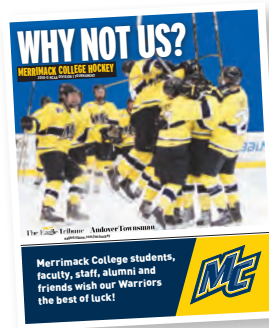




HUNDREDS GETTING READY TO RUN FOR OUR TROOPS. SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE

AN E-BOARD IN EVERY TOWN CLASSROOM? PAGE 8



CAN WARRIORS BEAT DIVISION 1 ELITE? SPECIAL SECTION

OUR 123RD YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 30

MARCH 24, 2011

75 CENTS

SINGING HIS PRAISES



DUSTIN LUCA / Staff Photo

While fighting tears, Show Choir President Shannon Watts defends keeping Mark Mercer, music teacher at Andover High School and the middle schools, at full-time status instead of reducing him in status, as the current version of the proposed school budget calls for. Mercer represents a 0.2 decrease in full-time status out of 13.1 full-time equivalent staffing cuts to current programming.

AHS choir members go to bat for teacher affected by change

By DUSTIN LUCA
STAFF WRITER

Some Andover High School choir students have taken to the streets, the committee room and the phone lines in an effort to prevent school music teacher Mark Mercer from being reduced from full-time to part-time status next year. Currently, Mercer works at all three school levels — elementary, middle and high school — but a proposed change would reduce his status

by 20 percent, eliminating the one class period he spends at the high school every week, something many students who know him say the can't allow. "There is literally no other teacher I would come up here and fight for like Mark

"For \$12,000, I would stand in a corner and panhandle that if it would save his job."

Suzanne Perakis, parent

Mercer." Show Choir President Shannon Watts said. "He's not just a teacher. He's our best friend, and he's a father, and he's a family member to us. Everyone keeps saying we have to cut 0.2 teacher, but he's not a 0.2 teacher. He's Mr.

Mercer."

Mercer declined to comment on the possible reduction, which does not become final unless it stays in the budget throughout remaining deliberations and receives a favorable vote at this year's Town Meeting in April and May.

The proposed cut to his full-time status follows a separate under-enrolled course, taught by a separate teacher, recently

Please see **MERCER**, Page 5

School leaders mulling staffing cuts

By DUSTIN LUCA
STAFF WRITER

A total of 13.1 existing full-time equivalent positions are slated to be reduced at Andover's schools under the current budget proposal, a move expected to be deliberated in greater detail at a School Committee meeting tonight, Thursday.

In addition to these possible staffing changes, another 12.9 new positions requested by administrators for next year would be denied, while a 0.4 position would be added to the middle school's foreign language department.

The biggest hit in the reductions is expected to be felt by

Andover's special education programming — with a total of 8.9 positions reduced from existing programs. All 12.9 in future requests were SPED positions. But such changes would not represent a cut in current offerings, according to school officials.

The adjustments to staffing represent opportunities to change how programs are delivered, both in efficiency and how they respond to student needs, according to School Committee member Annie Gilbert.

"As a school system right now, one of the things we really need to do is largely run an efficient building, but we also need to be responsive

to what student needs are," Gilbert said.

With foreign language, a plan is being developed to change languages offered to sixth and seventh grade students, so that only Spanish will be offered to both grades in the future. This plan, if it moves forward, would end the sixth grade's exploratory foreign language program, and eliminate French and Latin offerings for seventh-graders. Spanish, French and Latin would be available to eighth-graders under the plan, according to School Superintendent Marinel McGrath.

The changes in special education offerings addresses concerns officials have in the

use of programming at the high school level. While the cuts specifically affect the high school more than any other level, with eight cuts from current programming, the reductions represent changes to the existing program, a reorganization of service delivery that doesn't impact individualized education programs (IEPs), according to McGrath.

"Students will get the services that their IEPs require," McGrath said. "It is going to be different. I have faith in our teachers, both our regular education teachers and our special education teachers, and our teaching assistants, that

Please see **CUTS**, Page 5

Salafia, Forgue win at polls

Planning official has two-year selectmen seat

By DUSTIN LUCA AND JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITERS

Paul Salafia is the newest selectman while incumbent Dennis Forgue will continue on the Andover School Committee following Tuesday's election.

Just over 9 percent of the town's registered voters voted. Salafia defeated his two opponents for a two-year selectmen spot, with 935 votes, or roughly 49 percent of votes cast. Finishing second was Dan Kowalski with 711 votes. Larry Bruce collected 259 votes.

In the School Committee race, incumbent Dennis Forgue got 1,034 votes — just over 53 percent of votes for the position — to defeat his opponent, Donald Gottfried, who received 912 votes.

Salafia will replace appointed Selectman John Hess, who was brought to the board last year following the resignation of Jerry Stabile. As of press time, it was expected that Salafia would be sworn into office at a ceremony in the Town Offices yesterday, Wednesday.

Forgue will continue to serve as chairman of the School Committee through Town Meeting in April, after which the School Committee will vote to select a new chairman if it so chooses.

Selectman Mary Lyman,



Dennis Forgue Paul Salafia

moderator Sheila Doherty and Andover Housing Authority member Dan Grams were unopposed, and will begin new terms of office.

SALAFIA SWINGS SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT

Andover's newest selectman is convinced that his prior Planning Board experience sealed his victory.

"I think experience matters, I really do," said Salafia, who served on the Andover Planning Board for 17 years.

Salafia said winning is great but another top campaign memory came courtesy of teens from Andover Youth Services. They held homemade signs at the polls in support of Salafia and voiced support for him.

"They blew me away," said Salafia,

Please see **ELECTION**, Page 2

Twice the Joy: AHS Girls win back-to-back state titles



Meet Jaymi Cohen, No. 12

Age: 17
Position: Forward
Favorite subject: Economics/Spanish
Why did you start playing?
Both my sisters and my brother played. When I was old enough I started to play as well. I also love competition and being part of a team.
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
Looking into the stands every single game and always seeing my parents there to support me.
Favorite quote?
"Anything is possible if you just believe."
If I had \$1 million...
I would take half of it and distribute it evenly among my family. I would take the other half and give it to less fortunate towns to improve their sports programs so other kids can have the opportunities I have been so fortunate to have by being on a team.

Profiles of all the girls basketball stars, page 16

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Ye Olde Supper helps celebrate South Church's 300th

South Church will host an old-fashioned Ham and Bean Supper, as part of its 300th Anniversary Celebration festivities, on Saturday March 26, 5:30 p.m. at South Church, 41 Central St.

In addition to the ham and beans, there will be a sampling of foods from the many countries South Church has served over the years. There will be an entertaining historical presentation, highlighting some interesting items of South Church and Andover history. The whole Andover community is welcome.

The 300th Anniversary Celebration will continue throughout the year.

Arthritis Walk May 22

The 2011 North Shore Arthritis Walk will take place on Sunday, May 22, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lynch Park in Beverly.

This special event features a one-and three-mile course followed by a post-walk party. This event for both children and adults includes music, games, "Wally the Green Monster," entertainment and raffles. Proceeds are directed to the Arthritis Foundation. People can consider starting a team, making a donation, providing a raffle ticket, purchasing a road sign, becoming a sponsor, volunteering the day of the walk, and joining in the fun on May 22. For more information, visit northshorearthritiswalk.org or call 617-219-8234.

ELECTION: Forgue, Salafia come out as big winners

Continued from Page 1

who supports building a youth center in town.

Meanwhile, Kowalski noted he took on two longtime town residents as somewhat of a newcomer to town. He has lived in town just four years.

"They have more than 30 and 20 years here," Kowalski said of Salafia and Bruce respectively.

"But, I am feeling great. I got a lot of support from the community," Kowalski said. "I met a lot of people and I feel great about that."

He is by no means a flash-in-the-pan when it comes to political races. He said he will run again, most likely for a selectman seat. He was very encouraged by the 711 votes cast for him.

"I think voters recognize passion and a need for new faces (in local politics)," he said.

Meanwhile, third place finisher, Larry Bruce, said he was not disappointed for himself, but rather for the town.

"With such a low voter turnout, a small group retained power and that's disappointing," Bruce said. "Our form of government is cumbersome...I am only trying to get a better value for the residents of Andover."

His future political plans are uncertain.

"I don't know," he replied when asked about running for office again. "I might run for moderator. That would ruffle some feathers."

He emphasized it is not sour grapes, but he said he was troubled that it seemed to him Salafia's teen supporters arrived at the field house in an Andover Youth Services van. Bruce said he would contact the Secretary of State election bureau about the incident. He said it is illegal to use town resources for campaigning.

Salafia said he did not know how the teens arrived.

FORGUE CONTINUES, FOLLOWING CLOSE WIN

It is a tumultuous time for the School Committee, with a budget out of balance and teacher contracts to establish. But, there will be no transition of power as both issues continue to be debated.

"We are in the middle of a very difficult budget with every emotionally-laden issue on the table," Forgue said. "It was a challenging race, with difficult issues, and the Andover community made its decision."

Forgue beat out his opponent by 122 votes, just under 7 percent of votes cast for the seat. It was a very close race to the end, even with Forgue facing tough opposition from members of the town's teachers unions going into Tuesday.

"It was a close race that, I think, speaks to Andover's drive for an excellent school system, balanced with fiscal responsibility," Forgue said.

Donald Gottfried said he was disappointed by the outcome of the election, but he promised that he will continue to be a public figure in town affairs in the future. Whether



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover School committee winner, incumbent, Dennis Forgue, left, celebrates with his supporters at his house. From left: Forgue, selectmen chairman Alex Vispoli; Jamison Tomasek and Don Robb.

that involves running for office again next year or being a regular contributor to meetings, he isn't sure yet. But Andover hasn't seen the last of Gottfried.

"I haven't been around in the town, in the public life of the town, for very long," Gottfried said. "I anticipate participating more in the future."

Board of Selectmen chairman Alex Vispoli said he has enjoyed working with Forgue in recent months, and he looks forward to working with him more in the future.

"It's been refreshing to work with him," Vispoli said. "He is a professional. He is tough, definitely a good advocate for the school system, and I think Andover is fortunate to have him on the School Committee."

SCHOOLS RACE DRAWS CROWD TO POLLS

Overall, more people voted in in the School Committee race than any other race on the ballot. Outside, residents said that the race between Forgue and Gottfried brought them to the polls more than anything else.

"That was the race that was really contested," town resident Jim Bedford said.

Overall, Bedford wished that more people voted in Tuesday's election. "The people really need to get out and vote," Bedford said. "They complain all year long, and they do not vote."

Of those who came to the polls, 71 of the 2,018 did not vote in the School Committee race while 107 did not participate in the race for the two-year selectmen seat. Six voters wrote in their own candidates for selectmen and one did so for School Committee.

Steve Knepper said meeting Salafia at a recent School Committee meeting, where the victorious selectman candidate supported students upset about the possible decrease in full-time status of their music teacher, Mark Mercer, helped inform his vote.

"My kids are into singing and chorus, and we're in support of Mark Mercer, and Salafia was there, and he seemed to be in support of him as well," Knepper said.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Paul Salafia, who won the Andover selectman's seat on Tuesday night, is congratulated by his 87-year-old mother, Viola Salafia.



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo

Turnout was slow and low Tuesday during morning voting at Andover High School.

Join the discussion! To comment and see what others are saying, log on to our site at www.andovertownsm.com.

Andover Townsman

Established 1887

ISSN 1524-1432
USPS 025-440

Publisher

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Published Thursdays by North of Boston Media Group
33 Chestnut St., Box 1986,
Andover, MA 01810
978-475-7000
Ad fax 978-475-5731
News fax 978-470-2819



E-mail: townsman@andovertownsm.com
Web: andovertownsm.com

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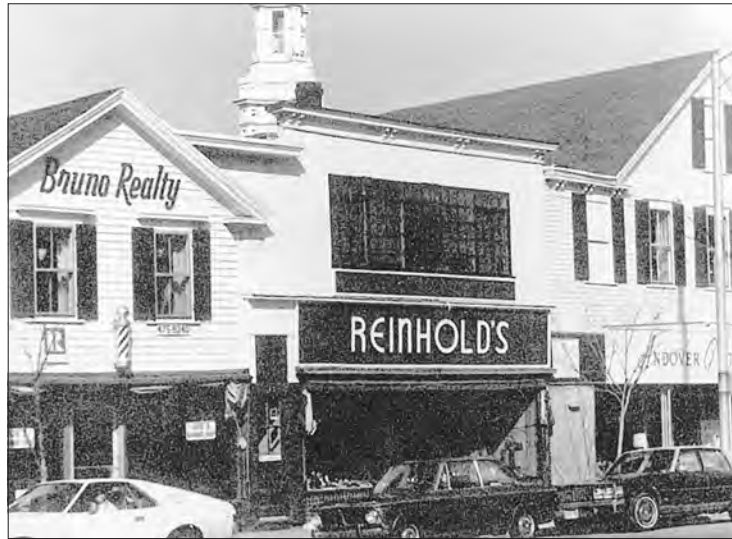


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In Brief

PAST & PRESENT



THEN: Main Street, Andover, back in the 1980s, with some of the shops at the time pictured, from left, Joe Mazza's Barbershop, Bruno Realty, on top, William Reinhold's shoe store, and the Andover Gift House.



NOW: Main Street businesses today include, from left, Andover Barber Shop, Soiree and Lyn Evans-Potpourri Designs.

Day of good deeds by Andover temple April 3

Congregation Beth Israel of Andover is organizing a Mitzvah Day on Sunday, April 3, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mitzvah Day will bring members of the community together for a day of service that will include preparing meals for residents of the Lowell Transitional Living Center, assembling crafts kits for children at Horizons for Children in Lawrence, and collecting canned goods and other non-perishables for Somebody Cares New England in Haverhill.

Weather permitting, Mitzvah Day will also include cleanup of a local conservation area. The Hebrew word "mitzvah" means "commandment," and is often used to refer to good deeds or actions that are considered the fulfillment of God's wishes. CBI's Mitzvah Day is part of International Good Deeds Day, which originated in Israel in 2007. Anne Schwartz, co-chairwoman of CBI's Social Action Committee and the lead

organizer for the event, noted, "We've organized Mitzvah Day around a range of projects that will reach people in need throughout the Merrimack Valley. We've included several kid-friendly projects, and all are welcome to join us." Mitzvah Day will begin with a continental breakfast at 9 at Congregation Beth Israel, 501 South Main St., Andover. Congregation Beth Israel's Mitzvah Day is free and open to the public. Advance registration

is greatly appreciated, according to organizers. To sign up, email CBI's Social Action Committee at SocialAction@BethIsraelMV.org. Organizers ask to how many will be attending, and the ages of any children under the age of 15. Congregation Beth Israel is an egalitarian Conservative synagogue. For more information, contact Amy Sherr in the Beth Israel office at 978-474-0540, or e-mail office@BethIsraelMV.org.

Andover lauds competitive bids on financing

David Reilly, town treasurer, received competitive bids from bond and note underwriters on Tuesday, Feb. 15, for a \$7,550,000 20-year bond issue and a \$1,125,000 1-year note issue. Morgan Keegan & Co., was the winning bidder on the bonds with an average interest rate or 3.478

percent. FirstSouthwest was the winning bidder on the notes with a net interest cost of 0.6763 percent. The town received a total of six bids on the bonds and six bids on the notes. Bond and note proceeds will be used to finance various municipal projects. Prior to the sale, Standard &

Poor's a municipal credit rating agency, assigned the highest rating of "AAA" to the Town's long-term debt and assigned the highest rating of "SP-1+" to the notes. The agency cited the town's strong household income levels, below-average unemployment, strong and diverse tax base,

good financial position, strong financial management practices and low overall net debt burden as positive credit factors. The bids for the Bonds and Notes were accepted at the offices of the Town's Financial Advisor, First Southwest Company, at 54 Canal St. in Boston.

Catapults and more: College's annual hands-on science festival

Sixth- to 12-graders in the region are invited to learn fun and useful science and engineering concepts in a hands-on way at ThinkFEST 2011 at Merrimack College on Saturday, March 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. ThinkFEST 2011 at Merrimack College is a festival celebrating science and engineering, where students (grades 6-12) learn about engineering,

science and technology through activities such as the PBS show Design Squad and interactive demonstrations. Students in 11th and 12th grade will also have a chance to compete for Merrimack scholarships through the Egg Catapult Competition. Students will: Meet some of the brightest engineers and scientists in

New England as they conduct fascinating experiments with favorite technologies. Watch the Merrimack College Scholarship Egg Catapult Competition where students will be competing with Trebuchet-style catapults that they have designed. The goal: to throw an egg into a frying pan up to sixty feet away for a \$15,000 per year (max four

years) scholarship. Learn "almost everything you need to know, see, and hear about engineering, science, and technology by working with Merrimack College civil engineering students and faculty," according to organizers. The event is at Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover, near the Andover/North Andover line.

Rabies vaccination April 2

The Andover Animal Hospital will conduct the annual rabies vaccination clinic for dogs and cats on Saturday, April 2, at its office at 233 Lowell St. The clinic will be from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The cost of the vaccination will be \$10 per animal. All animals should be leashed or restrained. Rabies vaccinations will be good for three years if you bring proof (current rabies certificate) that your pet has been immunized within the past year.

Otherwise, the vaccination will be good for only one year, according to the town clerk's office. State law requires that all dogs and cats must be vaccinated against rabies by six months of age and must be three months of age before they can be vaccinated. Residents who have not yet licensed their dogs for 2011, should contact the town clerk's office for further information at 978-623-8255.

Camp open house March 27

On Sunday, March 27, the Merrimack Valley YMCA will host an open house at the Andover/North Andover YMCA (165 Haverhill St., Andover) from 2 to 4 p.m. Parents and prospective campers can meet the camp directors, view camp PowerPoint presentations at 2:30 p.m., and asks questions. Current campers will also be on hand to discuss their YMCA camp experiences. Registration is underway for the YMCA's two residential summer camps -- Camp Lawrence for Boys and Camp Nokomis for Girls, as well as for YMCA Day Camp Otter in Salem, New Hampshire.

Both resident camp located on Bear Island, Lake Winnepesaukee, N.H., offer fun-filled, educational experiences for youth ages 8 to 16. Each year, the YMCA enrolls more than 1,000 children in these residential camps, hosting many local youth from the Merrimack Valley, according to the Y. Campers hail from as far away as Europe, as well as from all over the United States. Camp Lawrence and Camp Nokomis sessions are two weeks long, beginning during the week of June 26, 2010. Enrollments are accepted in 2, 4, 6 or 8 week periods only. Both camps, located on separate acreage on Bear Island, are situated on tranquil settings of sandy beaches and wooded trails, the perfect environment to offer educational experiences which encourage creative

Temple hosts sports-equipment drive March 27

The Sisterhood of Temple Emanuel in sponsoring a Sports Equipment Drive on Sunday, March 27. Items needed include football, baseball, hockey, soccer, lacrosse, field hockey and basketball equipment; cleats, shin guards, kick balls and ice skate. Such items can be dropped off in the Temple lobby, 7 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover, between 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. or between 5 and 7 p.m.

The sports equipment will be donated to Family to Family, an Andover organization dedicated to providing all Andover Youth the opportunity to participate in sports programs. For further information contact the Temple Office at 978-470-1356 or e-mail Beverly Birnbach at b.birnbach@verizon.net.

Jobs for teens at wildlife refuge

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge is seeking recruits for its Youth Conservation Corps Program this summer. Six positions are available this year; three for boys and three for girls. Participants will work 40 hours per week for eight weeks and earn the current minimum wage. (\$8.00/hr.) Dates for the program are June 27 - Aug. 19, 2011. Candidates must commit to the full 8 week program. The objectives of the Youth Conservation Corps, a nationwide program, are threefold: to accomplish needed conservation work on public land, to provide gainful employment for 15 through 18-year-olds of all social, economic, ethnic and racial backgrounds, and to develop an understanding and appreciation of the nation's natural environment and heritage. This year's crew will work on

such projects as constructing a boardwalk, brushing trails, erecting fences and assisting with the stations biological program. To be eligible for the YCC Program, enrollees must be at least 15 but not have reached 19 years of age during the term of employment, be a U.S. resident, have a Social Security number, and a desire and ability to work outdoors. Applications and information may be obtained at Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, 6 Plum Island Turnpike Newburyport, MA 01950, or at most local High School Guidance Departments. Office hours at the Refuge are 8 am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, 978-465-5753. Completed applications must be received at the Refuge office no later than 4:30 p.m. on April 22, 2011. Selection by random drawing and notification of participants will be completed by May 4, 2011.

Volunteer to honor vets

On Sunday, May 15, Andover veterans, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and interested citizens will meet at 11 a.m. at Spring Grove Cemetery on Abbot Street to replace 3,600 flags on the graves of deceased Andover veterans. The process takes about 90 minutes and affords an opportunity to see parts of Andover's history up close, according to Veterans Services Director Mike Burke. In case of inclement weather the flags will be placed on graves at 11 a.m. on Sunday, May 22. For more information call the Veterans Office at 978-623-8218.

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It's a real puzzler



Doherty Middle School sixth-graders Gavin Batsimm, Ryan O'Meara and Corey Kozlovski, all 11, work to solve a puzzle during a joint event with St. Augustine and Doherty Middle schools featuring Eric Berlin, an award-winning author and puzzle creator.



St. Augustine School fifth-graders Olivia Raza, 10, and Sarah Sullivan, 11, both work to solve a puzzle.

■ POLICE LOG

COMPILED BY DUSTIN LUCA
dluca@andovertownsm.com

The following items were taken from Andover police logs for Tuesday, March 15 through Monday, March 21:

ARRESTS

Tuesday, March 15 - At 9:13 a.m., a juvenile male from Lawrence was arrested on River Road and charged with violating a harassment order.

At 3:06 p.m., Michael Boria, 48, of 16 Walnut St., Lowell, was arrested on High Street and charged with operating a motor vehicle while unlicensed and registering a motor vehicle improperly to avoid taxes and premiums.

Wednesday, March 16 - At 2:05 p.m., Penny Brown, 48, of 5 Locke St., Andover, was arrested on Morton Street and charged on warrants for driving with a suspended registration and driving an uninsured motor vehicle.

At 4:03 p.m., Jeffrey Begin, 41, of 257 Lawrence St., Methuen, was arrested on Lowell Street and charged on a warrant for assault and battery.

Minutes later, Christopher Asselin, 21, of 17 Cross St., Methuen, was arrested and charged on warrants for breaking and entering at night time with intent to commit a felony, larceny over \$250 and threatening to commit a crime.

At 8:13 p.m., Andrew Short, 19, of 92 Magoun Ave., Medford, was arrested on North Main Street and charged with trespassing and on a warrant for possessing liquor under the age of 21.

Thursday, March 17 - At 11:18 a.m., a juvenile female from Lawrence was arrested on River Road and charged on a Child In Need of Services (CHINS) warrant.

At 3:08 p.m., Samuel Warren, 19, of 24 Chester St., Andover, was arrested on Abbot Street and charged with possessing a class C drug.

At 10:03 p.m., Elisha Sidoti, 28, of 26 Country Lane, Billerica, was arrested on River Road and charged on a warrant for assault

and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Moments later, Joseph Ernest Cotreau, 31 of 490 Rantoul St., Beverly, was arrested. He was charged with operating a motor vehicle with a subsequent license.

Close to 20 minutes later, Ryan Cahoon, 31, of 257 Lawrence St., Methuen was arrested at the same location and charged on a warrant for violating a court order.

Friday, March 18 - At 1:36 p.m., David Doyle, 42, an Andover resident, was arrested at his home and charged with assault and battery on a household member.

At 2:56 p.m., Heriberto Escalera, 42, of 10 Kempton Court, Lawrence, was arrested on Upland Road and charged with assault and battery on a household member, assault and battery on a retarded person, breaking and entering for a misdemeanor, intimidating a witness and threatening to commit a crime.

Saturday, March 19 - At 3:25 p.m., Anitza Alayon, 28, of 70 Union St., Methuen, was arrested on River Road and charged with operating a motor vehicle with license suspended and warrants for driving with a suspended registration and driving an uninsured motor vehicle.

Sunday, March 20 - At 3:38 a.m., Frank Ferriera, 20, of 138 Newton St., Lawrence, was arrested on North Street and charged on warrants for assault and battery and malicious damage to a motor vehicle.

At 8:09 p.m., Torin Traynor, 25, an Andover resident, was arrested at his home and charged with assault and battery on a household member, assault and battery on a police officer, assault to murder, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, malicious destruction of property over \$250, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct.

Monday, March 21 - At 12:11 p.m., Michael Godin, 52, of 132 Foster St., Lawrence, was arrested on North Main Street and charged with driving with no inspection sticker and operating a motor vehicle with license suspended.

Monday, March 21 - At 3:53 p.m.,

Charles Tardugno, 29, of 2 Briewood Circle, Andover, was arrested on High Plain Road and charged with assault with a dangerous weapon and witness intimidation.

THEFTS

Tuesday, March 15 - At 12:23 p.m., a Bullfinch Drive resident reported that license plates from her vehicle has been stolen.

Friday, March 18 - At 3:56 p.m., a Fossen Way resident reported a theft from a motor vehicle that occurred at some point the previous evening.

Saturday, March 19 - At 2:36 p.m., a Mitton Circle resident reported a theft from his motor vehicle that was believed to have happened around three days earlier.

INCIDENTS

Tuesday, March 15 - At 12:09 p.m., a Topping Road resident reported that "someone has dumped a bathroom sink, countertop and other items" nearby. The Department of Public Works was notified and later picked up the items.

At 3:21 p.m., police were called to Smithshire Estates, where they received a warning about a female resident who reported to an outside agency that her brother had a gun and was trying to shoot her. Smithshire Estates was barricaded and restricted by police. It was determined that the woman's brother, who lives with her, does have access to firearms through his job. The brother was not home at the time, and there was no threat to anybody. The woman was taken by ambulance to an area hospital.

At 7:50 p.m., a Minuteman Road resident called police regarding two males he saw who were siphoning gasoline out of his truck. The suspects fled before police arrived.

Thursday, March 17 - At 10:12 a.m., a Lowell Street resident with a son who goes to Sanborn Elementary School reported that, on the day before, her son had been assaulted by his bus driver. Police investigated the claim, which was eventually brought to the school department and a discussion between both parties were mediated by police. The incident was deemed a disciplinary issue, not an assault, and no charges were filed against the driver.

At 6:12 p.m., a West Parish Drive

resident called police regarding "a possible male subject in his (car) sitting in the back seat naked." Police investigated the incident and said that all parties checked out.

Friday, March 18 - At 10:04 p.m., a caller on Chandler Road reported that a small, black poodle was in the roadway.

Saturday, March 19 - At 10:46 a.m., a case of fraud was reported on North Main Street.

Sunday, March 20 - At 6:05 p.m., a High Plain Road resident called police regarding a call she received warning her that her children were home alone and a coyote had jumped the fence on her property and killed one of her goats. The resident reported she wouldn't be home for half an hour and requested an officer. A responding officer determined it was an unfounded call, as someone contacted the woman about the alleged goat attack to get her home for a surprise party held in her honor.

Monday, March 21 - At 10:15 a.m., an individual on Railroad Street reported a case of assault. No arrests were made.

At 11:24 a.m., a case of fraud was reported on Dascomb Road.

At 3:45 p.m., a town resident reported that "for the past two Saturdays, children from the home next door have gone to their home and it has startled his wife."

ACCIDENTS

Tuesday, March 15 - At 3:13 a.m., an accident with no personal injury was reported on River Street. A vehicle involved in the accident needed to be towed from the scene.

At 12:40 p.m., a two-car crash was reported on North Main Street. No personal injuries were reported, but one of the vehicles had to be towed from the scene.

Thursday, March 17 - At 3:02 p.m., a hit-and-run accident with no personal injury was reported on South Main Street.

Friday, March 18 - At 8:14 a.m., a prior hit-and-run accident that occurred on Dascomb Road was reported to police.

Monday, March 21 - At 3:02 p.m., police received reports of a two-car accident on Main Street. Police reports indicate no injuries were reported, but one of the vehicles had to be towed from the scene.



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MERCER: Students plead for AHS teacher

Continued from Page 1

getting axed from course offerings. Due to contractual obligations with that professor, who has seniority over Mercer, the teacher is expected to teach Mercer's chorus offering next year, according to Annie Gilbert, a member of the School Committee and its budget subcommittee.

"We can't offer electives that a handful of students sign up for," Gilbert said. "(The teacher with seniority) has the right to teach what she is certified to teach, and what she is certified to teach is the chorus class."

The name of the teacher whose course was cut, as well as the subject of the course itself, could not be disclosed because it is a personnel matter, Superintendent Marinell McGrath said.

Dozens of school and concert choir students sporting their red choir shirts, displaying the words "SING! SING!" in bold-faced lettering, attended last week's School Committee meeting to look for alternatives in reducing Mercer's status at the high school. Many of the same students have been standing with signs at the entrance to Andover High, on Shawsheen Road, asking motorists to



Mark Mercer

"honk" if they support the effort. Some have emailed and called the Townsman to ensure that the issue is brought to townwide attention.

The two choirs the students are members of have won several awards and trophies under Mercer's leadership. These choirs would continue even if Mercer's work is reduced by .2, according to Paula Colby-Clements, a member of both the School Committee and its budget subcommittee.

"We aren't touching (the choirs)," Colby-Clements said. "We are really just dealing with that one under-enrolled class."

A primary concern for many is whether Mercer would stay at the school system after being reduced in status, which Gilbert said "is up to him."

At last week's School Committee meeting, many members of the two choirs spoke strongly against administrators reducing his position with Andover Public Schools.

River Road resident Suzanne Perakis, a mother to one choir member, spoke of Mercer's

importance to the performers in the choir programs.

"This is something that resonates in their DNA. For \$12,000, I would stand on a corner and panhandle that if it would save his job," Perakis said. "Twelve grand is real short money for the hearts and souls of these kids in this program. Please don't cut this."

At the meeting, School Committee member David Birnbach offered \$12,000 of his own money to keep Mercer at the school, however other school leaders have said that would not address the real issue.

"Even if we had that money, that doesn't solve the problem, which is contractual seniority," Gilbert said. "Unless (Mercer) is certified to teach something else that is offered in the district, he is being reduced."

Currently, the School Committee hasn't taken a position on reducing Mercer in status, which is part of the possibility of reducing about 13.1 positions in total, and denying requests for an additional 12.9 more. The School Committee is expected to hear more feedback from the public and discuss the changes at their meeting tonight, Thursday, in the School Committee meeting room on the second floor of the school administration building.

CUTS: Could hit special education program

Continued from Page 1

they will meet the needs of our students."

Following a presentation of the reductions at last week's School Committee meeting, many supporters of the town's special education program voiced concerns regarding how effective programming will be in the future following the reductions.

"I think you are in fact playing with fire at the high school, relative to out of district, relative to the kids who have IEPs that may or may not be met, in terms of compliance," Cynthia Webber, a Gavin Circle resident, said.

Following the comment,

McGrath said the program would still be in compliance if the reductions are made.

"I've been on an IEP since elementary school," Jackie Drew, a high school student, said. "I'm now a freshman. Everyone's talking about how the teachers, their job won't be done as adequately. The thing is, without these people, the student's job won't be done adequately. Without them, we wouldn't be able to learn as well, we wouldn't be able to be here."

Including the proposed reductions both in existing programming and staff requests, the schools budget is still out of balance by \$1,061,865. At the conclusion of last week's meeting,

the School Committee chose to not give McGrath direction on what the department should do next to bring the budget into balance, instead electing to consider the changes, and deliberate and provide the necessary direction at the meeting tonight, Thursday.

The meeting will be held on the second floor of the School Administration Building, in the School Committee Room at 7 p.m., and will be televised on local access television channels.

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Business

Presenting possibilities

Andover professionals from a variety of fields visited West Middle School last Thursday, March 17 to discuss their career choices with the eighth-graders there. The West Middle students interviewed the participants and will follow up with a writing assignment about what they learned.



Greater Lawrence Technical School Teacher Bo Pham and GLTS student Miguel Beltran demonstrate making ethanol while discussing biotechnology.



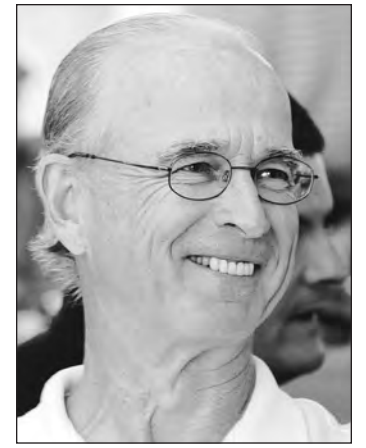
Sung Ahn and Wendy Barry of Raytheon discuss software engineering.



Restaurant owner Danielle Berdahn, from Yella Grille on Post Office Avenue, talks with students.

Catholic professionals group names Maraghy Board Member of Year

Patrick J. Maraghy, of Andover and Central Catholic Class of 1964, was presented with the Board Member of the Year Award last week by the Association of Catholic Admissions & Advancement Professionals of New England. This Award "honors a board member or trustee who has exhibited exceptional commitment and leadership in developing support for his or her Catholic institution."



Patrick J. Maraghy was presented the Board Member of the Year Award by the Association of Catholic Admissions & Advancement Professionals of New England.

Maraghy serves as a member of Central Catholic's Board of Directors and as a member of its executive board. He lives in town with his wife, Grace, and children, Meghan and Sean.

An alumnus and the father of a current student, Meghan, Patrick Maraghy has served on the board of directors for 11 years, playing an active role on numerous subcommittees. "As the treasurer of the CCHS Board of Directors and the chairman of the Finance Committee for nine years, Maraghy has added valuable financial expertise and credibility while advocating passionately on behalf of Central Catholic's philanthropic and enrollment management efforts," according to the school. "In these positions, he has overseen the development and implementation of a sound financial plan that has inspired confidence in supporters and benefactors by drawing heavily on his expertise and experience as a managing director at the RINET Co., an independent wealth management firm."

Despite the challenges of the current economic climate, philanthropic giving to CCHS has increased over the past two years, an indication of the confidence in the school's financial future that is due in large part to Maraghy's efforts, leadership, and contributions, according to a release from the school. As a result, Central Catholic has been able to increase annual giving and grow the endowment significantly while also adding and

enhancing programs, including technology, the arts, and athletics, during a period when many schools were being forced to cut back.

A member of the President's Circle, which provides the bulk of philanthropic support to Central Catholic, Maraghy has served as a leadership giver for the Annual Fund and for each of the past two capital campaigns, acting as a pacesetter and inspiring giving among his colleagues both on the Board and among his fellow alumni.

Bro. Thomas Long, FMS, CCHS president, expressed his gratitude in saying "We are proud to count Patrick Maraghy as an alumnus and are thankful that he has returned to his alma mater to play such an integral role in the present and future of Central Catholic, a future that is much brighter because of his passion, knowledge, and extraordinary efforts and leadership. The Marist Brothers, administration, staff, and Board of Directors at CCHS recognize the immense debt of gratitude we owe to him. On their behalf, I am proud to congratulate Patrick Maraghy on receiving this well-deserved honor."

Former gallery owner Peter Alpers

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
STAFF WRITER

It's been two years since Alpers Fine Art, a funky corner gallery at the corner of Main Street and Post Office Avenue, had a home in Andover. But Peter Alpers is back on Main Street - and has a reception for a new exhibit this Saturday.

Ironically, the replacement tenant, Undercover Wear, closed up shop late last week. Windows are covered up and the telephone number has been changed to a Tewksbury number, where another store is located.

The gloomy economy forced Alpers to close his gallery in January 2009. He said "it pained him to close his town-center gallery" but he had to. Business was slow. Instead, he focused on selling art through his web-site. For about six months, he also consulted on a new gallery in Middlebury, Vt.

"Starting in late 2007, I saw people become less and less inclined to make discretionary purchases," he wrote in an email.



Peter Alpers, left, and Paul Fragala flank Julia Purinton's "Little Cat Feet," one of the works now on display.

"Suddenly everyone swallowed hard and retrenched. Right then, I realized that even my most well-to-do clients would be cutting back on their purchases, if not suspending them altogether."

Things changed earlier this year when Alpers got a call from a longtime client, North

Andover resident Paul Fragala. Fragala was moving his financial-planning practice from an office park in Woburn to 76 Main St. in Andover, between CVS and Bertucci's.

Fragala invited Alpers to reopen and exhibit art on the walls of his new Andover office.

NEW EXHIBIT RECEPTION

WHAT: "Evolving Vistas: Seven Artists Approach the Landscape"

WHEN: Saturday, March 26, 6-8 p.m.

WHERE: Paul Fragala & Associates, 76 Main St. (between CVS and Bertucci's)

WHO: Peter Alpers, 978-760-1829, alpers2@verizon.net

"That was a complete no-brainer," says Alpers. "He'd get high-quality original art ... and I'd get a low-risk opportunity to present work to my existing clientele and other townspeople."

The inaugural exhibit is "Evolving Vistas: Seven Artists Approach the Landscape." The exhibit includes 28 paintings by area artists Irma Ceresse, Debra Corbett, Gregor Kammerer, John Muleahy, Julia Purinton, Dennis Sheehan and Cameron Watson. The show runs through May 10.

The public is welcome to drop in and browse through the "gallery," which is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Business expo sold out

The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Business Expo for April 6 has been sold out.

People can still register for the Business Expo noontime luncheon with Massachusetts Speaker of the House Robert Deleo and members of the Merrimack Valley state representatives delegation. Those who attend the expo from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., may attend the expo mixer from 5 to 7 p.m. for free. People can also register now

for the "Fall Back into Business Expo," which will be held Oct. 6 at the Andover Country Club.

Tap the Power of Emotion

Join the Homebased Businesswomen's Network Inc. on Thursday, April 14, at 7 p.m. at the Peabody Institute Library of Danvers, 15 Sylvan Street, Danvers, MA, to learn how to tap the power of emotion to help clients

and prospects remember your message. HBN invites members and guests to enjoy this informative evening program with networking opportunities.

Do you know what emotions to tap to make a strong and memorable impression on clients or prospects? In this workshop, "Use the Power of Emotion to Create Lasting Impressions," speaker Elizabeth Benson will explain the six universal emotions that she says people can invoke to help make strong connections with

clients and prospects - and create a message they'll remember about your product or service. You'll discover tangible ways to translate these emotions to create powerful memories that help make a lasting impression on your clients.

Meetings are held the second Thursday of the month in Danvers. Guests are always welcome, and the guest fee is \$10 at the door (no fee for HBN members). No pre-registration necessary for this meeting.

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Education

Local groups invest in school tech, programming

Donations bringing dynamic interactive whiteboards

By DUSTIN LUCA

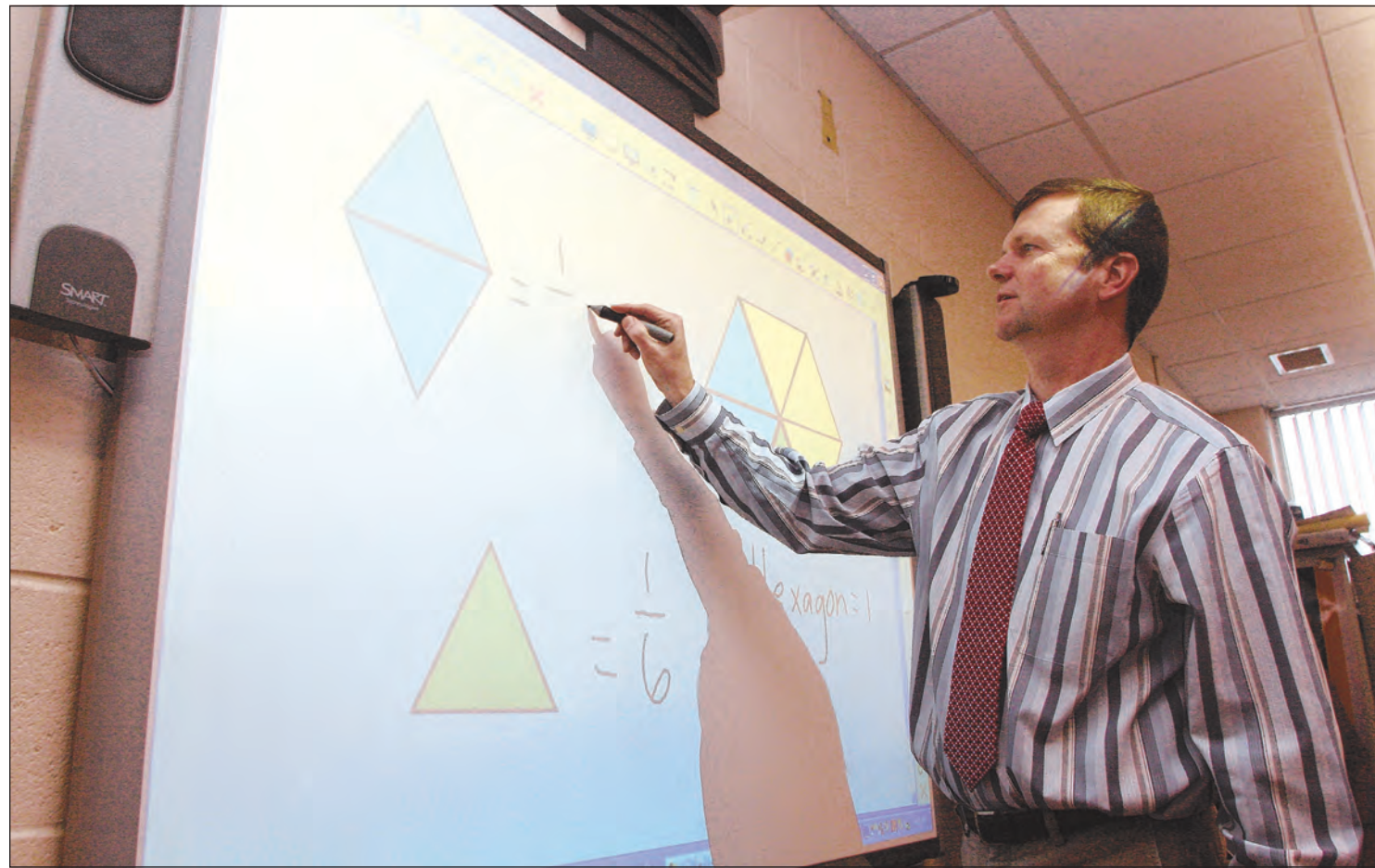
Installing interactive whiteboards that respond to the touch of a finger in every Andover classroom may seem like a dream. But through the donations of some and the support of many, that dream is step-by-step becoming a reality.

The interactive boards, sometimes called IWBs or "smart boards," are after receiving support from the Andover Coalition for Education (ACE), with the help of service groups such as parent organizations and the Rotary Club, according to Tina Girdwood, president of ACE.

"We are trying to expand programs to be system-wide, to ask 'what do we have to do in Andover, system-wide, to stay ahead?'" Girdwood said. "IWBs are a type of technology we would like to support."

The boards act as a typical whiteboard does today, where it serves as a surface that a teacher can use to lead class lessons and discussion. What makes an IWB unique is how it interfaces with technology, particularly computers being used in the classroom.

Through the IWB, a teacher is effectively able to take his or her laptop screen, enlarge it to be several feet wide, put it on the wall and make it touch-sensitive,



Frank McCall, a fourth-grade teacher at West Elementary School, works within a fractions lesson on an interactive whiteboard. Organizations throughout the town are working to put more interactive whiteboards in classrooms throughout Andover's public schools by the end of the 2013-14 school year.

so that running a hand or tool along the wall manipulates running programs in the same way that using a computer mouse does. But through the technology, teachers can play quiz games with students, watch movies and make every lesson they create come to life.

"It's amazing," Tim Harkins, a fifth grade teacher at West Elementary School and user of the technology, said. "It's limitless. I am still learning, and I've had it for four years now. There

GRAND PLAN: WHITEBOARDS BY THE NUMBERS

Already, interactive whiteboards are widely used at the elementary school level throughout the district. Over the next few years, efforts will be made to bring more of the boards to the middle schools and Andover High School.

Area	Current	To purchase, '11-12	To purchase, '12-13	To purchase, '13-14	Total after three years
Doherty Middle	2	10	12	13	37
West Middle	7	5	11	11	34
Wood Hill Middle	1	11	13	13	38
Andover High	8	23	27	27	85

is so much you can do with it, that I feel I'm just scratching the surface."

Through the technology, teachers can create and upload lesson plans for other educators across the country to use in their classrooms. The utilities associated with the IWBs interface with many common programs and applications, including Microsoft's line of Office products, such as Word and Powerpoint.

It is "the next version of the flip chart," School Superintendent Marinell McGrath said.

"Elementary PTOs have funded almost all classrooms at that level in town already," McGrath said. Meanwhile, throughout the country, the technology is taking education by storm, everywhere from distance-learning centers to school systems that have been shut down for days due to extensive snowfall, but use the boards via the Internet to avoid eating

up snow days.

With such a large concentration of the district's smart boards being used in elementary schools, ACE is putting significant resources — both in money and staff efforts — towards bringing them into the town's middle and high schools. ACE's goal, by the end of the 2013-2014 academic year, is to have one board in every classroom throughout town, according to Girdwood. But with each board and its necessary installation carrying a \$5,000 price tag, putting 176 more whiteboards into each classroom will cost \$885,000.

A number of organizations and individuals are providing the capital needed to bring the dream to fruition. ACE has pledged to support ten of the whiteboards, and the Andover Rotary Club is also

OPEN CIRCLE ROLLS THROUGH SCHOOLS

Also receiving significant support from ACE is the Open Circle Program, a social and emotional learning program that aims to bring students together to develop social skills, build relationships, resolve conflicts and mentor in good decision-making.

The program works by bringing students under it into groups when necessary to openly talk when the schools feel it is necessary. While similar programs currently exist throughout the middle and high schools, the program is under-supported at the elementary-school level, according to Girdwood.

ACE will be providing \$29,000 to support training all elementary school staff who aren't trained to utilize Open Circle by the beginning of the next school year. From that point on, the schools will include the cost of training new staff in their budgets.

The effort is like anti-bullying programs, except in this case, it looks to eliminate the problem before it exists.

"We know that any place that you have a good, supportive climate and you have positive interactions between students and staff, you will have a positive effect in decreasing bullying," McGrath said. "It's a program that provides for social and emotional learning."

providing its own support.

Howard Perkins, president of the club, praised the technology, saying that the school department is "breaking new ground" through exploring the technology at the elementary school level. But at the same time, the technology hasn't seen much use above grade five, which is something that needs to change.

"In the middle schools and the high school, (the boards) are almost non-existent," Perkins said in a recent email to Rotary members. "In this time of dire economic constraints, we need new ideas and approaches to solve problems. The Club taking the lead in participation with ACE and the School Department is breaking new ground."

The Andover Rotary Club is expected to deliver a \$5,000 check to the school department for the technology at the School Committee meeting this evening, Thursday.

School tech plan slashed

A half-million-dollar plan to bring sweeping technology changes to the school department will be reconfigured to cost less.

The three priorities that will likely be funded in part are installing eight more interactive whiteboards in the town's schools, starting a pilot program to replace textbooks with tablet PCs or "e-books," and providing all Andover High School teachers with laptops, according to School Superintendent Marinell McGrath.

Between the interactive whiteboards, the tablet PC pilot program and issuing teacher laptops, the town expects to spend \$177,000.

Ultimately, the school

department aims to bring six particular efforts forward in expanding the technological infrastructure of the town once its upcoming Chief Information Officer position is filled. The other efforts — upgrading computers and software in computer labs, installing building-wide wireless Internet access throughout the high school and executing a district-wide printer consolidation — could wait for a later time if necessary.

The cost of installing wireless networking throughout the high school is estimated to cost around \$146,000, with the eventual price to set up wi-fi throughout the entire school district running around \$550,000.

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Sports

TITLE TOWN

Andover girls basketball wins second straight state title

By DAVID WILLIS
Staff Writer

WORCESTER — For Natalie Gomez-Martinez, it was the perfect way to end her high school career.

“We made history,” she said. “To leave as a champion is a dream come true.”

Nicole Boudreau savored the moment her hands touched the trophy.

“There is nothing better than holding that championship trophy and knowing you just won it all,” she said. “There’s nothing that compares.”

Ally Fazio struggled to capture her joy in words.

“I can’t even tell you,” she said. “It’s the best feeling in the world. Unbelievable.”

And Devon Caveney couldn’t believe all what has occurred in her two varsity seasons.

“I don’t even know what it feels like to lose,” she said with a laugh. “Both years I have been here, we have won state titles.”

That’s exactly what the Golden Warriors accomplished on Saturday, winning their second straight Division 1 state title with a 61-51 victory over Amherst at the DCU Center in Worcester.

“It’s just the best,” said Gomez-Martinez. “Wearing the (championship) medal and knowing that we are back-to-back champions is so special.”

This marked the third state



Natalie Gomez-Martinez celebrates with the trophy at the DCU Center in Worcester.

championship in the program’s history, winning in 2003 and last season.

Following the victory, Boudreau and her teammates gestured the No. 2 to the crowd.

“It is hard enough to just win one championship,” said Boudreau. “And now we have won two. It was even sweeter because it was so much closer than last year (73-37 over East Longmeadow). We were relieved to take home the victory.”

It wasn’t easy for Andover on Saturday. The Golden Warriors led just 25-23 at halftime, and

Please see **GAME**, Page 10



Andover players celebrate winning the state championship over Amherst as time expires.

MARY SCHWALM/Staff photos

TRIPLE CROWNS

Here’s a look at Andover girls basketball’s three state titles.

DATE	SCORE	LEADING SCORER	COMMENT
March 15, 2003	Andover 48, Minnechaug 47	Jenny Muller, 24 points	Samantha Hughes hits game-winning shot and free throw with 0.9 seconds left in the game.
March 13, 2010	Andover 73, East Longmeadow 37	Natalie Gomez-Martinez, 25 pts	Gomez-Martinez, Boudreau and Fazio combine for 11 3-pointers.
March 19, 2011	Andover 61, Amherst 51	Nicole Boudreau, 18 pts	The game was tied 47-47 in the fourth before 14-4 run seals the title.

Here’s a look at the 2011 Golden Warriors, from the stars to the players that provided invaluable support on the way to the Division 1 state title.

NAME	YEAR	POSITION	HEIGHT	TILDSLEY’S COMMENT
Natalie Gomez-Martinez	Sr.	guard	5-7	“She is one of the top point guards in the state and a great leader.”
Elon Beasley	Sr.	forward	5-5	“She’s a quiet leader and is always upbeat. She leads the bench.”
Nicole Boudreau	Jr.	guard	5-9	“I think she’s the best player in the state. She understands the game.”
Ally Fazio	Jr.	guard	5-3	“She’s a great leader, one of our best 3-point shooters and can defend.”
Danielle Boudreau	Jr.	guard	5-7	“She is a perfect teammate. She’s always upbeat and supportive.”
Mollie Maturah	Jr.	forward	5-8	“Our sixth player who filled in greatly this year.”
Jaymi Cohen	Jr.	guard	5-5	“She helps in any way she can, and is a very good free throw shooter.”
Abbie Watts	Jr.	center	5-9	“She has improved her defensive skills and is a great, great teammate.”
Bridget Thibodeau	Jr.	forward	5-7	“One of our most aggressive players. She always gives her all.”
Devon Caveney	Soph.	guard	5-8	“A great 3-point shooter. She is very hard-nosed.”
Olivia Biles	Soph.	forward	5-5	“She comes into the game and gives the team instant offense.”
Jackie Alois	Soph.	forward	5-6	“Our unsung hero. A great offensive rebounder and teammate.”
Rebecca Alois	Frosh	forward	5-6	“We brought her up from JV’s. She’s going to be very good.”



Senior Natalie Gomez-Martinez, right, and junior Nicole Boudreau congratulate each other as they come out of the game late in the second half enroute to winning the State Championship over Amherst.



Andover players raise the trophy in Worcester.

Alois, Caveney thrive with the game on the line

By DAVID WILLIS
Staff Writer

WORCESTER — Jackie Alois cheerfully denied she had tears of joy in her eyes. But no one would have blamed the sophomore if she was overcome with emotions following the Division 1 championship game.

After all, she delivered the game of her life on the biggest stage.

“I can’t describe how well Jackie played,” said guard Ally

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Fazio. “She was amazing. Her and Devon (Caveney) provided a great kick for us.”

Called the team’s unsung hero by coach Jim Tildsley, Alois was a force under the basket, and combined with

fellow sophomore Caveney for 26 crucial points, including 22 in the decisive second half, in the Golden Warriors’ 61-51 win over Amherst in the title game.

“Jackie and Devon came up with huge shots,” said Tildsley. “I don’t know how many shots they made, but they were big.”

Entering the game averaging just 2.8 points per game this season, Alois exploded for 12 crucial points on Saturday.

Please see **PLAYERS**, Page 10

Taber Tyrrell selected for 2011 National Lacrosse Classic

Taber Tyrrell, son of Peter and Mary Tyrrell, a junior and varsity defenseman at Andover High School, has been named as a 2011 High School Underclassmen All-American and has been selected to represent the East in the 2011 National Lacrosse Classic to be held in Germantown, Maryland July 5-8.



Taber Tyrrell

The National Lacrosse Classic brings the top 500 high school underclassmen lacrosse players in the country to one venue, where 20 regional teams will compete to become the 2011 USA Champion and earn the chance to compete for an International Championship against Canada, according to a release from Joel Franklin, national director.

Teammates Nick Price and Tim Oteri also earned the honor and will play in the National Lacrosse Classic in Maryland July 5-8.



Young gymnast’s team sweeps Vermont meet

The Phantom Gymnastics team travelled to the Hip Hop Classic Meet in Brattleboro, Vt. earlier this month and swept the team trophies.

The group placed first in Level 4 with a 114.35 score, Level 5 with a 111.05, Level 6 with a 111.85, Level 7 with a 111.075 and Level 8 with a 110.025.

Local Phantom Gymnasts from the area took some top individual and AA placements at the meet. Haley Traub of Andover took fourth in the AA Child B division with a score of 36.125. She came in second on floor with a score of 9.5. This put her into the top 100 gymnasts in the U.S. for level 6 in floor. She also received scores of 9.0 on vault, 9.1 on bars and 8.525 on beam.

The Level 6 team is pictured following their first-place win. They are front row: Sydeny Bartlett of Salem, Becca Heath of Windham, Hayley Shaw of Newton, Ruth Mahoney of Kingston, Leah Faber of Salem; back row: Katelyn Alywin of Middleton, Olivia Champagne of Salem, Haley Traub of Andover, Ashley Loeffler of Hampstead, Gabriella Palermo of Salem and Victoria Boutin of Sandown.

GAME: Girls take second straight title

Continued from Page 9

the game was tied 45-45 after three quarters.

"This was our hardest game," said Gomez-Martinez. "We definitely weren't playing our game. I told the girls to keep their heads up. I kept thinking, 'This is my last 16 minutes of high school basketball. I'm going all out.' And that's what we did."

The Golden Warriors closed the game out on a 14-4 run to clinch the title.

"I think we were more anxious than nervous," said Fazio. "We came out in the second half focused. We knew we struggled, but so many players stepped up."

Boudreau continued her tremendous postseason. She scored a game-high 18 points, while leading the team with 10 rebounds and grabbing eight steals.

Caveney added 14 points and Jackie Alois chipped in with 12.

In her final high school game, Gomez-Martinez was again a stabilizing force. She scored 10 points and grabbed six steals

while once again playing stellar defense and handling the ball with calm security.

It seemed long ago that she was the nervous freshman that started for the Andover squad that lost the title game in 2008.

"I have grown dramatically as a player and as a person," said Gomez-Martinez. "If we played a game like this when I was a freshman, I would have been on the on the bench because I would have been nervous and done something wrong."

"But when they scored I was just saying, 'We're fine, we're fine.' I could keep calm. I just knew more now."

That confidence allowed the Golden Warriors to surge to the finish.

The only time Gomez-Martinez and Boudreau were nervous — was when the trophy was placed in their hands.

"We never know who's going to hold the whole thing," said Boudreau with a laugh. "We

were worried we were all going to let it go at the same time and drop it. It's a big trophy, much bigger than the one they gave

us for winning the (Division 1) North."

Added Gomez-Martinez: "The first thing I thought was that I couldn't drop it. I wanted to throw it up and let someone catch it or something."

Following the victory, the Golden Warriors count not contain their excitement, with hugs and dancing on the court after earning their second straight crown.

"This was my goal," Gomez-Martinez said. "You can win it any year, but to do it senior year is something very special."

"I remember my freshman year when everyone was crying here. My goal was to do this. I'm leaving a winner and made history. I love it."

Andover 61, Amherst 51

Division 1 state final
Amherst (51): Brianna Leonard 6 3-5 16, Nancy Mangels 2 0-0 4, Victoria Stewart 2 1-2 5, Kristen Ferola 5 0-0 11, Forbesaw Nwamebo 7 1-1 17. Totals: 22 5-8 51
Andover (61): Fazio 2 2-2 7, Natalie Gomez-Martinez 2 5-7 10, Devon Caveney 5 1-2 14, Nicole Boudreau 7 1-2 18, Jackie Alois 5 2-4 12, Mollie Maturah 0 0-0 0, Danielle Boudreau 0 0-0 0, Jaymi Cohen 0 0-0 0, Olivia Biles 0 0-0 0, Abbie Watts 0 0-0 0, Elon Beasley 0 0-0 0, Bridget Thibodeau 0 0-0 0. Totals: 21 11-17 61
3-pointers: Amherst — Leonard, Ferola; Andover — Nicole Boudreau 3, Caveney 3, Fazio, Gomez-Martinez
Amherst (22-3): 13 10 22 6-51
Andover (27-1): 13 12 20 16-61

PLAYERS: Caveney, Alois shine in a pinch

Continued from Page 9

"I wasn't much of a threat on offense this season," said Alois. "But I started to get the ball (in the championship game) and I felt comfortable with it. I got some layups and I started to feel like I was an offensive threat."

She was at her best in the game-clinching second half, scoring 10 points, making Amherst regret leaving her alone to defend more well-known scorers.

"We knew the whole year that Jackie could finish," said star Nicole Boudreau. "We had total confidence in her. We knew if we gave it to her, she could finish."

Not only were her 12 points the most in her high school career — topping the nine she scored against Central in the Christmas tourney — but she thought it was a lifetime best.

Alois added nine rebounds, including seven on the offensive end, and grabbed a pair of steals. For the second straight game, the 5-foot-6 forward also played stellar defense against much bigger opponents.

"It feels so unreal," she said. "It felt so amazing. I'm never taking this medal off."

Caveney money from outside

While Alois was cleaning up under the basket, Caveney was heating up from the outside.

Caveney tallied 14 points, second on the team to Boudreau, 11 of those points coming in the second half.

But no shots were bigger than her 3-pointer, following by a driving layup in traffic. She finished with three 3-pointers, tied for the team-best.

"It was great," said Caveney,

who averaged 10.8 points per game. "I knew the team needed something. I took a few shots and they went in. I feel like the made a difference."

Senior Natalie Gomez-Martinez was thrilled to see the youngsters step up in the clutch.

"I told the team that everyone in the starting five had to step up," said Natalie Gomez-Martinez. "Jackie, who no one knew about, made some huge layups and Devon hit big shots."

With two rings in their two years on the varsity team, both Caveney and Alois have their eyes set on continuing the tradition at the DCU Center.

"This year was so exciting," said Caveney. "I have won it both years I have played for this team, and more to come I hope."

SPORTS FROM COMMUNITY

Krit Classic III

Sunday, June 5, the third annual Krit Classic Road Race will be held in Andover.

This 5K road race/walk will raise money for the Krit (Kristin) Kearins Memorial Scholarship Fund. Kristin died September 2008 after a tragic bicycle

accident in Boston. Krit had a heart of gold and an enthusiasm for life that was infectious. She touched an amazing number of lives in her 26 short years as a loving daughter, sister, friend and dedicated Nursing Assistant at Children's Hospital in Boston.

To keep her spirit alive, family and friends have created the Krit Classic Road Race and established The Krit Kearins Memorial Scholarship, which will be awarded each year to a student athlete at Andover High School who exhibits superior sportsmanship and team spirit. Krit was a top diver and gymnast during her four years at Andover High School.

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The sports equipment will be donated to Family to Family, an Andover organization dedicated to providing all Andover youth the opportunity to participate in sports programs. For further information contact the Temple Office at 978-470-1356 or email Beverly Birnbach at b.birnbach@verizon.net



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Townspeople

'Ma' Parker's memorable teaching style

Bill Dalton



Every once in a while I think about "Ma" Parker, one of the best teachers I knew.

Her nickname was said with affection. It possibly originated from a short story of the 1920s, "Life of Ma Parker," popular when Miss Parker was in school and during her early teaching career. It might have originated from the similar name "Ma Barker," a well-known mother of the infamous, 1930s "Barker Gang." No matter, she took care of her students in a motherly fashion, making sure they learned their mathematics, and the name was appropriate.

Her real name, more refined, was L. Evelyn Parker, and she was the head of Andover junior high school's mathematics department for many years. She was from Concord, N.H., received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Boston University, began teaching in New Hampshire in 1924, and came to Andover in 1927. The Andover Townsman named her "teacher of the month" for January 1961.

Miss Parker was a heavy-set woman of normal height, with a pleasant face and manner. She lived at 44 Maple Ave., walking to and from school on nice days.

I was in her class in the mid-'50s. In those days, my brain rejected math, but she was able to get the subject through my adolescent, thick skull. Her classrooms were filled with 20 to 30 students; yet, she made it personal for each of us, treating everyone in a

professional, friendly way. She had a brilliant mind, quick as a flash, and it steered her teaching style. In class, she was in constant motion, moving to the blackboard, moving to the students, pacing around as she taught. She had "presence," and we all respected her when she was my teacher in the mid-1950s.

Miss Parker's teaching skills alone made her memorable, but had two quirks that I remember well. As she spoke and paced the room, she would, quick-as-a-cat, slide a hand under the top of her always-loose blouse and adjust the position of the bra strap on her shoulder. Her hands moved to make the adjustment so often, fast, and casually that I hardly noticed after a time.

The other quirk existed because she gave each of us personal instruction. She walked the rows of students, looking at our solutions to problems she gave us, and she could spot an error and the reason for it in a split-second. Correcting the error, she'd lean over our papers explaining why we were wrong, and, quite often, a tiny bit of spittle would land on the paper. She swiped it away as quickly and casually as she was able to adjust the strap. We liked her, and I never heard anyone complain. It didn't bother me, and my lack of skill caused her to be above my work often.

I can't remember another teacher who paced rows of students so often and effectively, and she was always there for extra help if either you or she thought it was needed. She didn't allow failure.

Miss Parker had many intellectual interests, particularly enjoying poetry. Each summer

Please see DALTON, Page 12



COURTESY PHOTOS BY KEVIN J. DOYLE
Anne Sullivan, Josie Walker and Corinne Gediman listen on stage to a tribute to their efforts over 23 years, from the full cast of "Annie" and dozens of Merrimack Junior Theatre alumni.



Merrimack Junior Theater founder Josie Walker receives a quilt made from T-shirts from 23 years of MJT shows. MJT alum Joshua Desjardins holds the quilt. MJT produced its last show this past weekend, and its three founders were saluted.

TURNING OUT THE LIGHTS

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

COMPILED BY SUSAN MCKELGIGET

75 Years Ago March 20, 1936

Headlines: Shawsheen, Marland Villages Submerged—Houses vacated on Riverina Road, Balmoral Street, and North Main Street—Traffic Detours through West Parish.

Many houses in Shawsheen and Marland villages had been vacated this morning as the result of the worst flood in the town's history. Transportation, communication, and lighting, facilities were crippled. The flood was rising at 10 a.m. North Main street was closed at 6:40 last night. It was the second flood this week, the other occurring Saturday.

Because of the failure of the power supply due to the flood, today's Townsman had to be printed by hand. We preferred to print this issue at considerable inconvenience rather than leave our readers without any Townsman. News on last night's events necessarily had to be omitted, along with other features which had not been set on our machines before the electric power failed.

WARNING-- All Residents of Shawsheen and everybody who works in Lawrence, Haverhill, Lowell, and North Andover should be inoculated against typhoid immediately. There is no need of boiling Andover water—Signed Board of Health.

100 Years Ago March 24, 1911

Owing to the scarcity of suitable tenements in town, Mr. and Mrs. Drescher of 6 Chestnut street, are obliged to take temporary quarters in Lawrence. They hope to return to Andover in due time.

During the severe rainstorm last week a bad leak was discovered in the Stowe school roof.

A candle pin bowling league has been organized at the Essex street bowling alley. The games will begin April 3, and will last ten weeks.

The dancing party which was to have taken place in the November club house this evening has been postponed to Friday evening, March 31.

Please see YEARS, Page 12

TOWN TALK

A star is born?

With all the drama happening in the theater department at Andover High – popular choral director Mark Mercer's role at the school seemed in question as part of the .2 position cut at Andover High – the just about 5-year-old son of AHS drama director Susan Choquette brought smiles at Merrimack Junior Theatre's "Annie" show last weekend.

"We brought him to Annie and he loved it. He said, 'I really like this. I want to be on the stage!' A star is born? We'll see," his mom wrote in an email.

She's also a huge Mercer fan.

"Mark Mercer would be a catastrophic loss to our department and our school. I hope we can turn this tide!" Choquette also wrote.

- Judy Wakefield

Donation days at St. A's

St. Augustine middle school students celebrated a "Carnival of Kindness" last week.

The service-oriented school spirit week had students participating in a field day of team-building activities and collecting food and other supplies for local shelters. Each day of the week had a themed collection,

including "Macaroni Monday" and "Taco Tuesday" and "Warm up with hot soup Wednesday." Food donations helped Lazarus House in Lawrence.

9-11 remembrance

Composer and Andover native Anita Brown is hosting "A Symphony for Jazz Orchestra" on Sept. 11.

A symphony in five movements featuring The United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon will be held to honor those killed on Sept. 11, 2001.

The event will be held on the banks of the Hudson River, overlooking the Tappan Zee Bridge, at 2 p.m. in Nyack, N.Y.'s Memorial Park.

The projected total cost for this project is \$65,000. Contributions can be sent to stand-symphony.com.

New Family Service director named

The Board of Family Service Inc. has appointed Elizabeth "Liz" Sweeney as its next executive director effective in May. Sweeney

follows Andover resident Kay Berthold Frishman, who has served since 1986 as the organization's 10th executive director.

Sweeney has worked at Family Service since 1993. She began as a social work intern and has subsequently risen to the position of associate director. During her tenure she has conducted mental health counseling, Employee Assistance Program account management, and assisted in successfully expanding the organization's community prevention programs to include over 20 different services. Sweeney is responsible for the growth of Family Service's mentoring programs to include more than 500 youth/adult matches, making Family Service one of the largest mentoring agencies in the state.

"Due to Liz's display of leadership, skill, dedication and enthusiasm, the vote for her appointment was unanimous," said Ron Pollina, Family Service Board president. "We look forward to working with her to lead Family Service into its next exciting chapter."

Family Service will celebrate Frishman's retirement at its annual fundraising Rhapsody event on May 6, 2011, at the Andover Country Club.

Middle school model

On Sunday, March 13, Catwalk for a Cure, a fashion show and fundraiser was held at the Tewksbury Country Club.

Montana Wilkie, a seventh grader of Wood Hill Middle School, modeled for the event.

Each year a different charity is selected to receive the proceeds. This year the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America was the recipient.



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DALTON: Remembering 'Ma' Parker, a great teacher

Continued from Page 11

she took classes at the University of New Hampshire and Harvard in subjects other than math, learning a new subject each year.

At high school reunions people reminisce about their high school teachers. Junior high (now middle school) teachers may not be remembered quite as well, but they teach students who are in their most

critical time of growing up. Miss Parker positively influenced many of us, not only by the math skills she gave us, but because she cared for each of her students in a motherly way. She deserved the honorary title of "Ma."

Bill Dalton writes a weekly column for the Andover Townsman. His e-mail is bill.dalton@andovertownie.com.

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

Continued from Page 11

abandoned.

50 Years Ago March 23, 1961

Photo: Miss Ruth Westcott is applying a Vollmer patch, used to determine whether a child has a positive TB reaction and requires an x-ray. The testing program includes grades 1-9 and 11, with 740 being tested. Here, Deborah Atwood is having the patch placed on her arm, while Deborah Look and Charles Barr wait their turn. Only 11 positive reactions were noted in the entire program.

Three of the town's five selectmen are scheduled to inspect the Foster gravel pit on Central street Saturday morning, prior to any decision on William Foster's request for a permit renewal.

The latest in do-it-yourself craze—firing off home-made rockets—had a disastrous result in a barn on River road last week, and may result in many old, abandoned buildings being condemned by the building inspector. Fire department reports state that boys, attempting to fire home-made rockets, apparently started the fire in the barn, which was

25 Years Ago March 20, 1986

Tuesday night, the Planning Board probed beneath the shell of two warrant articles which would begin the restoration of the Old Town Hall and uncovered an infrastructure of confusion. After much discussion, they deferred their votes on the articles, which would appropriate \$150,000 for design and engineering studies and authorize leasing of the building's space to governmental and non-profit groups, until they could secure definitive plans for both facets of the project.

Officials with the international office of their Courtyard division of Marriott Corporation confirmed yesterday that they intend to build a 146-unit hotel on a site off Old River Road, roughly one-quarter mile from the proposed 300-plus room luxury hotel to be rented by Marriott from Ocean Properties, Ltd.

For the first time in the past 16 years that Town Clerk Elden R. Salter has been in office, there will be no contest for elective office when Andover voters go to the polls on Monday, March 24.

Andover resident leads retirement learning group

Toby Hodes, a former resident of Andover who serves on the Board of Temple Emanuel in Andover, is also the president of the Learning In

Retirement Association, where she guides the group in its relationship with the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. In this organization, she has led study groups in Comparative Religions and a Book Discussion group.

For those interested in LIRA, some of the classes are offered by faculty members such as

"Lincoln, Civil War, and Reconstruction" and classes in art appreciation and literature. Other classes offered are in art, music, science, and current affairs and are administered by LIRA members.

The association is also sponsoring a lecture series on world affairs with the Chelmsford Public Library that meets the second Friday morning of each month.

LIRA, based at UMass Lowell, is a program for retired people.

There are no age or educational requirements. This is an opportunity for retired people to widen their horizons and to make new friends, according to the organization. Further information can be obtained on the web site at uml.edu/community/lira.

The 2011 Spring Semester program is listed here. The semester opened Wednesday, March 16, 2011 and runs for eight weeks, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to noon and from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

LIRA 2011 SPRING SEMESTER

- Lincoln, Civil War, And Reconstruction
- Shakespeare's "Cymbeline"
- More Black & White Movie Beauties
- Baroque Music
- Biology And Human Behavior
- Art & Music
- Great Decisions
- Meteorology
- Book Discussion

WEDDING



Andrea Marvin and Charles Hatchette

Dr. Andrea Stephanie Marvin, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Marvin of Andover, was married Oct. 23, 2010 to Dr. Charles Vernon Hatchette, son of Dr. and Mrs. James Hatchette of Fredricksburg, Texas.

The couple was married at St. Columbkille Church, Brighton, Mass. The ceremony was officiated by the Rev. Carney Gavin, Rev. Nicholas Sannella and Rev. Dean Pratt. A reception was held at Boston Harbor Hotel.

Andrea is a 1996 graduate of Andover High School, a 2000 graduate of Boston College, and a 2004 graduate of the University of Massachusetts Medical School. She is a urologist in Dallas, Texas.

Charles is a graduate of Occidental College in Los Angeles, Calif., and Georgetown Medical School in Washington, D.C. He is currently a neurosurgey resident at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas.

The couple honeymooned in the Greek Islands. They currently reside in Dallas.

ENGAGEMENT



Sabrina E. Guarino and George K. Lewis Jr.

Dr. and Mrs. George K. Lewis Sr. of Andover are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, George Kenneth Jr. to Sabrina Emily Ann Guarino, daughter of Joanne and the late David Guarino of Slaterville Springs, N.Y.

Sabrina graduated from St. Anthony's High School in South Huntington, N.Y., and received a bachelor of science degree in animal science and a master's degree in biology from Cornell University. She is employed as a teaching assistant at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

George is a 2002 graduate of Andover High School. He received a bachelor of science degree in biomedical engineering summa cum laude from the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Fla. and his master's and doctorate degrees in biomedical engineering from Cornell University, where he was a Presidential Life Science Fellow and a National Science Foundation Research Fellow. Dr. Lewis is employed as lab director at Cornell University and is chief technology officer and co-founder of ZetrOZ, a biomedical ultrasound products company in Ithaca, N.Y. that specializes in pain therapy.

A 2012 wedding is planned.

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Sudbury
Rogers-Kirshner Thtr, LSRHS
April 30, 6:30 pm
Littleton
Perf. Arts Center
May 1, 2:30
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Special concert to mark summer closing of Addison

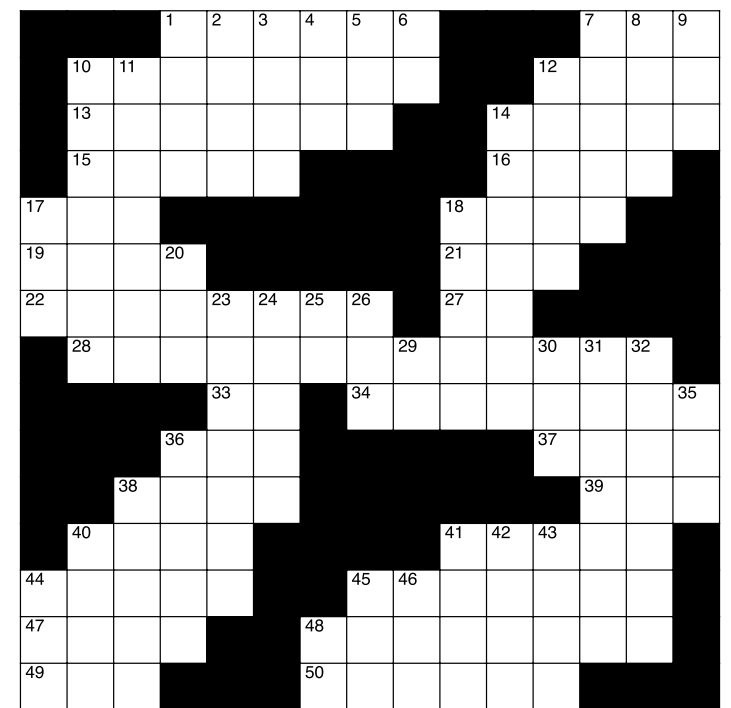
Andover Chamber Music will offer a special concert on Sunday, March 27, at 6 p.m., to mark the final day before the Addison Gallery of American Art at Phillips Academy closes for the last phase of its renovation project.

Julie Scolnik will play with three colleagues from the ACM ensemble *Mistral*, in what she calls "a celebration of music and art in the perfect setting." The eclectic program of works by Maurice Ravel, Karl Reinecke, Philippe Gaubert, Paul Schoenfield and George Crumb for piano, cello, flute and baritone, draws its inspiration from the Addison's current exhibitions, which include works by Winslow Homer, John La Farge and Georgia O'Keeffe, according to Scolnik, ACM founder.

The concert is free, but seating is limited and available on a first-come basis.

The concert is free, but seating is limited and available on a first-come basis.

Crossword puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

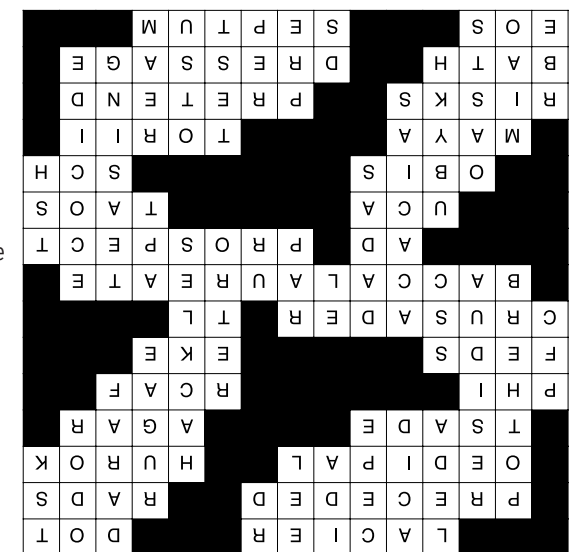
- Has more guipure
- Tiny round mark
- Went before
- Radioactivity units
- A complex
- Impressario Sol
- 18th Hebrew letter (var.)
- Used as a culture medium
- 21st Greek letter
- Canadian flyers
- Government agents
- Supplement with difficulty
- Holy war warrior
- Thallium
- Graduation sermon
- A public promotion
- Visual perception of a region
- Fiddler crabs
- 87571 NM
- Obeahs
- Former coin in Austria (abbr.)
- Yucatan Indian
- Shinto temple gateway
- Chances
- Make believe
- SW English spa city
- Trained horse maneuvers
- Goddess of the dawn
- Nasal divider

CLUES DOWN

- Queen of Sparta
- Sour
- Center for Energy Policy & Economics
- Actress Lupino
- Snakelike fish
- Rural delivery
- Elastance unit
- Aroma
- Expression of disappointment
- Plant used for food or seasoning
- Reminders
- Stomach lining folds
- Dander
- Beginning military rank
- Reminiscent fashion
- Salem MA college

- Shittah trees
- Mamas partners
- Chicago railway
- Quick light knock
- Ancient Sumerian city
- Exactly suitable
- Playful harassment
- Ruin environment
- Thyrotropin
- Extinct Caucasian language
- Hop kilns
- Hmong
- Examination
- Southern Honshu city
- Enlarge hole
- Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- Pakistani rupee
- Sales
- Buttons & Bows singer's initials

Solution



Andover musician joins Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra for Cuba tour

The Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra, a student-run organization at Harvard College, will leave for Havana on May 27 for its first visit to Cuba in its 203-year history. In a tour entitled *An Ode to Cuba*, 86 members of the HRO — including Andover native Jacob Shack '14 — will participate in four joint performances with local orchestras and choirs in Havana, Pinar del Río and Matanzas.

Under the baton of Music Director Federico Cortese, members will bring music to underprivileged populations in Havana through exchange with young musicians in the community. The program follows a formal invitation from the Cuban Institute of Music and an approved performance license from the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Repertoire will include a performance of Ludwig van Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* in the Teatro Nacional of Havana in collaboration with the *Coro Nacional de Cuba*, directed by Digna Guerra. A significant masterpiece of cultural influence, Beethoven's Ninth champions the theme of Universal Brotherhood in the work's famous finale, "Ode to Joy" — a message central to the tour's mission of cultural and musical exchange, according to a release from the group. This experience aims to celebrate recent Cuban-American relations through the arts, which have set an appropriate stage for these performances.

Classical music took root in Cuba's artistic landscape following Russian influences after the Cuban Revolution, and though spirit and enthusiasm for the genre has endured, resources and exposure to music from the outside world have declined since the 1991 dissolution of the Soviet Union.

"As a proponent of outreach through music education, the HRO intends to use our own music to connect with, teach, and learn from the Cuban public through our performances and other interactions," says Clare Whitehead, junior cellist and president of the orchestra.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Continued from Page 13

annual Miriam's Seder, 3:30-8:00 p.m., Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggets Pond, Andover. Miriam's Seder is an annual intergenerational event that celebrates women in Jewish History. Mothers, aunts, grandmothers and girls over 8 are all welcome to attend. The event will begin with Kasbah style shopping and appetizers from 3:30 to 5:15pm, followed by the Seder and dinner.

MONDAY, APRIL 4

OPEN HOUSE, Sparhawk School (PreK-12) will be hosting an information session at the

Newbury Town Library, 4:30-5:30pm. The Newbury Town Library, 0 Lunt St., Byfield; sparhawksschool.com.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

ACADEMIC BOWL AWARDS NIGHT, for all 319 players (7th and 8th graders), about 75 are from Andover, with friendly exhibition match of fun activities and sample Academic Bowl questions topped off with awards for all players and teams. (There are 4 Andover teams.), South Lawrence East School, 165 Crawford St. Lawrence. Hands-on activities: 6-7 p.m. Lights and buzzers 7-8 p.m. Awards 8-8:15 p.m.

ABBY LOCKE'S SPLENDID DAYS, a teenager's diary in 1860s Andover, 7 pm, Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St. entries will give a fresh perspective on the daily life of a teenage girl during the Civil War era; mhl.org.

MARK TWAIN'S LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI TALK, 1-2:30 p.m. This series looks at pre-Civil War America, held Tuesdays, April 5, 12, 19, & 26, Andover Senior Center, 30 Whittier Court, \$16 for series; 978-623-8321.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

FREE HIKE, 10-11:30 a.m., Harold Parker State Forest, meet at the headquarters at

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

SPELLING BEE, Andover Fund for Education (AFE), West Middle School, 7 p.m. Fun family event featuring adult teams from schools, local businesses and community organizations. Free admission.

REX:

Continued from Page 13

had a passion for acting, dancing, and singing since a young age. She grew up participating in Merrimack Junior Theatre and Confetti Kids under the direction of Josie Walker and has continued her musical theatre passions throughout high school.

Rex rejoins a few New Hampshire locals in the ensemble after having performed with them in *CATS* at the Palace in summer 2010.

Performances begin Friday, March 25 and run weekends through April 9. For tickets and more information, call the Box Office at 603-668-5588 or visit palacetheatre.org/. The Palace Theatre is located at 80 Hanover St., Manchester, N.H.

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Obituaries

Charles A. Cronin, Jr., 84



Charles Albert Cronin, Jr., (Chuck), 84, of Lucerne, Maine, and Tavernier, The Florida Keys, formerly of Andover, passed away, Saturday, March 19, 2011 at the VA. Medical Center in Bedford, in the presence of his family and his loving wife of 59 years, Marilyn (Welch). He was in his 85th year when his body betrayed his will to live.

He is survived by his six loving children, Claudia Cronin-Schlote (Phil) of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, Charles III (Charlotte) of Foxboro, Carlton (Patricia) of Haverhill, Courtney (Sandra) of Plaistow, N.H., Christopher (Cynthia) of Merrimack, N.H. and Carilyn Cronin Donovan (Bill) of Andover. Also surviving are his cherished grandchildren, Carlton, Nathan, Jonathan, Meredith, Alissa (Schlote), Charles, Heather, Alexander, Connor, Zachary, Molly, Benjamin, Brenna (Donovan). His sister was the late Virginia Kane.

Born in Lawrence on Oct. 6, 1926, to the late Gertrude P. Walsh and Charles A. Cronin Sr., Chuck grew up in Lawrence. He had many hobbies including dogs, carrier pigeons, photography, flying and many sports. He graduated from Central Catholic HS in 1944 where he played hockey, baseball and football and ran track. He also served as a US mail carrier to help supplement the reduced work force caused by World War II. He then enlisting in the US Air Force. After being honorably discharged in 1948 he went to Lawrence Academy in Groton graduating the following year.

Chuck spent his working career in the Ice Cream Industry. He started in sales for Sealtest

Foods in Pawtucket, R.I., and later became General Manager for Sealtest in Williamsport, Pa.. In 1962 Chuck completed his service to Sealtest when he left the General Manager's position in Lawrence to start his own ice cream distribution company in Andover, Cronin's Ice Cream Company.. During this period he gave generously of his time to the community. He was a benefactor to Bon Secours Hospital in Methuen, a member of Andover Country Club, a charter member of the Andover Rotary Club, a member of the Lawrence Rotary Club and a frequent volunteer at the Lawrence YMCA where he coached swimming for many years.

Once retired, Chuck and Marilyn enjoyed their summer cottage with friends and family in Lucerne, Maine and they wintered in Islamorada in the Florida Keys. In his leisure time, he loved to golf, a sport he had taken up as a young boy.. He was also an avid boater and loved spending hours out on the water fishing and exploring.

Chuck was very social and had a zest for life and adventure that he has passed on to his children. He lived his life fully and generously. He will be deeply missed.

The family would like to thank the doctors, nurses and staff at the Bedford VA Medical Center for the excellent care given to him over the past year.

ARRANGEMENTS: At the request of the family there will be no visiting hours or funeral, but a memorial service and celebration of his life will take place at South Church, 41 Central St., Andover, on Friday, March 25 at 2 p.m. In Chuck's memory, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association at www.alz.org; by phone: 1.800.272.3900; by mail: P.O. Box 96011, Washington, DC 20090-6011. To make an online condolence, please visit www.dewhirstfuneral.com.

Anthony J. Mottolo, 96



Anthony J. Mottolo, 96, of Andover, died Friday, March 18, 2011 at the Lawrence General Hospital. He was born in Winchester to the late Joseph and Grace Mottolo. The eldest of nine children, Anthony quit high school to support the family when his father took ill. This kept the family together in their own house. He was also a devoted parishioner at St. Augustine's Church, a member of the Andover Knights of Columbus and a longtime local landlord.

He is predeceased by his wife of 66 years, Mabel H. (Fiske) Mottolo; his son, Alan R. Mottolo; and his grandson, David Mottolo. Anthony is survived by his children, Richard A. Mottolo and wife Carolyn of North Reading, Robert D. Mottolo of Glendale,

Calif., Joseph A Mottola of Hyannis, Marilyn E. Whittier of Dennis, Donald E. Mottolo and wife Carol of Quincy, and Janice G. Mottolo of Andover; and his daughter-in-law, Mary Mottolo of Haverhill. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Serah Byrne, Michael Mottolo, Anthony Mottolo, Lara Mottolo, Jason Bianchi, Kristen Bianchi, Emily Mottolo and Elizabeth Mottolo and great-grandchildren, Cate and Savannah Byrne and Peter and James Mottolo; as well as brothers, Frank Mottolo of Woburn and Henry Mottolo of Houston.

ARRANGEMENTS: A funeral Mass will be celebrated today, Thursday 10 a.m. at St. Augustine's Church in Andover. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery in Tewksbury. Family and friends were invited to call on Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover. To leave online condolences please visit www.contefuneralhomes.com.

Myron H. Muise, 78



Myron H. "Mike" Muise, 78, of Andover and West Palm Beach, Fla., died on Friday, March 18, 2011 at Lawrence General Hospital.

Mr. Muise was born, raised and educated in Andover and lived in Andover all of his life. He served as treasurer and tax collector of Andover for 30 years. Myron served with the U.S. Army in the 101st Airborne Division. He was an avid golfer and a very devoted husband and father and loved spending time with his granddaughters.

His family members include his

wife of 55 years, Ellen (Gilmore) Muise of Andover; and his son, Kevin L. Muise, MD of Beachwood, Ohio; and his daughter, Joan E. and her husband, William Leyden of North Andover. He leaves his brother, Ronald Muise of Sandwich; and his sisters, Dorothy Volker of Andover, and Beverly Petrow of North Andover; and his granddaughters, Kelly and Megan Leyden; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his son, Michael R. Muise.

ARRANGEMENTS: Private family services were held. Burial was in Spring Grove Cemetery, Andover. Arrangements are by The Charles Dewhirst Andover Funeral Home, 33 Pearson St., Andover. To send an online condolence, please visit www.dewhirstfuneral.com.

RELIGION

Friday, March 25 at 7 p.m., Temple Emanuel of Andover, will hold its TEMTY Creative Service. TEMTY is our high school youth group. This service is Open to the Public. Temple Emanuel is located at 7 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover. Please visit the website at templemanuel.net or call the Temple Office at 978-470-1356.

Sunday, March 27, Temple Emanuel of Andover Brotherhood will have a breakfast at 8:30 a.m. Their special guest will be Bill Nowlin who has written many books and articles on the Boston Red Sox. He will speak about his childhood hero, Ted Williams. Temple Emanuel is located at 7 Haggetts Pond Road,

Andover. Please visit the website at templemanuel.net or call the Temple Office at 978-470-1356 with any questions.

Sunday, March 27, Sisterhood of Temple Emanuel of Andover will hold its always-popular Family Bingo night in the Social Hall at 5 p.m. Fun, friends, food and prizes for the whole family, the cost is \$5 per person for Sisterhood Members and \$6 per person for non-members. Please RSVP by March 25 to the Temple Office. Temple Emanuel is located at 7 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover. Please visit the website at templemanuel.net or call the Temple Office at 978-470-1356.

J. Everett Collins: A man born to do



Andover Stories

Tom Adams
Andover Historical Society

Much has been written about the life of J. Everett Collins. Perhaps Everett summed up best what made him tick. "Help people. Help organizations," he said. "Join, get in, and do." For the 92 years he walked this earth, Collins did just that, he got involved. His gift of music lifted our spirit; his vision helped our town grow.

Born in Andover in 1894, Collins came from humble beginnings. Things we now take for granted were then but the stuff of dreams. In an age so different than today, Collins experienced the family's first bath tub, the moment their home first had gas lighting, and living in a world without cars. He

discovered early a passion for sports. An accomplished left-handed hitting catcher, Collins became such a high school star he was later paid a then handsome sum of \$10 a game to play for a team in Manchester.

"Back then \$10 would buy a good suit," Collins recalled.

While he never lost his love of sports, it was music that captured his soul. At age 12, he was the boy soloist at Christ Church. Following three years of intensive voice training, Everett sang as a soloist at churches in Boston and Brookline, eventually becoming choir director at South Church and later at Calvary Church in Lawrence, a position he held for 50 years. He not only led choirs, he organized them, too. In 1926, Collins organized the Andover Male Choir. It was soon judged to be the finest in New England. He organized the Andover Choral Society with whom, beginning in 1929, he performed Handel's Messiah, delighting Andover audiences each Christmas season for 55 years.

"Mr. Music," as Collins

became known, once said that his greatest joy was getting people to sing. He brought that joy to the youth of Andover, shaping the music programs at Andover High School and West Middle School. In 1963, he began over two decades of work guiding the Andover schools as its choral consultant. Everett ignited the love of music in literally thousands of students who lovingly referred him as their "Uncle John." His half-century gift of music was recognized in 1983 with the dedication of the J. Everett Collins Center for the Performing Arts at Andover High School. The center continues to provide our community with a world-class venue.

Collins' life embraced far more than music. He married his high school sweetheart, Elizabeth Abbott, and raised four sons here in Andover. He had a long, successful career in the insurance industry, yet found the time to get involved in the community. For six years, Collins was a member of the Andover School Committee and the town assessor. He was

a selectman for 20-years and a state representative for 13 years more. He was appointed to the board of review with the State Division of Employment Security, later serving as board president. He served our nation in World War I. He got involved early in life and never stopped.

In our age of sound bites and heroes with feet of clay, J. Everett Collins stands out resilient and true. A few days before a Boston Pops concert opened the performance center bearing his name, Mr. Music reflected that "I have tried to do things that are good. I have tried through my life to make people happy, to get a joy out of life. God knows I have."

In the time he was with us, our town experienced the magic of J. Everett Collins. We shared not only his joy but the glow that his zeal for life sparked within us.

"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.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Advocates

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

Chronic disease

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

Diabetes

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

Divorce

Divorce Care, a support group for anyone separated or divorced. A new 13-week session is starting Tuesday, Sept. 14 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Parish House of Free Christian Church 28 Elm St., Andover. Contact John 978-470-0327.

Down syndrome

"Celebrating Our Special Gifts," a Down syndrome LGH Support Group provides support and education for the parents of children with Down syndrome. Parents encourage and strengthen each other,

sharing experiences, knowledge and understanding, to enrich the lives of their children so they may reach their fullest potential. Meet the third Monday of each month, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Clark Auditorium at Lowell General Hospital. Parents and children of all ages are welcome. Call group leader Linda at 978-459-6854.

HIV/AIDS

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

Lyme disease

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

Mental health

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

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

Multiple sclerosis

New multiple sclerosis support group is forming in Andover. Date, time, location to be announced. Contact Judy, wakefam4@comcast.net. There are also three other support groups for multiple sclerosis in the area: Dracut — TW'S Pub, 10 a.m., second Wednesday of month, call Lori at 978-441-

0515 or Carolyn at 978-459-7531, Atkinson, N.H., at Atkinson Community Center, 10 a.m., third Wednesday of month, call Helen at 603-382-1222; and Methuen at Nevins Nursing Facility, 10 a.m., fourth Monday of month, call Marcia at 978-474-0075.

Pacemakers

Pacemaker-Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator Support Group is a support group for Pacemaker and ICD recipients, their families and friends in the greater Lowell area. Sponsored by the Lowell General Hospital with the help of device manufacturers, the group offers a forum for education and network for support. Meets the second Thursday evening every other month at Lowell General Hospital at no cost to participants. To register or for more information, call 978-937-6326.

JOHN MAXWELL'S 360° LEADER WORKSHOP

Experience the newly revised 360° Leader workshop in Andover on April 6th!

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WHAT MAKES THESE REPEAT CHAMPIONS TICK?

Natalie Gomez-Martinez, No. 3
Age: 18
Position: Point Guard
Favorite subject: Lunch
Why did you start playing basketball?
Because Van Caraviello wanted me to play on his fourth grade YMCA basketball team.
What is your favorite part about playing at the Garden?
Knowing my favorite player, Rajon Rondo plays in the same gym I'm playing at.
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
Being back-to-back champions.
Favorite quote
"If you're not first, you're last." - Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby
How would you spend \$1 million?
My ladies and I (group of six of my best friends: Emily Shields, Alexandra Alois, Brianne Deyermond, Rosie Forester, Natalie Gibson, Vanessa Singleton) would travel around the world and have a great time and spend all the money.

Jaclyn Alois, No. 33
Age: 15
Position: Forward
Favorite subject: Math
Why did you start playing basketball?
In my driveway with my older sisters. We would just shoot around and then I started playing in a church league.
What is your favorite part about playing at the Garden?
Playing under the big lights, just stepping out onto the court and kissing the leprechaun.
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
Being on the basketball team. Being such good friends with the girls.
Favorite quote
"Dance like no one's watching."
How would you spend \$1 million?
Donate 1/4 to charity, visit my sister in Italy with the family, go on vacation with the relatives, save the rest to pay for siblings' college.

Nicole Beaudreau, No. 25
Age: 17
Position: Guard
Favorite subject: Math
Why did you start playing basketball?
My parents got me into it and I loved playing.
What is your favorite part of playing at the Garden?
The atmosphere and knowing you're playing on the court the Celtics play on. It's an unforgettable experience.
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
Back-to-back.
Favorite quote?
"Live with no regrets."
How would you spend \$1 million?
Save some, spend some, spend more. Or go double or nothing on one hand of blackjack.

Rebecca Alois, No. 14
Age: 14
Position: Forward
Favorite subject: English
Why did you start playing basketball?
All my sisters played and we used to play outside when I was very young.
What is your favorite part about playing at the Garden?
You feel like you're famous and it is just so exciting being in this huge arena. Also, kissing the Leprechaun.
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
This.
Favorite quote
"Dance like nobody's watching."
How would you spend \$1 million?
My aunt recently was diagnosed with breast cancer, so toward the Dana Farber Foundation.

Bridget Thibadeau, No. 43
Age: 16
Position: Forward
Favorite subject: Social Studies
Why did you start playing basketball?
I loved watching the 2002-03 team play. Especially Kerri Odea and Liz Pallota.
What is your favorite part about playing at the Garden?
Being able to play where athletes such as Rando and Garnett have played.
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
Winning the state championship.
Favorite quote
"You miss 100 percent of the shots you don't take."
How would you spend \$1 million?
I would buy a house on the beach and donate some money to charity.

Elan Beasley, No. 23
Age: 17
Position: Forward
Favorite subject: Sign language
Why did you start playing basketball?
My parents put me in the YMCA league because my older siblings were in it.
What is your favorite part about playing at the Garden?
Knowing that you played on the same court as the Celtics.
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
Back-to-back state champions.
Favorite quote
"Nothing to lose, everything to gain."
How would you spend \$1 million?
Go on a shopping spree with my mom and sister.



I was influenced by my brother, who played for the AHS team about 10 years ago. I always loved going to his games.
What is your favorite part about playing at the Garden?
Being able to play on the same court as Rondo.
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
Winning the state championship
Favorite quote?
"You miss 100 percent of the shots you never take."
How would you spend \$1 million?
Donate to the Breast Cancer Foundation and buy season tickets to the Celtics.

My dad coached a league at school when I was in second grade. I was terrified of playing. At first I hated it. It actually took me a few years to learn to start liking it.
What is your favorite part about playing at the Garden?
Being able to play on the same court as Rondo.
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
Dance parties with the basketball team.
Favorite quote?
"Promise me you'll never forget me, because if I thought you would, I'd never leave."
How would you spend \$1 million?
Donate to autism awareness and then travel the world.

Why did you start playing basketball?
I started at a very young age because my dad is the basketball coach. I started playing at Hooptown, his camp.
What is your favorite part about playing at the Garden?
Getting to play on that court and kissing the leprechaun
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
Beating Central Catholic in overtime at the garden last year.
Favorite quote?
"You miss 100 percent of the shots you don't take."
How would you spend \$1 million?
Donate 1/4 to charity, buy my parents a house at the beach, save the rest for my future.

Olivia Biles, No. 13
Age: 15
Position: Guard
Favorite subject: Science
Why did you start playing basketball?
My mom signed me up for Hooptown. I didn't want to go because I was scared. On my first day, I fell in love with it.
What is your favorite part about playing at the Garden?
Just seeing everyone there and dancing where former legends have stood.
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
Winning the states back-to-back.
Favorite quote?
"First five minutes."
How would you spend \$1 million?
Put some in the bank, maybe, pay Rondo to take me out to dinner, go shopping, donate some to breast cancer.

Danielle Boudreau, No. 4
Age: 17
Position: Guard
Favorite subject: English
Why did you start playing basketball?
When we were very young, I saw how much my twin sister, Nicole, loved the sport. I picked it up so we could play.
What is your favorite part about playing at the Garden?
The atmosphere. The entire game our team was on an adrenalin high.
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
Winning states, obviously!
Favorite quote?
"It's kind of fun to do the impossible."
- Walt Disney
How would you spend \$1 million?
I would travel the world.

Devon Caveney, No. 10
Age: 16
Position: Guard/forward
Favorite subject: English
Why did you start playing basketball?
My dad loves the sport, so I started playing because of him. I immediately fell in love with it.
What is your favorite part about playing at the Garden?
Knowing that the Celtics play there. It's awesome to have the opportunity to play there.
What is your favorite memory from playing sports in Andover?
Winning the States twice in a row. It's something I'll never forget.
Favorite quote?
"Success is not final, failure is not final, it is the courage to continue that counts." - Winston Churchill
How would you spend \$1 million?
I would buy myself a really nice car, go on a vacation to Hawaii with my family and donate some to charity.

Mollie Maturah, No. 11
Age: 17
Position: Forward
Favorite subject: History
Why did you start playing basketball?

Ally Fazio, No. 2
Age: 17
Position: Guard
Favorite subject: English

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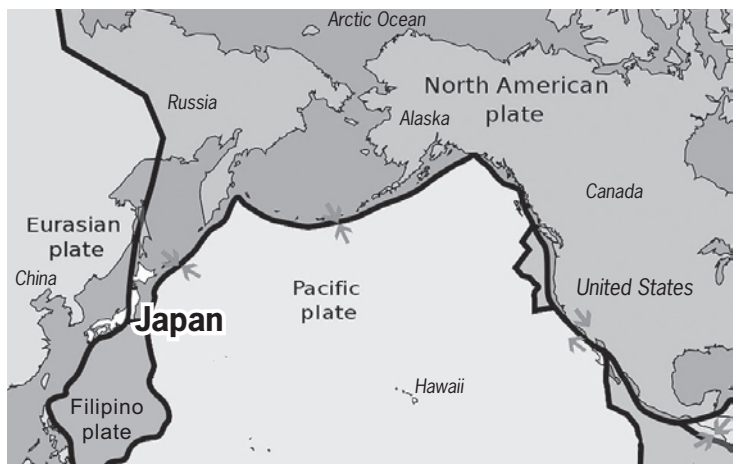
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Quake sets off crisis in Japan



The eyes of the world are focused on Japan following a 9.0 earthquake that struck just off the north-eastern coast on March 11. The earthquake was followed by a tsunami that destroyed several cities and claimed the lives of thousands of people. Now the country faces more problems. A nuclear power plant located close to the coast line was damaged by the earthquake. The situation may be dire at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant. Officials said about 140,000 people live within the radius of 20 to 30 kilometers from the plant. Some people have been evacuated. Others have been told to stay indoors due to potential radiation around the plant. Millions of people in Japan are still without electricity or water. Many homes have been destroyed and food supplies are disrupted.


The Eurasian, North American, Pacific and Filipino tectonic plates touch each other near Japan. That puts Japan at great risk for earthquakes. The white islands in this map are Japan.

What caused the earthquake?
First, we must understand our planet. The Earth's surface is a mosaic of cool solid rock plates that "float" on the hot molten core of the planet. These plates are called tectonic plates. The plates hit against each other. Earthquakes are caused when the tectonic plates shift. On March 11, the Pacific tectonic plate dove under the North American plate. That shifted Eastern Japan about 8 to 13 feet towards North America. It also shifted the earth's axis by 6.5 inches. This shortened the day by 1.6 microseconds. The earthquake caused a rift about 15 miles below the sea floor. According to the United States Geological Survey, the rift measured 186 miles long and 93 miles wide. Four different tectonic plates come together near Japan. That means the country is at a high danger for earthquakes. After a 1995 earthquake, Japanese scientists placed high-tech sensors around the country. These sensors detect the slightest movement of the earth. This gives scientists the ability to calculate the impact of an earthquake down to the inch. The Kid encourages you to keep up with the changing news from Japan. The events taking place will affect the world.


City Search
Find these names of cities in Japan:
Fukushima, H I R O S H I M A
Hiroshima, K A W A S A K I M
Kawasaki, Y O K O H A M A I
Kobe, Kyoto, O G T E B O K G H
Nagasaki, T O Y O T A M A S
Osaka, O Y G J A P A N U
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For the Kid in You



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Today you are a reporter who must write a story about a family who survived the earthquake in Japan. Look through your newspaper for words that you could use in your story. Don't forget to include who, what, when, where, and how as you write. Share your story with your classmates.

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Snow showers, 1-2"	A few flurries	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny; cold	Partly sunny	Bright and sunny	Clouds and sunshine	Mostly cloudy
High: 37°	Low: 22°	High: 38° Low: 22°	High: 40° Low: 24°	High: 43° Low: 22°	High: 42° Low: 27°	High: 44° Low: 32°	High: 47° Low: 33°

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SUNDAY OH 2-4

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SUNDAY OH 12-2

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