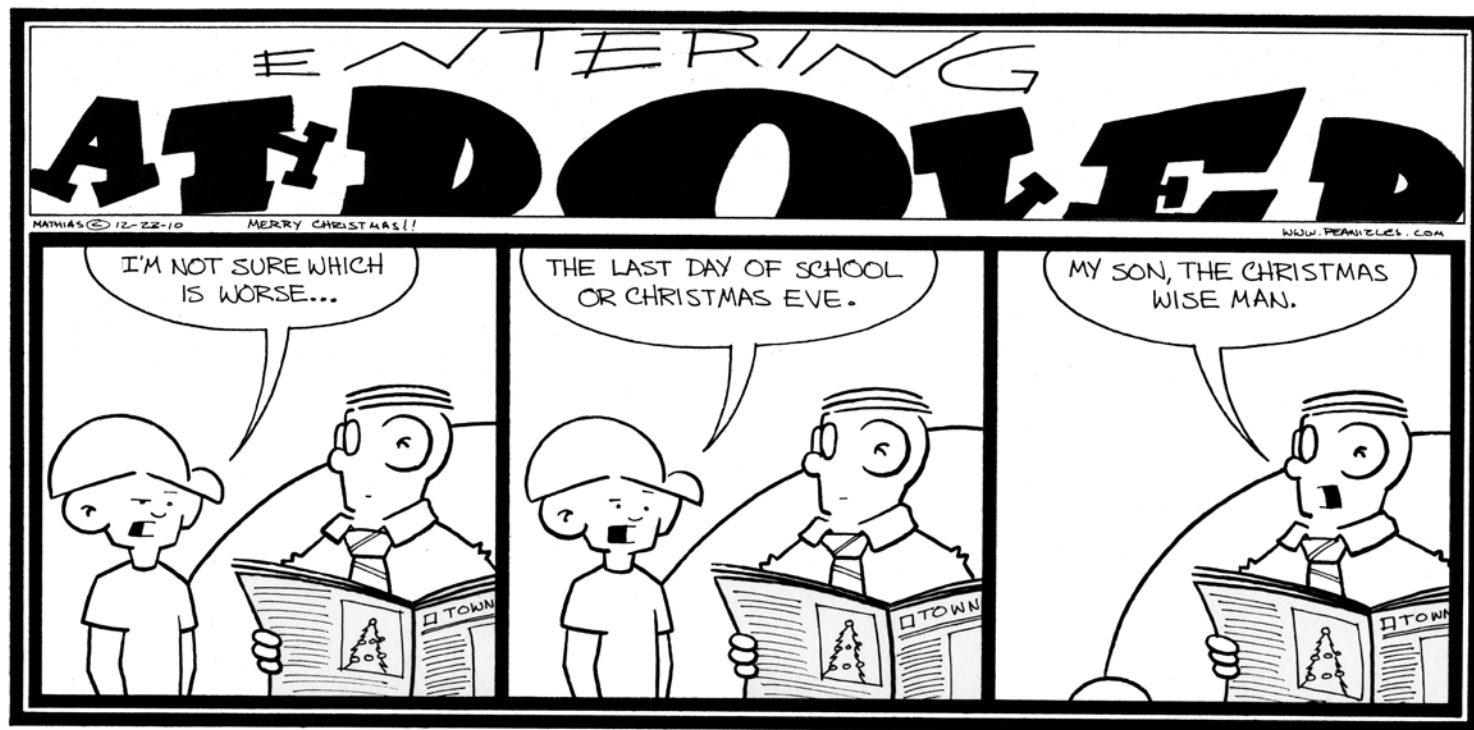
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ENTERING ANDOVER by Don Mathias



Mana Tokuno performing the music of Viennese Composers

On Friday, Jan. 7 at 7:30 p.m. the Phillips Academy Music Department will present a Faculty Piano Recital featuring Mana Tokuno performing works by Viennese composers and will take place in the Cochran Chapel.



Mana Tokuno

Pianist Mana Tokuno has received wide-spread acclaim for her sensitive and insightful interpretations and her brilliant virtuosity. First-prize winner of the prestigious Competition Internationalé, she also received the Leo Sirota Award for Piano Solo Performance at the Corpus Christi International Competition

as well as the Special Award for Schubert Interpretation at the International Competition Valsesia Musica in Varallo, Italy. Other prizes include the Dosei-Kai Prize for Distinction in Performance, and the Silver Medal in the Chubu Chopin Competition in Nagoya, Japan.

Known for her ability to bring a vast array of styles to life, Ms. Tokuno has performed at Carnegie (Weill) Hall and CAMI Hall in New York as well as at Symphony Hall and Jordan Hall in Boston. She was also invited to give a solo recital as part of a Chopin Festival at the Polish Consulate in New York.

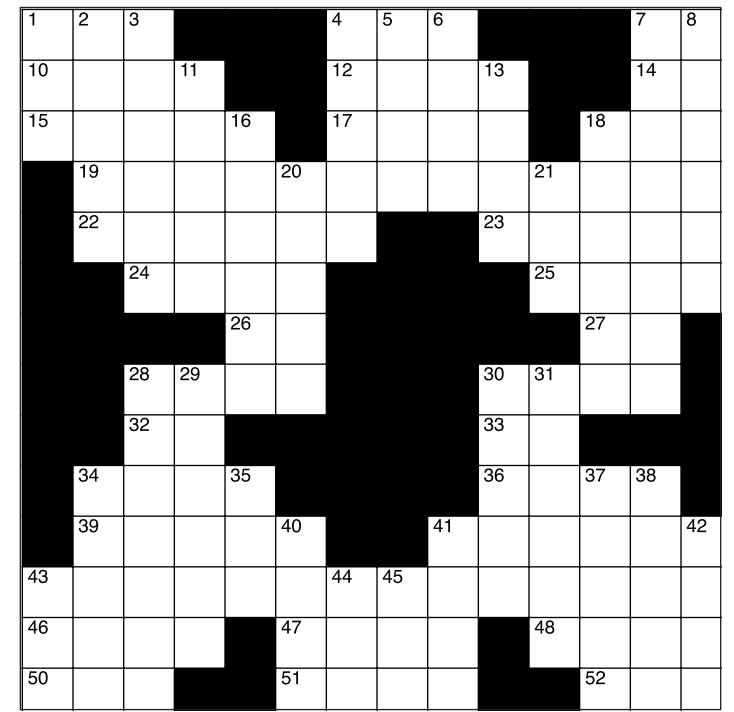
Tokuno's principal teachers were Midori Tanabe at the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music, where she was an honors graduate, and Victor Rosenbaum at the New England Conservatory in Boston where she received the Master

of Music degree with academic honors. Now a highly regarded teacher herself, Ms. Tokuno is on the faculty of Phillips Academy in Andover, and the New England Conservatory Preparatory School.

Tokuno's first solo CD, "Beethoven Sonatas and Bagatelles" was released from GiNote Records in October 2009.

This concert, free and open to the public, will take place in the Cochran Chapel. For more information call the Academy at 978-749-4263 or e-mail to music@andover.edu.

Crossword puzzle



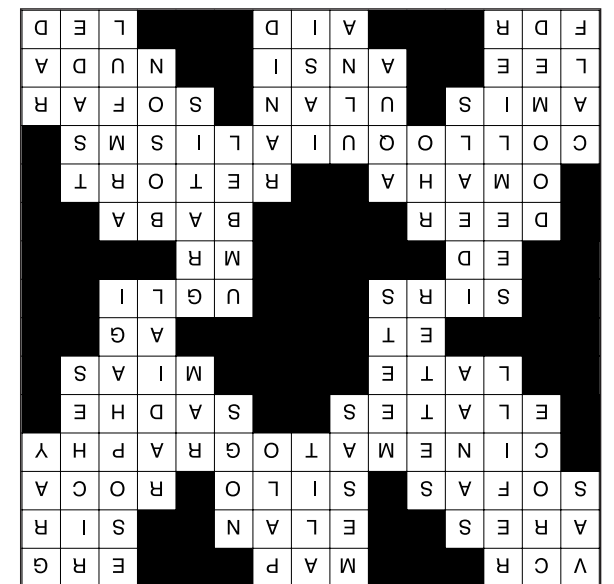
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Superseded by DVD
- 4. Earth chart
- 7. Energy unit
- 10. Greek god of war
- 12. Ardour
- 14. Title of respect
- 15. Couches
- 17. Barn storage tower
- 18. Cape near Lisbon
- 19. Motion picture science
- 22. Fills with high spirits
- 23. 18th Hebrew letter
- 24. At an advanced time
- 25. Missing soldiers
- 26. And, Latin
- 27. Silver
- 28. Gentlemen
- 30. Tangelo fruit
- 32. Actor ___ Harris
- 33. Mister
- 34. Adult Bambi
- 36. Small cake leavened with yeast
- 39. Largest city in NE
- 41. Quick reply
- 43. Local dialect expressions

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Vessel or duct
- 2. "Operator" singer Jim
- 3. Subsequent RX replacement
- 4. Flat-topped hills
- 5. Settled down
- 6. ___ Alto, California city
- 7. Tubes for passing food
- 8. An abundance of resources
- 9. Neither black or white
- 11. Yemen capital
- 13. Pegs
- 16. Irish, English or Gordon
- 18. Converging to a common center
- 20. Comes upon
- 21. A male sheep
- 28. More becoming
- 29. Models of excellence
- 30. Flat-topped inflorescence
- 31. Costing nothing
- 34. Marked for certain death
- 35. 17th Greek letter
- 37. Photons, pions, alpha particles
- 38. Amount that can be held
- 40. Light greenish blue
- 41. Toadfrog
- 42. 18th Hebrew letter (var.)
- 43. Young whale
- 44. Forearm bone
- 45. Moldavian capital
- 49. Radioactivity unit

Solution



EVENTS CALENDAR

SINGLES DANCE, Holiday Inn Grand Ballroom, 4 Highwood Drive, Tewksbury, dancing with music DJ, \$13, 8:30 p.m.-12 a.m., complimentary hors d'oeuvres, free Salsa dance lessons from 7:30-8:30 p.m.; (978)640-9000, se-4u.com.

SUNDAY, JAN. 9

LIVE MUSIC, Carter Creek Revival (Southern Appalachian gospel), 2 p.m., Memorial Hall Library, Andover; mhl.org, 978-623-8401, x 31, 32, or text 66746 (start your message with "askmhl").

LIVE MUSIC & DANCING, Upstairs at Old Town Hall, 20 Main St., Andover, 7-10 p.m., dance instruction from 6-7 p.m., \$10-20; TAVAH 978-623-0070 (call ahead), Andover Senior Center, 978-623-8321.

TUESDAY, JAN. 11

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER, Dr. Lillian Arleque, author of "Learn Strategies for Professional Success and Personal Happiness," on how to create a life that is filled with joy and success and leave armed with simple but life changing strategies, hosted by Quota International of Andover, Memorial Hall Library, Andover, 7 p.m.; Vena Coco, vvcoco@aol.com.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12

COMMUNITY HIKE, Harold Parker State Forest, every Wednesday at 10 a.m., free, meet at the headquarters, 305 Middleton

Road, North Andover. This is a moderately paced walk appropriate for all ages. Wear walking footwear; bring water and sunscreen; (617) 828-1728, mass.gov/dcr.

THURSDAY, JAN. 13

WINTER FESTIVAL OPENS, featuring the work of young performers (grades 1-12) involved in the theater's fall/winter training program. Shows include segments from: "Oklahoma!", "13", and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"; stonehamtheatre.org/yc_wintershow.html.

LIFE COACH, and productivity specialist Linda King will talk about "How to Organize Your Life," 7 p.m., Flint Memorial Library, 147 Park St., North Reading, free and open to the public; 978-664-4942.

SATURDAY, JAN. 15

FREE INTRO TO YOGA, 9:30-10:30 a.m., UnionStudio Yoga, 305 North Main St. (Rte. 28), Andover. If you are new to yoga but not quite ready to jump into your first class, Intro to Yoga is for you, free one-hour class teaches principles of correct alignment, guidelines for breathing, and basic poses for strength, flexibility and balance. A relaxation practice promoting calm mind and body completes the practice; Instructor Connie Glone, unionstudioyoga.com, 978-886-7944.

AUDITIONS, Pentucket Players Inc. of the Merrimack Valley host, for their spring production of Andrew Lloyd Webber & Tim Rice's rock-opera, "JESUS CHRIST: SUPERSTAR," Pentucket Bank Community Room, 25 Merrimack St. Haverhill, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., snow date & call backs, Sunday, Jan.16; pentucketplayers.org.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29

COMMUNITY HIKE, Harold Parker State Forest, every Wednesday at 10 a.m., free, meet at the headquarters, 305 Middleton Road, North Andover. This is a moderately paced walk appropriate for all ages. Wear walking footwear; bring water and sunscreen; (617) 828-1728, mass.gov/dcr.

FRIDAY, DEC. 31

NEW YEAR'S EVE SHOW, with singer Kathy St. George accompanied by a seven-piece band, 7, 10 p.m. performances, \$44-\$48 including a champagne toast, Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham; 781-279-2200, stonehamtheatre.org.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 5

COMMUNITY HIKE, Harold Parker State Forest, every Wednesday at 10 a.m., free, meet at the headquarters, 305 Middleton Road, North Andover. This is a moderately paced walk appropriate for all ages. Wear walking footwear; bring water and sunscreen; (617) 828-1728, mass.gov/dcr.

SATURDAY, JAN. 8

LIVE MUSIC, Vanessa Torres and We're about 9, Crossroads Coffeehouse, doors open at 7:30 p.m., show at 8 p.m., located on the top floor in the Old Center Hall, directly across the street from the North Parish Church and around the corner from the Top of the Scales restaurant in North Andover; 978-687-3960

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Opinion

Happy holidays

Merry Christmas and season's greetings from all of us at the Townsman. We hope everyone finds some quiet time to spend with loved ones this week, and wish all a peaceful and happy new year.

Many of us who live and work in Andover are blessed. Of course, for others, the "most wonderful time of the year" is anything but. So, at this time of the year, in particular, it seems appropriate to pay tribute to those residents who spend significant time in service to others.

In Andover, there is no shortage of such people. As has been mentioned in this space before, many of the leadership positions at local charities are filled with giving townspeople.

To help share their good work — and perhaps inspire others to do the same — the Townsman has started a new opportunity to allow residents in local charities, or charities with significant ties to Andover, to tell some of their success stories in the paper. Others interested in sharing stories are welcome to contact the editor at nfater@andovertownsmen.com. Below, you will find a "Story of Hope" from Family Services.

Again, we hope this season fills all with hope. Happy holidays.

I am looking at a picture of Bill Russell on the first base sideline of Fenway Park Beside him is Jose, a smiling teenage boy from the Dominican Republic whose head is not quite at shoulder level for the big guy. How did this kid get to be in such a great spot? The old fashioned way. He earned it.

On the other side of Jose is the man who helped him get there. His name is Ed Warnshuis. He is the founder of Stand & Deliver, based after a film by the same name starring Edward James Olmos. Stand & Deliver is now a very successful mentoring program under the umbrella of Family Service Inc., and serves the Merrimack Valley with 150 mentors who are matched with Lawrence public school students.

Warnshuis started the program 10 years ago when he was transitioning out of his career in marketing and looking for something useful to do. Somebody told him that Lawrence schools really needed help getting kids ready for the 10th grade MCAS exams. It was one of those moments when life opportunities either open up or start to shut down. Warnshuis seized the moment. He pulled together community leaders, clergy and teachers and got to work. He decided that he would not only lead the program, but be a mentor himself.

Along came Jose. Jose was in a Spanish-speaking track in school, and knew almost no English. He had come to the United States as a child, first staying with an aunt until his parents could get here. But there was a problem. Warnshuis, his new mentor, spoke no Spanish. Somehow they made it work and they forged a relationship that benefited them both.

Warnshuis realized almost immediately that Jose was a math genius but that English was holding him back. He talked Jose into making a more conscious effort to use English in the classroom, in the hallway, and in other areas of his life. Jose not only passed 10th grade MCAS, but was graded proficient! As Warnshuis put it, "Jose is one of those kids who gets it in his very soul that if you have to do something, you do it. 'I can't' just isn't a part of his vocabulary."

Stand & Deliver has evolved and grown in its 10 years. It existed as its own organization until June 2010, when the Lawrence School Department was forced to make budget cuts, including the funding it provided to the program. In July 2010, Stand & Deliver found a new home at Family Service.

This academic year, Stand & Deliver has matched over 150 students with adult academic mentors at several of the major companies in the region: Raytheon in Andover and in Tewksbury, New Balance, Philips Healthcare, with Pfizer coming on line in January. Employees volunteer their time one on one with kids who are bussed weekly to their corporate worksite after school. As a result, the increase in grades and skills is often dramatic.

Since the sideline picture with Bill Russell, Jose has graduated from high school and has been studying at the University of Massachusetts-Lowell. He is seven courses away from earning his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. Jose and Ed still regularly meet for coffee and mutual encouragement.

Stand & Deliver is a part Family Service, Inc. — and organization that gives hope For more information, contact Lori Howe at 978-327-6639 or lhowe@familyserviceinc.com.

WEB QUESTION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

What are you looking forward to most in counting down to Christmas?

- Going to Christmas parties
- Doing last-minute shopping at the mall
- Singing Christmas carols with friends
- Watching classic holiday movies
- Chestnuts roasting on an open fire
- Enjoying cookies, eggnog and other seasonal food and drink
- Quiet time with family
- Religious services
- Other

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:
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Fax to: 978-470-2819

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

CAREFUL WITH HER CANDLE



JAN LEE SEEGER/Staff photo.

Julia Barnas, 4, looks down at the candle she has just been given, as community members gather on Ballardvale Green to sing carols by candlelight near a small tree in the park.



STAFF FILE PHOTO

A giant Christmas tree is hoisted into place at Brickstone Square on Saturday, Nov. 23, 1996.



STAFF FILE PHOTO

The giant Christmas tree at Brickstone Square draws a big crowd on Sunday, Dec. 1, 2002.

Andover's lost treasure at Christmas

Tom Adams

Could five years have possibly passed since our iconic 100-foot Christmas tree last bedazzled us? For fifteen years, from 1990 through 2005, town residents along with thousands more from the Merrimack Valley and far beyond anticipated its arrival, watched as it rose to its heights and delighted in that magic moment when over 30,000 lights at once came to life. Once proclaimed on the front page of the USA Today as the nation's tallest tree, it boldly marked the beginning of the Christmas Season. And now marks those of Christmas Seasons past.

The vision of Martin Sagat, President of Brickstone Properties, who wanted 'to give something back to the community,' the logistics and planning consumed over 6-months. Finding just the right tree, it had to be distressed not virgin timber, and the right height and shape. The first tree came from Nova Scotia. In the ensuing years, three came from right here in Andover, another 3 or 4 from Methuen and finally several from New Hampshire and Connecticut. The all-consuming effort predated our present 'green' age, for with each foot cut, a new tree was planted — a 100-foot tree replaced with 100 saplings. Each year, the prior year's tree trunk was recycled, cut into pieces and carved into the likeness of an oversized Santa, his chair, penguins, reindeer, and bears — many painted and on display throughout Brickstone Square.

The logistics of transporting the tree, erecting and securing it, stringing over 5-miles of cable for the lighting was an intense and tedious volunteer-driven effort. Once the tree was in place, much work remained in fulfilling Mr. Sagat's dream. Within a narrow time window, arranging permits from the town and a police detail for traffic control — an estimated 18,000 attended the lighting of the tree with a daily stream of 3,000 visitors arriving by the hour, parking and joining the festivities. Santa's Village required building, as did the Brickstone Square Express children's train, and staging the petting

zoo complete with llama, sheep, and reindeer. An area was prepared to sell Christmas wreaths and trees with proceeds benefiting St. Ann's Home in Methuen and Toys for Tots. All of this coordinated like a well-oiled Harvard management case study. Led by the feet-on-the-ground, let's get it done efforts of Brickstone's Carolyn Cohan, and Riverside Landscaping's Mark Donohoe and Danny Gallagher, it got done year after year after year.

In its heyday, the tree was a huge attraction — in today's parlance, a destination event. Open shortly after Thanksgiving, come rain, shine, or snow, Brickstone Square's Christmas Village had something for everyone young and old alike. Even free hot chocolate and cookies to take the chill off the evening. It was a place where reality was suspended for a few hours. A place of beauty and wonder. A magic place that left lifelong memories. Children recall riding the carousel, playing on the Brickstone Express train, and experiencing the petting zoo. Many met Santa. They wrote him letters. 'Dear Santa, I brush my teeth every day. I try to be good. I was good today.' Many others wrote asking for the simple things most of us take for granted — warm clothes, more to eat, a better life. "It's the children's faces I remember best," Danny Gallagher recalls. Adults, too, made their time with the tree a life's moment. One enterprising young man arranged for a 100-foot crane to lift him and that special girl to the top of the tree's star where he retrieved and presented her with an engagement ring and his proposal of marriage. He was relieved not only to be back on the ground but that she's also accepted! Another couple arranged to say their vows in front of the tree.

Sadly, our famous evergreen fell victim to the times. The sale of Brickstone Square and the complications of relocating the tree to Minuteman Park ultimately relegated this wonderful treasure to our past. Yet, asked recently if the right set of circumstances presented themselves, would they do it all over again? Without a second's hesitation, they answered, 'in a heartbeat.'

THURSDAY FILE

"We are often unable to tell people what they need to know because they want to know something else."

— George MacDonald from *Huntly*, poet and novelist, 1824-1905

"I don't think there is any great heroic act in going in slavishly every day and saying, 'I must do this.' So what I find is that I do it when I am inspired. And that's how I can combine

it with music. Some days the inspiration is a musical one and other days it has just got to be painting."

— Paul McCartney

"If you want to govern the people, you must place yourself below them. If you want to lead the people, you must learn how to follow them."

— Lao-tzu

"Nothing can bring you peace

but yourself."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Sometimes it is more important to discover what one cannot do, than what one can."

— Lin Yutang

"The hardest thing about communications is communicating."

— Kem Meyer (twitter)

"Let us remind ourselves that our work is far from complete.

Where there is poverty and sickness, including AIDS, where human beings are being oppressed, there is more work to be done. Our work is for freedom for all."

— Nelson Mandela

"Nature arms each man with some faculty which enables him to do easily some feat impossible to any other."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Andover Townsman

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Did someone say Christmas goose?



A Canada goose was spotted ducking behind a hill at Andover High School in Andover before the snow fell last week.

TOWN TALK

Politics to peppers

Andover Republican Mark Baldwin, CEO of Baldwin Crane and Equipment Corp., never had a chance to run a state senate race in the fall, because of a paperwork error. But apparently he put the time to good use in his garden. Baldwin entered the home grown green peppers competition at this year's Topsfield Fair and won first place.

"I recently received my blue ribbon in the mail from the Topsfield Fair and it became the first ornament on my Christmas tree," he wrote in an e-mail.

— Judy Wakefield

I-93 Interchange goes unchanged

Previously, the Andover Townsman reported that changes had been made to what the state is calling the "Andover/Tewksbury/Wilmington/Methuen I-93 Safety Improvements and Tri-Town Interchange Project."

Specifically, the biggest change included adding an additional lane to Interstate 93 from around the Interstate 495 exit to the New Hampshire border.

According to Paul Materazzo, director of Planning, the notice of project change covers an "umbrella" that includes both the interchange project Andover has been working on for so long and plans to widen Interstate 93.

"We are in the preliminary

process of identifying the individual phases and figuring out how to finance it," Materazzo said. "The interchange, as configured and what has been put out into the public eye, isn't going to change."

Plans for the interchange project, which would create exits from Interstate 93 that would feed into the south-east corner of Andover, include widening the highway up to the Interstate 495 exit, exits 44A and 44B.

— Dustin Luca

Tree lighting

Ballardvale friends and families gathered on the Green at dusk on Sunday, Dec. 19, for the ninth annual Ballardvale Tree Lighting.

Richard Bowen, unofficial caretaker of the Green and Master of Ceremonies, welcomed everyone and spoke of the recent loss of a long time Ballardvale resident, ardent supporter of the Vale and member of the Ballardvale Historic District Commission, Bruce Taylor. He was missed at this year's tree lighting. Bowen led everyone in the countdown to light the tree, decorated with over 1000 lights thanks to the efforts of Bowen and Perry Raffi. Bowen introduced song leaders, Pastor Ed Deyton of the Ballardvale United Church and Andover Selectman Brian Major. With their wonderful voices, often singing in harmony, they led the crowd in a chorus of holiday carols.



JAN LEE SEEGER/Staff photos

Wearing a headlamp and holding a microphone, Brian Major leads a crowd of community members in song as the group gathers on Ballardvale Green to sing carols by candlelight near this small tree in the park.



Longtime Ballardvale resident Richard Bowen lights candles for community members who are gathering on Ballardvale Green to sing carols.



Brother and sister, Anna Higgins, 9 and Charlie Higgins, 8, hold their candles to the music book they've been given to sing carols on Ballardvale Green.



Joseph Lorreiro, 5, listens as community members gathered on Ballardvale Green sing carols.

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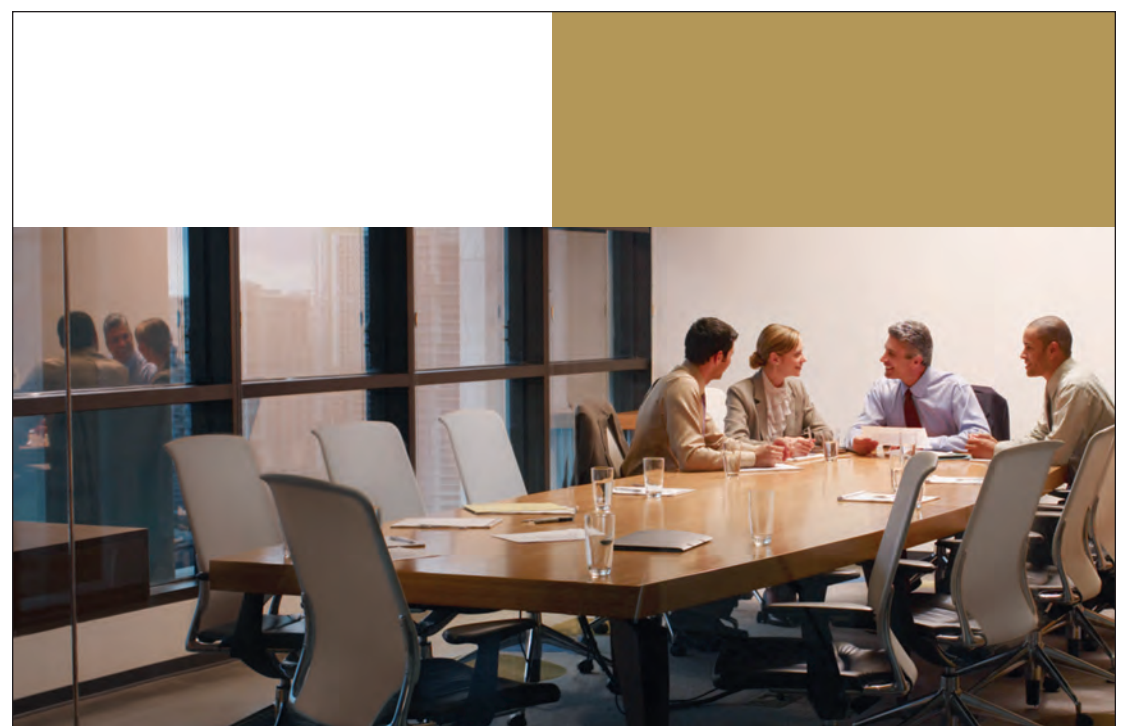
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Townspeople

Have yourself a colorful little Christmas

Bill Dalton



I'm tired of white Christmas lights. I was tired of them the first day I saw them.

When I was growing up, everybody had color lights. Trees were bubbly with color; downtown looked festive; St. Frances Seminary was spectacular. It was the way the holiday season was supposed to look.

I remember being very small and lying under our Christmas tree and looking up through the branches. Our tiger cat was whacking a colorful Christmas ornament back and forth next to me. The color bulbs made the ornaments and branches all different colors. It was so pretty and peaceful.

I just don't get the idea of white lights; there is nothing at all festive about them. They are better than no light but there not as pretty as colors are. That's why we have colors, because we think things are prettier in color. Do you see many black and white televisions around anymore? Of course not. We bought color televisions as soon as we could. If I want to see a white light, I can go into a closet, close the door, and put the light on.

The first electrically lit Christmas tree was created on December 22, 1882, in New York. It was the idea of Edward H. Johnson, an associate of Thomas Edison. It was hand-wired with red, white, and blue incandescent lights. Although Mr. Johnson is said on the internet "to be widely regarded as the 'Father of electric Christmas Tree Lights,'" I've never heard of him. Nevertheless, the point is that he used patriotic colors for the tree. COLOR!

Three years later, in 1895, U.S. President Grover Cleveland had the first electrically lit Christmas tree in the White House. It was a huge tree with more than a hundred color lights. COLOR!
So who decreed we had to

use only white lights? Probably some grinchy old upper class New York socialite first used white lights, or perhaps the silent decree came from Truman Capote's famous Black and White Ball on Nov. 28, 1966, at the Plaza Hotel in New York. There was no color there, and the event was so important (to some people) that a book was written about it. That's about the time I started seeing the white lights. In any event, lemming-like, we all followed some unknown leader over the white light cliffs and Christmas became white and has pretty much remained so for decades.

Since white lights became de rigeur, it's been hard to find color lights, except now I sense a switch. In any event, enough is enough. It's time to return to normal (or "normalcy" if you prefer words made up by politicians). We have come to our senses. Recently, color lights are easy to buy and are being seen again.

I'm struggling to ban white lights in my own house for the holiday season, and my wife is sympathetic to my pathetic psychological needs. However, she put a string of white lights on a bannister (because the store had no more color lights). Immediately I noticed and unplugged them when she wasn't looking. Of course, I lost that little skirmish, but she gets the idea. The six foot tree in front of our house and our interior tree are covered with real color lights, and they are especially beautiful because they are LEDs, which are more vivid than anything in the past.

Here's what I think (just in case you care). Let's use color lights for the holidays and use white and maybe those new pretty blue LED lights as "winter lights" to brighten up the long winter nights. That way you won't have to throw out those miserable white lights.

Anyway, I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and Happy Chanukah.

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

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

COMPILED BY
SUSAN MCKELIGET

100 Years Ago Dec. 23, 1910

From all appearances, Andover is experiencing the best Christmas trade that has come for many years. It is good to see the people buy their goods at home. If the assortment is less, the lessened discomfort and inconvenience is even more marked and the stores are really more inviting and satisfactory from the standpoint of generous display and variety. To help the business men of Andover means to help the best kind of growth for the town, and unless there are reasons not always clear, it is a pretty good plan to follow, to spend the dollars where they are earned.

Advertisement: Valpey Brothers, 2 Main St.: "This store is headquarters for the finest and best goods at the lowest prices. Place your order with us for turkey, chicken or fowl, Boston market celery, Cape Cod cranberries, Hubbard squash, spinach, cauliflower, lettuce, cucumbers, sweet potatoes, onions."

75 Years Ago Dec. 20, 1935

About 275 former Punched players and local football enthusiasts gathered at the town hall last Tuesday to honor Eugene A. Lovely, who has coached Punched football for the last 25 years.

Two more fires, probably of incendiary origin, destroyed a piggery and a hen house in separate Ballardvale fires Friday night. Police and fire officials spent much of the night scouring the neighborhood but could find no suspects.

Several applications are advertised this week for the single package-store license

available. Now that the town is over the 10,000 mark, the one license can be granted and the selectmen decided it should be of the package-store variety, instead of for "consumption on the premises."

The old organ at St. Augustine's Church has been taken out to make way for the new instrument, which has been given to the church by Mr. and Mrs. Maurice J. Curran.

50 Years Ago Dec. 22, 1960

Creation of a new industrial development trust, and purchase of 86 acres of land in Lowell Junction for industrial use, has been announced by the principals. The newly formed trust has purchased the Boston and Maine Railroad land in the Junction—an area that runs from the control tower westerly to Route 93. The area is zoned for industry.

With luck and cooperation from the weather, Andover postal authorities expect to have all mail and parcel post delivered before Christmas. With the peak mailing day behind them, postal workers were keeping abreast of the heavy mail at mid-week. However, they expect a deluge of mail from the western states later in the week.

Photo: The Board of Trade has prepared a new parking area, behind the stores on the west side of Main street for the convenience of shoppers. Entrance is through the driveway to the parking lot of the Merrimack Valley National Bank. This lot has, itself, become part of the overall area, with the elimination of the fence surrounding it. The parking area is illuminated at night. This view of a portion of the lot shows, in the right background, the walk-way leading to Main Street from the parking section.



TIM JEAN/Staff photos

The entire cast of the West Parish Church of Andover and United Church of Christ 32nd annual Outdoor Christmas Pageant gathers around Baby Jesus. The pageant is a re-enactment of the Biblical Story of the Birth of Christ.



In front, from left, Alex Gaspar, Sammy Sheppard, and Charlotte Lenes lead the Angels toward the Inn during the West Parish Church of Andover and United Church of Christ Outdoor Christmas Pageant.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT LIVES ON IN ANDOVER



The Little Drummer Boy, played by Morgan Swain, walks toward the Inn during the West Parish Church of Andover and United Church of Christ 32nd annual Outdoor Christmas Pageant.



In front, Ed Martin leads his fellow Shepherds as they walk toward the Inn during the Outdoor Christmas Pageant.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

All members of the Andover community are welcome for classes at the Andover Senior Center as space allows. Call the center at 978-623-8321 or drop by for a tour at 30 Whittier St., Andover, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pre-registration appreciated for all classes and events as space is limited.

Say 'Goodnight' to Insomnia: Tuesday, Dec. 21, 9:30 a.m.; cost \$3. Sleep better and feel better after this two-hour, experiential technique-based workshop. Pre-register.

New Year's Eve Afternoon Celebration: Thursday, Dec. 30, 1:30 p.m.; cost \$5. Advanced registration required. Food, fun and entertainment with famed accordion player Sebastian Faro playing music from around the world.

Soup's On!: "See the USA in your Chevrolet," Tuesday, Jan. 4, noon; \$4. Take the front seat as Andover's Retelles let you join them on a cross-country camping trip celebrating

both their 80th birthdays. Photos and stories.

Simple Steps to Getting Organized: Professional organizer Susan Walko will teach "simple steps to change that clutter behavior forever," on Thursdays, Jan. 20 and 27 and Feb. 3 and 10 at 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$20.

Haiku, Now and Then: Mondays, Jan 24 and 31 and Feb. 7 at 1:30 p.m.; \$10. Immerse yourself in this gentle, evocative poetry form that connects nature with human nature. Learn the origins. Contemplate writing. Haiku moments [are] everywhere," according to the center. Participants will receive a free book of haiku poetry by the instructor and tea will be served. The instructor is Jeannie Martin, Ed.D, haiku poet and teacher.

Space always available for on-going groups. Some exercise and strength training still open for new members

On eve of Jesus' birth, group collects for babes

A group of Christian men will kick off Christmas Eve day with a meal and a plan to help babies in need.

The Merrimack Valley Christian Men's Christmas Eve Breakfast is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 24 beginning promptly at 7 a.m., at Salvatore's, 354 Merrimack St., Lawrence. Last year, more than 200 men gathered to celebrate, enjoy a buffet breakfast and prop off items that could be used by families with babies.

The cost is \$17 per person, and organizers need a final count by Wednesday, Dec. 22. Those interested in attending are asked to email hackett.jim@comcast.net, or call Jim Hackett at 978-474-4068 to reserve a spot.

The group helps Neighbors in Need, which spends thousands of dollars each year on baby products, by bringing baby formula (especially Enfamil with iron), diapers (all sizes), baby food in jars, boxes of cereal and clothes.

"The clothes may be used as long as they are clean and in good shape," reports Brad W. Heim, a St. Augustine Church parishioner. "There will be a van in front of the restaurant to collect our donations. We filled it last year! Let's do it again."

WEDDINGS



Scott Mackin and Karianne Wood

Scott Jamison Mackin and Karianne Elizabeth Wood were married July 31 at Roche Harbor, Wash. They were married in a harborside garden ceremony written by the couple and performed by Jared Beck, a friend of the bride and groom. The groom is the son of Peter and Maureen Mackin of Scottsdale, Ariz., formerly of Andover.

The maid of honor was Tina Tullus. Bridesmaids were Emily Collins, Meriel Collins, Robin Lee and Brooke Glass, all friends of the bride, and Christine Schwager, cousin of the bride.

The best man was Jarrett Mackin, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Robb Wood and Ryan Wood, brothers of the

bride, and Sam Morrison, friend of the groom.

The bride is the daughter of Michael and Janie Wood of Seattle, Wash. She graduated from Bellevue High School, Bellevue, Wash. and the University of Colorado, Boulder. She is currently employed at Vitro advertising agency as a media planner.

The groom is the son of Peter and Maureen Mackin of Scottsdale, Ariz., formerly of Andover. He is a graduate of Andover High School and the University of Colorado, Boulder. He is currently employed at Apex Systems Inc. as an account manager.

After a trip to Spain, the couple resides in San Diego, Calif.



Lindsay and Bill Curran

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ordman of Andover are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Lindsay, to Bill Curran, son of Ed Curran and the late Marie Curran of Boston. The ceremony was held on July 24, 2010, in the formal gardens at the Andover Country Club.

Presented in marriage by her father, the bride was attended by her cousins Lauren Lamagna, maid of honor, and Stacey Melanson, bridesmaid. The groom's young son, Jackson Curran, was best man and the

usher was the bride's brother, Justin Ordman. A reception followed the ceremony at the Andover Country Club.

The bride is a graduate of Andover High School and holds a bachelor's degree in communications from Newbury College.

The groom received his bachelor's degree from Norwich University and a master's degree from Clarkson University. He is employed by Clear Channel Radio.

The couple resides in the Boston area.

Harriet Beecher Stowe brought town's first Christmas Tree



Andover Stories

By Susan Lenoe, Andover Historical Society

Harriet Beecher Stowe moved to Andover in August of 1852 when her husband, Calvin Stowe, became a professor at Andover Theological Seminary. Her book, Uncle Tom's Cabin, was published in March of that year. An overnight success, the book brought the bloodcurdling realities of slavery into American homes.

With her newfound fame and the wide interest in her book, Stowe's life in Andover became a very public one. Famous abolitionists including William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth journeyed to Andover to visit her in the "Stone Cabin." Her home, now located at the top of Bartlett Street, became a center of social activity.

Andover citizens were stirred to have this worldly, well-known writer as a neighbor. She could be seen shopping at Mr. Holt's grocery store under the Baptist Church, or out drawing the elm trees that grew around campus. A trip to Europe in 1853 introduced her to the fashionable styles of the continent, which she enthusiastically embraced. She loved decorating and hosting parties at her handsome "country" residence.

In 1854, Stowe shocked neighbors by putting up a Christmas tree in her home. It isn't clear what prompted her to follow this German holiday tradition that was made popular in England by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, but had not yet taken root in Calvinist America. Stowe likely spotted the picture of a Christmas tree that appeared in the 1850 edition of Godey's Lady's Book. She wrote for this popular magazine that featured both fiction and home and fashion tips. The picture is an American version of a famous engraving of Victoria and Albert and their family grouped around their Christmas tree. A few of the

details, including the removal of the Queen's crown, are changed to depict an American family scene.

Stowe's efforts are described by Forrest Wilson in his book, Crusader in Crinoline: "She set up her first Christmas tree and decked the cabin with holly and coloured candles...then invited the Seminary faculty to a party. When the professors unwrapped their packages, agog to discover what treasures their well-traveled hostess had parted with, they discovered that every present was a humorous one." Unfortunately no one, including Stowe herself, seems to have let us in on what the joke presents were, but this story does give us a glimpse of her playful nature.

A different description of a Stowe Christmas tree comes from Penne Restad's book, Christmas in America. She writes that Stowe "allowed her daughter Hattie a fine spruce. They set it up upon the table, its branches touching the wall, and decorated it with apples, nuts, and four gilt stars and a winged fairy doll clothed in gauze and spangles, with a star on her forehead and a long gilt wand with a star on the end." In the script Harriet Beecher Stowe, the Andover Years, author Juliet Mofford adds painted walnut shells and pinecones to the Stowe tree.

The Restad description is likely a different tree, earlier than the Andover tree and fancier, indeed. Simple decorations were more common at this time. Nuts and dried seed pods, candies, cookies, apples, oranges when they were available, homemade paper decorations, ribbons, and small toys hung from the early American Christmas tree. And candles were carefully wired to the branches with ample space for the flame. If you have ever had the joy of viewing a candle-lit tree, you know that there is no sight more magical on a winter's night.

What foresight our Harriet had when she introduced the Christmas tree to Andover, a tradition which remains the glorious centerpiece of the Christmas celebration!

"Andover Stories" is a weekly column about interesting local people and events, told in anticipation of the Andover Historical Society's 100 anniversary in 2011.

Frishman retiring from Family Services

The Board of Family Service Inc. has announced the retirement of its executive director, Kay Berthold Frishman of Andover, effective May 2011.

"Kay has served Family Service with great distinction for 30 years beginning as a social worker in 1981. After five years with the organization she was promoted to Executive Director and has done an outstanding job in this capacity for the past 25

years. She is looking forward to spending more time with her new grand-daughter, family, and friends. In addition to her many other interests, She is a gifted artist, and she plans to spend more time painting and developing her artistic talents," according to a release from the board.

A devoted member of the Greater Lawrence community, Kay has worked with great dedication to expand the services of

the agency. Under her leadership, Family Service has grown from a staff of seven employees to more than 50 who provide a wide range of programs and services which benefit people of all ages. She has also been involved in broader community issues that have benefited the area. She leaves the agency in a solid financial position with strong and dedicated staff and board leadership.

Ron Pollina, Family Service Board President, says, "We will greatly miss Kay, but are pleased for her that she will have time to become involved in her many other interests. Working with Kay has been a joy, and she has been a great leader for this organization. We thank her for her compassion and dedication, and for all she has done for the people of Lawrence and the Merrimack Valley."

BIRTH

MCGRATH - A daughter, Madison Ryan McGrath, born to Daniel and Kelly (Young) McGrath of Windham, N.H., formerly of

Andover, on Sept. 10 at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Grandparents are Judy and Fred Young of Salem, N.H., and

Michela McGrath of Malden. Madison joins sisters Ava, 6, and Taylor, 2, and a brother, Connor, 4.

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Education

4,000 pounds of food for the needy

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
Staff Writer

West Middle School: 2,909; Doherty Middle School: 1,433

A holiday food collection pitting two Andover middle schools in a friendly food fight has set a record for Neighbors in Need. "The post office collection in the spring is our largest (15,000 to 20,000 pounds collected), but for a single event, this is our most ever," said Linda Zimmerman of Andover who is executive director of Neighbors in Need.

"We're serving 900 families (this week), so this collection is just amazing." And, it looks like Doherty Middle School will be cleaning the floors of rival West Middle School as a result of the food fight. The weigh-in was done last Saturday, and Doherty collected 1,433 pounds of food compared

to 2,909 pounds collected by West Middle School. A team of 10 volunteers from Free Christian Church in Andover packed and sorted the items for several hours, Zimmerman said. Andover High School's boys basketball team packed delivery trucks early Tuesday morning for deliveries to several local

food pantries. "That's over 4,000 pounds... just amazing," Zimmerman said. "These kids were great. I even had a call early Monday morning from a West student wondering how much the food weighed... these kids are helping so many people." Natalie Hartel, a WMS eighth-

grader, said the school "was really into this." "We had one homeroom that collected 318 cans. Every homeroom had over 200 cans collected. Eighth-graders weren't into it at first, but they came around. It was a big deal," she said. It's a long-running rivalry between the two middle schools

and organizers couldn't resist a consequence for the school that placed second. It's DMS in this case. The student council at DMS will be talking about cleaning up WMS at their next meeting, said Meghan Johnson, a DMS eighth-grader. "That was the deal," Johnson said. "Student Council will take it up and figure out when." Hartel said WMS can't wait for that to happen.

He was home for Christmas, 1959

Ken Seifert



We all have our memories of the holiday season. Some are those rare gifts that grow through the years and

become a very special part of our lives. Such a gift entered my life during the holidays of 1959.

It all started six months before. I had signed a two-year contract with the American military public schools overseas program. After World War II, American families of military personnel could be shipped overseas. Schools were established near bases all over the world. I was assigned to Munich, Germany. The program has since been phased out for financial and political reasons.

It was between my first and second year. I had decided I should return home for the summer. I had three goals, work on my master's degree, visit my family and to meet a nice young lady who would be interested in me. Upon my arrival, I enrolled in my courses, visited all the family and started exploring my third goal. There were no serious takers.

A short time later, I met a good friend of mine who said that Norma Mattei was interested in learning more about teaching school overseas. We both had attended Buffalo State at the same time and I knew a little about her. I asked him where I could contact her. He said the Dexter Street Playground. She was in charge of the summer program. Two days later I visited the playground and suggested we meet some evening and talk about overseas education. After bowling three games, we spent about three hours discussing schools, families, college life and what each thought the future might be. I left her at the front door of an apartment that she shared with three of her college girl friends. As I drove home and thought about the evening, I said, "I am going to marry that girl." Then I laughed. She wants to teach school overseas because she loves teaching and I want to marry her.

For the next three weeks, I attended classes and spent the evenings getting to know more about Norma. Soon it was time for me to fly back to Germany.

We agreed to write each other and upon my return the next summer consider marriage. We wrote each other every day. Sometime in late October or early November I put on the back of an envelope, how would you like to be in Rome for Easter? In the letter I said, "Why wait? I could fly home at Christmas mas and we could get married." There were a number of charter flights going back to the states for the holidays. She accepted. I had not met one member of her family. They lived in Corning and I was busy in Buffalo.

I then wrote a letter to her Mom and Dad. I introduced myself, as best I could, and complimented them on the wonderful job they had done in raising such a fine and proper young woman. I don't remember whether I asked their permission. I do remember saying it would be an honor to take your daughter's hand in marriage.

Four days before Christmas I was back home. I had just given my wife-to-be an engagement ring. It was the shortest engagement in the history of the Seifert family. Norma then had to go home to prepare for the big day. She had spent the month teaching and preparing our wedding. All I did was fly home, buy a new suit, go with my family to Corning and make sure I represented our family as a potentially good husband and father.

Our families got along very well. Norma's parents treated me as a son and as if they had known me since I was a little boy. After the ceremony and reception, the Seiferts were invited back to the old homestead for an evening of pasta, Crystal City pizza and true generosity. It was quite moving.

When it was time for the newlyweds to go on their new journey, we said our goodbyes. I was waiting in the car for Norma to emerge when my father approached the car. He gave me a mini lecture on respecting and loving my wife. He then said, "Ken, they killed us with kindness." He gave Norma a kiss on the cheek and we were on our way to Gettysburg and Washington D.C. for four wonderful days.

Where were we for Easter? We were in Rome on the roof of Saint Peter's Basilica. I have the pictures to prove it. Ten months after Norma arrived in Munich we were back home and our first child was born. I finished my master's degree and we then spent the

Please see SEIFERT, Page 13

General knowledge



Duncan MacKenzie of Andover pretends to be General George Patton while student Sam Lyczkowski tries to identify the historical figure he's playing, at the Andover School of Montessori on South Main Street. Students in Patti Slater's and Jennifer Byam's classes celebrated "Mystery History" week by researching an historical figure and presenting clues to their classmates.

COURTESY PHOTO

Phillips construction receives 'silver' rating

The renovation of Phillips Academy's Paresky Commons, the school's 80-year-old dining hall, has received a silver mark of approval for sustainable design.

The highly prized Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification formally recognizes the environmentally and socially responsible building practices employed

during construction projects. "We wanted to earn the LEED rating to certify our considerable sustainable initiatives using an accepted standard," Michael Williams, the project's chief overseer and the school's Director of Facilities, said.

Of particular note, the Academy reused and recycled more than 90 percent of all construction

debris generated during the renovation and installed a variety of new energy-efficient equipment, which both contributed to receiving the certification.

Among the dining hall's most notable upgrades is an innovative food waste pulper-extractor system, which dehydrated and compacted more than 97 tons of organic matter for composting

in 2010. Williams credited the system as a primary factor in a 47 percent decrease in the Academy's incinerated waste from 2007 to 2010.

LEED certification is awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), a nonprofit organization that promotes sustainable design, construction and operations of buildings.

An eye-opening portrayal of cruelty

REVIEWED BY CAROLINE LU
WHAT'S UP CONTRIBUTOR

BOOK REVIEW

For some reason, homelessness makes us uncomfortable. Destitute people make us feel awkward. We often want to help, but don't know how. So many of us ignore those who cannot afford to feed, clothe or house themselves. We continue to live our lives free of worry about the dirty, hungry people sitting on the curb.

Perhaps it is because many of us do not relate to these people. Some think that homelessness is caused by laziness or lack of intelligence.

However, there are also people who understand hardship, who know the difficulty of putting food on the table each day. Some of us drop a coin in a beggar's cup, cast a furtive smile in their

direction, hoping to brighten a bleak situation. Some of us know what it is like to be homeless.

What happens when a child becomes homeless? Compromised, by Heidi Ayarbe, details the struggles of a young runaway. Maya Aguire's life was never picture-perfect; with a scam artist father, she often moved from place to place in search of a brighter future and of normalcy. In many ways, she was always homeless.

When Maya's father is arrested and indicted for the last time, she is brought to a group home, where she meets the hardened teens of "the system." Foster care seems promising, until she meets her prospective parents: Jesus-loving "Holy Rollers." She is left

with a startling dilemma: move in with her God-fearing foster parents and convert, or hit the road and begin to search for her only remaining relative, a long-lost aunt who she believes is living in Boise.

And so a 400-mile wild goose chase ensues. The scientific hypotheses and procedures Maya has always depended on are suddenly invalid, and she is forced to live day by day. Along the way, her journey is shared by an unlikely posse of runaways: a somewhat-suicidal Mafia-obsessed teen nicknamed Capone, and a young burn victim, Klondike, suffering from Tourette's syndrome. Together, these three experience the honest brutality of life on the street.

My only complaint about Compromised is that the ending feels abrupt and almost unbelievable. After a long, twisting plot, which at times became dull, the novel quickly concluded. Some aspects of the ending and even of the plot felt illogical. However, Ayarbe deserves praise (6.5 stars, more specifically) for an insightful novel on a grim topic.

Compromised is insightful in that it honestly portrays often-unnoticed cruelty. Most of us avoid pondering the unthinkable that happens to the homeless. What happens on the streets? What happens when a child has nowhere to go, and must sleep in an alley at night? What happens when this child's money quickly dwindles, and when he or she

Please see REVIEW, Page 13



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DISCOVER ANDOVER'S ADVANCED CHIROPRACTIC

ON CAMPUS

Babson College announces that the following Andover residents qualified for the spring semester dean's list, which recognizes outstanding student scholarship: **Varun Bhandari, Rachel Licciardi, Jessica Huang, and John Chartier.**

Babson College is recognized internationally as a leader in entrepreneurial management education. Babson grants bachelor in science degrees through its innovative undergraduate program grants master's degrees through the F.W. Olin Graduate School of Business at Babson College. Babson Executive Education offers executive development programs to experienced managers worldwide.

Casey Connors of Andover a junior at Pace University's New York City campus has decided to major in biology.

Pace University is recognized for professionally-oriented programs in business, law, arts and sciences, information technology, education, and nursing, with a core curriculum based in the liberal arts.

This September Pace enrolled the highest number of new undergraduates in the last ten

years at its campuses in New York City and Westchester County, New York. Last year, Business Week ranked Pace among the top 50 colleges and universities in the U.S. in 2008 for graduates with the highest earning potential; its Co-Op and Career Services Program is the largest in the metropolitan areas. For the third year in a row, Pace earned a spot on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement.

Pace has produced thinking professionals since 1906 by providing high quality education for the professions on a firm base of liberal learning amid the advantages of the New York metropolitan area. A private university, Pace has campuses in New York City and Westchester County, New York, enrolling nearly 13,000 students in bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs in its Lubin School of Business, Dyson College of Arts and Sciences, Lienhard School of Nursing, School of Education, School of Law, and Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems.

LOCAL SCHOLARS

St. John's Prep School has announced the names of students from Andover who earned academic honors for the first quarter of the 2010-11 school year. Students who qualified for the headmaster's list earned grades of A- or above in all courses, students who qualified for the principal's list earned grades of B+ or above in all courses, and students who qualified for the honor roll earned grades of B or above in all courses.

The following students were named to the Headmaster's List for the 1st Quarter 2010-11.

Zachary Sargent, Varun Vadapatia,

The following students were named to the Principal's List for the 1st Quarter 2010-11.

Sean Nork,

The following students were named to the Honor Roll for the 1st Quarter 2010-11.

Taylor Brock-Fisher, Matthew Broderick, Rory Burke, John Cirbee, Jonathan Costello, Michael DeLuca, Robert Devaney, W. Carter Durland, Daniel Hyszcak, Matthew Hyszcak, Rory Johnson, Gregory Kobelski, Phillip Igoe, John McKeon.

Dianna Bill of Andover, was named to the high honor roll at Tilton School for the first quarter. To be on the high honor roll, students must earn academic achievement grades of at least three A's, with the remaining grades B's. Habits of Mind grades must be all A's and B's.

Tilton School is an independent, coeducational, boarding and day school in Tilton, N.H., serving students in grades 9 through 12 and post-graduates. Tilton's curricular model stresses the acquisition of skills, knowledge and understanding in five areas, communication, critical thinking, community, creativity and character.



Students at West Middle School helped raise money to help fight breast cancer.

COURTESY PHOTOS

West Middle School steps up to fight breast cancer



Dr. Patricia Donahoe, director of Pediatric Surgical Research Laboratories from Massachusetts General Hospital, spoke to West Middle School students about her research on Friday, Dec. 17.

The students planned events, designed logos, created inspirational signs for the hallways, wrote Get Well cards, and advertised their efforts at lunches to help to end breast cancer during October, Breast Cancer Awareness month. Through their creation of the theme, "West Middle School Thinks Pink," the students sold items such as pink T-shirts, pink bracelets, pink hair extensions, pink cupcakes and sweets all to raise awareness and money for Donahoe's cancer research lab. The money will go to the lab where she leads a team of researchers who are examining how fetal cell development is paralleled in cancer development along with the family genetic patterns that lead to various cancers, including breast cancer.

SEIFERT

Continued from Page 12

next five years in Corning. My father-in-law taught me to fish. My brother-in-law taught me how to grow vegetables with an emphasis on prize tomatoes and award-winning garlic. All of my new family taught me how beautiful in-laws and small town living could be. I also received my first administrative position, as the principal of two elementary schools.

When it was time to get my doctorate from Cornell University we moved. A decade of more children, professional advancement and building more memories followed. Then it was 40 years of living in a very good town.

On Dec. 26, 2010 we will celebrate our 51st anniversary. Measuring the whole mile of this journey, how lucky I am to have received a gift of love and a second family, among other things.

People may ask, is there really a Santa Claus? Yes, there is! He does not wear a red suit and drive a sleigh. He gives gifts and works in mysterious ways. I thank him for a gift that has lasted at least 51 years. I hope everyone has or will have a life-long gift. Happy Holidays.

Ken Seifert is a 40-year resident of Andover and former superintendent of the Andover schools, who writes "To our brave men and women on foreign shores this holiday season, may God bless you. We thank you and we wish you were home with us at this time."

REVIEW

Continued from Page 12

cannot afford food, or simple amenities like cough drops or Pepto-Bismol?

We'd like to imagine that children are not homeless, and that they do not encounter the nightmarish circumstances that are reality for many adults. We would all like to imagine that this does not happen.

But it does.

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

Reindeer bring joy and a little mystery to Christmas

"You know Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and Vixen, Comet and Cupid, and Donner and Blitzen, but do you recall ... Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer?"

The Kid wanted to know how these nine reindeer became part of our Christmas stories and music.

The Kid learned that Rudolph was almost named Rollo, and that Blitzen may really be named Blixem.

A reindeer mystery

Reindeer first appeared in a story about St. Nicholas in 1821.

Santa's eight reindeer are named in "A Visit from St. Nicholas," published in the *Troy (New York) Sentinel* newspaper in 1823. The newspaper did not know who wrote the poem. Thus began a little mystery concerning the author.

The poem is now known as "The Night Before Christmas." Reindeer became a part of the holiday image of Santa Claus because of the poem.

In 1837, a friend said Clement Clark Moore wrote the poem for his children. About the same time, the family of Henry Livingston Jr. said he had written the poem. Few people took them seriously.

Moore's authorship seemed secure until a few years ago. Don W. Foster solves literary mysteries. In 2001, he said Livingston was the author.

The names of the last two

reindeer are also in doubt. The *Sentinel* printed the names Dunder and Blixem. The words mean thunder and lightning in Dutch. The names became Donner and Blitzen in later printings.

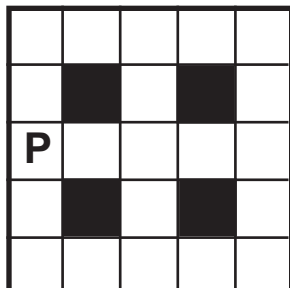
No matter who wrote "The Night Before Christmas," we love the eight reindeer streaking like thunder and lightning through the sky.

And then there is Rudolph!

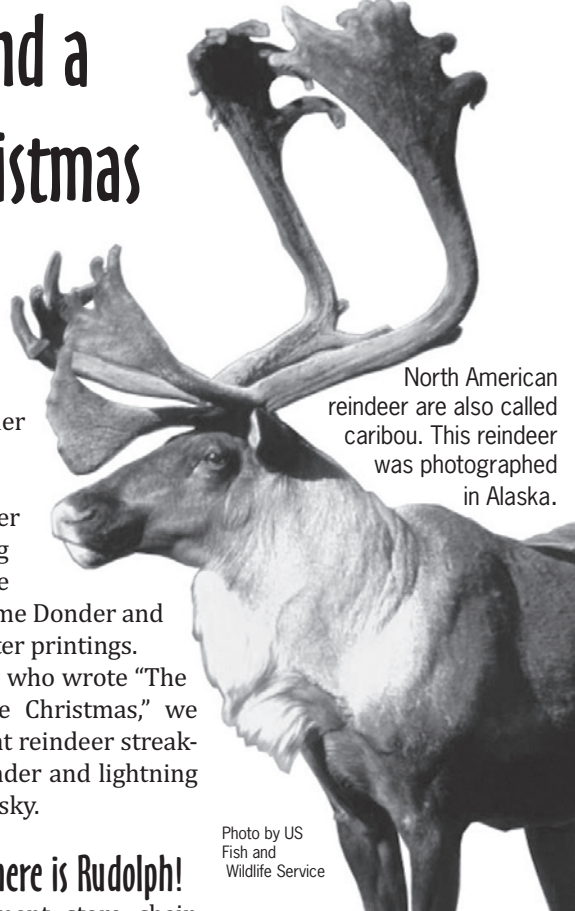
A department store chain wanted a little gift to give children who visited Santa in the stores. An employee, Robert May, was assigned the task of writing a Christmas story.

His boss didn't like the story of the quirky reindeer at first. The company also vetoed his first two names, Rollo and Reginald.

May took an artist to the zoo



Place these six words in the crossword grid: Comet, Cupid, Dusty, Mails, Prior, Tarry



North American reindeer are also called caribou. This reindeer was photographed in Alaska.

Photo by US Fish and Wildlife Service

to sketch cute reindeer.

In 1939, the company printed the story. Santa gave away millions of copies to children.

Montgomery Ward gave May ownership of his story in 1947. Johnny Marks, May's brother-in-law, wrote lyrics and a melody for a song about Rudolph. No one wanted to sing the song.

Gene Autry's wife talked him into doing the song. In 1949, his record sold about two million copies. Now, over 300 arrangements have been recorded with sales of over \$100 million.

May died in 1976. The Montgomery Ward stores closed in 2000. However, the story of the underdog reindeer who saved Christmas still delights people of all ages.



Newspaper in Education activity
Santa and his reindeer work on Christmas. Look through your newspaper for other people who might work on the holiday. Write a thank you note to someone who works on the holiday.

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Business

Yastrzemski joins Boston nonprofit

The Boston subsidiary of Community Health Charities of New England has named Andover resident Anne Marie Yastrzemski as corporate development specialist for the Greater Massachusetts area. She reports directly to CHCofNE President and CEO Gary Kozak.

In her new role, Yastrzemski will focus on new business development and employee engagement. She will be responsible for promoting CHCofNE's Health Matters at Work employee health education program among the Greater Massachusetts business community and developing key business leaders for the organization's Leadership Council.

"We're delighted that Anne Marie has joined our organization," said Kozak. "Her award-winning sales and marketing experience along with her philanthropic background will be an asset to CHCofNE, particularly in building our network in Massachusetts."

Previously, Yastrzemski was pharmaceutical senior sales representative, cardiovascular division, for Schering Plough for 13 years. Earlier in her career, Yastrzemski was employed as an account executive in the facsimile division by Lanier Worldwide. Yastrzemski also brings experience in philanthropy to CHCofNE. In 2009, she created a baseball tournament for top New England high school players interested in pursuing a baseball career either in college or as a profession. She joined with the scouts from the Boston Red Sox and the New York Yankees to organize the Summer Rivalry Classic, an event that culminates with all-star teams chosen and coached by both professional team area scouts. Proceeds from the Summer Rivalry Classic benefit the American Heart Association in honor of the late Michael Yastrzemski.

Casey named Super Lawyer

Andover resident and employment law and litigation specialist Lawrence J. Casey was selected to be listed in 2010 New England Super Lawyers, published by Thomson Reuters. The 2010 Super Lawyers



Lawrence J. Casey

Little Sprouts opens in Andover

Little Sprouts opened its 12th location on Dec. 13, this one in Andover at the New England Business Center office park.

The new Andover preschool serves 76 children, infants through preschool and describes itself as "on a beautifully landscaped, quiet side street and features modern, open classrooms filled with light. The inside has been completely refurbished and updated with all new materials in every classroom and the outside features a private playground."

Little Sprouts Andover at

New England Business Center is led by Executive Director Jenn Michalozski who has over 15 years experience in early childhood education. She is joined by several veteran Little Sprouts teachers. The facility offers part-time, full-time and drop-in care with flexible hours Monday through Friday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., year round, according to Little Sprouts.

Little Sprouts Andover at New England Business Center is located at 15 New England Business Center Drive, near the River Road exit on I-93.

lists are also published in a special section of the November 2010 issue of Boston Magazine.

Casey is a partner in the law firm of Shilepsky Hartley Robb Casey Michon LLP, a firm specializing in executive and professional advocacy law and litigation.

Agent can now help international buyers

Andover real estate agent Gretchen Papineau recently received her Transnational Referral Certification, placing her among a rare group of real estate agents and brokers worldwide, according to a release on the company. The TRC prepares real estate agents to make and receive referrals worldwide using the Transnational Referral system developed by the International Consortium of Real Estate Associations.

"Papineau's drive to continue pursuing an educated approach to the Andover Real Estate market is what makes her and her team, Papineau Partners, highly successful. Having this certification makes Papineau a sought after piece to an international buyers' puzzle as they need a point of contact that is well versed in the procedures of international relocations," according to a release. Not only does the Papineau Partner team benefit from this newly opened door, but the Andover community will benefit as well. Affluent international buyers will be introduced to Andover and the excellent lifestyle that the town

offers. Andover, in turn, will be enriched through a more diversified community and can greatly benefit from various international points of view.

Home Health VNA a Pinnacle award finalist

Visiting Nurse Association of New England recently announced that Home Health VNA has been named a Pinnacle Award finalist for superior patient satisfaction. The Pinnacle Award and finalist designations are presented annually to the members of VNANE ranking highest in patient satisfaction among agencies of comparable size. This is the 2nd honor bestowed on Home Health VNA in as many months. In October the agency was named among the top 25% of the "Home Care Elite", a listing of the top tier of home health care agencies in the United States.

"Home Health VNA has a remarkable history of excellence in patient care outcomes and in satisfaction with care" said John G. Albert, President and CEO. "It is a privilege to care for patients and families in our communities. We honor that privilege with our commitment to patient satisfaction."

Home Health VNA is a not-for-profit agency affiliated with HomeCare, Inc. and Merrimack Valley Hospice. Together, the three agencies serve more than 90 communities throughout Northeastern Massachusetts, the Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire. For more information, visit their website

Y Arts Program coordinator honored

The Merrimack Valley YMCA honored five employees who have exhibited an exemplary level of member service and who personally and professionally demonstrate the YMCA character development traits of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Included among the five was Sarah Pelletier of North Andover, Arts Program Coordinator at the Andover/North Andover YMCA on Haverhill Street, Andover.

YMCA full and part-time employees are encouraged to nominate co-workers for this award. "We look to employees who foster relationships with YMCA members by providing quality member services that is professional, helpful, prompt and courteous. The people selected for this honor are role models in the area of character development. They have often created or initiated new member programs and services that assist with member satisfaction," said Gary P. Morelli, Merrimack Valley YMCA Vice President.

Storch named a most influential advisor

Kendall Storch of Andover, senior vice president with Longfellow Benefits, a Boston employee benefits consulting and brokerage firm, were named to the list of the 300 Most Influential Advisors in Defined Contribution by the 401kWire.

Sponsored by the 401kWire, 401kExchange and The Boston Research Group annually, the Top 300 recognizes leaders and top performers in the group retirement industry. The 401(k) industry insiders nationally cast more than 75,000 votes to choose the Top 300.

Storch, CFP®, AIF®, was also named one of "20 Rising Stars of Retirement Plan Advisors" by Institutional Investor magazine in 2007. He holds NASD Series 6, 63, 7 registrations and received his bachelor of arts degree in economics from Brandeis University.

For more information, visit www.longfellowbenefits.com or call 617-351-6000.

A 'Top Doc' honored by Boston magazine

Winchester Hospital is one of eight top community hospitals recognized for high-quality, patient-focused care and overall value in the article "The Home-town Advantage," which is featured in the December issue of Boston magazine. In addition, seven members of Winchester Hospital's medical staff were honored as top-rated in their respective specialties, including Colorectal surgeon Dennis Begos, MD, FACS, FASCRS who practices in Stoneham and lives in Andover.

The Andover resident earned his medical degree from New York Medical College, attended the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Rochester. He completed a colon and rectal surgery residency at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation and completed general surgery residencies at Yale-New Haven Hospital.

One of the first in greater Boston to perform laparoscopic colectomy, Begos now teaches other surgeons how to perform laparoscopic colon resections. An assistant professor of surgery at Tufts University School of Medicine, Begos is board certified by the American Board of Surgery and American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery. He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and American Society of Gastroenterologic and Endoscopic Surgeons, American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, and Massachusetts Medical Society, according to a release from the hospital.

Cuff joins Leader Bank as VP, director

Kevin M. Cuff, of Andover, has been named vice president, residential lending compliance, and as director of community investment at Leader Bank.

He has over 10 years of experience in the mortgage banking industry and currently serves as the executive director of the Massachusetts Mortgage Bankers Association and the Executive Secretary of the Massachusetts Mortgage Bankers Foundation. Cuff has held this position since 2002, and he has had a tremendously positive impact on the residential mortgage industry even throughout the course of what has been one of the most challenging times in recent history for the housing market. During this time, Cuff has been nationally recognized as a regional chair of the Mortgage Bankers Association of America's State and Local Advisory Council, a

collaborative advisor on all state and federal legislative and regulatory issues affecting the industry. In addition, Cuff has served the Massachusetts Division of Banks Foreclosure Prevention Working Group as an appointee by the Commissioner and he chaired Net Worth Requirement and the MLO Licensing/Registration Task Force which ultimately contributed to the creation of new standards within the industry. Cuff sits on the Massachusetts Community Banking Council's Mortgage Lending Committee which among many tasks reviews Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data used in the creation of two annual reports on Massachusetts lending trends through Changing Patterns and Borrowing Trouble: Mortgage lending to traditionally underserved borrowers and neighborhoods in Massachusetts.

In this new position, Cuff will oversee and ensure the continued compliance relative to the Community Investment Act and residential lending on behalf of both Leader Bank and our affiliate company, Leader Mortgage Company. Cuff will work alongside senior management to ensure that we continue to meet the credit needs of the communities that we serve, including low and moderate income neighborhoods.

Chamber honors town, city leaders

The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee will present "The Annual Merrimack Valley Mayors and Town Managers Breakfast" on Friday, Jan. 14 from 7:30 to 9:15 a.m. at the Andover Country Club, 60 Canterbury St., Andover. A full breakfast buffet will be included.

Special guest speaker will be Lt. Governor Timothy Murray. Invited confirmed speakers include:

■ Andover Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski

- Amesbury Mayor Thatcher Kezer
 - Lawrence Mayor William Lantigua
 - Methuen Mayor William Manzi
 - North Andover Town Manager Mark Rees
 - Newburyport Mayor Donna Holaday
 - Haverhill Mayor James Fiorentini
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Sports

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL

Dec. 23.....Greater Lawrence Christmas Tourney first round..... 6 p.m.
 Dec. 28.....Greater Lawrence Christmas Tourney second round..... TBA
 Dec. 30.....Greater Lawrence Christmas Tourney third round..... TBA

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Dec. 27.....Greater Lawrence Christmas Tourney second round..... TBA
 Dec. 29.....Greater Lawrence Christmas Tourney third round..... TBA

BOYS HOCKEY

Dec. 29.....at Acton-Boxboro..... 8:10 p.m.

GIRLS HOCKEY

Dec. 28.....Bishop Guertin..... 2:30 p.m.

BOYS TRACK

Dec. 27.....Boston Holiday Classic..... 9 a.m.

GIRLS TRACK

Dec. 27.....Boston Holiday Classic..... 9 a.m.

SWIMMING

Dec. 28.....Central Catholic..... 3:30 p.m.

WRESTLING

Dec. 23.....at Greater Lawrence Tri Meet..... 4 p.m.
 Dec. 29-30.....at Lowell Holiday Tourney..... 11 a.m.



COURTESY PHOTO

Andover's David Belluche, center, eyes the puck while using his body to keep a Billerica player away from the net. Just a sophomore, Belluche has already become one of the top defensemen in the state.

ON THE DEFENSIVE

Belluche dominates as defenseman

BY DAVID WILLIS
STAFF WRITER

ANDOVER — David Belluche became a defenseman by chance.

"I was always good at skating backwards," Belluche said with a laugh. "That was something that set me apart from the other little kids, and made me a good fit for defense. Now I can't imagine playing anywhere else."

Belluche is more than just a good skater now. Just a sophomore, he has emerged as one of the top defensemen in the region.

"Belluche is the real deal," Andover High hockey coach Mario Martiniello said. "If I have ever had a guy that I really believe could play Division 1 college hockey one day, it's him."

It didn't take Belluche long to make his mark at the varsity level. Last season, as a 14-year-old freshman, he earned a spot on the first line as a starting defenseman.

"Last year I was definitely a little wide-eyed," he said. "High school was a big step up from where I had played. The style of play, the speed, and what was expected of me as a defenseman. I was just hoping to keep up and do as well as I could."

He found a mentor in his blue-line mate, then-senior co-captain

Boys hockey

2009-10 season: 8-10-4, lost in Division 1 North first round
Returning lettermen: Kyle Berthiaume, Sr., goalie; Matt Melver, Sr., forward; Chris Kucharski, Sr., defense; Matt Swett, Sr., forward; Luke Walker, Sr., forward; Will Maye, Sr., defense; Ryan Oteri, Jr., forward; Liam Centrella, Jr., forward; C.J. Boilard, Jr., defense; Alex King, Jr., defense; Stephen Brighton, Jr., defense; Jim Burns, Soph., forward; David Belluche, Soph., defense
Promising newcomers: Kyle Wakefield, Jr., forward; Chas Heselstine, Soph., defense; Scott Campbell, Soph., forward; Dan McLaughlin, Soph., goalie; Colby Gilbert, Soph., goalie; Chris Olson, Soph., goalie; Tyler Weeks, Soph., forward; Jack Wilkie, Frosh., forward/defense
Captains: Matt Swett, Kyle Berthiaume
Candidates: 56
Returning leaders: Kyle Berthiaume 1.90 goals-against, .945 save percentage; Matt Swett 11 goals
Returning honorees: Kyle Berthiaume, Eagle-Tribune All-Star; Matt Swett and David Belluche, DCL-MVC All-Stars
Head coach: Mario Martiniello (7th year, 74-40-19)
Assistants: Scott Manzi, Steve Neal, Kevin Drew

Joe Kuta.

"I really had to work at it," Belluche said. "I was lucky to have Kuta by my side. He was a real role model for me. But it sure made for a very interesting season."

Belluche was named a Merrimack Valley Conference/Dual Country League All-Start last season, helping lead a defense that allowed just 2.1 goals per game, paced by star goalie Kyle Berthiaume.

After an offseason playing for the Valley Jr Warriors, Belluche has continued to impress through two games this season. In addition to his stellar defense, he also tallied his first career varsity goal against Billerica on Saturday.

"He is big, strong and shoots the puck very hard," Martiniello

said. "He is a great puck-moving defenseman, and doesn't get beaten 1-on-1. He may not score the flashy goals, but he makes all the plays on defense."

At 6-foot and 180 pounds he is an imposing presence, but Belluche admits there is one aspect of his game that needs work.

"I'm working on becoming a more physical player," the 15-year-old said. "It's a little bit of a mental thing, learning to throw my body into things and use my body to control my opponents and the puck. It's something that, if I can get better at it, it will make me a better player."

"My strongest point is my puck movement and puck handling. I make sure to keep everything in front of me, and not make dumb

decisions. Get the puck to the forwards."

Belluche certainly has athleticism in his blood. His sister is Andover track star Emily Belluche, who last spring placed second in the 100 hurdles and fourth in the triple jump at Eastern Mass. Division 1 states.

"She likes to brag a little about her achievements," joked David, whose father played football at Holy Cross. "She is an amazing track athlete. Her accomplishments are something that drives me."

His play in junior hockey has allowed Belluche to play across the country, along with trips to the likes of Ottawa.

Despite Belluche being just in his second year of high school hockey, Martiniello believes he could be drawing college attention soon.

"Everyone is looking at the young standouts," the coach said. "No one is looking at seniors. They want the young guys and lock them up early. David is the kind of kid a lot of people are going to look at."

But, for the moment, Belluche is focused on his play for the Golden Warriors.

"I would love to play college hockey wherever it is," he said. "But I love playing high school hockey and being a part of this team."



CARL RUSSO/staff photo

Andover's Nicole Boudreau drives to the basket against Methuen last season. With her 21 points against the Rangers last week, Boudreau reached 1,000 points for her career.

Boudreau reaches 1,000 points in win

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Andover junior Nicole Boudreau added to her growing legend, reaching the 1,000-point mark for her career in Andover's 80-51 drubbing of Methuen last Tuesday.


Boudreau now has her eyes set on the Golden Warriors'

girls scoring record held by 1998 grad Charlotte Muller (1,616). The junior also has an outside shot at the school's all-time mark, held by fellow marksman Chris Vetrano (2,090 points).

Boudreau finished the night with 21 points, 10 steals, 8

Please see **ROUNDUP**, Page 16

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ROUNDUP

■ Continued from Page 15

rebounds and 8 assists, **Natalie Gomez-Martinez** added 18 points and **Devon Caveney** chipped in with 16 for the winners.

Devon Caveney scored 14 points as Andover crushed Tewksbury 73-20 on Friday. **Nicole Boudreau** added 15 points and her sister **Danielle Boudreau** hit a 3-pointer for the winners.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Dowden, Andover score big wins

Sophomore center **Sam Dowden** continued to impress with 14 points as Andover blew out Tewksbury 75-41 on Friday. **Joe Bramanti** scored a game-high 19 points and **Craig Luschenat** added 14 points.

With **James Costello** and the Andover defense locking down on Haverhill superstar Noah Vonleh (six points), the Golden Warriors notched their first victory with a 59-50 win over the Hillies last Tuesday.

“When you are facing a player that is one of the top players in the nation, he can go off at any time,” said Andover head coach **David Fazio**. “So we played smart defense. We did all we could to keep him out of the paint, and got the ball out of his hands.”

The Golden Warriors held just a 42-38 lead through three quarters, but opened the final frame on a 11-0 run. Bramanti had a pair of hoops and **Brian Salvesen** hit for all six of his points during the surge. Bramanti finished with a game-high 22 points, including a 3-pointer from NBA range.

BOYS INDOOR TRACK

Farnham, Warriors start strong

Pat Farnham won the dash (5.9), **Brian Knapp** took the 600 (1:22.2), **Troy Caynon** won the 300 (34.6) and they teamed with **Mark O’Sullivan** to win the 4x400 relay as Andover cruised past Billerica 75-9 last Wednesday. **Ryan Cooney** took the 2-mile and **Simon Voorhees** won the 1,000 for the winners.

GIRLS INDOOR TRACK

Belluche, girls shine

Emily Belluche took the 50 hurdles in 7.6 as Andover rolled over Billerica 64-27 last Wednesday. **Molly Lynch** took the dash. **Eve Bishop** won the 300, **Jaclyn Torres** won the 600 and **Jess Salley** took the high jump for the Warriors.

BOYS HOCKEY

Swett’s efforts for naught

Matt Swett scored one goal and assisted on another for Andover, which lost to Billerica 5-3 on Saturday. **David Belluche** and **Scott Campbell** each added a goal and **Liam Centrella** had a pair of assists for the Golden Warriors.

Junior **Kyle Wakefield** struck for a pair of goals, but Andover fell to powerhouse Malden Catholic 6-2 last Tuesday. **Matt Swett**, **Matt McIver**, **Will Maye** and **David Belluche** each had an assist.

WRESTLING

Andover falls just short

Andover fought to the end, but lost to Central Catholic 39-37 last Wednesday. **Sean McDonald** (135), **Tito Brito** (140), **Caleb Lynch** (10-3), **Nick Marcotte** (152), **Paul Jackson** (189) and **David Ortiz** (215) all scored wins.

GIRLS HOCKEY

Leary, Keefe score in loss

Meaghan Leary and **Meagan Keefe** each scored a goal for Andover in a 6-3 loss to Lincoln-Sudbury on Saturday. **Cierra Riendeau** added the third goal for the Golden Warriors.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Andover Girls Softball has opened its registration for the spring 2011 season. Interested players should visit sportsmanager.us/AndoverGirlsSoftball.htm to register online.

The softball program break down:

Junior League in-town: eligible for girls presently in grades 3, 4 and 5

Senior League in-town: eligible for girls presently in grades 6, 7 and 8

12U Travel: girls are eligible to try out if they will be 11 or 12 by Dec. 31

14U Travel: girls are eligible to try out if you will be 13 or 14 by Dec. 31

To avoid late fees for the spring season players must register by Jan. 24.

The league says, “We would really appreciate any parents that may be interested in coaching to indicate your interest on the registration form.”

Two members of the Stonehill College men’s cross country team earned weekly honors from the Northeast-10 Conference. Senior captain **Daniel Pilz** Newington, Conn., earned Athlete of the Week honors for the first time in his career, while freshman **Scott Waller** Andover collected his first Rookie of the Week award.

Pilz led Stonehill to a 28th-place finish out of 42 programs in the “Gold Race” of Friday’s Lehigh-Brooks-Paul Short Run as he placed 71st out of 387 runners overall. The “Gold Race” consisted of top Division I and II teams from across the country and Pilz completed the eight-kilometer course in 25:03. He finished fifth among Division II runners at the event.

Waller placed 215th out of the 387 runners in the “Gold Race” at Friday’s Paul Short Run at Lehigh University. He completed the 8K course in 26:02 to finish 14th among Division II runners at the meet and 33rd overall among freshmen.

Waller has competed in all three events for Stonehill in his first collegiate season. He helped the Skyhawks to team titles at both the Trinity Bantams Invitational and Quinnipiac Invitational last month. Waller placed eighth out of 82 runners at Trinity with a time of 16:30 over five kilometers and was 17th out of 34 at Quinnipiac with a time of

28:02 over 8K.

The Stonehill College volleyball team swept past Assumption College 3-0 (25-12, 25-17, 25-18) in a Northeast-10 matchup at home on Friday, Oct. 8, improving to 5-0 in conference competition.

Stonehill rolled to a 25-12 win in the first set behind five kills from Senior Erin Johnson Centerville, and solid blocking by senior Laura Noonan of Hampstead, N.H. and freshman **Kirsten Arvidson** of Andover, and Andover High School.

The Bentley University women’s basketball team, 19-11 a year ago, was ranked 10th in Division II preseason by Women’s Division II Bulletin. It was the program’s highest preseason ranking since the Falcons were sixth in 2007. The list of returnees includes a trio of juniors who have significant collegiate experience, including **Meghan Thomann** of Andover, an Andover High School standout.

Bentley University ran past undefeated and two-time defending Northeast-10 Conference champion Franklin Pierce, 90-72, in NE-10 women’s basketball action Saturday afternoon, Dec. 4. After Franklin Pierce got within seven, Bentley used a 17-4 explosion to open a 54-34 lead with 2:24 left in the first half. That burst was launched by consecutive three-pointers by junior Meghan Thomann Andover High School, who tied a Falcon single-game record by hitting four of four treys.

Bentley University overcame a rough start to record its sixth straight win, 78-63 over Stonehill College in Northeast-10 Conference women’s basketball at the Dana Center Dec. 8, with the help of three triples for nine points from Thomann of Andover.

The Stonehill College volleyball team notched their third Northeast-10 victory of the week on Saturday, Oct. 9, sweeping Saint Michael’s College 3-0 (25-19, 25-18, 25-16) at home.

Freshman **Kirsten Arvidson** of Andover notched a game-high 10 kills.

The Andover/North Andover YMCA announced that **Lawrence General Hospital** will be the lead sponsor of the YMCA Youth Basketball League. This represents the

hospital’s ongoing commitment to youth development in the areas of health and wellness, and will be a major, short-term focus of a growing partnership between the two vibrant community organizations.

“We are very excited about this partnership to improve the health and welfare of the children throughout our community. Lawrence General Hospital is committed to improving the lives and experiences through our comprehensive Community Benefits program. Ongoing planning identifies the key regional needs, and we provide financial resources when possible to address them through both direct patient care to individuals, and via dynamic program sponsorships like this one with the YMCA” adds Lawrence General Hospital President and CEO Dianne J. Anderson.

The YMCA’s Youth Basketball League is for youth in grade levels 1st through 12th and runs from December through March.

Rachel Rauh of Andover, is the first coxswain in over two decades to be named captain of Radcliffe women’s heavyweight crew.

Rauh began her crew her freshman year of high school at Phillips Academy as a coxswain in one of the lower boats. From there her stock began to rise as she moved to higher boats, finally reaching the top boat during her senior year. Her coxing abilities caught the eye of the Radcliffe coaches who snagged her as a recruit.

When she got to Cambridge she was back to the bottom. Her freshman year, she manned the novice eight, the lowest heavyweight crew bost. The following season she coxed the second varsity eight and the varsity four.

Then everything changed her junior year. Motivated by what she saw as a disappointing sophomore season, Rauh set a lofty goal, cox the first boat at the Head of the Charles Regatta.

She was determined and she knew she would one day have the first boat for the Head of the Charles, and she did.

Rowers not coxswains are captains because as the logic goes, a captain needs to be a leader not only on the water but also in the physically demanding workouts in which coxswains usually do not participate. This is why the team had not selected a coxswain as captain since 1989. This

is where Rauh differs, she does as much as she can, almost like physically as much as she can. She does more for the team than simply attend workouts. She’s a top-notch coxswain, but perhaps more important she is a remarkably effective leader.

Stonehill College men’s cross country runner and freshman **Scott Waller** of Andover earned Rookie of the Week honors from the Northeast-10 Conference the week of Oct. 28.

Waller earns Rookie of the Week honors from the NE-10 for the second time this season after helping Stonehill to the second place team finish at the Kutztown Division II Challenge. He finished 22nd overall out of 85 runners at the event with his time of 26:53 over 8K. Waller was third among freshman competing at the event and first among NE-10 and East Region freshmen.

Waller also collected Rookie of the Week honors after finishing 215th out of 387 runners in the “Gold Race” of the Paul Short Run at Lehigh University on Oct. 1. He completed the 8K course in 26:02 to finish 14th among Division II runners at the meet and 33rd overall among freshmen. He has competed in four of five events for Stonehill in his first collegiate season. He helped the Skyhawks to team titles at both the Trinity Bantams Invitational and Quinnipiac Invitational last month. Waller placed eighth (out of 82 runners) at Trinity with a time of 16:30 over five kilometers and was 17th (out of 34) at Quinnipiac with a time of 28:02 over 8K.

The Merrimack College hockey team defeated the Under-20 Sweden National Team 4-1 in an exhibition game Nov. 2 in front of 1,305 fans at Lawler Arena. Andover sophomore **Nick Drew** made his first collegiate appearance in the final minute in goal and stopped his first career shot.

The Stonehill College volleyball team dropped a meeting to visiting University of New Haven in a Northeast-10 Conference match on Saturday, Oct. 30.

The Skyhawks fell in the first set but regained momentum in the second, rallying to a 25-23 victory paced in part by three kills from freshman **Kirsten Arvidson** of Andover.

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