



STEPPING OFF FOR RITZER MEMORIAL ROAD RACE

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L'ITALIEN TO CAMPAIGN FOR STATE SENATE SEAT

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'AMERICAN IDOL' HOPEFUL WINS TICKET TO HOLLYWOOD

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OUR 126TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 14

FEBRUARY 6, 2014

75 CENTS

'Under the Sea' Drama



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photos

Ursula, played by Cecelia Vieiram, prepares to lose the triton during the Wood Hill Middle School production of "The Little Mermaid" last weekend. About 30 students performed in the school's annual theatrical presentation. Story, more photos, page 9.



Natalie Caffrey engages the audience as Chef Louis, as Sebastian the crab, played by Shyan Koul, cowers under the table during a scene from "The Little Mermaid."

Tax bill alarm sounds

Residents fighting back against rising costs

By BILL KIRK
BKIRK@ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM

A growing number of people in town have begun questioning municipal spending habits and whether community leaders have written checks that taxpayers can no longer afford.

During a recent Finance Committee meeting, 30-year member Joanne Marden said residents have reached the limit of what they are willing to shell out in property taxes. "People in the community are upset about their taxes," she said. "I wonder whether we have reached a tipping point."

She and others say that growing debt, new hiring in the schools, skyrocketing health insurance costs and a huge pension obligation are creating an unsustainable situation for residents and business owners struggling to keep their heads above water. Add on the tax burden of large municipal projects like the \$45 million Bancroft Elementary School, and some people are crying uncle.

In fact, a dozen or so local residents have proposed a warrant article for the Annual Town Meeting in May that

would impose a freeze on property taxes for people age 70 and older.

Bob Landry, of 4 Seminole Circle, who runs a website that keeps an eye on town spending, blamed high taxes on the growing number of municipal employees combined with generous health benefits packages and skyrocketing health insurance costs.

"Projects don't make up the largest portion of the tax bills," he said. "It's the operating budget. It's personnel and health insurance."

Tax bills

In late December, tax bills went out that reflected the true cost of living in Andover. The average tax bill went up nearly 5 percent over last year, and now tops \$8,000. Those bills — as well as applications for abatements — were due Monday.

Most noticeably, taxpayers were hit with the first half of the payment on the Bancroft School project. About 44 percent of the cost of the school is being paid for by the state, but the rest — nearly \$30 million — is being borne by taxpayers over the next 20 years

See TAXES, Page 4

Andover police want to be your 'friend'

Department embracing Facebook and Twitter as communication tools

By DUSTIN LUCA
DLUCA@ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM

There was a time when only birds tweeted — then smartphone owners joined the chorus. Now, the Andover Police Department is chiming away in 140 characters or less.

With the new year and a new era of leadership, the department is launching an initiative to engage residents through social media.

The fresh approach comes with an in-house rebooting

of the department's once rarely used Facebook profile, at Facebook.com/AndoverMassPD, and the creation of an official Twitter account, found at the Twitter handle @AndoverMassPD.

By and large, the goal of tapping social media as public outreach is to send a message to residents that the Police Department isn't only about issuing traffic citations, investigating crimes and responding to accidents, according to Lt. Edward Guy.

"The buzz words for this year are 'customer service,' and ensuring we establish better customer service going forward," Guy said. "We're making sure we're more open, more receptive to the community, their needs, their wants, and being able to better communicate with them."

The department's Facebook account was already in existence, but used infrequently until dusted off in recent months by Sgt. Chad Cooper, according to officer Charles Egerly.

Since then, local police have seen the power of social media after the department shared a photo of Det. Kevin Aufiero being recognized by the FBI for



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover High girls junior varsity hockey captain Laura Morissette, center, surrounded by some of her teammates, talks to girls varsity hockey coach Liz Keady, right, who helps the squad during practice.

BREAKAWAY SEASON

Girls JV hockey team finds unlikely success on ice

By BILL KIRK
BKIRK@ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM

It was almost the season that wasn't.

The fledgling Andover High School girls junior varsity ice hockey team, which ran on vapors last year, was out of gas at the start of this season. Not enough girls wanted to play, leading Athletic Director Don Doucette to tell varsity coach Liz Keady that there would be no team.

But second-year coach Keady, who played for Princeton University in New Jersey and the U.S. National Team, wasn't prepared to accept defeat.

"He (Doucette) called the day we were making cuts to the varsity team," she said. "He said, 'Liz, you have to accept that there's not a demand for a JV team.'"

Keady knew better. "I said, 'Oh yes there is,'"

See JV HOCKEY, Page 4

New options for Ballardvale fire station

Citizens propose expanding, renovating

By DUSTIN LUCA
DLUCA@ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM

On the heels of a final recommendation to build the new Ballardvale Fire Station adjacent to South Elementary School, neighboring residents are floating proposals to keep the station at its current site on Clark Road.

Three private, citizen-petition warrant articles will go before the Annual Town Meeting in May seeking to either build an addition to and renovate the existing 120-year-old station or simply just rehabilitate the facility.

The warrant articles likely arise out of the final report of the Ballardvale Fire Station Building Committee, which was delivered to the Board of Selectmen last week amid opposition from neighbors.

After five years of work, the building committee is proposing to construct a new 10,000- to 12,000-square-foot station at the corner of Andover and Woburn streets on the South School campus. The location, owned by the school district, now supports a Little League ball field.

The new station is

estimated to cost \$6 million. Officials say the price tag would increase by as much as \$1.5 million if the town had to purchase private land for the project. Under the recommendation, the town would likely swap land with the school district for the South School site.

See BALLARDALE, Page 2

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See SOCIAL MEDIA, Page 2

Dog park, property tax freeze before Town Meeting

By DUSTIN LUCA
DLUCA@ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM

Voters in May will be asked to build a dog park, raise dog license fees, freeze tax rates for elderly residents, create a new bylaw for food trucks and more as part of this year's Annual Town Meeting.

The warrant for the deliberative session features 60 articles.

The meeting will open at 7 p.m. Monday, May 5 at the Collins Center for the Performing Arts at Andover High School, and continue May 6, 12 and 13, if needed.

Chris Williams, chairman of the Friends of Andover Dog Park, has filed two private warrant articles geared at creating a play space for dogs.

The first article seeks \$60,000 for construction of a dog park. The second article requests that Board of Selectmen increase the annual dog license fee by \$6 for calendar years 2015 through 2018 to reimburse the town for the \$60,000 commitment.

A residents' petition also seeks to freeze tax rates on property owned by residents 70 or older, provided they meet a number of conditions, including living in the town for more than six months a year.

The article was filed by 16



File photo

A proposed town bylaw would set new regulations for food trucks in town. It will be among the articles going before the Annual Town Meeting in May.

residents, including Michael Roli of College Circle and former Finance Committee member Greg Rigby of Rattlesnake Hill Road.

Other articles coming before Town Meeting include:

FOOD TRUCKS: The Planning Board is proposing a new food truck license and regulation process overseen by the Board of Selectmen that would govern where and how the mobile businesses operate.

MEDICINAL MARIJUANA: Two articles seek to create rules for medicinal marijuana zoning, and to create two zones on Andover's zoning map.

PARKING PROGRAM: \$118,000 is requested from parking

and meter fees to pay for a "parking management plan," which includes new pay-and-display units at Memorial Hall Library on North Main Street and a new parking enforcement vehicle.

SENIOR NEEDS STUDY, SCRIPT EXPANSION: Officials are seeking \$35,000 for a "comprehensive assessment of the service needs of residents 50 and older." Another article would extend the town's senior tax work-off program to 125 volunteer hours a year for a maximum tax abatement of \$1,000.

TECH SPENDING: Proposed technology upgrades include \$200,000 for purchasing or leasing hardware and

software, \$350,000 for the town's annual computer work station and laptop replacement program, and \$30,000 to update the town's geographic information systems data.

TOWN PLAYGROUND WORK: \$150,000 is requested for this year's step in repairing and replacing town playgrounds.

DEYERMOND SITE WORK: \$250,000 is sought to pave at the Deyermund Sports Complex as the final phase of site work.

FIRE HYDRANT WORK: \$500,000 is requested for the next step in improving the town's fire hydrant infrastructure after voters approved a \$1 million request last year.

STABILIZATION FUNDS: Two articles seek to create funding sources for the Ledge Road Landfill (\$1 million) and bond premium payment (\$600,000).

BUILDING WORK: Nearly \$3 million in requests support building work, including \$507,000 for town buildings and facilities, \$236,000 for electrical, heating, ventilation and air condition work at schools, \$1.5 million for school building maintenance and renovation, \$319,000 to plan site improvements at West Elementary School, and \$350,000 to design Andover High School additions and renovations.

BALLARDVALE: Fire station is 120 years old

Continued from Page 1

"It's our hope that this doesn't get put back on the shelf for another 20 years or 30 years like it was before. Eventually, what's going to happen, I think you're going to get a phone call in the middle of the night that the station has either partially collapsed or we've had major problems with it."

Chairman Dan Casper, of the Ballardvale Fire Station Building Committee

The building committee initially targeted the South School property more than three years ago, but the location immediately drew concerns from the neighborhood, which has attempted to propose alternate locations.

Last week, former Town Manager Richard Bowen, who lives in the Ballardvale section of Andover, submitted two warrant articles each seeking to raise \$200,000 — one to design a 2,000-square-foot addition to the current station, and the other to buy 8,000 square feet of adjoining land to house it. Funding for construction would be sought later, Bowen said.

Bowen's proposal calls for an expansion that would allow for three bays at the now single-bay station. The additional space would accommodate a traditional fire engine, ambulance, boat and equipment for the town's forestry unit.

The project would also entail renovations to the current structure, which Bowen said could become living quarters after work was completed.

Bowen was hesitant last week to discuss the cost of an addition and renovation project for fear of underestimating the expense. However, early estimates place the project at around \$3 million — half the price of building new, he said.

Last year, the Annual Town Meeting in May rejected a proposal by Bowen to spend \$500,000 to renovate the current station. That article failed by a 162-203 vote.

A group of residents in the South School neighborhood is now introducing that proposal in a third warrant article submitted by Robert Goldsmith, a lawyer who lives on Bayberry Lane.

Deborah Lucci, an Andover Street resident who signed that citizens petition, said the neighborhood was unprepared to vote when the proposal came before the Annual Town Meeting last year. Even without the neighborhood's support, however, the proposal came close to passing, she said.

"I think it would have had a really good shot. If we had (known about it), we would have definitely all been out there," Lucci said.

Lucci said renovating the fire station, as opposed to replacing it, is a preferred alternative because of the climbing tax rate in town.

"To be honest with you, I don't feel it's necessary to have a brand new station," she said. "We can use what we have."

Meanwhile, the Ballardvale Fire Station Building Committee believes the South School site is the only viable location for a new facility.

Committee Chairman Dan Casper told selectmen last week that while there has

been consistent opposition to the site, it remained the best option because of its proximity to households, ease of access to other parts of town and other factors.

"Believe me, if we could have found a site that was universally acclaimed, we would have done that," Casper said. "We would have had the station by now. It would have been built."

The committee's recommendation followed two studies — one completed by Manitou Inc. in 2007 and a second wrapped up by Criterion Associates in December.

One alternative from Criterion placed the station along South Main Street, a suggestion that became impossible once the committee was unable to locate available land there, Casper said.

Winterberry Lane resident Colin Whelan, a long-standing opponent to the South School location, said the Criterion study identifies risks with that site. He said the South School location would increase by 505 the number of incidents the station would be unable to respond to within the established four-minute standard. "That's a 13 percent increase in the number," he said.

Whichever direction the town goes, Casper said the community needs to act sooner rather than later.

"It's our hope that this doesn't get put back on the shelf for another 20 years or 30 years like it was before," he said. "Eventually, what's going to happen, I think you're going to get a phone call in the middle of the night that the station has either partially collapsed or we've had major problems with it."

Selectman Brian Major called the relocation of Ballardvale Fire Station the second highest priority project in town, next to rebuilding the Town Yard.

"We'll identify the alternative we want to move forward with, and we'll take it to the community," Major said.

Selectmen will be scheduling a workshop on the matter in the next 1½ months, Chairman Alex Vispoli said.

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SOCIAL MEDIA: Police eye communication tools

Continued from Page 1

his police work earlier this year.

The department, which had only a little more than 400 likes on its Facebook page at the time, watched the photo get shared on five times as many news feeds as its profile had subscribers, Edgerly said.

The department expects to use its Facebook and Twitter accounts for such things as sharing news on street closures due to accidents or road work, updating storm conditions and a variety of public safety matters, Edgerly said.

The two social media platforms will also announce department programs and events, including a speaker series that is planned this year, Guy said.

There is a sense that this is only the beginning of the department's digital and online presence.

"As time goes on, we'll have to look at other avenues since technology is always changing," Guy said. "There are different trends and waves of technology that come along, and we just have to — in the long term — look at those and see if they fit our need and

the public's need of getting information."

The Police Department isn't the only town office finding itself smitten by the social media bug. The Department of Public Works has been relying on social media as a platform for more than a year.

The DPW, which oversees the maintenance and ownership of town roads, parks and grounds, made its leap to social media with the help of a former college intern, according to Business Manager Sandy Gerraughty.

With weather updates, announcements on recycling and trash collection and more descending from cyberspace, tweets and Facebook posts have served as a valuable megaphone for the DPW, she said.

"It has been good to get notices out," she said.

But while the platform is useful, Gerraughty said she does not see social media replacing other forms of communication with the public.

"Social media doesn't reach every single person," she said. "It's another tool in the tool belt. That's really what it is. Social media is not going to replace the telephone, people calling when they want information."

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Your Dental HEALTH

by Nicholas T. Papapetros, DMD, FAGD

GOOD TEETH LINKED WITH EMPLOYMENT

Nearly everyone, including prospective employers, makes appearance-based judgments that include instant assessments about a person's smile and teeth. With this in mind, it may be difficult for an unemployed person to get a job if he or she has missing teeth, large gaps between teeth, tooth discoloration, chips, infected gums, and/or other tooth and gum irregularities. Having poor oral health also compromises the energy and initiative it takes for a person to land a job. Fortunately, proper dental treatment can help.

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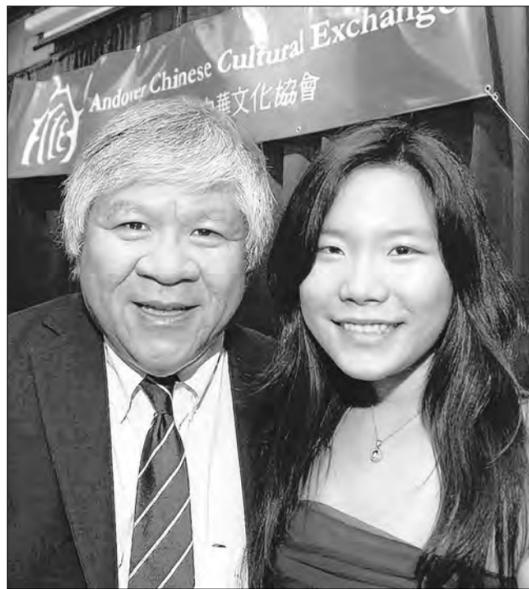
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Happy New Year



FRANK J. LEONE JR./ Special to the Andover Townsman
Richard Soo Hoo, president of the Andover Chinese Cultural Exchange, and Tracy Sun, a senior at Andover High School and president of the school's Asian American Cultural Club, attend the cultural exchange's annual Chinese New Year celebration last month at China Blossom Restaurant in North Andover.

Selectman's race is on for spring election

By BILL KIRK
BKIRK@ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM

incumbent Selectman Mary Lyman decided not to seek re-election.

It appears there will be only one contested race when the local election rolls around March 25.

Two candidates have emerged for the Board of Selectmen — Jodi B. Oberto of 11 Hartford Circle and Mary O'Donoghue of 69 Salem St. They both turned in the required number of signatures to get their names on the spring ballot. The deadline was Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.

A third candidate — Kevin Cuff of 265 Beacon St. — had been mulling a run for the three-year selectman's seat on the ballot, but informed the other candidates that he would not be joining the race, according to Town Clerk Larry Murphy.

That seat opened up after

Next month's ballot will also include Joel G. Blumstein, of 3 Athena Circle, who will run unopposed for an open School Committee seat. Chairman Dennis Fergie has decided not to pursue another three-year term.

Two candidates are running for two, three-year seats on the Board of Trustees of the Pynchard Free School. They are incumbents Donald Schroeder, 204 Haggetts Pond Road, and James Sutton, 14 Farrwood Drive.

Also unopposed will be John O'Donohue of 32 Lucerne Drive, who is running for an open seat on the Housing Authority, and Sheila Doherty, who is running for re-election as moderator for a one-year term.

HEALTH BRIEFS

Senior Mini Health Clinics

The Andover Health Department has scheduled a series of Senior Mini Health Clinics for the year.

Clinics are offered every Wednesday (with the exception of Christmas Day) from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Senior Center, 30 Whittier Court.

In addition, clinics are held monthly at Andover Commons and Frye Circle.

The schedule is:
Andover Commons: Feb. 19, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 6, Nov. 10, and Dec. 8, all from 2 to 3 p.m.

Frye Circle: Feb. 24, March 24, April 28, May 19, June 23, July 28, Aug. 25, Sept. 22, Oct. 20, Nov. 24, and Dec. 22, all from 1 to 2 p.m.

No appointment is necessary. For more information, call the Health Department at 978-623-8295.

Former Rep. L'Italien enters race for state Senate seat

By PAUL TENNANT
STAFF WRITER

Former state Rep. Barbara L'Italien of Andover has declared her candidacy for the 2nd Essex and Middlesex Senate seat being vacated by Sen. Barry Finegold, who is running for state treasurer.

L'Italien, a member of the School Committee, served in the House for eight years, starting in 2003. A Democrat, she represented the 18th Essex District that included parts of Andover, North Andover, Boxford and Georgetown.

She was defeated for re-election in 2010 by Rep. James Lyons, R-Andover. Two years later, L'Italien again ran against Lyons, but was not successful.

"I have been contacted by many people throughout the district who have urged me to seek the Senate seat being vacated by Sen. Finegold," L'Italien said in a release.

"I am both humbled and energized by their confidence and support. The people of Andover, Dracut, Lawrence and Tewksbury have been well served by senators like Pat McGovern, John O'Brien, Sue Tucker and Barry Finegold and I look forward to continuing their tradition of strong and effective leadership."



Barbara L'Italien

Before she was first elected to the House in 2002, L'Italien was employed as a social worker at Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley and worked for the Massachusetts Elder Abuse Hotline and West Suburban Elder Services.

As a state representative, she advocated for improved elder services. She said she initiated Caring Homes, a community-based program providing relief for families to keep seniors in their homes instead of being placed in nursing homes. She also said she was the force behind the enactment of the "Choices" law that provides expanded care for seniors through a Medicaid waiver.

In addition, L'Italien said she worked with Democrats and Republicans to pass a wide range of bills protecting developmentally disabled children, including comprehensive health insurance and Medicaid waivers for children with autism.

She also founded the Autism Commission — of which she has served as chairwoman since 2010 — and initiated the

creation of the Autism Division of the state Department of Developmental Services.

"My work on behalf of people with autism has enabled families to receive the behavioral and communication supports necessary to maximize their potential and to lessen the long-term costs of education and care," L'Italien said. "The Autism Commission recommendations look for better coordination among state agencies to increase the quality of service being delivered."

After leaving the Legislature in 2011, L'Italien coordinated the Small Business Banking Partnership in the state treasurer's office, which placed state money into community banks for small business loans.

L'Italien currently works as director of government affairs for Arc of Massachusetts, an organization that advocates for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

She resides in town with her husband of 27 years, Kevin Hall; four children, Rudy, Allie, Samantha and Andrew; and her mother, Claire Sullivan L'Italien.

Andover Board of Selectmen Chairman Alex Vispoli also has announced his candidacy for the Senate seat on the Republican side of the ballot.

Teachers, school officials pen tentative contract

By DUSTIN LUCA
DLUCA@ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM

The teachers union and the School Committee have reached a tentative deal on a fresh, three-year labor contract months ahead of schedule.

News of a potential deal comes after a brief, smooth-running period of bargaining ended last week.

The current round of negotiations contrasts with the last cycle of contract talks, which was marked by heated fighting. Those talks extended nearly two years after the previous contract had expired in 2010.

The latest deal, announced by Superintendent Marinel McGrath on Monday, would take effect Sept. 1, 2014, the day after the current contract expires. If ratified, it would run through August 2017.

Details on the agreement were scarce ahead of the anticipated votes needed for ratification, with neither side divulging specifics.

Kerry Costello, Andover Education Association president, said an informational meeting and potential ratification vote by secret ballot are expected next week.

If the teachers union approves the contract, it will then move to the School Committee for the

final vote.

Costello said negotiations began in early January. After less than a half-dozen bargaining meetings, talks wrapped up last Friday, Jan. 31, following a 13-hour session.

A tentative agreement doesn't necessarily signal that it will be endorsed by both the union and School Committee.

Following a similar marathon meeting in March 2012, deals for two tentative contracts fell apart and bargaining continued for another three months.

To start the process this year, both sides identified priority issues in an effort "to confine our topics into a limited range — that's with compensation being one of them," Costello said.

With bargaining focusing on specific topics, the expectation was "that we would see if a compressed schedule with a limited

range in issues might in fact bring the parties to resolution," she said. "There was also a spirit of trying to stay focused on what we agreed to put on the table."

The union, which in addition to teachers includes registered nurses, media librarians, social workers, counselors and more, "surveyed our members ahead of time, so that's what we used to determine our priority issues," Costello said. The School Committee also presented its own issues.

School Committee Chairman Dennis Fergie declined to discuss the process ahead of the deal's possible ratification, though he did comment that the sides "are six months ahead" of schedule.

Fergie, who is stepping down from the School Committee next month at the completion of his

second term, said he is

"hopeful" for ratification. "Assuming it is ratified and assuming it passes the whole School Committee, I'd be very happy to leave the School Committee with a contract in place," he said.

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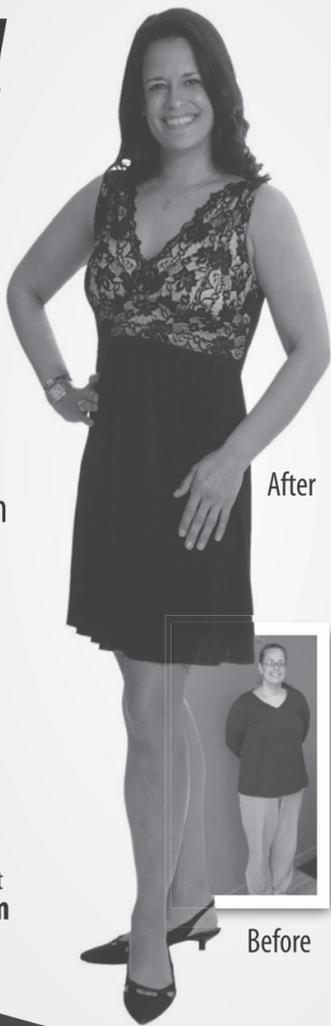
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The Andover High girls junior varsity hockey team gathers in the locker room of the Phillips Academy rink after practice. The team went from nearly not having enough players to skate this season to overflow interest, resulting in the formation of both a game team and practice team.



Freshman Charlotte Reeves skates around the Phillips Academy rink with her JV teammates during a recent practice.

JV HOCKEY: Program saved after recruitments

Continued from Page 1

she recalled recently. "I was adamant we have a (JV) team."

Keady said when she originally interviewed for the job, she was promised she would be in charge of a program that included both JV and varsity girls teams. But that promise got harder and harder for the administration to keep once her inaugural season in Andover got under way, she said.

Last year, the school couldn't support a JV team, so the Andover Hockey Association stepped in and ran it.

Then this year, just as Keady was set to cut 14 girls from varsity to create the first, school-sponsored JV team in Andover history, she learned the JV squad was two short of the necessary 16 players for a full roster.

Keady said she didn't want to be the coach to tell potential JV skaters that their high school hockey playing days were over.

"I didn't want to be the one to end their careers prematurely," she said.

So when Doucette told her she had a week to come up with extra players to put a JV team on the ice, Keady rallied the troops. She went to her players, including varsity tri-captain Laura Ritzer and JV captains Laura Morissette and Abby Huntress, and asked them to find some more kids to play.

"The next day, we made an announcement (over

the school loudspeakers) for girls to come and play," said Morissette, a 17-year-old junior who plays center forward and right wing. "We told all our friends, 'Come to the rink and have fun.'"

The word also went out via text message, Facebook, Twitter and every other conceivable form of communication.

The result was nothing less than astounding.

"We got one kid on the first day, two kids on the second day and by the end of the second night, we had 10 more," Keady said. "By the end of the week, we had 62 kids in the program."

Now, there are enough girls for a JV game team and a JV practice squad, as they call it.

But that wasn't the end of it.

What happened next "was overwhelming and humbling," Keady said.

As word spread across town that 40 new skaters needed gear, the community rallied.

Keady said that over a couple of nights, people brought pads, skates, sticks, helmets, socks and all the rest to the rink at Phillips Academy, where the team plays.

It's not only that the girls needed gear, they needed to know how to put it on, too.

Freshman goalie Katie Holden, 15, had never laced up skates, much less put on goalie pads. Nick Scarpa, a goalie on the Andover High boys team, stepped in to help.

"The call was put out for

donations, and (Scarpa) donated almost everything he had," said Holden's mother, Janice, a former goalie herself with Phillips Academy's first girls team back in the '70s and then at Brown University in Rhode Island.

"It's a lot of hard work," Katie Holden said. "But it's really fun to be part of a team."

Holden isn't the only first-time skater on the ice. The team has two, distinct squads: the JV game team made up of girls who were already going to make the roster along with a few new additions, and the practice squad, made up mostly of newcomers. There are first-time skaters, a bunch of former figure skaters, a few pond-skating veterans and lots of really good athletes with big hearts and even bigger smiles.

During a recent evening practice, some of the roughly 40 skaters dashed up and down the ice, while others looked just a few steps up from crate-skating.

One of those was Meredith Van Antwerp, 15, a sophomore on the practice squad.

Joining the JV team was her first experience on skates, she said.

"I found out they didn't have enough people and I wanted to try something new," she said. "I love it. I'm a lot better than when I first started. I couldn't even skate."

Keady said the improvement has been dramatic.

"We have some pretty athletic kids here," she said as she surveyed the ice, watching the JV players of varying levels skate past.

Every time someone fell — and it seemed to happen a lot — the players would all bang their sticks on the ice as encouragement for their teammate to get back up and keep going.

"I get jacked up when they fall," Keady said, smiling. "They have to learn, if they fall, they'll be fine. Once you're comfortable with falling, you are less tentative about bending your knees and going lower."

Keady said the teammates and coaching staff — including JV head coach Ed Oteri — have been "so supportive of each other."

Parents have been supportive, too.

Andrew Goldberg, whose 16-year-old daughter, Devon, is a first-time skater, said the whole program deserves credit for a job well-done.

"You don't typically try to outfit a hockey team from foot to head," said Goldberg, who was dropping his daughter off at the rink for practice. "They had so many extra players, but they outfitted all of them."

He said that was one of the reasons his daughter decided to play. That, and the fact that there wouldn't be any cuts, at least not this year.

"They're all pumped and they're adventurous," he said of the newcomers on the JV team. "It's been completely mind-boggling."



Andover High freshman Katie Holden makes a save during practice as she plays her first season of hockey in the net. Holden never skated before answering a call for more players and joining the JV team.



Andover High girls varsity hockey coach Liz Keady was determined to see a JV team play this season. She has been overwhelmed by both the response from new players and the community's support of the program.

TAXES: Some believe personnel costs are driving up property bills

Continued from Page 1

through a so-called debt-service override. That raised the average tax bill by about \$100 a year. Next year's bill is going up by the same amount to pay for Bancroft.

Meanwhile, Marden said, the town is taxing residents nearly up to the levy limit, which is the maximum amount that can be taxed under Proposition 2½. This year, she said, the town is about \$300,000 shy of the levy limit, which is about \$117.8 million.

Adding further to the increase is that the December tax bill reflects the actual taxes owed by residents and businesses, while tax bills in the fall are estimated.

All of those factors, she said, have created a sense of sticker shock for Andover residents, some of whom are on fixed incomes but many more of whom are simply struggling to pay their bills.

"When that happens," she said, "people react."

"It's something around town," she said. "You just get a feeling there are more people talking about it. There are discussions about the needs of an aging population. Do we want to make sure our seniors can stay in town?"

Finance Committee member Linn Anderson agreed, noting that tax increases are compounded year over year.

"That cumulative increase will have demographic significance on who can afford

to live in our community," she said.

Schools to blame?

Marden said that while the cost of the Bancroft School did cause taxes to go up, debt payments like that are actually lower than they were 10 years ago.

She and Landry agree that the real culprit is personnel costs, including benefits such as health insurance.

"It's the operating budget," she said. "It's personnel costs. That's where the big bucks are."

Marden and others in Town Hall say the School Department is to blame for most of the cost increases from year to year.

A chart in the Finance Committee's report from last year

showed that there are 872 full-time employees in the School Department while there are just 351 employed in town departments. Moreover, over the last 10 years, the number of town employees has remained level, even dropping a little, while the number of school employees has risen by nearly 200 people.

Finance Committee member Greg Serrao said the School Department hired the equivalent of 108 full-time employees in the last two years.

"That's a lot of bodies, that's a lot of cost," he said. "That's concerning to a lot of us."

He said the School Department frequently hires people in the summer, after the budget has been closed. Officials

simply move money around within the school budget to pay for the extra employees, he said.

That may be all well and good, he said, but one of the problems with that is that health insurance is paid for out of the town budget, further depleting town reserves.

Marden said because the School Department isn't responsible for setting the tax rate, it doesn't have to worry about the impact on taxpayers.

"They will always tell you they don't have enough and need more," she said.

Making matters more difficult, she said, is that the School Department doesn't adequately communicate with the rest of the town on

what it's doing with its money.

"I don't want to say there's a giant conspiracy to keep information from people," she said. "One of the frustrations of the Finance Committee is the lack of information we get from the School Department and transparency of exactly what's happening. I hope that changes."

She said that in the last few years, there has always been a reason the School Department can't tell the Finance Committee and other town officials what's going on.

"It's either a new superintendent, a new business manager or conversion of information systems," she said. "I'm not sure there's an excuse for this year."

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Sentencing debate could delay Chism trial

New charge added in case

By JULIE MANGANIS
STAFF WRITER

The recent ruling that juveniles convicted of first-degree murder are now eligible to seek parole after 15 years could affect the trial and sentencing of the Danvers teen charged with the murder of a local school teacher, potentially delaying the proceedings for more than a year, a judge suggested last week.

During a hearing where Philip Chism, now 15, was arraigned on a new count of aggravated rape, Salem Superior Court Judge Howard Whitehead raised the issue of how this and two other "youthful offender" indictments will be handled.

Chism, who is charged in the Oct. 22 slaying of 24-year-old Colleen Ritzer of Andover said nothing during the brief hearing. Through his attorneys he waived the reading of the charge. A plea of not guilty was entered to the new count of aggravated rape. A grand jury indicted Chism on the new count of rape last month after receiving the results of DNA tests.

Chism through his lawyer is asking for the murder charge to be tried separately from the other charges. Prosecutors want to join the cases together and try all of them in Superior Court.

In the past, prosecutor Kate MacDougall acknowledged, the outcome of the

lesser charges would have been secondary to the murder charge, which carried an automatic sentence of life without parole.

But since the Christmas Eve ruling by the Supreme Judicial Court finding that juveniles are entitled to parole eligibility after 15 years, the sentences imposed on other counts could impact how long someone serves. And sentences for adult offenders are longer than those imposed on juveniles.

In addition to the first-degree murder charge, for which Chism was indicted on as an adult, Chism is also facing the rape and robbery charges as a youthful offender.

Whitehead said he's found no legal guidance for how the offenses should be handled.

"The youthful offender indictments are probably contemplated to be treated, as the murder indictment, as an adult offense," he said, "but I can see the argument the other way."

Since there is no precedent on the issue, Whitehead said he is considering asking the Appeals Court to issue an opinion. He acknowledged that it's possible that an answer could take up to a year, delaying the trial in the case.

A coalition of legislators, led in part by state Sen. Barry Finegold, D-Andover, has filed legislation seeking to increase from 15 to 35 the number of years juveniles convicted of murder must serve before being eligible for parole.

Both prosecutors and Chism's lawyers had some reservations about delaying the trial.

The prosecutor, in particular, was concerned about the possible delay and urged the judge to consider moving the case forward. She asked for time to consult with other attorneys in her office, but acknowledged that "given the state of the law prior to now, there wasn't much purpose indicting on a youthful offender charge," because it wouldn't affect a sentence of life without parole.

Similarly, Chism's lawyers were also concerned about delaying the case. But they believe Chism is entitled to separate proceedings.

Also during the hearing, MacDougall told the judge she has turned over most of the evidence available in the case so far, including a copy of a hard drive containing all of the surveillance video from the school. A notice filed also indicates that the autopsy report has been completed and turned over.

Not complete is a forensic examination of Chism's cellphone, which is being reviewed for possible evidence, including any photos that might have been taken during the crime.

Prosecutors want to know if Chism "memorialized" the crime in photos taken with his smartphone. Such photos could explain why Ritzer's body was both covered with leaves, in an apparent attempt to conceal it, and also posed in a sexual manner. Investigators say it is

"not unusual" for individuals who have killed someone, particularly in cases involving sexual violence, to document the act through photos, audio or video, "for further humiliation of the victim or later viewing, for guilty relief or for enjoyment."

And it could also explain why Chism attempted to destroy the phone by smashing it. Chism told investigators on the night of his arrest that he'd smashed the phone in order to disable its GPS and the ability of investigators to track him — something investigators note could have been more easily done by simply shutting it off, or discarding the battery.

"... Chism's explanation for attempting to destroy his phone, along with the other minimizations and denials in his interview, seems doubtful," trooper Steven Bucheri wrote. "Given the other information ... particularly the evidence of significant planning in this case and sexual offenders' proclivity to memorialize their crimes, it is likely that he destroyed the phone in order to hide incriminating evidence contained on it, including, but not limited to evidence of his planning, motive and any memorialization of his crime."

Chism denied sexually assaulting Ritzer when questioned after his arrest, and claimed to have stabbed her just twice allegedly in a second-floor bathroom of Danvers High School.

The next hearing in the case is scheduled for April 7.

OBITUARIES

Charles G. Hatch, 100

March 5, 1913 — January 29, 2014



NORTH ANDOVER — Charles G. Hatch, 100, of North Andover, died Wednesday, January 29, 2014, at the Meadows in that town, after a period of failing health. Born in Lawrence, MA, on March 5, 1913, with a twin sister, Ruth, the son of the late Charles G. and Ada (Parfitt) Hatch, he was educated in the Lawrence schools, received a Bachelor of Science degree from Bowdoin College, and LLB and JD degrees from Boston University School of Law. After his discharge from the Army he commenced the practice of law in 1946 with the firm of Rowell, Clay & Tomlinson in Lawrence. In 1951, he and his late brother-in-law, Walter C. Tomlinson, established the law firm of Tomlinson & Hatch and he practiced in Lawrence and Andover until his retirement in 1990. He was a member of the Lawrence, Essex County, and Massachusetts Bar Associations.

Atty. Hatch was active in Town of Andover affairs for many years, serving on the Veterans Housing Committee, South School Building Committee, Andover Finance Committee, and was Moderator of Andover town meeting for seven years. He served on the Board of Trustees of Andover Savings Bank, as counsel for Lawrence General Hospital, on the Board of Directors of Berkeley Retirement Home, and for 32 years on the Board of Directors of the Andover Companies. He was a past president of the Lawrence YMCA and of the Lawrence Rotary Club, and a member of Lawrence United Lodge, AF & AM.

An avid golfer into his 90's, he was a member of North An-

dover Country Club, Cape Arundel Golf Club in Kennebunkport, ME, and New Smyrna Beach Municipal Golf Club in Florida. He and Bette spent many wonderful summers at their home at Drakes Island in Wells, ME, and wintered in Florida for several years after his retirement. They resided at Edgewood in North Andover since 2000.

The widower of Miriam "Bette" (Eldridge) Hatch, late of North Andover, who predeceased him in 2004, he is survived by his four sons, Charles G., Jr. and his wife, Lynn, of York, ME; J. Daniel firm of Rowell, Clay & Tomlinson in Lawrence. In 1951, he and his late brother-in-law, Walter C. Tomlinson, established the law firm of Tomlinson & Hatch and he practiced in Lawrence and Andover until his retirement in 1990. He was a member of the Lawrence, Essex County, and Massachusetts Bar Associations.

The family would like to acknowledge and thank the staff at the Meadows, who provided wonderful care and comfort to him.

ARRANGEMENTS: At Charlie's request there will be no immediate services. A private memorial service will be held in the spring. Arrangements are under the care of Conte Funeral Homes. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. For online condolences, please visit our website at www.contefuneralhomes.com.



Joint meeting proposed for marijuana districts

By BILL KIRK
BKIRK@ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM

The Board of Selectmen and Planning Board are hosting a joint meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 11, to review the proposed medical marijuana overlay districts under consideration for the May Town Meeting.

The meeting starts at 8 p.m. in the selectmen's meeting room on the third floor of the Town Offices.

Planning Director Paul Materazzo has filed a proposed overlay district that would allow the placement of a registered marijuana dispensary in four locations throughout town, including

property on Dascomb Road, Lowell Junction Road, Haverhill Street and River Road.

The state passed a medical marijuana bylaw in 2012 that allows up to five clinics to operate in each county. Last week, the state approved two clinics for Essex County — one in Salem and the other

in Haverhill.

Town planning officials hope that by creating a bylaw, any such clinic proposed for Andover would not be placed near schools or in other sensitive locations.

The proposed overlay districts need to be approved by Town Meeting voters.

POLICE LOG

COMPILED BY DUSTIN LUCA

The following items were recorded in Andover police logs from Monday, Jan. 27 to Sunday, Feb. 2:

ARRESTS

Thursday, Jan. 30 — At 10:14 p.m., Christopher Pirus, 27, of 6 Third Road, Woburn, was arrested on North Main Street and charged with speeding in violation of a special regulation and operating a motor vehicle with a revoked license.

Friday, Jan. 31 — At 1:24 p.m., Brian Catalino, 23, of 534 Andover St., Apt. 1, Lawrence, was arrested on River Road and charged with driving a motor vehicle with no inspection sticker and possession of a class D drug.

Sunday, Jan. 2 — At 1:50 a.m., Angela Charbonneau, 38, of 400 Governor's Drive, Apt. 10, Winthrop, was arrested on Route 93 south in the area of Dascomb Road and charged with a marked lanes violation and operating under the influence of liquor.

At 11:44 a.m., Kelly McDonald, 42,

of 46 Brady Ave., Salem, N.H., was arrested on Essex Street and charged with operating under the influence of drugs.

THEFTS

Monday, Jan. 27 — At 9:21 a.m., a theft from a motor vehicle was reported on Campanelli Drive.

At 9:13 p.m., a caller on North Main Street reported that her vehicle was stolen at some point over the past two to three hours. Soon after, police ran the vehicle's registration and found that Lawrence police had "queried" the plate information after recovering the vehicle crashed on its driver's side on Glenn Street in Lawrence.

INCIDENTS

Monday, Jan. 27 — At 10:09 a.m., vandalism to a motor vehicle was reported on North Street.

Tuesday, Jan. 28 — At 11:24 a.m., vandalism to a motor vehicle was reported on Harold Parker Road.

Sunday, Feb. 2 — At 7:55 a.m., vandalism to a mailbox was reported on High

Street. At 8:28 a.m., vandalism to a motor vehicle, involving a broken window and popped tire, was reported on Kenilworth Street.

At 2:12 p.m., vandalism to a motor vehicle was reported on Greenwood Road.

ACCIDENTS

Tuesday, Jan. 28 — At 6:59 a.m., a two-car crash with injury, involving a car crashing into a utility pole, was reported on North Street. The damaged pole had to be replaced by National Grid crews. The work took around 13 hours to complete. Power was initially cut to around 1,600 customers in Andover and Lawrence, but restored for many within a few hours. About 17 customers were without power for the full 13 hours.

At 3:59 p.m., a hit-and-run crash involving a bus was reported on Barnard Street.

Sunday, Feb. 2 — At 10:37 a.m., a hit-and-run crash occurring the previous day was reported on Main Street.

TOWN BRIEFS

Snow postpones kindergarten registration

In light of this week's snowstorm, kindergarten registration scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 5, was rescheduled to Monday, Feb. 10, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the youngster's prospective school.

The snow date is now Thursday, Feb. 13, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Andover Democrats to caucus Feb. 10

Andover's registered Democrats will be holding their annual caucus to elect delegates to the 2014 Massachusetts Democratic Convention on Monday, Feb. 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. and will close at 6:45.

The start time for the caucus was incorrectly reported in last week's Townsman.

Andover will elect 17 delegates and three alternates, divided equally between men and women, to attend the state Democratic convention on Friday and Saturday, June 13 and 14, at the DCU Center in Worcester.

The local caucus is open to all registered Democrats in town. All ballots will be written and secret. Those not elected as a delegate or alternate who meet the qualifications may apply to be add-on delegates in the following categories: youth, minority and disabled.

For more information, contact chairwoman Patricia Commane at 978-474-6047.

Sen. Finegold holding office hours Feb. 21

Sen. Barry Finegold, D-Andover, and his staff will hold their monthly open office hours on Friday, Feb. 21, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St., Andover.

Constituents are invited to meet with Finegold and his staff in the library's first-floor activities room.

Finegold will also be having office hours that day at Lawrence Public Library, 51 Lawrence St., from 10 to 11 a.m.; Parker Memorial Library in Dracut, 28 Arlington St., from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.; and Tewksbury Public Library, 300 Chandler St., from 3 to 4 p.m.

Autism Eats hosting first family dinner

Autism Eats will be holding its first autism-friendly family dinner event in the Rose Room at Andolini's Restaurant, 19 Essex St., Andover, on Tuesday, Feb. 25, from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

The group welcomes all families who have a member with autism to join together for dinner in a relaxed, autism-friendly, non-judgmental environment.

The get-together will offer an opportunity for families to socialize and connect with others who share similar joys and challenges.

To learn more or to purchase tickets, visit www.AutismEats.org.

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GOLDEN TICKET TO HOLLYWOOD

McQuillen advances to next round in 'American Idol'

By **SONYA VARTABEDIAN**
SVARTABEDIAN
@ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM

Andover's Casey McQuillen sailed through the "American Idol" audition round last week, scoring a golden ticket to Hollywood.

As The Townsman was going to press this week, McQuillen was among the 212 "Idol" hopefuls who had moved on to the Hollywood round aiming to score one of the 16 contestant slots.

Over the next two weeks, the 212 wannabes will be whittled down to about 30 and then the final 16 who will vie for the "Idol" crown in season 13 of the popular Fox reality show.

That elimination process has already been taped, and while the 21-year-old McQuillen knows the outcome, she's bound by "Idol" rules not to divulge how she did or risk a hefty fine and elimination from the contest.

But after winning rave

reviews from the trio of "American Idol" judges during her audition, which aired last Thursday, Jan. 30, McQuillen has been turning to social media to build a fan base and boost her national exposure.

On Sunday, she began a FACEBOOK campaign to secure 20,000 likes for her "American Idol" audition tape, which is posted on youtube.

On Monday, McQuillen announced on Facebook, "All that matters is, how big do you want to dream, and how hard do you want to work? Good-night #McCrew, this crazy ride is just starting!"

She's also been spotted on "American Idol" promos leading up to the first nights of the Hollywood round of taping, which were airing this Wednesday and Thursday night.

McQuillen certainly caught the judges' attention at her audition broadcast last week, earning a "perfect" from Jennifer Lopez and a "gorgeous" from Keith Urban

"It was so insane. It was unbelievable," McQuillen said from her apartment in Boston's Back Bay moments after she watched the broadcast with a houseful of cheering family and friends.

McQuillen, who traveled to Omaha to audition after missing the Boston try-outs, said it was hard for her to fully comprehend the judges' comments in the haze of the "Idol" spotlight. But their words came through loud and clear as Lopez, Urban and Harry Connick Jr. all couldn't say enough about the Phillips Academy graduate who is now studying at Berklee College of Music in Boston.

Urban sat mesmerized as McQuillen, sporting a white dress with a pleated skirt and gray boots, performed an a cappella version of Demi Lovato's "Skyscraper."

"I just loved the restraint. I loved the fact that you came in and just chill and just did it, and your voice just crescendos,"



JOE BARNARD/Courtesy photo

Andover's Casey McQuillen, pictured in a video shoot for her cover of Alicia Keys' "Girl On Fire," scored a golden ticket to Hollywood during her "American Idol" auditions, which aired last week.

Urban said when she was done. "Gorgeous. You sing beautifully. I love your voice."

Lopez followed with a "thank you," calling McQuillen's performance "perfect."

"That was angelic," she said. "I don't need (to hear) another song. I just loved it."

Connick made it unanimous. "If all you had was that

voice, that would certainly be enough to get you to Hollywood, but I'm excited to see some of the other aspects of you as you come through," he said. "But I really enjoyed that very much."

McQuillen said she chose the Lovato song, which she has performed countless times, including at several of

Andover's elementary and middle schools, because of its message.

"It's about bullying and being strong for yourself, at least that's how I see it," she said. "It focuses on the idea of a positive self-image and anti-bullying, which have always been so meaningful to me."

"I picked it because in the moment (of the audition), I could be singing it to myself and was convincing myself I was strong enough to be there."

As the cameras caught an overjoyed McQuillen exiting the stage following her audition into the arms of her exuberant mother, Flora, who was waiting backstage, Urban told "Idol" viewers, "She is excellent. She's got all the right things to blossom."

While fans will have to wait to see what happens next, if Connick is any indication, McQuillen seems to have won some early backing.

"That's going to be a fun one to watch," he said of McQuillen.

Crafts in the Park seeking vendors

Applications are being accepted for Andover's annual Crafts in the Park, which will be held on Saturday, May 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or

shine, in The Park at Chestnut and Bartlet streets.

Crafts in the Park is a fundraiser sponsored by Christ Church Andover.

Proceeds from the event are used to support the church's mission and outreach programs and groups in the local community, including Habitat

for Humanity, Esperanza Academy, Bread and Roses, Neighbors in Need, Lazarus House and the Merrimack Valley Project. The church also operates The Christ Church Children's Center preschool program and the Andover Thrift Shop and presents a diverse music program for the community.

Amateur and professional craftspeople are invited to display and sell their original

work in the juried event. Applications should be submitted immediately with photos of one's work or a website where they may be viewed. Chosen participants will be notified by Feb. 28.

The \$100 booth fee, completed application form and a No. 10 self-addressed stamped envelope should be mailed to Andover Crafts in The Park, P.O. Box 685, Andover 01810. Checks will be returned if the

craftsman is not chosen for inclusion in the show. If photos are to be returned, include an envelope with adequate postage.

No sales commissions are charged beyond the booth fee. Food vendors require additional permits from the Town of Andover.

For more information, email jury@craftsinthepark.com or visit www.craftsinthepark.com.

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Opinion

Time to get serious on town spending

One thing is becoming quite clear in Andover these days. It appears taxpayers have reached their tipping point.

The town's older residents have not hid the fact that escalating tax bills are making it harder for them to be able to live out their lives in Andover in the comforts of their own homes.

But a Town Meeting article really calls attention to how severe the problem has become, at least for some. The article, submitted by citizen petition, seeks to freeze property taxes for qualifying residents 70 and older until their property is transferred or sold.

Among its provisions, the article says the town "... shall not, during any fiscal year, increase the rate of taxation on any real property at a percentage greater than the percentage of any Social Security cost-of-living adjustment for that fiscal year."

The state already offers tax exemptions for income-eligible seniors with financial needs as well as disabled veterans, the blind and others facing hardships.

However, we're not entirely sure a tax freeze for the elderly is the right answer. Such a measure would open the door for other groups to argue for similar treatment, and it would be difficult for any community to support extending relief to whole segments of the population.

But what we hope the request does do is send a message to the town's leaders that spending must be brought back under control. Town Manager Buzz Stapeczynski has said in recent weeks he is pulling back on major projects in the coming fiscal year to reduce the impact on taxes. We hope townspeople hold him to that.

That won't, however, stop the countless projects already in progress. It also does not put an end to existing and future needs.

What may be more realistic is for the town to take a hard look at priorities and get serious about expenses it can control. Expectations must also be adjusted to come in line with reality.

The Ballardvale Fire Station may be a perfect example. After five years of work, a building study committee charged with finding a site for a new station has recently delivered its recommendation. While opposition to the proposed site exists, the real issue may be whether a brand new station — at an estimated construction cost of \$6 million — is thoroughly needed.

Sure, a new station would be wonderful if money was no object. But residents have put forth three articles for this spring's Town Meeting that seek to renovate and potentially expand the existing station — at considerably less cost.

One resident supporting a request for \$500,000 to renovate the existing station pointed to the rising tax rate as a reason to repair over building new.

"To be honest with you, I don't feel it's necessary to have a brand new station," Deborah Lucci said. "We can use what we have."

That sentiment is one that should be considered more in town. Officials must continue to look at the way the town currently does business and consider areas where savings can be made and costs can be kept from spiraling.

It's unrealistic to think needs will go away. Eventually, work will have to happen, projects will have to get done. But creativity and alternative funding mechanisms are not only prudent today, but necessary.

As for the town's older residents, another Town Meeting article seeks to increase the number of hours they can volunteer to the town in exchange for earning a break on their property taxes. The request, submitted by the Council on Aging board and the town's director of elder services, would allow eligible seniors to volunteer up to 125 hours in a given tax year for a maximum abatement of \$1,000. Currently, the program is capped at 100 hours for a maximum abatement of \$675.

Unlike the property tax freeze, the expansion of the senior tax work-off program would be a valuable benefit for the town to extend to its seniors. The older residents of Andover deserve a fighting chance to remain a part of the community. They should not have to feel they are being driven from town because they can no longer afford to live here.

WEB QUESTION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

"American Idol" hopeful Casey McQuillen of Andover has made it to Hollywood. How far do you think she'll go in the competition?

HOLLYWOOD: She'll perform in Hollywood, but won't be among the 30 or so performers moving on to the next round. She will be knocked out here.

FINAL 30: McQuillen will be picked to go onto the next level of 30 or so contestants.

FINAL 16: She will be chosen as one of the 16 contestants for season 13, and move on to the public voting rounds.

FINAL THREE: She'll finish in the top three and dominate attention through to the highest stages of voting.

CHAMPION: Ladies and gentlemen, Casey McQuillen is going to win it all. Mark my words.

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

Last week, we asked, "With state Sen. Barry Finegold running for state treasurer and his Senate seat opening up, how important is it for the next senator to be from Andover?" With 63 responses, the answers were:

IMPORTANT: An Andover resident would know Andover issues best and be the most skilled at lobbying for us — 30 votes, 47.62 percent.

NOT IMPORTANT: A senator from another town in the district, such as Tewksbury or Lawrence, will still represent Andover well — 27 votes, 42.86 percent.

INDIFFERENT: I don't get involved in state-level politics, so where a senator is from has no bearing on me — six votes, 9.52 percent.

WINTER FUN



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Suzie Henderson of Andover and her daughters, Cora, 3, and Lucy, 6, enjoy some hot cocoa after getting in some sledding at last Saturday's Winter Fun Day at Charles Ward Reservation, which runs between Andover and North Andover.

What others are saying

Following are excerpts from editorials from newspapers across New England:

Potatoes get a bum rap. Like any food that's fried in oil, french fries and potato chips should be eaten in moderation, but that does not mean that eating potatoes is unhealthy. They are a source of dietary fiber, potassium and vitamin C, among other benefits. They are also an inexpensive vegetable that's easy to cook and should be a part of a balanced diet.

So we were disappointed that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, acting on the advice of a scientific panel, excluded white potatoes

from the list of groceries subsidized by the Women, Infants and Children nutrition program. But that doesn't mean we support the industry's efforts to lobby furiously to get its product back on the list.

There is an opportunity for potato growers to promote their product by educating the public about tasty and nutritious ways to prepare it. Money spent lobbying for access to the WIC program could be better used encouraging people to eat potatoes at home in ways and in quantities that promote good health.

— *The Portland, Maine, Press Herald*

As airline mergers continue, and as the Department Of Justice shrugs its shoulders and does nothing to stop them, guess what? In spite of all the vaunted efficiencies the airlines say result from the mergers, airfares continue to rise.

According to the Airlines Reporting Corp., a leading processor of airline tickets, airfares have increased more than 12 percent since 2009. This does not include other charges that have cost consumers \$3.4 billion a year for suitcase checking fees, reservation change fees, cancellation fees and whatever other fees they can imagine.

One would hope that as these charges skyrocket, airline travel would at least be more comfortable. Hardly. Flights are jammed, seats are smaller, and a flight meal now consists of a bag of peanuts — if you are lucky. Cancellations have increased and late arrivals have mushroomed.

All of this while the Federal Aviation Administration sits back and does nothing.

Free competition does not truly exist when mergers and acquisitions diminish it to create a virtual oligopoly. That is what is happening within the airline industry.

— *The Journal Inquirer of Manchester, Conn.*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vispoli should step down as selectman for Senate campaign

Editor, Townsman:

Alex Vispoli must immediately renounce his position on the Andover Board of Selectmen while fundraising and campaigning for state Senate. Vispoli has the appearance of being in conflict of interest while maintaining the selectman's seat and driving for the state Senate. Vispoli could

be making campaign promises to the good people of Lawrence and Dracut that is adverse to his position on the Andover Board of Selectmen.

Several people from the town of Andover have resigned their positions in government while running for office. Barbara L'Italien resigned her employment

position with the commonwealth to campaign for the office of state representative. Mary O'Donoghue resigned her appointed position on the Andover Finance Committee to run for selectwoman. Those two law-abiding citizens were intelligent enough to see the potential conflict of interest while maintaining

another position in government and campaigning for local or state office.

Vispoli must resign the selectmen's seat. A public official, elected or appointed, cannot have two masters.

FRED W. SUNDERLAND, JR., ESQ.
78 Casablanca Court
Haverhill
Formerly of Andover

Election reform bill a credit to Sen. Finegold

Editor, Townsman:

Last month, the Massachusetts Senate passed a groundbreaking election modernization bill. It is one of the strongest — if not the strongest — bills on this subject to pass any legislative body in the U.S.

Sen. Barry Finegold, D-Andover, the Senate chairman of the Election Laws Committee and lead sponsor of the

original bill, deserves a lot of credit for making it as strong as it is. Thanks to his leadership, and to that of Senate President Therese Murray, Massachusetts is well on its way to becoming a leader in expanding opportunities to vote and in bringing our election laws into the 21st century.

Interestingly, the bill anticipated the president's bipartisan

Commission on Election Administration, which released its consensus recommendations just after the Senate acted. The Senate bill contains every recommendation: online voter registration, early voting, permanent voter registration and post-election audits. It also includes proven reforms that increase voter participation, like Election

Day registration and pre-registration.

Kudos to Sen. Finegold for his great work. The Election Modernization Coalition looks forward to working with him to persuade the House conferees to include all of these important reforms in the final bill.

PAM WILMOT
Common Cause Massachusetts
SARA BRADY
MassVOTE

Farewell to a prince of a man

Editor, Townsman:

Last week, a bright light in Andover went out with the loss of Al Retelle. Al was a wonderful gentleman, and an amazingly gentle man who went over and above in helping those he met.

Al Retelle was involved in our community for 60 or more years; served on numerous boards,

committees, volunteer services and elected town positions, and offered private moments of giving that will never be tallied, because he would have never told anyone about them.

Al loved life, he loved the outdoors and he was dedicated to preserving the beauty in Andover. There were four generations in town who knew Al

well — from the generation before him, his own generation, his children's generation and his grandchildren's generation. Al was at meetings, ball games, funerals and weddings, and was often found enjoying the many AVIS trails. He taught generations how to ski (myself included), and always made you feel he was happy to see you and

wanted you to succeed.

Al Retelle was a "Townie" in Andover, and encompassed the best of what that word implies. Andover lost a prince of a man last week. So many in town will miss him, because we were so very fortunate to have known him. Rest in peace, dear friend!

SHEILA M. DOHERTY
21 Elm St.

READER ACCESS

EDITORIAL SERVICES

To reach the newsroom with a news tip or request, please call the appropriate person:

■ **Editor Sonya Vartabedian** for comments on overall editorial content and quality; 978-475-7000, ext. 8733, svartabedian@andovertownsmen.com

■ **Assistant Editor Bill Kirk** at 978-475-2000, ext. 8732, bkirk@andovertownsmen.com.

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■ **Reporter Dustin Luca** at 978-475-7000, ext. 8723, or dluca@andovertownsmen.com

■ **Sports Writer Dave Willis** at 978-946-2473; dwillis@andovertownsmen.com.

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TownsBeat



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photos
Katie Wolfendale as Ariel and Michael Makiej as Prince Eric share a moment on stage.

Sealed with a kiss

'Little Mermaid' a splash hit at Wood Hill

Wood Hill Middle School took the plunge "Under the Sea" as it presented Disney's "The Little Mermaid" this past weekend.

The annual school production featured about 30 students, primarily eighth-graders with a few sixth- and seventh-graders rounding out the ensemble.

Perhaps the biggest buzz leading up to the performances was whether Ariel would kiss Prince Eric. For audience-goers who turned out for the shows, they were treated to a romantic ending indeed.



The much-anticipated kiss between Prince Eric, played by Michael Makiej, and Ariel, played by Katie Wolfendale, succeeded in sending audiences – and even "The Little Mermaid" cast and crew – into a roar of cheers and applause.



Matthew Lem takes control of the wheel in the role of the pilot, the head sailor on Prince Eric's ship, with his crew behind him.



Natalie Caffrey, as Chef Louis, front, dances with her team as Sebastian the crab, played by Shyan Koul, hides under the table during one of the production's musical numbers.



Cecelia Vieira captivated audiences as Ursula.



Sebastian, played by Shyan Koul, top right; with Scuttle, played by Sage Zipeto, and Flounder, played by Lauren McDowell, second from right below, join other cast members in singing "Kiss the Girl," one of the crowd favorites from the musical.



Prince Eric, played by Michael Makiej, looks to King Triton, played by Matt Beetham, for permission to marry Ariel, played by Katie Wolfendale, during one of the signature moments in the Wood Hill Middle School production.

COMING IN LIKE A LION

YMCA salutes the Chinese New Year

The Andover/North Andover YMCA rung in the Year of the Horse on Saturday with its annual Chinese New Year Celebration.

The family-friendly event open to the community was well attended by young and old, who enjoyed a traditional Lion Dance and kung fu demonstrations led by Yang's Martial Arts in Andover, a sampling of Chinese cuisine and more.

The afternoon also included Chinese calligraphy and crafts provided by the BBG Chinese Learning Center in Andover; performances by the Boston Chinese Musicians Association and storytelling with local artist Nicolette Nordin Heavey.

A Lantern Walk

showcasing the YMCA's upcoming expansion project capped off the festivities at sundown.

The \$3 admission fee benefited the Merrimack Valley YMCA's Annual Campaign, which supports the Y's mission to have a meaningful impact in the community in the areas of youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

The Annual Campaign ensures that the organization can continue to provide deserving youths and families in the area with opportunities to participate in its health and wellness, youth sports, aquatics and health education programs.

The Andover/North Andover YMCA is part of the Merrimack Valley YMCA.



TIM JEAN/Staff photos

Ethan Donohue, 16, of Hampstead, N.H., and Alex Gamble, 17, of North Andover, both students at Yang's Martial Arts in Andover, captivate the crowd while performing the traditional Lion Dance during the annual Chinese New Year Celebration at the Andover/ North Andover YMCA last Saturday.



Grace Ahern, 6, Andover, makes a colorful Chinese lantern in the craft area during the annual celebration. The afternoon included a variety of performances and activities showcasing the Chinese culture.



Noah Lin, 4, of Boxford, colors the back of a bookmark he made in the craft area during the Chinese New Year Celebration.



Allison Mackenzie, left, and Dana Danovan, both of Andover, perform a kung fu demonstration at Andover/ North Andover YMCA's Chinese New Year Celebration. They were part of the contingent from Yang's Martial Arts in Andover that took part in the festivities.

Arts & Entertainment

EYES TO THE SKY



PAUL BILODEAU/Staff photo

Sharon Silverman, an art instructor in Andover and elsewhere, explains the concept behind the "Under the Same Sky" exhibit, on display through February in Haverhill.

Local art instructor turns public's attention to a shared view

By KELLY BURCH
Staff writer

An Andover art instructor has organized a winter exhibit in downtown Haverhill that's open free to the public with one caveat: You must leave your wallet at home.

"Under the Same Sky" displays 750, 4-by-6-inch photographs of the sky from around world.

Sharon Silverman said the premise behind the show concept is simple.

"It's art for art's sake," she said. "I do it because it's a nice thing to do for the arts."

The pictures, coming from 19 countries, were submitted by 93 artists, including some of Silverman's own students at The Studio at Dundee Park in Andover. The show runs through the end of February at Angles and Art Gallery (lower level), 80 Wingate St., Haverhill.

Silverman came up with the idea for the "Same Sky" exhibit more than a year ago.

"I was sick of all the negativity that we get bombarded with," she said. "This exhibit is a metaphor for peace. No matter what your circumstances, we are all under the same sky. People really responded to that idea."

Silverman reached out to the International Union of Mail Artists, a global organization that supports free art events. Artists in the union submit their work to the person putting on a show, with the understanding that the show must be free to the public and none of the work is for sale during or after the exhibit. A member of the group for years, Silverman has sent her art to shows around the world.

"The whole philosophy of 'free' is something that I'm really passionate about," she said. "It is a totally different philosophy from what this country is used to. When you take the ego out of art and take the money out, it blows people's minds. They can't wrap their heads around the fact that it's free and there is nothing to buy."

In addition to submitting her art for exhibits, Silverman has organized free shows in the past. One of them, "The Contemporary Faces of Jesus," was seen by more than 100,000 people.

"The idea is to get all economic backgrounds into these shows for free," she said.

For the "Under the Same Sky" project, Silverman asked people around the world to take pictures of the sky above them. She didn't want landscapes, wires or birds — just straight shots of the sky.

"I asked people to shoot above their heads, wherever they were," she said.

The results, Silverman said, were better than she was hoping for.

"It blew my mind. The textures and colors are just phenomenal," she said.

In one picture, clouds curl over, looking like the surf breaking on a beach. In others, lightning cracks or a full moon shines. One picture shows the beginning of a tornado, while Silverman can quickly pick out the pictures from Greece because of the vivid color of the sky over the Aegean sea.

"Some of the pictures are so peaceful and muted and some are so in your face," she said. "People hear that the exhibit is pictures of the sky and wonder how

different they can be, but the atmospheres and colors are amazing."

One artist wrote to Silverman saying, "Thank you for making me look up again." That sentiment was exactly what Silverman was hoping to inspire with the project.

"That made me feel great. Everyone should be thankful for their blessings. There is beauty around us, but we're so stressed that oftentimes we don't notice it," she said.

Silverman is dedicating the show to two friends who could not be there. Ed Romano, a local artist who recently died of brain cancer, left Silverman all of his mounting boards so that she could properly display the photos. Rose Krikorian was a family friend who recently died at 93 years old.

"She never missed a single art show that I did," she said. "You can't do something like this without people who are kind."

After the show, Silverman plans to turn some of the pictures into postcards, which she will use to mail thank-you notes to the participating artists. The rest of the pictures will be given away, in line with the International Union of Mail Artists' philosophy of distributing free art.

The pictures are displayed from top-to-bottom on one wall at Angles and Art, with chairs facing them. Silverman hopes that people will come in, make themselves a free cup of coffee or hot chocolate and lose themselves in the art.

"I want everyone to take a deep breath and take a break from whatever is going on," she said. "No one is saying 'buy this.' There aren't many places like that."

Love songs, Vienna style

Mistral presents annual Valentine Concert

It's February and hearts are all aflutter. Mistral, formerly Andover Chamber Music, keeps beat with the theme with its annual Valentine Concert on Sunday at West Parish Church in Andover.

Titled "Postcards from Around the World: Viennoiseries," the program is built around classical instrumental masterpieces from Vienna by Mozart, Schubert and Schoenberg.

"When the calendar page turns to February, Mistral audiences have come to anticipate the annual Valentine concert that has always taken its inspiration from the broad notion of romance. This one is no exception," Mistral artistic director and flutist Julie Scolnik, who recently moved from Andover, said in a release.

The program includes Mozart's Horn Quintet, Schubert's "Rosamunde" String Quartet and culminates with Schoenberg's early tonal work, the string sextet "Verklarte Nacht" (Transfigured Night).

Based on a poem of the same title by the

IF YOU GO

- **What:** Mistral, formerly Andover Chamber Music, 17th annual Valentine Concert
- **When:** Sunday, Feb. 9, 3 p.m.
- **Where:** West Parish Church, 129 Reservation Road, Andover
- **How:** Tickets \$30 adults, \$25 seniors, free for students with ID. Visit www.MistralMusic.org or call 978-474-6222.



Courtesy photo

Mistral returns to Andover on Sunday with a program of masterpieces from Vienna that take their cue from the broad notion of romance.

German poet Richard Dehmel, "Verklarte Nacht" describes an intense conversation between two lovers who are taking a walk under the moon.

"The music is lush and melodic and gives no hint of the 12-tone music with which its composer was later to become identified. Different musical motifs represent different parts of the lovers' exchanges, and in the end, it is the miracles of nature which have changed the night of tragedy into a transfigured night," Scolnik said.

The program will be performed by an ensemble featuring horn player Eric Ruske, who was named associate principal horn of The Cleveland Orchestra at age 20; Israeli cellist Mickey Katz of the Boston Symphony Orchestra; New

York/Israeli violinist Nurit Pacht, violinist Stephanie Fong and newcomer violist Jessica Bodner.

Scolnik describes the ensemble's performances as "always a little eccentric, stubbornly personal, impassioned and committed to invigorating old traditions with an ever-youthful perspective."

The Valentine concert is typically a popular one for the newly renamed Mistral, which is now in its 17th season. A post-concert reception with Valentine treats and refreshments will follow the performance.

In addition to the concert in Andover, Mistral will also perform the program at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Brookline this Friday night.

Out & About: Gala concert supports youth orchestras

Two Andover residents are lending a hand with this weekend's second annual Warm Music for a Winter's Night gala benefit to support Northeast Massachusetts Youth Orchestras.

The benefit, featuring the music of Kendrick Oliver and the New Life Jazz Orchestra, takes place Saturday, Feb. 8, at 8 p.m. at the Shalin Liu Performance Center in Rockport.

Proceeds will benefit NMYO's special programs for young musicians, community outreach efforts and scholarship fund.

Sabina Dowell and Sarahda Ramesh serve on the planning committee for the event. Their daughters, Avery Wendell and Yazhini Ramesh, are among more than 20 young musicians from Andover who perform with NMYO ensembles.

NMYO's eight ensembles include student musicians from 40 communities across northeast Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. Gerald Dolan serves as music director.

Concert-only general admission tickets are priced at \$50 and \$25. Patron tickets, at \$75, include premium seating and acknowledgment in the concert program,

while benefactors, at \$150, enjoy premier seating, a pre-concert reception with hors d'oeuvres and program book acknowledgment.

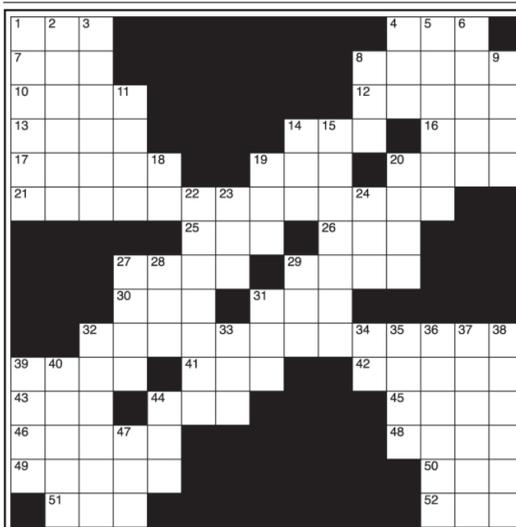
For tickets or more information, contact Rockport Music at www.rockportmusic.org or 978-546-7391.

PureProject fashion show at Greater Boston Running

Greater Boston Running Company at 45 Main St. in downtown Andover is hosting a Brooks PureProject Fashion Show on Thursday, Feb. 13, from 7 to 9 p.m.

The event will feature models showing off Brooks' new apparel line called PureProject, which is the company's first active lifestyle line. The event opens with appetizers and cocktails from 7 to 8 p.m., followed by the fashion show. PureProject swag bags will be available for all attendees.

Reservations are required. For an invitation, email Andover@Run.com with the subject line "PureProject Fashion Show Invite Request" and include contact information in the body.



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ART AND GALLERIES

ADDISON GALLERY, "An American in London: Whistler and the Thames," through April 13; "Industrial Strength: Selections from the Collection," through April 13; "Eye on the Collection: Artful Poses," through March 30; gallery admission free. Phillips

Academy, 180 Main St., Andover. Gallery hours Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.; 978-749-4000. www.andover.edu/museums/addison/Pages/default.aspx.

ALPERS FINE ART, "The Power of the Power of Suggestion," first-ever juried show featuring 33 artists, through March 2, 96 Main St., Andover. Gallery hours Wednesdays through Fridays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; 978-760-1829, www.alpersfineartonline.com.

ESSEX ART CENTER, "Every Place" by Allison Cekala and Sarah Pollman and "Enter the Void" by Elissa Salas, in Chester F. Sidell Gallery; "Mostly Sunny, Scattered Clouds," new work by Ellen Rich, in Elizabeth A. Beland Gallery; through Feb. 14; 56 Island St., Lawrence; Leslie Costello, 978-685-2343 or leslie@essexartcenter.org; www.essexartcenter.org.

FILMS

SCREENING ROOM, Boomer-Venture Screening Room Film Festival series featuring "Frances Ha," a look at the struggles of a 20-something, somewhat dancer living in New York City that explores friendship, class, ambition, failure and redemption, rated R, Thursday, Feb. 6, 7 p.m.; "Deceptive Practice," documentary following the life of Ricky Jay, a world-renowned magician, author, historian and actor, Thursday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m.; free, snacks available; Center at Puchard, 30 Whittier Court, Andover; 978-623-8321, www.andoverscreeningroom.org.

LECTURE

HOW ARE YOU SMART? Northern Essex Community College professor Deirdre Budzyna discusses ways people can display and use their intelligence in "It's Not How Smart You Are: It's How You Are Smart," Tuesday, Feb. 11, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Haverhill Public Library, 99 Main St.; free; Sarah at 978-373-1586, ext. 641, or

smoser@mvlc.org.
MUSIC

AMERICAN SAMPLER, New England Classical Singers presents "An American Sampler: Songs of Love and Nature," featuring Ronald Perera's "Why I Wake Early," Saturday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.; pre-concert talk, 6:30 p.m.; Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover; tickets \$20 adults, \$18 seniors, \$15 groups of 10, children and students with ID free; www.newenglandclassical.org; 978-474-6090.

ON THE WING, Phillips Academy presents "A Celebration of Birds in Poetry and Music," Sunday, Feb. 23, 3 p.m., Addison Gallery, Phillips Academy campus; free; 978-749-4260, music@andover.edu.

VALENTINE CONCERT, Mistral presents 17th annual Valentine Concert, "Postcards from Around the World: Viennoiseries," Sunday, Feb. 9, 3 p.m., West Parish Church, 129 Reservation Road, Andover; tickets \$30 adults, \$25 seniors, students free with ID; 978-474-6222, sales@MistralMusic.org, www.MistralMusic.org.

THEATER

DRAMA, Merrimack College students and staff present Tony Award- and Pulitzer Prize-winning drama "Doubt: A Parable," Thursday, Feb. 20, and Friday, Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 22, 2 and 7:30 p.m., Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover; tickets, \$10, \$5 Merrimack College students and employees; 978-837-5355, www.merrimack.edu/rogerscenter.

ETC.

FLORAL ARRANGING, North Andover Garden Club presents "Flower Arranging with Priscilla Styer," Tuesday, Feb. 11, 7 to 9 p.m., St. Michael's Parish Hall, 196 Main St., North Andover; email northandovergardenclub@yahoo.com or call Lisa at 978-689-9318.

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Park rink hopes melting away

By BILL KIRK
BKIRK
@ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM

The rink at The Park may have seen its last pair of skates.

Warm weather, and possible vandalism, appear to have combined to possibly doom the recreational experiment.

Ted Teichert, a former selectman who spearheaded the first-year effort, said that when warm weather weakened the ice last month, someone drove a stick through the middle of the rink, possibly perforating the tarp holding the water in.

As the ice melted, water drained out, leaving the edges of the tarp exposed.

Teichert said it appears someone may have then walked on the tarp, ripping it along the edges where the boards hold the contraption together.

As it got cold again, some volunteers attempted to pack snow along the edges to shore up the tarp, but again, Mother Nature intervened, melting the ice and the snow and letting even more water drain out.

As of late last week, there was a solid layer of ice over the rink, but it was extremely rough with big cracks. Recent warmer temperatures caused even more problems.

"It's disappointing," Teichert said. "We had three good weeks. People were very receptive."

He said next year the group putting the rink together will purchase a stronger liner that won't rip as easily.

"We'll also make it a little bigger. Maybe a little longer," he said. "We will work on improving it."



Truman the dog, a Rhodesian ridgeback owned by volunteer Bill Pickett, leads a group of hikers toward Boston Hill during Saturday's Winter Fun Day at Ward Reservation.

TIM JEAN/Staff photos

WINTER + WARD = FUN

Last weekend's unseasonably warm weather provided the perfect opportunity to get out and explore the fields and forests comprising Charles Ward Reservation that straddles Andover and North Andover.

The Trustees of Reservations, in partnership with the Andover Trails Committee and Friends of North Andover Trails, hosted the annual Ward Winter Fun Day — a community favorite — on Saturday.

Both first-time visitors and regulars to the property off Prospect Road enjoyed a variety of guided hikes as well as refreshments by a roaring fire. Groups traversed Judy Trail, climbed Boston Hill and hiked around Holt Hill and the bog.

The property, which includes 14 miles of trails, is one of 111 owned, managed and cared for by The Trustees of Reservations, the nation's oldest, statewide land trust.

To learn more about Ward Reservation, visit www.thetrustees.org.



Sam Feinsilver of Princeton cooks a hot dog in the fire pit. The annual event sponsored by the Trustees of Reservations, in partnership with the Andover Trails Committee and Friends of North Andover Trails, aims to introduce people to Ward Reservation in the off-season.



Amy Rolfs of Andover and her 2-year-old son, Liam, test out the sledding at Ward Reservation during Winter Fun Day. Despite the warmer temperatures, there was still enough snow cover to allow for a ride down the hill.



Adam Rolfs, the property manager at Charles Ward Reservation for the Trustees of Reservations, informs visitors about the trails there before they head out on hikes during last Saturday's Winter Fun Day.

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Attorney Karen Guthrie

When you have a legal question or problem, it's important to talk to an experienced attorney you can trust. Attorney Karen Guthrie has practiced law in Massachusetts since 1995 and has represented many clients in personal injury, business, contract, real estate, and divorce matters. She is known for her integrity and her record of success for her clients.

Attorney Guthrie has extensive experience as a successful litigator and trial lawyer in the Superior, District, and Family Courts, and as a skilled negotiator in accident, real estate, business, and family law matters. Attorney Guthrie

has represented many individuals, businesses, insurance companies, property buyers and sellers. As a result, she understands the intricacies of what is at issue for both sides in a dispute or transaction, and is a strong advocate for her clients. She believes in the importance of effective communication, and clear, focused strategies to achieve the best results for her clients. Also an experienced, certified mediator, Attorney Guthrie has helped parties who want to resolve disputes without the time and expense of litigation, and has helped others find solutions to end disputes currently proceeding in court.

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Education

Students rewarded for a spoonful of goodwill

A pipe cleaner here, maybe a funny hat there, combined with a set of googly eyes would make for an interesting wooden spoon.

For a fifth-grade class at High Plain Elementary School class, that artistic touch went one step further, capturing first place for the students in Project Bread's annual Holiday Spoons project.

Teacher Shannon Siviski's class received the most votes from the public for its spoon-decorating talents in the online contest. The win earned the students group tickets to a private screening at a Jordan's Furniture IMAX theater.

This is the 14th year Jordan's Furniture has teamed with Project Bread to sponsor the Holiday Spoons Project, which has raised money to help feed the hungry and taught children about hunger in Massachusetts for nearly 20 years.

Children across the state participated by turning ordinary wooden spoons into works of art, which they then sold to raise money to support hunger-prevention programs throughout the state. This year's initiative brought in nearly \$15,000.

To win the Jordan's IMAX viewing prize, Siviski's students submitted photos of their decorated spoons to Project Bread. The class' entry received the most votes over a three-week period.

But what the students took away from the contest was more than just the chance to see a movie.

"The spoons project was a great way to show the world we care," student Rebecca Chou said in a release, a sentiment echoed by several of her classmates.

It was "so inspiring helping people who are hungry and learning how kids like us can



Courtesy photo

The fifth-graders in Shannon Siviski's class at High Plain Elementary School won first prize for their Holiday Spoon creations as part of Project Bread's annual fundraiser to support hunger prevention programs across the state.

help them overcome it," fellow student Alixandra Turner said,

Student Haley Katz added that Project Bread "has inspired me to keep helping

people throughout my life." Ellen Parker, executive director of Project Bread,

said "hunger and poor nutrition have lasting effects on our community. The Holiday Spoons project helps children learn about the issues of hunger and how they can be part of the solution."

Project Bread provides a curriculum for Holiday Spoons participants. Each individual lesson teaches children about who is affected by hunger, the importance of a healthy breakfast, ways to help people who face hunger and more.

"Incorporating the Holiday Spoons Project into our schedule and curriculum was one of the best decisions I've made as a teacher," Siviski said in the release. "Not only did the students have fun, work together and let their creativity run wild, but they also learned how fortunate they are and how many are not and that sometimes the best gift is to give to others rather than to receive."

Local teen tops in national writing contest

As a 6-year-old child, Jenny Jung randomly scribbled words on walls, her skin and even on her sleeping father.

Now the high school junior from Andover has arranged those words to win first place in the 2013 Sierra Nevada College High School Writing Competition.

Jung took top honors in the contest's nonfiction category for her story, "Reality on a Friday Night," about a conversation she had with her Korean-born mother.

She won \$500 for her first-place finish, plus eligibility for a \$20,000 scholarship to Sierra Nevada, that state's only four-year, private, liberal arts college.

Sierra Nevada College honors the best young writers in the country with its annual



Courtesy photo

Jenny Jung, a high school student from Andover, reads her original story, "Reality on a Friday Night," at Sierra Nevada College in Nevada. She took top honors in the nonfiction category in the college's annual High School Writing Competition.

High School Writing Competition. The 12 winners earn

a cash prize and an opportunity to visit the Incline

Village campus where its master's in creative writing program is based.

Jung was one of three winners who attended the recognition at Incline Village in early January. She met with faculty and published authors during the trip and had the chance to read from her winning work.

College faculty and Sierra Nevada Review editors sifted through more than 700 submissions of original, unpublished works by high school students to choose the winners of its third annual contest.

"The final decisions were incredibly difficult given the quality of work we received this year," Laura Wetherington, faculty adviser for Sierra Nevada Review, said in a release.

Rotary, AHS hosting Brazilian exchange student

The Rotary Club of Andover is once again hosting a high school student from Brazil as part of Rotary Youth Exchange, one of Rotary International's youth programs.

Hermano arrived in August and joined his first host family.

He will stay with two other host families in town before returning home to Brazil in June.

He came to Andover as an opportunity to learn more about another culture.

Already skilled in English, he has been acquainting himself with American culture while also sharing his Brazilian culture, according to local Rotary officials.

Jan McClure, the Rotary Club of Andover's youth exchange officer, says hosting an exchange student can be an incredibly rewarding opportunity for a family, providing an international experience without leaving home.

Host families provide room and board and share their lives with exchange students, involving them in family, community and cultural activities, McClure said in a release.

"My daughters have participated by living in Denmark and France and our family has hosted, too," McClure said. "Without a doubt, our lives have been deeply enriched with our new global friendships that will continue for years and years."

Worldwide, more than 8,000 students ages 15 to 19 participate in Rotary Youth Exchange every year. Rotary International is a global service organization of 1.2 million business leaders and professionals.

The Rotary Club of Andover meets Fridays at 7:30 a.m. at the Lanam Club, 260 North Main St.

For more information about being a 2014 host family, contact McClure at get2jan@gmail.com.

EDUCATION NOTEBOOK

Gallagher named to Harvard Club advisory board

Michael Gallagher of Derry, N.H., has been elected to the advisory board of the Harvard Club of Andover. Gallagher is the senior vice president and risk management director at Enterprise Bank & Trust and has expertise in operations risk, security, vendor management and compliance. He previously served at GFA Federal Credit Union as

chief financial officer and at Granite Bank as vice president.

A certified public accountant, Gallagher holds a Harvard Business School AMP (Advanced Management Program) in Strategy and Leadership as well as a Master in Business Administration from Suffolk University Sawyer School of Management in Boston and a Bachelor of Science in accounting from Merrimack College in North Andover. The Harvard Club of Andover

welcomes new members who are graduates of all Harvard University schools, faculty members or administrative staff. The organization sponsors a variety of educational events, scholarships, philanthropic projects and the Harvard Prize Book Award handed out at local high school graduations.

For more information on the club, visit <http://harvardclubofandover.com/> or contact Richard Soo Hoo, chairman, at 978-470-2293 or richsoohoo@aol.com.

A humanitarian lesson for Haiyan relief

Sean O'Connor's science class at West Middle School was studying a weather unit last fall when the strongest hurricane to ever make landfall struck the Philippine Island.

The devastation created by Super-Typhoon Haiyan moved the students to help. They launched the Philippines Project to aid the victims.

The students organized two fundraisers, including a hat day where students

could donate money for the privilege of wearing a hat to school in a show of support for the cause.

They also sold bracelets with Philippines Project written on them to fellow students.

The class earned \$531.50, which it recently donated to Oxfam America, a national arm of the 17-organization international confederation striving for a future free from injustice and poverty.



Courtesy photo

Sean O'Connor's science class at West Middle School recently donated \$531.50 to Oxfam America to assist with rescue efforts in the Philippines following Super-Typhoon Haiyan. Oxfam representative Lisa Telleksen, far right, accepted the check from O'Connor, far left, and his students.

Medals for local show choirs



SUE WELCH/Courtesy photos

Amy Welch, flanked by Brendan Moakler, left, and Andrew Hall, performs with Andover High School's show choir From Start to Finish this past Saturday at the Central Massachusetts Show Choir Festival at Shepherd Hill Regional High School in Dudley. The choir's modern-day "Romeo and Juliet" production earned it a silver medal.



From left, Amanda Hornick, Courtney Plati, Amanda Kamlet and Rosie DeLuca kick up their heels in front of their Nothin' But Treble teammates. The ensemble went on to earn its first silver medal of the season at the Central Massachusetts Show Choir Festival. Nothin' But Treble's Amanda Vu, meanwhile, took home the Judges' Award for her energized, entertaining performance.

Townspeople

Solarize event warms up standing-room-only crowd

BY BILL KIRK

bkirk@andovertownsmen.com

Nearly 100 residents filled the auditorium at the Public Safety Center last week to learn more about how solar power can energize their homes while helping them save money on their electric bills.

Dubbed "Solar 101," the Jan. 30 event was held to introduce Andover residents to the state-sponsored Solarize program, which uses discounted installation charges to attract more customers.

"I was extremely pleased with the turnout," said Anil Navkal, who has been officially appointed as the town's solar coach.

Navkal said people started showing up 30 minutes before the 7 p.m. start time of last week's forum. "By 7 o'clock, all the seats were gone," he said of the standing-room-only attendance.

Elizabeth Youngblood, project manager for the Massachusetts Clean Energy Commission, which runs the Solarize programs throughout the state, gave a 40-minute presentation, which was followed by another 40 minutes of questions.

Under the program, people in a designated Solarize



Courtesy photos

Last week's "Solar 101" presentation drew a standing-room-only crowd to the Public Safety Center. At right, Elizabeth Youngblood, project manager of the Commonwealth Solar Programs at the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, addresses the crowd.

community can sign up with a vendor and get a discount on their solar installation. In Andover, this initiative is being spearheaded by members of the Andover Green Advisory Board in collaboration with town staff.

Navkal said 60 people signed up to get more information about the program following the forum.

Last week, a committee made up of Solarize volunteers chose Astrum Solar of Annapolis, Md., as the official vendor for Andover.

Astrum was founded in 2007 by Vadim Polikov and is focused on residential

installation work in 12 states. It is the largest residential solar panel provider in Massachusetts, according to the company's website.

Navkal said the committee chose Astrum because it is offering such a great deal for homeowners, saying it can keep the cost of installation at \$7,000 to \$8,000 below most competitors.

Representatives of Astrum Solar will be on hand for a Meet the Installer Night on Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 6:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St.

Navkal said those interested in installing solar

panels on their roof are not obligated to use Astrum. He encourages people to get several quotes.

However, anyone who does use Astrum will likely get a deep discount, in addition to the many state and federal incentives available for customers who buy their solar panels.

He added that people who lease solar panels should be sure to look into the long-term and short-term costs to make sure it's the best deal for them. Many of the incentives for purchasing solar panels are not available with lease projects, he said.

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

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100 Years Ago Feb. 6, 1914

The success of the Mitchell Bakery on Pine Street has led to the necessity of placing another team to meet the demand. The reputation of the bakery products is so high that Lawrence and North Andover take a large amount of goods, and David Waldie is now covering that new route. He has been employed for a number of years by the J.H. Waldie Co., and his genial disposition and energy will be of great value to him in his new business. Mr. Waldie's many friends wish him all success.

75 Years Ago Feb. 2, 1939

A long-cherished dream of one of Andover's fine old citizens, the late David Shaw, is now being considered by the special Municipal Building Committee. Mr. Shaw had often stated that he hoped someday the town would use his property as the site for a handsome new town house. Located on Main Street near the Post Office, it has ample parking space in the rear. The price it is understood would be \$20,450.

An invocation and a salute to the flag would be required at town meeting under an article now being circulated for inclusion

in the warrant. Both would precede any other business.

50 Years Ago Feb. 6, 1964

A school budget that climbed well over the \$2 million mark was approved Tuesday night by the School Committee. The final total was \$2,109,610. It exceeded last year's appropriation by \$267,675. The budget breaks down into two general categories — salaries and expenses. The former is listed at \$1,708,035 and the latter at \$401,575.

An advertisement from Rolling Green Motor Inn on Lowell Street at the junction of Routes 93 and 133: "Dick Lee entertains with his accordion-organ in our Cocktail Lounge Wednesday through Saturday — You'll enjoy him."

25 Years Ago Feb. 9, 1989

In the round-robin chess competition to determine who will operate bus commuter lines from the Merrimack Valley to Boston, Merrimac Transportation Co. has won the most recent match. Although Trombly Motor Coach of Dracut recently won a crucial \$220,000 subsidy from the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority that formerly belonged to Merrimac, a different state agency declined to approve its operating license.

Youth Foundation sets sights on annual telethon

BY DUSTIN LUCA

dluca@andovertownsmen.com

The Andover Youth Foundation has postponed its annual "Big Deal" Casino Night originally scheduled for Saturday to instead gear up for its yearly telethon in March.

Youth Services Director Bill Fahey said last week that securing Old Town Hall for Casino Night proved

too challenging as the event date approached.

"We decided to keep our focus on the telethon, which is coming up, and move the Casino Night to later in the spring," Fahey said.

The telethon, slated for March 20 and 21, together with the Casino Night will aim to raise the final funds needed for construction of the Cormier Family Youth Center, set to open

at the end of the year, Fahey said.

"We think this year's telethon is going to be the biggest and best we've ever had," he said.

Both events directly benefit the Andover Youth Foundation, initially created to provide funding for youth services programming. Over the last several years, the organization has also worked to raise money to build and finish the youth center.

Construction of the youth center is broken up into two phases, with the entire exterior along with most of the building's interior comprising phase one. The second phase involves finish work to a small portion of the building, Fahey said. Around \$750,000 is needed to complete that phase, he said.

The foundation is considering hosting other fundraisers later

this year, including a possible road race over the summer and a talent showcase.

Fahey said it also plans to release a CD for sale featuring music from bands and vocalists who have performed for youth services benefits over the last two decades.

"Everything for us is lining up with trying to line up the additional funds," he said.



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Sports

STEP UP FOR COLLEEN 5K walk/run in May to honor Ritzer

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
AND SONYA VARTABEDIAN
Staff writers



Colleen Ritzer

Nina Caron saw the good in slain Danvers High School teacher Colleen Ritzer of Andover from a young age. Caron's oldest daughter was one of Ritzer's closest friends growing up and, like many, she and her family were rocked by the young teacher's death. Determined to find a way to make

sure Ritzer's legacy is remembered, Caron is putting to use what she knows best.

The competitive runner from North Andover is leading the organization of the inaugural Step Up For Colleen Ritzer 5K walk and run through Andover.

Set for May 4, the event will benefit the Colleen E. Ritzer Scholarship Fund. It takes place nine days before what would have been Ritzer's 25th birthday.

"I needed to do something, I really want to do something positive, something to keep alive the memory of Colleen's life and what she stood for and bring the communities together,"

Caron said.

While Ritzer's parents have been maintaining a low profile since their daughter's death in October, Caron said they gave their approval to the memorial race last week.

"Colleen was such a giving person, she cared so much about other people," Caron said. "We need more of that in the world. There's too much of the 'every man for himself.' I really hope to inspire people being connected to other people and in connection to others."

Caron is expecting a sizable turnout for the race. In a matter of

See 5K, Page 15

Local Roundup

Camin takes MVC swim, dive title

BOYS SWIMMING

last Tuesday, Jan. 28.

Vince Camin won the 100 breaststroke in 1:01.45 at the MVC Swimming and Diving championship last Friday. Andover took second as a team with 311 points.

The other title went to the 200 medley relay in 1:44.97, a team consisting of Camin, Joe Carroll, Max Blanch and Santi Alegria. Camin added a second in the 200 IM and Eric Shi was second in the 500 freestyle.

GIRLS HOCKEY

Alois notches hat trick

Veronica Alois had a hat trick and Jess Leone and Caroline Hughes stood out with two goals apiece as Andover blasted Boston Latin 8-0 on Saturday. Laura Morissette added the other goal for the winners.

Weezie Gross and Veronica Alois each scored a goal, as Andover played Billerica to a 2-2 tie last Wednesday, Jan. 29. Brianna Deloury, Jacquelyn Leone and JoJo Olson each assisted on a goal for the Warriors.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Perry, Warriors roll

Led by 19 points from E.J. Perry IV, Andover beat Methuen 64-53 on Saturday. Connor Merinder scored 15 points, birthday boy Ben Brown scored seven points and David Giribaldi had 12 points for the winners.

E.J. Perry IV scored 10 points to help Andover edge Billerica 56-63 last Friday. David Giribaldi scored 16 points, Ben Brown chipped in with nine points and John Pisacreta had seven for the winners.

Despite 18 points for David Giribaldi, Andover fell short to Lowell 55-52 last Tuesday, Jan. 28. Connor Merinder added 13 points and E.J. Perry IV had 10 for the Golden Warriors.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Caveney keeps surging

Colleen Caveney scored 21 points to help Andover roll over Lawrence 61-32 last Friday. Jessica Witten scored 11 points and Alyssa Casey and Rachael Cormier had eight points apiece.

Jessica Witten scored 20 points as Andover eased past CAC power Whittier 72-50 last Thursday, Jan. 30. Rachael Cormier added five points in the spread-out attack.

Colleen Caveney continued to roll with 16 points to lead Andover to a 47-33 drubbing of rival Lowell last Tuesday, Jan. 28. Alyssa Casey added 10 points for the Warriors.

BOYS SKIING

Tarricone stars

Jake Tarricone scored sixth overall in 21.18 as Andover rolled past Haverhill 117-18, but fell to Masconomet 92-43

Despite a fifth-place finish by Jake Tarricone, Andover lost to North Andover (76-59) and St. John's Prep (111-24) last Thursday.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Warriors sweep

Courtney Carver took wins in the vault and was second in the all-around to help Andover score 145.05 to sweep North Andover (141.75) and Westford (140.85) last Wednesday, Jan. 29. Jessie Livingston added a win in the bars and was third in the all-around.

BOYS TRACK

Chen takes win

Kevin Chen took the 55-meter hurdles (6.8) and Alex Bensley won the 2-mile (10:46.1) to lead Andover to a 49-37 win over Central Catholic last Wednesday, Jan. 29. Jeremy Travaglini took the 300 and Sebastian Silveira won the 600 for the Golden Warriors.

GIRLS TRACK

McCarroll takes win

Despite a win in the high jump by Casey McCarroll and in the 300 by Michelle Gencorelli in the 300, Andover lost to Central Catholic 50-36 last Wednesday, Jan. 29. Hannah Ameen won the 55-meter dash and Lizzie Kobelski won the 55 hurdles for the Warriors.

GIRLS SKIING

Ganley takes first

Julia Ganley earned her first overall victory of the season in 21.25 to lead Andover past Manchester Essex 84-51 and Haverhill 125-10 last Wednesday, Jan. 29. Olivia Lawler added a 10th and Jackie Drew was 12th for the winners.

WRESTLING

Meagher earns pin

Patrick Meagher earned a pin at 120 pounds in 0:45 as Andover lost to Haverhill 57-12 last Wednesday, Jan. 29. Tyler Ferris continued to roll with a win at 126 pounds in 22 seconds.

BOYS GYMNASTICS

Aronov dominates

Joseph Aronov won all but one event and took the all-around with a 47.7 to lead Andover past Burlington 169.2-163.0. Brian McDonough added a third in the vault and Dan Harvey was third in the rings for the winners.

BOYS HOCKEY

Querci goal for naught

Matt Querci scored one goal and assisted on another, but Andover lost to Tewksbury 6-2 this past Saturday. Steven Schuhwerk scored the other Warrior goal.

Will Sauerbrunn scored a goal, but Andover lost to Acton-Boxboro 7-1 last Wednesday, Jan. 29.

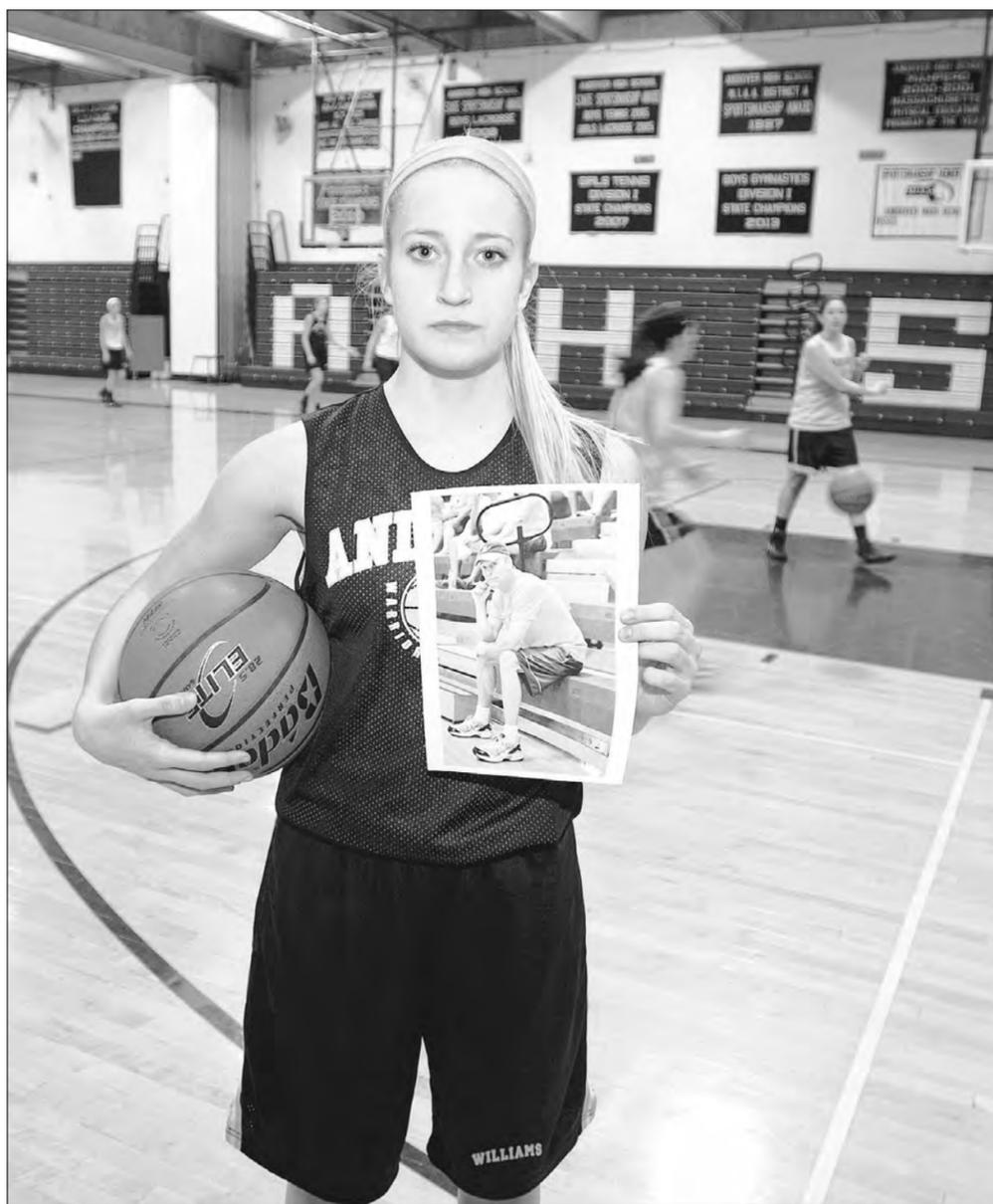
Alois shines through



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo

Veronica Alois fights through two checks in a recent game against Beverly/Danvers. Alois has continued to shine with four goals in her last two games.

DOING IT FOR DAD



RYAN HUTTON/ Staff photo

Andover High School's Rachael Cormier poses with a photo of her father. A major influence on his daughter's life, Warren Cormier passed away in August after a massive heart attack.

Cormier presses on with help from teammates

By CHRISTOPHER SMITH
Staff Writer

Warren Cormier sat in the same place at every Andover High home girls basketball game.

His daughter, junior point guard Rachael Cormier, still occasionally peeks over to that spot in the stands.

"He'd sit right in the middle of the bleachers, first row down in front," Cormier said. "One, because he did not have good eyesight. But two, so he'd be able to communicate with me while I was on the court."

"So now, sometimes I forget during the game that he's not there and I look for him and I realize he's not."

Warren Cormier died of a massive heart attack on Aug. 27.



Courtesy photo

Warren Cormier, who died after a heart attack on Aug. 27, shared a passion for basketball with his daughter, Rachael.

He was the main reason his daughter feels so passionate for basketball, or at least she did.

"Truthfully, without my dad, I kind of lost a lot of the love I have for basketball," Rachael said. "Every game is really hard for me. But I have some of the best friends I have ever had on my team. They just do everything with me. So just knowing that I have that support system, it's really helpful."

Rachael keeps her dad's Mass card in the pocket of her basketball bag. She also has a good cry before every game.

But through her pain, she has shown amazing strength. She has acted stronger than most could ever imagine. She gets up every

See CORMIER, Page 15

ANDOVER HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

JULIA GANLEY



Senior Skiing
Julia, a captain, had a great week, finishing first in Andover's meet against Manchester Essex, which put her in first

place in the Merrimack Valley Conference standings. Julia has raced out of Cannon Mountain in North Conway, N.H. In addition to skiing, Julia takes honors classes and also performs in the choir. Coach Tom Busta's comments: "Julia is a multi-tasker. She really works hard and her success is well deserved."

JAKE TARRICONE



Senior Skiing
Jake finds himself in sixth place over-

with a pair of top five finishes last week against Haverhill and North Andover. Coach Tom Busta's comments: "Jake's finishes are extra special as this year's boys league is tough competition every meet. We depend on his leadership as well as his ability."

all in the individual Merrimack Valley Conference ski standings

Alumni take ice for AHS hockey program

Derek Camarota, left, class of 1990, battles for the puck with Bob Leber, class of 1991, during their stint on the ice.



TIM JEAN/
Staff photos

Hugh Maginnis, class of 1988, center, maneuvers the puck around two defensemen during the annual alumni action.



Andy Weiner, left, class of 1989, sizes up the play as he prepares to take a shot on net.

Several former Andover High School hockey players dating back to 1979 took to the ice for the annual alumni game last month at Breakaway Ice Center in Tewksbury.

The event was sponsored by the Andover Hat Trick Club, the booster organization for the boys varsity and junior varsity hockey programs at AHS.

Following the alumni matchup, a reception with refreshments and a silent auction followed at Park Street Pub in downtown Andover. Proceeds supported the AHS hockey program.

CORMIER: Athlete pressing on in memory of dad

Continued from Page 14

morning and continues to live in the way her father taught her and the way that would make him proud.

First-year Andover girls basketball coach E.J. Perry attended Warren Cormier's funeral and witnessed his daughter's vibrant personality through such a difficult situation.

Perry said Rachael handled her father's death with dignity and poise.

"I can't believe she's always smiling and I think about how much of an impact her dad had on her basketball life and also on her life," Perry said. "She's amazing to watch."

Lessons to live by
The morning of Aug. 27 — the day before Andover High's first day of classes for the new school year — Rachael Cormier signed up for a gym membership to get ready for the basketball season. She came home, talked with her dad briefly about enrolling at the gym and then she went to finish some last-minute summer assignments.

"And then I walked through his room to go to the kitchen," Rachael said. "I saw him on the couch. It looked like he was sleeping almost. He was still in his towel from getting out of the shower. And he didn't move when I came in the room, which was weird."

Rachael called out to her father, but he didn't respond. She shook him, but he remained unresponsive. She reached for her cellphone.

"While calling 911, I ran upstairs to my brother, Trevor, who was in his room sleeping," Cormier said. "I was frantic. I was like, 'You need to come downstairs. Something's wrong with dad.'"

"My brother's trying to give him CPR and it's not working. And then the ambulance finally gets there. My brother runs outside to direct them and I had to try to give my dad CPR myself."

It's not surprising that some of Rachael's love for basketball died along with her dad that day.

Rachael took ballet as a girl before quitting dance around the third grade. Her dad then encouraged

her to try other sports and activities.

"I naturally latched onto basketball," she said. "He started off (teaching) the basics. As a third-grader, you don't know if you're going to stick with basketball for this long, but I think I'm naturally an aggressive person. So basketball was a nice fit."

Warren Cormier became quite involved in his daughter's basketball career. The Cormiers lived in Wilmington until Rachael's seventh-grade year and Warren Cormier coached his daughter's fifth- and sixth-grade teams as well as her in AAU basketball.

"The main source of our relationship was through basketball just because he loved watching me play," she said. "I think he missed just five games my whole entire basketball career since the third grade."

Warren Cormier not only taught his daughter basketball, but coached her on the most important part of life — family.

He always stressed the importance of her being close with her older

siblings, Warren III, Danielle and Trevor.

"He didn't have a lot of money growing up," Rachael said. "His parents didn't have a lot of money growing up. He didn't care. ... My dad didn't care about how much money we had. He cared about our experiences together."

"Family is definitely the most important thing to me. I know no matter what, I'm going to have my family with me."

Rachael said every day still remains a struggle for her close-knit and large family. Warren Cormier was one of six siblings and his wife, Sharon, is one of six siblings as well.

"Some days are worse than others," Rachael admitted. She keeps telling herself that everything happens for a reason — whether she likes it or not.

"It happened because something else has to happen, too," she said.

One thing that is certainly happening this season: Rachael is giving it all on the court for her dad.

"A hundred percent every game is for my dad," she said.

5K: Walk/run in May to honor Colleen Ritzer

Continued from Page 14

just a few days, word has spread quickly throughout Andover, Danvers and the surrounding communities. The event has received more than 700 likes on Facebook in less than three days and lots of early registrations. Groups are also looking to form teams to participate as a unit in a tribute to Ritzer.

"I think it's going to be hugely successful," Caron said, adding the event is designed for everyone to participate since it includes

both a walk and run component.

"It's a great way for all the communities to hold together to commemorate what a great person she was."

The 5K race, which gets under way at 9 a.m., will start and end at the Park, located downtown at Chestnut and Bartlet streets. The course primarily travels through the southern part of Andover, with a portion winding through parts of the bird sanctuary at Phillips Academy.

Greater Boston Running Company in downtown

Andover is helping to organize the race and will be the pickup location for race packets in advance.

Caron is also consulting with Bill Pennington, who organizes the annual Run For The Troops in Andover and was the force behind the launch of the Feaster Five in town.

Prizes will be awarded to the top male and female finishers in the following categories: Under 12, 13 to 19, 20 to 29, 30 to 39, 40 to 49, 50 to 59, 60 to 69 and 70-plus. The race will be chip timed by North Shore Timing

Company using the MyLaps bib tag system

The registration fee for both the run and walk is \$25 in advance, \$30 on race day. T-shirts are guaranteed to all runners who register by April 21. Race-day registration will take place at the nearby Doherty Middle School gym on Bartlet Street.

To register, visit www.northshoretimingonline.com/reglivecb.aspx?eventyear_id=146 or check out the event Facebook page at www.facebook.com/StepUpforColleenRitzer.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Pisacreta named this week's Fortnight Player

John Pisacreta of the Andover High School boys basketball team is this week's Player of the Fortnight Award winner. Coach Dave Fazio describes Pisacreta, a senior co-captain, as one of the team's "real leaders. Our team really feeds off of John's energy and hard work. He'll be a very important player for us the rest of the season."

The Player of the Fortnight Award is a weekly award presented by Ronald

R. Hill of Baystate Financial in Andover and spotlights alternating players on the Andover boys and girls varsity teams.

Turning a spotlight on backyard ice rinks

Are you or your family so devoted to ice skating you've built your own backyard rink? Has it made you the envy of your neighborhood or simply become your own winter recreational spot?

We're looking for people to share their backyard rinks with us for an upcoming

story. We're hoping to learn what goes into creating and maintaining a rink as well as the joy that comes with having one's own private skating surface just outside their back door.

We'd like to spotlight some outdoor rinks located in Andover as well as North Andover in an upcoming piece in The Andovers magazine, published by The

Townsmen's parent company, North of Boston Media Group.

Anyone who is open to sharing their rink stories with us is encouraged to email editor@theandovers-magazine.com.

To submit an item for the Sports Briefs column, email townsmen@andovertownsmen.com.

SEND US YOUR LOCAL SPORTS NEWS

The Townsman wants to spotlight the triumphs, and tragedies, of Andover's local sports teams and athletes.

We're asking coaches, players, parents and fans to send us photos as well as highlights from all the week's sporting games and events. Items can range from a shout-out for a top player or team, a spectacular play or sports milestone

or even some candid shots from a game or practice.

We also want to hear ideas for stories on athletes or a big game that The Townsman should feature in its pages.

Send your photos, highlights and story ideas to townsmen@andovertownsmen.com or call 978-475-7000, ext. 8733. We look forward to hearing from you.

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Announcements

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BERNESE Mountain dog on January 24th in Essex. 978-768-6580

LOST - Cannon Digital Camera, approx 5 years old, early morning on 1/23, vicinity of Lee's Restaurant, Gloucester. Name/ph # on case. \$100 REWARD. Call (978) 283-9047

LOST - EMERSON Ave/Wash Pond Road area of Hampstead, NH - Large long-haired black cat with green eyes and white patch on chest. Missing since 1/29. 603-329-1124 lukes484@comcast.net

LOST - Mostly Gray cat short hair with some white missing for 2 weeks. Has flea collar. Beverly Cove area. Call (978) 922-7306

LOST PURSE - Jan 22nd., small leather pouch with drivers license, credit card and change purse. Quarry Ridge or area, Rockport. REWARD. Call (978) 546-9184

First Run

LOST WOMEN'S PRESCRIPTION GLASSES In an Antique Flower Glasses Case. Lost in the Vicinity of Shaw, East Gloucester, on 1/13 Call (401) 439-2321

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Tache RE (978) 745-2004

LAND/ACREAGE Country Barn / 5 Acres: \$29,995 Rustic "Country Barn", Well-Built & Sturdy. On 5 Wooded Acres, Meadows, Apple Orchard. Frontage on State Rte 13, Miles to Salmon River. Adjacent to Snowmobile Trails. Call 800-229-7843 or visit www.LandandCamps.com NECAN

GLOUCESTER MA: Development Improvements Have Been Made! Water, Sewer and Electric now run from street curb to building site. solar/green home on southern exposed grassy knoll surrounded by mature vegetation and privacy on this one-plus acre lot. Order-of-Conditions have been established to develop either a single-family or two-condo dwelling. Lot is recessed. Easy access to Rte. 128, Building Permit within grasp. \$175,000

Rick Petralia J. Barrett & Company 978-239-6207

IPSWICH, MA: Wonderful opportunity to build your dream home in the country. Level lot of land privately set off Linebrook Road. \$224,900

Tache RE (978) 745-2004

METHUEN, EAST - 1+ Acre buildable lot approved for a 26x48 home. Priced for immediate sale. \$99,900

FIRST CHOICE REALTY GROUP 987-689-8006

Legals COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Essex Probate and Family Court 36 Federal Street Salem, MA 01970 (978) 744-1020 Docket No. ES12P0144EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

To all interested persons: A Petition has been filed by: Christine Rogers of Windham, NH requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order that Christine Rogers of Windham, NH, be appointed as Successor Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on 02/24/2014

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

The estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration of the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Mary Anne Sahagian, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 14, 2014 Pamela Casey O'Brien Register of Probate

AT - 2/6/14

LAND/ACREAGE Salisbury, MA - Lot .52 acre Situated in an area of nice homes and only 2.6 miles to the ocean! Currently the lot has a 1979 Mobile and a detached garage on it. Property's on city water. City sewer lateral hook up is ready at the street! Property survey available.

KSRJ Signature Realty 603-819-4844

COMMERCIAL/BUSINESS METHUEN: HAIR SALON in high traffic location near The Loop. Long established business with room for expansion. Sale includes business, real estate and equipment. Build equity in your business. New Price \$149,900

FIRST CHOICE REALTY GROUP 978-689-8006

SUMMERSVIEW R.E. www.srsre.com / WE GET RESULTS! BUSINESS FOR SALE

So. New Hampshire, MA Restaurant Bar 160 seats, sales 800k, 50k cars. \$150,000. BARS from \$69,000. PIZZA from: \$35,000. Restaurant - Ice Cream Car Lot location. Rent Butcher Shop, Business and Equipment \$94,900. Hardware Store Business \$69,000. Variety Store \$135,000. 7-11 gas c-store \$159k. Convenience Store & RE \$379k. Beauty Salon 4 stations only. \$18,500. Busy Bridal Shop \$250k. 7000 sq Rest/Nightclub. Join our Company and make \$\$\$ in 2013

Rentals

HOMES Gloucester, East Main St. - Long Term single Family Rental. Panoramic views of Smith's Cove. 2 Bedroom, hardwood floors, fireplace livingroom, and plenty of closets. Easy access to Rte 128, shopping & commuter rail. \$1,850/mo.

Rick Petralia J. Barrett & Company 978-865-1203

APARTMENTS AMESBURY: 2 bedroom renovated condo Lake Gardner. Near downtown, 495 & 95. New granite kitchen new carpet/flooring. \$1175 Includes heat/hot water. No pets. 978-314-3299

AMESBURY, MA: LOVELY NONVALE GARDENS Country setting at its finest! Amenities include: Remodeled kitchens, Smart Card laundry, pool and lush landscaping. Easy access to seacoast, I-95 and 495. Call for details to view our model 855-592-4942

ANDOVER Excellent downtown location, 1 bedroom, eat-in kitchen, stove, fridge, parking, no pets/smoking. \$950 + utilities. 978-475-0400. Ask for Stephen

ANDOVER. In town on bus line. 6 room Row house on 2 floors, 3 bedrooms, new windows, hardwood floors, attic \$1150. 978-475-2539

BRADFORD, MA Forest Acres Come join our friendly community and stay warm for the winter!

Gloucester, E. - Available Now! Long-term rental. 1 bedroom unit in updated 2 family home. Includes 2 car parking, open concept living area, spacious kitchen with granite and ss appliances, breakfast area, fireplaced living room, washer-dryer, central air, hardwood floors and more. Outdoor deck and garden. Easy access to shopping, restaurants, beaches, Rte 128 and commuter rail. \$1,575/mo.

Rick Petralia J. Barrett & Company 978-865-1203

GROVELAND, MA - 2 bedroom includes heat & hot water, hardwood, storage, deck, parking, new pool. Pets considered Starting at \$1200/mo. 978-891-3153

HAVERHILL - 2 bedroom Northside 1st floor unit, \$1125 w/heat and hot water, 2 bedroom Northside 2nd floor unit, \$1225 w/electric 3 bedroom River St, 2nd floor unit, \$1175 no utilities. Call 978-373-3024 x12

HAVERHILL, Nichols St. 2 bedroom, 3rd floor, Hardwood floors, Storage, Pets okay, Parking, \$875/mo. + Add'l storage \$25 978-335-8814

HAVERHILL: Rare find 4 bed., 6 rooms, 2nd floor, deeded, wood floors, large yard, NO Dogs 38 Carre Ave \$1400/mo 617-838-9542

LAWRENCE, MA + Modern 1 & 2 bedroom apartments. Parking on site. Rents start Studios @ \$675; 1 bedroom, \$775; 2 bedroom includes heat/hot water. \$995 + 978-970-2300

Legals TOWN OF ANDOVER PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, February 25, 2014, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room, Town Office Building, 36 Bartlett Street, the Planning Board will convene public hearings pursuant to Chapter 40A, Section 5 of the Massachusetts General Laws on the following proposed amendments to the Andover Zoning By-Law, Article VIII:

1. Add Section 8.9 (Medical Marijuana Overlay District (MMOD)).

2. Amend Section 2.2 (Overlay Districts) by adding at the end of Section 2.2, "Medical Marijuana Overlay District" and amend the Town of Andover Zoning Map, to establish a Medical Marijuana Overlay District.

And further that non-substantive changes to the numbering of this by-law be permitted in order that it be in compliance with the numbering format of the Andover Code of Bylaws, or take any other action related thereto.

The full text of the proposed amendments may be viewed in the Planning Department between the hours of 8:00 a.m., and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. THE ANDOVER PLANNING BOARD Joan Duff, Chairman AT - 2/6, 2/13/14

APARTMENTS First Run LAWRENCE, SO. MA: \$975 + utilities 2 bedroom, 2 car parking, yard, hookups, 1st, last, security No pets. Call 978-682-1864

METHUEN, MA - Elm Crest Estates. 2 Bedroom \$1,120 mo; 1 Bedroom - \$920 mo. All utilities included. No pets 978-682-4891 www.forrent.com/elmcrestestates

Rockport, MA: Spacious 2 bedroom in well managed modern complex with amenities. Washer/dryer in building. Central location, near beaches, downtown & train station. \$985/mo includes hot. No Dogs, Cats ok

Rick Petralia J. Barrett & Company 978-865-1203

ROWLEY, MA Millwood Apartments

Tranquility, fresh air & plenty of parking await you at our oasis in the woods. Spacious 2 bedroom apartments from only \$1099-\$1110 including heat/hot water. Professional 24 hr. on-site management plus many other amenities. Enjoy country living while only 30 minutes from Boston. Cats Okay.

978-948-2056 1 1/4 miles east of Rt. 95 on 133, www.millwoodapartments.net

SALEM, NH: Best Location! 2 & 3 bedrooms \$1,100 - \$1,400; includes heat / hot water; Very clean, fully appli-anced. Coin-op laundry. No dogs. Call 603-458-1884

SALEM NH-Westgate Arms Carefree Living One Bedroom From \$950 Two Bedrooms From \$800 Heat/Hot Water Included No Lease Required. No pets. Subject to Credit Approval Toll free 888-695-4287 for info GILBERT G. CAMPBELL visit us at www.campbellapts.com

SALEM, NH -Willows Park, 2 Bedroom - \$1000/mo. 1 Bedroom - \$890/mo. Heat/hot water included. No pets. 603-894-4631 www.forrent.com/willowparknh

SALISBURY / SEABROOK 1, 2, & 3 Bedroom Apartments No Pets, Call 603-760-2503

COMMERCIAL/BUSINESS LONDONDERRY, NH Great spaces, all sizes. Reasonable. Off Exit 4, Rt. 93. 603-882-6456; eves. 603-881-9451

METHUEN/ For Lease: New To Market. Contractor alert! Over 2100 sq ft of commercial/industrial space with 14 foot overhead door, conference room/office, private bath, fenced in yard, parking. Call Dave for more details

FIRST CHOICE REALTY GROUP 978-689-8006 X 12

NO. ANDOVER, MA: Main Street Retail/ Office space. Accountants, Lawyers, Doctors, Schools, Businesses, R.E. etc. Steve 508-265-9828

NO Andover MA NEW SPACE Jefferson Park Rt 114. Full service individual offices. \$495-up 978-685-5440 www.officesuites.com

SALISBURY MA - Storefront 1,600 sq ft. 2 bath, High visibility, parking. Exit 60 off Rte. 95. \$1200/mo. No utilities. 603-760-2503

MANUFACTURED HOMES DERRY, NH Kendall Pond Community 3 bedroom, 2 full baths, on dead end street. \$1,200 no utilities. Call 603-479-3194

ROOM FOR RENT A CLEAN quiet, safe bldg next to YWCA, YMCA, City Hall. Lowest rents. Near public trans. 4 hr move-in. Lawrence. 978-975-5103

ANDOVER, MA - Sunny room in private home. Light cooking. Walk to town & train. \$450. Includes all. 978-533-9456

LAWRENCE, MA - Furnished room starting at \$120/wk. Drug-free For details, 978-794-3039

SALISBURY BEACH: \$180/wk. 1 bedroom Private bath, kitchenette, cable, parking. No pets Todd (603) 382-1669 603-234-1458

SALISBURY MA, furnished cabin with private bath, kitchenette, parking, all utilities, & cable. \$180/week Call (978)465-3392

MOTELS/HOTELS A-1 RENTALS Getting Divorced? Live at the Salisbury Inn. From \$175/week. 978-465-5584

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS Gloucester, E. - Winter/Short Term Rental. Two-bedroom end unit townhouse in desirable neighborhood within 1 block of the beach. Sliders to balcony with water views. Washer/dryer, ample closet space, fully furnished, off street parking. Easy access to shopping, restaurants and Rte. 128. No Pets. \$1,175/mo

Rick Petralia J. Barrett & Company 978-865-1203

VACATION RENTALS First Run ARUBA BEACH CLUB Time Share available school vacation week 4/19-4/26 \$895/wk, sleeps 4. Call Donna. (978) 475-0611

OCEANFRONT: SALISBURY BEACH / SEABROOK, Beautiful 3 bedroom, on the ocean! Summer rentals from June on, call to reserve your dates. 978-975-4001

ANDOVER. \$550 utilities/internet included. Professional person seeks same. Executive area, large furnished room, private home. 93/125. No smoke. 1st/last/security. 978-475-7526

Legals Notice of Public Sale Notice is hereby given by Elm Street Automotive of 9 Lupine Road, Andover, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass General Laws, Chapter 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after February 14, 2014 by private sale to satisfy their garage keeper's lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

1. 1999 Volkswagen Golf VIN# WWWGA31J8XW683917

2. 2007 Chevrolet Impala VIN# 2G1WC58R279114303

Vehicles are being stored at Elm Street Automotive and may be inspected by appointment only. Signed, Ron Abraham, Owner Elm Street Automotive AT - 1/30, 2/6, 2/13/14

ROOMMATES BEVERLY, MA: Apartment to share, middle age semiretired business man. Large beautifully furnished 2 bedroom, on Dane Street Beach. Male/Female to aide with cooking, computer, secretarial skills. For in house business. Rent Negotiable! All inquiries to ETPC Job #729 100 Tampike Street, North Andover, MA, 01845-5096

BEVERLY, MA: Mature couple seeks Non smoking roommate. No Pets - 1 bedroom private entrance. \$140/week. 2 week deposit. Nice neighborhood. Call 978-927-4071

DANVERS: Roommate wanted to rent unfurnished extra room in 2 bedroom, apartment \$600. + half utilities. WiFi & laundry first/last/Security Avail NOW (978) 317-8303

DERRY, NH pretty furnished room in house, share kitchen & bath, \$350/mo. includes all. Non-smoker. Call 617-240-3213.

First Run DERRY, NH: Responsible, mature female seeks mate to share 2 bedroom Condo. \$500/mo heat & hot water incl. pay 1/2 utilities, + \$500 sec. deposit, no pets (Call 781) 552-0310

MAGNOLIA, MA: Share large Victorian near ocean. No pets. No smoking. From \$140 per week includes utilities. (978) 774-4704

METHUEN, MA: Furnished Room, hardwood floors, WiFi/cable accessible \$150/week. Inclusive utilities. Call April 617-312-4044

NO. ANDOVER 55 yr. old male seeks same, nonsmoker. Private bath and kitchen. \$175/vk includes cable/utilities 918-408-7389

PEABODY, MA: Mature, professional, non-smoking male, looking for clean single adult to share condo. Private bedroom & bath, off street parking \$690 + (781) 249-1190

SALEM, NH Professional male seeks same, 2 bedroom Condo, fully furnished, heat/hot water/ electric included, \$600 No pets/Non Smoking, 1st & security. 603-571-3776.

Employment

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES Exp. Reefer Drivers: GREAT PAY/ Freight lanes from Presque Isle, ME, Boston-Lehigh, PA 800-277-0212 or primeinc.com NECAN

NOTICE Some advertisements running in this category may require an investment

CHILD CARE Attention Caregivers! If you are a PCA, CNA, Nurse or offer personal care services please go to the business and service directory and check out the category for Adult Care. Yours services are needed!

GENERAL HELP WANTED Newspaper Home Delivery PCF, Inc. is seeking Delivery Service Providers (DSPs) for newspaper home delivery routes. DSPs are independently contracted. Most routes are 7 days, 2-3 hours daily, starting around 3AM. \$350-\$500/bi-weekly Routes in: Andover, Danvers, Hamilton, North Reading, Peabody, Topsfield; Atkinson, Windham NH and surrounding areas. No \$\$ collections. Must be 18+ . Be sure to ask about our 2014 Winter DSP Recognition Program offering cash and other prizes. Call 1-800-515-8000

JOB WANTED Ads In This Classification Are WORK WANTED NOT HELP WANTED

MEDICAL Attention Caregivers! If you are a PCA, CNA, Nurse or offer personal care services please go to the business and service directory and check out the category for Adult Care. Yours services are needed!

IMMEDIATE OPENING! IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A POSITION AS A CARE GIVER PLEASE CHECK OUT THE ADULT CARE SECTION IN THE BUSINESS AND SERVICE DIRECTORY. PEOPLE LOOKING FOR PCAS, HEALTH AIDES, CNAS HAVE ADS RUNNING AND COULD USE YOUR HELP

TRADES/INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT OPERATOR Must have 5 years minimum experience, excavator, dozer, skid steer, CDL Lic. required. Must have clean driving record. Apply in person. 9am-5pm Mon-Fri Salem Manufactured Homes 72 South Broadway, Salem NH 03079

First Run EXPERIENCED RESIDENTIAL HVAC INSTALLERS Call KATE Callahan 978-689-9233

Merchandise

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES CHRIS'S COLLECTIBLES & CONSIGNMENT SHOP 18 Railroad Ave., Rockport, MA Over 2,000 on display 8 to 30 years old. Sports Figures - NHL, MLB, NFL, GI Joe & other Military, Race Drivers, Mustangs, Harley's Star Wars James Bond, & more Furniture, glassware, Painting, etc. For more info call Peter K. Foster 617-823-3812. Hours-Thurs & Fri 1-5, Saturday 9-5 & Sunday 12-5

BABY ITEMS ATTENTION! Beware of anyone replying to your ad offering to send you a check for shipping and you sending them back the difference. Also beware when responding to classified ads that ask you to send shipping cost. Possible scam!

Miscellaneous PUZZLE SOLUTION

Generator Interlock Kit Allows your portable generator to safely be connected to your homes electrical system, SALE \$799 for Interlock Kit, 30 AMP outdoor outlet and 25' cord. Installation INCLUDED!!

Call Mitch A Christian Electrician 978-685-1128

Kit mounts to existing panel Gives flexibility to use any outlet or light throughout your house.

Generator Interlock Kit

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Kit mounts to existing panel Gives flexibility to use any outlet or light throughout your house.

Call Mitch A Christian Electrician 978-685-1128

BUILDING MATERIALS SAWMILLS from only \$4897 - MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill-Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1363, Ext. 3000. NECAN

CEMETERY LOTS First Run Eternal Light Mosseloe Salem, NH: Indoor Double Niche Crypt, eye level location Pd \$10,000 asking for \$5,000

PURITAN LAWN: 1 PLOT Valued \$3800 - ASKING \$1500 Call (617) 913-1662

COMPUTER HARDWARE/SOFTWARE DELL DUAL CORE WIRELESS LAPTOP Fast Great condition Loaded with XPPro comes with recovery discs 978.985.9727 \$140

FIREWOOD FOR SALE ADS in this category must show prices by cubic feet. Half a cord is 64 cu. ft. and a cord is 128 cu. ft.

ALL HARDWOOD 16" Cut and Split Green \$225 seasoned \$265 Semi \$245 Delivery M.Kovalchuk 978-204-9483

"WOODBODY" - FIREWOOD Seasoned + green cordwood. Grapple loads, full + half truck. 603-642-3864

FUEL ATTENTION FUEL CONSUMERS: All ads in this classification run in our 10 paper "Classified Connection" that covers the North Shore, Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire. Ads appearing in this section may or may not deliver to this entire market. Prices may reflect a "Local" delivery area only and may be higher for an extended delivery area.

\$3.54 - PRICELESS OIL - 781-842-2277 or 855-491-2905

FURNITURE BEDROOM SET 7 PC solid cherry wood sleigh. New in boxes. Cost \$2100. Sacrifice \$795. 603-235-1773

HOWARD MILLER Grandfather Clock, 25yrs. old, absolutely fantastic/beautiful, perfect cond. \$3,000. Moving must sell (978) 465-6145

WURLITZER ORGAN - Model 565A, 2 keyboards, \$600 or best offer. Haverhill area. Call (941) 391-7439

PETS & FREE PETS AKC Chocolate Lab Puppies for sale 7 AKC Champion bred Chocolate Lab Pups, male and female. Family raised, 1st shots and dewormed. Ready to go 2/16/14 \$900 firm mcgillivrayjames@yahoo.com (617) 217-1566

AKC CHOCOLATE LAB PUPPIES Ready to go Now! Family raised come with AKC papers, first set of shots, health certificate and wormed \$650. Please call Tammee at (603) 286-0875

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! Beware of anyone replying to your ad offering to send you a check for shipping and you sending them back the difference. Also beware when responding to classified ads that ask you to send shipping cost. Possible scam!

Bengal & Maine Coon Kittens/Cats \$150-\$750, Call: 603-818-8136 Email: attractivecats@mac.com www.attractivecats.com

BOXER PUPPIES Beautiful Boxer Puppies born on 12/22 ready to go and looking for new homes! Kat 978.852.0731

Caim, Shih-tzu, Weimaraner, Shar-Pei/Basset t, Wheaten, Boston Terrier, Cockapoo, Malti-tzu, Min/Pin, Rat, Bichpoo, etc. \$395 + 603-942-9970

ELDERLY GENTLEMAN Looking for a Parrot 978-476-7855

www.andovertownsman.com

ADULT CARE
CNA / HHA CERTIFIED
I am looking to do work with the elderly. I have good references. Overnights if needed. Please call Colleen 603-912-5907

Fireside Staffing HomeCare, Providing all levels of private homecare services.

FIRESIDE STAFFING INC
There's no place like home. We are available 24 hours Call (800)481-6056

Looking to take care of your elderly family member. I have 10+ years experience. References available. North Shore, Flexible. \$15/hr Private care. Call (978) 552-8227

MATURE EXP INDIVIDUAL Must have private care references. Simple & complex nursing tasks, plus personal care. Day/Even, Weekday/Weekends. Newburyport 978-465-3763

Mature Women seeking a live in position caring for elderly. 20 yrs. experience, own car excellent references. Call (978)401-7382

NEWBURYPORT, MA. PCA wanted for disabled man, mornings 9 to 1. \$14/hr. Call afternoons 978-465-0173

Paralyzed ANDOVER Woman needs reliable, experienced PCA/HHA, 4-10 pm Monday Wed &/or every other Sunday. Not private pay. \$12.98/hr. Call 978-725-8145 after 1:30pm

PCA Female needed, Danvers area. Experienced Car required. All shifts. Non smoker preferred Call 978-774-1584

Visiting Angels
LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES
VISITING ANGELS is your locally owned choice for private duty homecare. Experienced, bonded licensed & insured Caregivers have undergone an extensive background check. Available on your schedule, days, nights, weekends & respites Hourly or live-in. Call today 978-462-6162

WEEKEND Part Time Home Health Aide NEEDED IMMEDIATELY. Use of Hoyer required. Call (978) 356-8790 please leave message slowly, clearly stating name & phone #.

AIR QUALITY SERVICES
GOT MOLD? Basement/Attic/ Inspect from \$75. Mold Test, removal. IAQA Certified. A.R.S. 978-688-1111

CARPENTRY
L'ITALIEN & SON Home Remodeling We do it all! Kitchens, bath, additions, decks, finished basement, exteriors Lic/Insured Chip 978-621-6672

START THE NEW YEAR OFF RIGHT! Call Couture Home Improvements for all your home repairs. Free estimates. Insured. 978-902-7644

3-H HANDYMAN Reasonably priced, basements, carpentry / remodeling, tiles. Call 978-375-1976

CHILD CARE PROVIDERS NON
ALL CHILDCARE PROVIDERS IN MASSACHUSETTS ARE REQUIRED TO BE LICENSED. Only NH Childcare Providers May Be Licensed Or Non-Licensed

CLEANING SERVICES
ABSOLUTELY THE BEST: S&V Cleaning Affordable, dependable, reliable and thorough housecleaning. Weekly and bi-weekly. Experienced and very trustworthy person. Call 978-884-5698

Jobs-Professionals

COMPUTER REPAIR SERVICE
DO YOU OWN A COMPUTER? I do hardware or software consulting, installation, troubleshooting or training in the comfort of your own home. Reasonable rates. Microsoft Certified. 978-502-5119.

DISPOSAL SERVICES
ALL YOUR SPACE BACK Junk Removal & Cleanouts Dumpster rentals. Insured 603-571-4187

ANYTHING & EVERYTHING Estate Clean-outs, Demolitions, Basement, Garage, Yard Debris Dump runs. Call 978-521-0445

BEST RATES - Call Mike
remove junk & anything from A-Z 978-973-2009

CLEANOUTS & DISPOSAL SERVICES Estates, Houses, Attics, Cellars, Junk removal etc. We Can Help!! Father/Daughter own/operated Call D & S 978-335-4710

I HAVE THE TRUCK If you need help cleaning up yards, garages, cellars, attics, etc. FREE estimates, great rates. Mike, 978-675-4240

JUNK REMOVAL
Anything Goes. Free Estimate Call 978-609-5589

DRYWALL
HANG - TAPE- PAINT Repairs. New Work. Demo. Frame, carpentry & more. Norman 603-890-3113

First Run
HANG - TAPE- PAINT Repairs. New Work. Demo. Frame, carpentry & more. Norman 603-890-3113

ELECTRICAL
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL WIRING by ROC Electric. MA Lic # 20045A. NH Lic # 11463M. CALL 978-815-3876

QUALITY, SERVICE & PRICE That Won't Shock You! Insured. MA #31525E NH #12931M. Call Mike 978-423-8510

FLOORS
DALE & SON Hardwood Flooring Install, Sand, Refinish, Repairs. Insured & Free Estimates 978-688-5400 Prompt reply

GENERAL CONTRACTING
HAGGAR CONSTRUCTION - Kitchens, bathrooms, additions & decks. Roofing & siding Commercial & Residential (978) 685-0461

HANDYPERSON
ALL THE RIGHT MOVES- Carpentry, Remodeling Home Improvements, Painting & Tiling. Bill, 978-273-7243, 603-898-1035

Carpentry & Painting - Ceiling & Drywall repairs, Kitchen - Bath repairs - Snow plowing/Shoveling WE DO IT ALL & MORE! Call 603-505-2715 joe@atotriplej.com - www.atotriplej.com

SMALL JOB? Repairs & Maintenance Augi Traynor 603-300-6386

reliable & affordable HANDYMAN SERVICES
20 years experience. References available. Free Estimates. Call Dan 978-312-1841

Jobs-Professionals

KITCHEN/BATH REMODELING
BATH LINERS; WALL SURROUNDS Bath Tub Reglazing LIC. Insured Free Estimates Mr. Tub 800-453-6171 mrtub.com

BATH REMODELING
& Tile Installed. Complete redesign or update of fixtures & Handicap showers/toilets/grab bars. Free estimate, 978-375-1900 bath-designs.net

MASONRY WORK
BRICK WORK Cement work. Stairs, walks, walls. All size jobs. Free estimates. Excellent Andover references. Tony at 978-681-7701

MOVING & STORAGE
NO JOB TOO SMALL Available 7 days. Licensed and Insured Discount Prices 978-682-0399

PAINTING & PAPERING
BALDASSARI - Painting Interior/Exterior, Wallpapering & removal. Free estimates. 978-688-0161; 781-953-6890

PAVING/CEMENT
PLEASE NOTE: Ads under this classification may be found online under the Service heading of General Services

PLASTERING
D.M. BROPHY PLASTERING Full skin coat plastering, board & patchwork. Commercial & residential. Custom ceilings. Quality service. Free estimates. 978-852-4504

MATTHEW'S PLASTERING
Reliable, Quality work Additions, kitchens, baths, basements. 978-314-0816

MV PLASTERING & DRYWALL
Reliable, Quality work & walls new again. Free estimates. 978-688-5012

PLUMBING/HEATING
MASTER PLUMBER-Retired looking for small jobs. MA, NH & Maine. #9563 MA, #1653 NH Master gas fitter NH. Call Bill 978-476-9827

ROOFING & SIDING
BEST CHOICE CONSTRUCTION Roofing, siding, gutters. Quality work, reasonable costs 25 yrs exp. Fully ins. 978-973-5410

MOST AFFORDABLE Roofing & Siding. Decks, windows. Certified installers. Lic/Insured BBB accredited. 978-265-6843 M/C, Visa

\$250 ROOFING REPAIRS
Free estimates on new roof. 978-914-7718

TAILORING/SEWING
CUSTOM MADE SLIP COVERS pin fitted to your set. Your own fabric. Call 978-685-2229

TILING
TILE Installation, Repairs, Bathrooms, Kitchens. Foyers. Guaranteed work. Free estimates. Jim 978-774-4067.

TREE REMOVAL
ED'S STUMP GRINDING - Stumps ground out. Tree stumps & shrubs Good work, quick service, fully insured. 603-893-6902

JP TREE Mass Arborist #1992 Expert tree pruning & shrub care FREE ESTIMATES. Call Joe 978-475-1483

LIVINGSTON Tree & Stump Removal Special Winter Rates! Fast/Quality Service 978-689-8373 livingstonfamilytree.com

Jobs-Professionals

TREE REMOVAL
Money does grow ON TREES! LOOKING TO BUY SOFT & HARDWOOD TREES. CALL (978) 273-3315

PLANTE'S TREE (978) 399-9487 Will meet or beat any quote. Brush chipping, stump grinding, professional climbers. Firewood for sale.

QUALITY TREE SERVICE Tree & Hazardous removal, trimming, Firewood. Low prices. Fully insured, free estimates Call 603-365-7364

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BUICK Century Custom sedan 2000-brown with tan interior V-6, all power options. Needs nothing. 1-owner 106K. \$3450. 781-640-9858

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Jobs-General

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FORD, Explorer 2006. 82,000 miles. Eddie Bauer edition V6 loaded/Clean. Maintenance records. Red beige leather. \$10,900. 508-527-0292

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Part-time - Answer inbound phone calls consisting of various customer inquiries. The hours are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 6:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Previous customer service experience preferred. Must possess strong data entry skills, a clear telephone voice and the ability to work well with the public.

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Mostly sunny	Periods of sun; cold	Mostly cloudy; cold	Heavy snow possible	Snow possible	Partly sunny; cold	Mostly cloudy
High: 28° Low: 10°	High: 25° Low: 10°	High: 26° Low: 14°	High: 26° Low: 14°	High: 31° Low: 15°	High: 25° Low: 18°	High: 28° Low: 20°

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A new pediatric specialty center has landed in Lawrence.



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REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

The following real estate transfers were recorded recently in town:
126 Bellevue Road: Lee-Ann Oatman to Ajay K. and Madhu Gambhir, \$532,500
2 Exeter Way: Allen G. and Sandra J. Ober to Sean and Heather C. Saniuk, \$470,000
8 Midland Circle: Diane M. Orenberg to Victoria L. and

Adam F. Hughes, \$634,900
3 Newport Circle: Patch Development LLC to Lee-Ann Oatman, \$925,000
370 South Main St.: Sheila L. Randolph to Gary Jaffarian, \$230,000
8 Tobey Lane: Margaret E. Earle RET and Nancy E. Navin to Dwayne A. and Jessica D. Henclewood, \$505,000

BUSINESS BRIEFCASE

Former BU dean appointed

John Bonanno has been appointed executive vice president of Andover-based Effective Student Marketing, a company that creates, monitors and manages online marketing campaigns for higher education institutions. Bonanno previously served as president of the Corporate Education Group, which provided project, process, management and leadership training and services to corporate professionals.

Bonanno also worked at Boston University in a number of roles, including as associate dean and chief executive officer of its corporate and professional programs and in several management positions ranging from administrative manager for the School of Law to assistant comptroller for general accounting. "Having led a for-profit corporate training organization, and with his background at Boston University, John

understands the inner workings of higher and adult education and is also a remarkable strategic thinker," company president Andy Kelley said in a release. Bonanno said he sees tremendous growth potential for Effective Student Marketing as it enters its 10th year in the education industry. To submit an item for the Business Briefcase, email townsm@andovertownsm.com.

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 ANDOVER \$624,900	This spacious & well cared for Hip Roof Colonial is now presented by its longtime owners in absolutely pristine, move-in condition. On 1.27-acre & set center on the cul-de-sac in an established Wood Hill neighborhood, this well designed home is functional & flexible with approx. 3500 SF of finished living space and 3 floors. The airy, eat-in kitchen w/granite counters & new appliances easily seats 10+ and has convenient laundry area, formal living & dining rooms, family room w/wood burning fireplace & a sun room leading to rear deck complete the 1st floor. The en-suite master w/walk-in closet, 3 additional bedrooms & tiled family bath complete the 2nd.	 NICK GERANIOS Direct: 978-852-3903 www.callnick.com
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