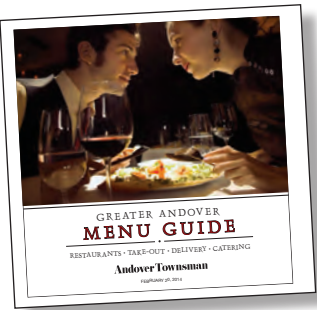




A LIFE-CHANGING TREK, FROM COAST TO COAST

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OUR 126<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

# Andover Townsman

Issue No. 16

FEBRUARY 20, 2014

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## STEAM Studio plans stymied

### State rejects proposed charter high school

By DUSTIN LUCA  
dluca@andovertownsman.com

The team behind the proposed STEAM Studio charter school may have been passionate, but it failed to fully develop its plan for a new high school in town. That's the message in a report released Tuesday by the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Last Friday, STEAM Studio — the proposed technology-focused high school being spearheaded by School Committee member David Birnbach — failed to earn the recommendation of DESE Commissioner Mitchell Chester. Without Chester's recommendation, STEAM Studio's hopes of opening in town this

fall have been dashed. "For those that aren't moving forward, they're done for this cycle," JC Considine, DESE spokesman, said. "Like with any of the proposals that aren't successful, they'll have the opportunity — and are invited — to re-apply in future years." Aside from a brief

three-sentence statement emailed on Friday, Birnbach has been unavailable for comment on the fate of the proposal he fought ardently for over the last several months. In the statement, he thanked "parents and students throughout the Merrimack Valley for their interest."

"(We) are inspired by the support we have received locally and nationally," he said. "In the next few months, we will update the community about our plans going forward." In its 10-page analysis on STEAM Studio's application, DESE credited the school's proponents

for demonstrating "a passionate understanding of and connection to the proposed mission and vision" to the project as well as "a strong commitment to serve Andover and the surrounding communities." However, DESE outlined a total of 34 weaknesses with the proposal, along with only 14 strengths. See STEAM, Page 2

## Andover Idol



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo.

Home-grown American Idol talent Casey McQuillen entertains the crowd at the Andover Youth Services Valentine's Day dance last Friday night. See story, more photos on page 11.

## Former officer faces charges

### Robitaille probe leads to police sanctions in Lowell

By DUSTIN LUCA  
dluca@andovertownsman.com



accident with property damage and a state highway violation. He's due back in court for a pre-trial conference

Ex-Andover police officer Evan Robitaille has pleaded not guilty to a variety of charges stemming from an alleged drunken driving accident last March. Robitaille, 32, of Groveland, resigned from the Police Department in November as the investigation into the March 11, 2013 crash in Tewksbury moved forward. Robitaille was in Lowell District Court last Friday, Feb. 14, to answer to charges of operating under the influence of alcohol, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, leaving the scene of an

on April 8. According to court documents obtained by the Lowell Sun and reported this past weekend, Robitaille allegedly rear-ended a box-truck on Interstate 495 south in Tewksbury and then took off, exiting the highway in a operation of a motor vehicle, leaving the scene of an

See ROBITAILLE, Page 2

## Environmental trailblazers

### High-schoolers forge new paths with internship course

By DUSTIN LUCA  
dluca@andovertownsman.com

A pilot class at Andover High School is being celebrated for serving as a crash course in careers, so much so that the idea is expanding to other areas. Last fall, the high school Science Department offered seniors the Environmental Sustainability Internship Course. Led by teacher Melanie Cutler, the class paired students with mentors in town government and the private sector to tackle projects with real-world implications. "Each mentor gave the students a project to work on, something



DUSTIN LUCA/Staff photo

Andover High School senior Sarah LaMacchia said she picked up a number of skills that could only be learned in the real world during her recycling-focused internship with the town. related to environmental sustainability," Cutler said. "The students spent two days a week out in the field with their mentors, and the other three days, they were in the

classroom." Student Matt Boulanger worked with the town's Conservation Department on the eventual removal of the Balmoral Dam by Shawshen Square. He also developed newly written policies for maintaining and protecting town waterways. It was "work that really has meaning," Boulanger said, adding that it didn't fit within the walls of a traditional class rubric and carried more tangible, real-world impacts. Jenny Hill also drew a conservation assignment and helped negotiate the eventual

See INTERNSHIP, Page 5

## Formal vote lacking on computer lease

### Some say laptop approval was previously granted

By BILL KIRK  
bkirk@andovertownsman.com

**Editor's Note:** Last week, The Townsman reported on news of the lease of 160 additional laptops for the School Department's special education teachers, to the surprise of members of the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and at least one School Committee member. This week, we further explore the implications and legality of that lease.

School Department in the final days of the last fiscal year and did the transaction violate state procurement or other laws? Those questions and others remain as town officials continue to look into how the School Department used surplus funds from the fiscal 2013 budget to enter into a four-year lease for the laptops without a formal vote from any boards or committees. The Finance Committee, the Board of Selectmen and at least one School

Who authorized the four-year lease of 160 additional laptop computers for the

See LAPTOP LEASE, Page 5

## Snow-packed fun

RYAN HUTTON/ Staff photo

Jim Scali and his son, James, 9, speed down the hill in front of Andover High School during Tuesday afternoon's snowstorm. The fresh coating of snow offered the perfect canvas for school vacation week and locals took full advantage of it, flocking to the hill for some sledding and tubing action.



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# ROBITAILLE: Probe leads to police sanctions in Lowell

Continued from Page 1

Honda Pilot at Woburn Street, exit 37.

Robitaille, court documents say, was confronted by a witness in the Gulf/Dunkin' Donuts complex in Lowell. People who allegedly witnessed Robitaille in the complex are reported to have told investigators that the former officer appeared intoxicated.

Lowell police took Robitaille to a McDonald's restaurant on Route 38, and had his car towed to Elm Street Automotive in Andover, the documents say.

According to a probe by the Andover Police Department into the incident, Andover officer Daniel Devine allegedly told his superiors that he was on a break from a detail when he received a call from Robitaille asking to be picked up. Upon reaching Robitaille, Devine found Robitaille was

incoherent, court documents state.

Devine drove Robitaille to Elm Street Automotive, the owner of which reportedly called Andover Police Lt. Edward Guy, who drove to the business and met with Robitaille.

Robitaille allegedly appeared disheveled, emitted a strong odor of alcohol and the smell of vomit, and his speech was slurred, according to court documents.

Andover Police Commander Charles Heseltine said on Tuesday that Guy next called now-retired Andover Police Chief Brian Pattullo at the station and reported "what was going on."

Pattullo was working at the time with then-Sgt. Patrick Keefe, who went on to replace him as police chief last year.

"Sgt. Keefe responded down there per Chief Pattullo," Heseltine said.

Keefe drove Robitaille to his home in Groveland and, "per Chief Pattullo, he was informed he was being placed on administrative leave effective that day," Heseltine said.

"He was informed he would be put on administrative leave, at which point he turned over his department weapon and badge to Sgt. Keefe," Heseltine said.

Robitaille remained on paid, administrative leave until Oct. 18, at which point the internal affairs investigation wrapped up, according to Heseltine. As a result of the investigation, Robitaille was then placed on leave without pay. He resigned around a month later.

As the events come to light, scrutiny is intensifying on the Lowell Police Department's handling of the accident, according to the Lowell Sun.

The department's abstract report notes two units

responded to a call for an accident with no injuries on March 11. The abstract indicated that no tow was ordered and lists no complainant or victim. The disposition of the call was reported as "COMPLETE NO RPT," according to The Sun.

Lowell police officers have been sanctioned over their response to the crash. Lowell police spokesman Capt. Kelly Richardson told The Lowell Sun the incident "was brought to our attention and was investigated. After the conclusion of the investigation, the appropriate sanctions were applied."

No such scrutiny has taken place in Andover, according to Heseltine. The only investigation that has occurred locally was the internal review of Robitaille.

Robitaille's attorney, Ted Cranney of North Main Street in Andover, could not be reached for comment.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING: MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY

Here are some of the upcoming events and activities at Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St.:

**Fish On!:** Tuesday, Feb. 25, 7 p.m. Martha Moulton Dudley wraps up the 15th annual installment of Memorial Hall Library's popular fishing series Fish On! Andover 2014 with Surfland Chronicles. The free series that began in 1999 has become a perennial favorite of fishing enthusiasts from all over New England. Capt. Skip Montello put together this year's series, which has featured fishing videos, door prizes and speakers.

**MHL's Monday Movie:** Monday, Feb. 24, 7 p.m. Free monthly movie night in the Activity Room; visit [mhl.org/mondaymovies](http://mhl.org/mondaymovies) for this month's selection.

**Shen Yun 2014:** Thursday, Feb. 27, 7 p.m. Local resident and businessman Michael Feltz will share the beauty of Shen Yun, a program of Chinese culture enjoyed by millions of people around the world; all ages welcome.

All events are sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

For more information or a complete schedule of activities, visit [www.mhl.org](http://www.mhl.org), or call 978-623-8401, ext. 31 or 32.

# STEAM: Proposed technology-focused high school can't go forward in 2014

Continued from Page 1

Steam Studio Charter Report: [andovertownsmen.com](http://andovertownsmen.com).

The report said STEAM Studio's "vision is not sufficiently developed or integrated into the implementation of a comprehensive educational program."

The state review team also cited the STEAM Studio team

for what it called "limited information on how the proposed educational practices may improve the academic performance of the anticipated student population and its diverse needs, including students with disabilities and

English language learners."

It also said the staffing plan in the application "did not align with the proposed budget, or the application narrative."

Similarly noted was the "performance, promotion and graduation standards" for STEAM Studio, which the review said was all too familiar given the area the school targeted.

"The promotion and graduation standards are closely aligned to the present Andover High School policies, and do not appear reflective of the unique nature of the proposed school, and its STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art+Design, and Mathematics) communities," the review reads.

That argument is one school officials and other opponents repeatedly made over the last several months in questioning the need for STEAM Studio.

Local opposition to the proposal in the form of public testimony and written

comment was also among the weaknesses identified. Opposing testimony came from Andover parents, teachers and administrators as well as school officials in neighboring North Andover and Wilmington, among others, the report said.

STEAM Studio was built around a model of STEM education — with a focus on science, technology, engineering and math, plus an added concentration on digital arts and design. The school, which would have been phased in over four years, was to cater to students in grades nine through 12.

The majority of the eventual 450 pupils enrolled were expected to come from Andover.

The proposal encountered considerable criticism from the outset, including from the Andover School Committee, which argued the town was already providing the type of education being envisioned at STEAM and that the proposed charter school would result in serious financial implications for the local school district. The committee voted unanimously to oppose the plan, with Birnbach abstaining.

Yet, while some questioned

*The report said STEAM Studio's "vision is not sufficiently developed or integrated into the implementation of a comprehensive educational program."*

the need for a charter high school in Andover, others argued STEAM Studio would fill a gap in STEM education that they say currently exists in town.

School Committee Chairman Dennis Forgue said while discussions in the months since STEAM Studio was proposed last summer grew heated at times, the district "found ourselves in a competitive situation, and that always raises the bar."

Ultimately, the proposal led Andover school officials to take stock of "what's really going on — and going on effectively" at both Andover High School and Greater Lawrence Technical School in town, Forgue said.

"What came out of it, from my perspective, in a large way is we put a large spotlight on STEM and STEAM academic programs that are occurring both at the vocational school and at Andover High School," Forgue said.

"We were able to identify and

articulate more effectively all the different course work in these areas."

Andover Education Association president Kerry Costello said the teachers union was "elated" at the state's decision "because it reconfirms what the Andover Public Schools, the AEA, the high school community has believed — that our high school is excellent by design."

She said with the decision behind them, the district and the teachers can now "focus on the things we need to do to keep moving forward."

"We do have room for growth, room for movement," she said.

The rejection by the DESE commissioner is not, however, a fatal wound for STEAM Studio.

The opportunity for the proposal's architects to throw their hats back into the ring next year is a notable one, given that the two charter schools that won favorable recommendations from the commissioner — Argosy Collegiate Charter School in Fall River and Springfield Preparatory Charter School — were passed over last year.

"Those two, Argosy Collegiate and Springfield Preparatory, are actually good examples of those that were unsuccessful in the past (and) took the time to strengthen their applications," Considine said.

"They listened to the feedback from the department, made their applications better and were successful in a subsequent application cycle."

**Andover Townsman**  
Established 1887

ISSN 1524-1432  
USPS 025-440

Published Thursdays by North of Boston Media Group

33 Chestnut St.  
Andover, MA  
978-475-7000  
Ad fax 978-475-5731  
News fax 978-470-2819

E-mail: [townsman@andovertownsmen.com](mailto:townsman@andovertownsmen.com)  
Web: [andovertownsmen.com](http://andovertownsmen.com)

Periodical postage paid at Andover, MA, and additional mailing office.  
Postmaster: Send address changes to Andover Townsman, 100 Turnpike St., North Andover, MA 01845  
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Subscription outside Greater Lawrence — One year, \$45; two years, \$75  
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# Town department heads earn 5 percent retroactive raise

By BILL KIRK  
bkirk@andovertownsmen.com

The town's management employees got raises recently after settling a contract that expired three years ago.

Under the terms of the contract, which extends only through June, the seven management employees in town will receive a retroactive 5 percent raise for the last three years.

The pact also reduces the number of unused sick days newly hired managers can be reimbursed for at the end of their tenure.

The department heads bargaining unit is made up of Police Chief Pat Keefe, Fire Chief Mike Mansfield, Chief Information Officer Paul Puzanghera, Town Clerk Larry Murphy, Finance Director Donna Walsh, Library Director Beth Mazin and newly appointed Municipal Services Director Chris Cronin.

The town accountant had been in the bargaining unit, but the position was changed by the Board of Selectmen so that the employee now reports to the finance director.

It is unclear why the contract took so long to approve.

Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski said there has been a lot going on and that the contract was essentially put on the back burner. "It didn't rise to a priority until the last few months," he said.

However, Selectman Dan Kowalski said Stapczynski needs to do a better job of resolving labor contracts.

"He is a great town manager and he has nine contracts to negotiate," Kowalski said. "But he needs to find a way to be more efficient in settling them. It's not fair to the employees. Now, you're going to start negotiations right after the last ones were over. He needs to be more respectful of the employees

working under these contracts."

He added that perhaps the town manager needs to delegate more of his duties.

"We may need to find ways to better disperse the workload so there's not a delay in settling these contracts," he said. "People count on salary increases. We shouldn't be doing it three years' retroactive."

Stapczynski said the raises are for the second and third years of the contract. According to the retroactive pact, the management employees received a 0 percent raise for fiscal 2012, with 2.5 percent raises each of the last two fiscal years, including the current one that runs through June 30.

The reason for that is that by law, raises can only be retroactive for two years. Either way, the town manager explained, they earned 5 percent raises over three years

## PAY HIKES

The following are the base salaries for the town's management employees. The figures do not represent additional compensation the employees may be eligible for annually.

Manager	2011	2012	2013	2014
Fire Chief Mike Mansfield	\$134,976	\$136,507	\$137,677	\$144,324
Police Chief Pat Keefe (started Aug. 1, 2013)				\$138,459
Municipal Services Director Chris Cronin (started Feb. 17, 2014)				\$124,004
Library Director Beth Mazin	\$102,161	\$106,084	\$106,084	\$111,172
Town Accountant Rodney Smith* (retired Nov. 3, 2013)	\$106,306	\$106,306	\$106,306	\$111,710

\* This position is no longer a manager.

Source: Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski's office

which is consistent with other bargaining groups.

In addition, new department heads will be paid for only 25 sick days when they retire. Current department

heads, who will not be affected by the provision, can now be paid for as

many as 120 sick days in some cases under existing agreements.

The original department heads' contract expired in 2010.

A one-year extension kept their pay and benefits in place through 2011.

# Teachers ratify new contract

By DUSTIN LUCA  
dluca@andovertownsmen.com

Teachers last week ratified a new three-year contract by an overwhelming 95 percent margin, putting the final authorization in the hands of the School Committee.

Members of the Andover Education Association endorsed the pact, which would take effect Sept. 1, by secret ballot vote at all of the schools last Friday, Feb. 14, the last day before school vacation, the group's president, Kerry Costello, said.

The strong support from

teachers felt "a little surreal," Costello said. "It feels very good, very positive, a nice way to go out on a vacation."

The School Committee and AEA started bargaining in January on a contract to succeed the current one, which expires June 30. A tentative agreement was reached after just four bargaining sessions.

Both sides have held off revealing the contract terms pending final approval.

School Committee Chairman Dennis Forgue said an executive-session meeting will be scheduled sometime after February vacation for members to

review the contract. Closed-door presentations before the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee are also expected before the contract comes to the School Committee for a formal ratification vote in public.

Even without the School Committee taking a stand on the contract, Forgue said he was pleased with the strength of the teachers' vote.

"It's a testimony to the further developing relationship between the school district and the union, and I think it reflects good collaboration in the process," he said.

# Stalled firefighters' contract talks enter mediation with state board

By DUSTIN LUCA  
dluca@andovertownsmen.com

After almost three years of negotiations, talks between Andover Firefighters Union Local 1658 and the town have gone to mediation.

The two sides have been negotiating a new deal since the firefighters' last contract expired on June 30, 2011.

Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski said the state's Joint Labor Management Committee, which municipalities and unions tap for help resolving contracts, has been called in.

Stapczynski declined to discuss the specific issues leading talks to drag on. A representative of the firefighters' union couldn't be reached for comment.

However, time is running out to land a new deal, according to Stapczynski.

"It has to be resolved by June 30, because contracts can't extend three years

unresolved," he said.

Stapczynski would not elaborate on the consequences that could result if a deal is not reached soon. He did say the only time he recalls a similar situation occurring is about two decades ago with the Police Department.

In that instance, a deal was struck at 3 p.m. on June 30 just as the three-year period was coming to an end.

Robert Oftring Jr., legislative director of the state Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, said he was not aware of any specific consequences of going beyond the three-year mark with an unresolved contract, suggesting that the time frame is simply a local one.

While negotiations for a firefighters contract continue, the town is set to begin contract talks with three

bargaining groups within the Police Department, according to Stapczynski.

Current, three-year contracts with the patrolmen, superiors and dispatchers are due to expire June 30. Those contracts provided for a 5-percent raise over the last three years.

Prior to the current contract, the police unions as well as firefighters had all agreed to a one-year pact with no raises.

"We had several years of very difficult financial times in town," Stapczynski said. "That was one of our contract resolutions, to have zero continue for one year."

Stapczynski said the next step in negotiations for the various police contracts is to schedule a status meeting with the selectmen.

"We'll probably do that as soon as we get the budget," he said.

# Knights in shining armor



COURTESY PHOTO

Chuck Colombo, center, receives the 2013 Knight of the Year Award from Jim Hauer, left, and grand knight Paul Dollard during the Andover Knights of Columbus 1078's fifth annual Winter Warm-Up Dinner Dance earlier this month at Tewksbury Country Club.

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Caroline Seifert, Client Stay at Home Mom

After

Before

OBITUARIES

## Mary Lou Sullivan, 56

ANDOVER — A compassionate heart of gold stopped beating. Mary Lou Sullivan, 56, of Andover, MA, passed away Tuesday, February 11, 2014. Mary Lou was born to Patricia (Gemmell) Sullivan and the late John Terrance Sullivan in Methuen, MA, on July 26, 1957.



Mary Lou graduated from St. Patrick's Grammar School, Lawrence, Andover High class of 1975, Katherine Gibbs Business School of Boston and worked as a legal secretary for awhile before and during her pursuit of a Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems from the University of Lowell. She worked for over twenty-five years as a Business Development Representative, Manager of Technical Support and in Corporate Sales.

In 2001, Mary Lou fulfilled her lifelong dream of becoming a mother. She travelled, with her own mother, to China and adopted her daughter, Nicole Sullivan. Less than a year later she started proceedings to find a sister for Nicole. In 2004 she returned to China, this time with her father, and brought her second daughter, Victoria Sullivan home completing her family.

Mary Lou will be lovingly remembered by her daughters, Nicole and Victoria Sullivan; her sister, Kathleen S. and husband, Rick Dube, of Andover and her three brothers and sisters-in-law, J. Ter-

rance "Terry" and Susan Sullivan of Derry, NH, Tom and Penny Sullivan of Marion, MA, Tim and Cindy (Garland) Sullivan of Andover, MA; and her nieces, Heather, Patricia, Kelly, Ann, Laura Sullivan, and Kristin Dube; and nephew, Richard (Chad) Dube; several aunts, uncles and cousins. She was the loving daughter of the late J. Terrance "Terry" Sullivan Sr. and sister of the late Steven P. Sullivan.

**ARRANGEMENTS:** At the family's request services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Children's Trust u/ML Sullivan Revocable Trust in care of Pilgrim Bank, 350 Front St., Marion, MA 02738. Share memories and sign her condolences guest book at [www.pollardfuneralhome.com](http://www.pollardfuneralhome.com). The Pollard Funeral Home is honored to be assisting the Sullivan family with arrangements.

## Brian M. Chapman, 80

September 1, 1933 — February 2, 2014

ANDOVER — Brian M. Chapman, 80, of Andover, passed away peacefully on February 2, 2014, at The Meadows in North Andover, after a period of declining health.



Born in Buffalo, N.Y., on September 1, 1933, to the late George N. and Lillian (Mead) Chapman, he is survived by his beloved wife of 54 years, Elizabeth "Betty" (Cooke) Chapman.

Brian was educated in Buffalo, N.Y., and was a graduate of Arlington High School in Texas. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut, and a Masters of Science degree in mechanical engineering, also from the University of Bridgeport. In addition, he received an MBA degree from the University of Connecticut.

He had three different career paths after college. First in the aviation industry with employment at AVCO and Sikorsky Aircraft, Stratford, Conn., he then went to work in the heavy machinery field at Farrel Corporation, Ansonia, Conn. And lastly, he was employed in the field of graphic arts. He was director of engineering and vice president of Printing Developments (PDI), a wholly owned subsidiary of Time, Inc.

While employed at PDI, he established PDI as world leader in color image scanning with the first four-color, electronic (half-tone) screening system, first fully modular scanning system, first laser-driven image setter, and first microprocessor controlled, pre-press scanning system.

He then joined Eikonix Corporation, Bedford, Mass., as vice president. Eikonix Corp. was acquired by Eastman Kodak and became Kodak Electronic Printing Systems (KEPS). While employed at KEPS, he was director of business and director of new business development.

After retiring in 1995, he founded Management Technology, a consulting group specializing in electronic pre-press systems, management and executive search for the print imaging industry.

He was President of the Technical Association of the Graphic Arts (TAGA), and was the 1992 recipient of the TAGA honors award for his service to the association and the industry. He was also president of the Research and Engineering Council of the Graphic Arts Industry, Inc. In 1996, he was honored with the Graphic Arts Technical Founda-

tion (GATF) Society of Fellows Robert F. Reed Annual Technology Metal for outstanding contributions to the graphics arts industry.

An instrument-rated, private pilot, he enjoyed many hours flying his Cessna 182. He was a member of the 495th Radio Control Squadron, the Massachusetts Model Aircraft Association and the Reading Rifle and Revolver Club. He enjoyed building and flying radio-controlled airplanes, competitive pistol shooting, playing his Hammond organ, photography, and music.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his loving daughters, Susan and husband, William Hayes of Plympton, Mass., and Patricia and husband, Ian Kane of Bangalore, India; his adored grandchildren, Elizabeth and Emily Hayes of Plympton, and Regan and Asher Kane of India; his brother, George N. Chapman Jr. of Redwood City, Calif.; and sister, Lynda and her husband, Helmut Hittinger of Naples, Fla. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews and many longtime friends.

The family would like to thank the wonderful, caring staff at The Meadows for the loving care they gave him during his final days.

**ARRANGEMENTS:** Family and friends are invited to calling hours on March 1, from 2 to 6 p.m., at the Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence Street, Andover, Mass. Burial will be private. For those who wish, memorial contributions may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, Grand Central Station, P.O. Box 4777, NY, NY 10163-4777.



### ANDOVER TOWNSMAN OBITUARIES

Obituaries in the Andover Townsman are paid notices.

To place an obituary, please visit [andovertownsmen.com/submitobit](http://andovertownsmen.com/submitobit). Call 1-800-681-6248 if you have any questions.

POLICE LOG

COMPILED BY DUSTIN LUCA

### Four Lawrence residents arrested on warrants at River Road hotel

Four Lawrence residents were arrested early Monday morning after police were sent to La Quinta Hotel on River Road to break up a loud party.

Police were initially called to the scene by a night manager at the hotel after "he had complaints from other people in the hotel" about a party in one of the rooms, Commander Charles Heseltine said.

"While officers were approaching the room, they could hear loud music down the hall," Heseltine said.

The door was open when police arrived, at which point they saw around 15 people inside the room, he said.

While "collecting identification to make sure everybody was of age," police discovered four individuals had outstanding warrants, Heseltine said.

Arrested were Lawrence residents Richard Gonzalez, 23, of 79 Springfield St.; Stephanie Rivera, 23, of 9 West Laurel St.; Julissa Mendez, 22, of 17 Bowdoin St.; and Jeannette Colon, 23, of 48 Bromfield St.

Rivera was also charged with giving a false name during booking, according to Heseltine.

The following items were recorded in Andover police logs from Monday, Feb. 10 to Sunday, Feb. 16:

### ARRESTS

**Monday, Feb. 10** - At 3:51 p.m., Bryan Cullinane, 20, of 85 Kimball Road, Rindge, N.H., was arrested on River Road and charged with possession of a class D drug with intent to distribute.

**Tuesday, Feb. 11** - At 11:18 a.m., Brian Walsh, 48, of 800 Bullfinch Drive, Apt. 112, Andover, was arrested elsewhere on Bullfinch Drive and charged with operating a motor vehicle with a license revoked for an operating under the influence of liquor conviction.

**Thursday, Feb. 13** - At 11:37 a.m., Corey Prussman, 26, of 59 Gould Road, Andover, was arrested on Sleepy Hollow Lane and charged with failing to register as a sex offender.

At 8:07 p.m., a 17-year-old girl from Andover was arrested on Buttonwood Drive and charged with assault and battery on a household member.

**Friday, Feb. 14** - At 4:28 p.m., police arrested two Tewksbury men on Lowell Street and charged both with possession of a class A drug. Arrested were Geoffrey Diaz, 36, and Jeffrey Diaz, 38, both of 1118 Whipple Road, Tewksbury.

At 7:46 p.m., Eric Yeaton, 44, of 13 Youngs Crossing,

Pelham, N.H., was arrested on Andover Street and charged with operating under the influence of liquor.

At 10:11 p.m., a Westford resident was placed into protective custody on River Road.

### THEFTS

**Tuesday, Feb. 11** - At 5:02 p.m., a theft from a motor vehicle was reported on Jenkins Road.

**Wednesday, Feb. 12** - At 10:33 a.m., a theft was reported on Dascomb Road.

At 12:05 p.m., a flash drive was reported stolen on Brookside Drive.

### INCIDENTS

**Tuesday, Feb. 11** - At 11:09 p.m., an officer traveling through Elm Square was flagged down to respond to "a male subject who was struck by a vehicle (that then) fled the area." The man was complaining of a leg injury, but wasn't able to describe the vehicle.

After a brief investigation, police determined the man "is intoxicated and it is unknown if he was actually struck." Upon further inquiry, police determined the man had "slipped on ice."

**Saturday, Feb. 15** - At 10:42 a.m., vandalism was reported on River Road.

**Sunday, Feb. 16** - At 12:34 a.m., police were called to Brook Street for a vehicle "parked on the roadway

covered in snow" while a parking ban was in effect. A towing company was called to the scene, but it couldn't remove the car. "It is frozen into the snow bank," dispatcher notes read.

At 9:30 a.m., a motor vehicle on River Road was reported vandalized.

### ACCIDENTS

**Wednesday, Feb. 12** - At 7:02 a.m., police were called to Riverina Road on a report of a two-car crash; one vehicle was towed.

**Thursday, Feb. 13** - At 12:46 p.m., an accident with personal injury was reported on Haverhill Street; two vehicles were towed.

At 5:39 p.m., a two-car crash was reported on Route 125 by Prospect Road; both cars were towed.

At 8:14 p.m., an accident involving a car that "hit a plow head-on" was reported on River Road. No injuries were reported; one vehicle was towed.

**Sunday, Feb. 16** - At 8:49 a.m., a two-car crash requiring one tow was reported on Jenkins Road.

At 1:47 p.m., an accident involving personal injury was reported on High Street; one car was towed.

At 3:11 p.m., a three-car crash was reported on Haverhill Street; one car was towed.

At 4:03 p.m., a hit-and-run crash was reported on Post Office Avenue.

## Blaze under investigation



DUSTIN LUCA/Staff photo

Last week's two-alarm fire that destroyed the former Poor's Wagon Shop on the Wood estate on North Main Street remains under investigation, fire officials say. The case has brought in the state fire marshal's office, representatives of which were on scene last week surveying the damage. Some have called the blaze in the circa 1867, unoccupied building suspicious.

## Man charged with assault, armed robbery

By DUSTIN LUCA  
[dluca@andovertownsmen.com](mailto:dluca@andovertownsmen.com)

A Greenwood Road resident has been charged with armed robbery and misdemeanor destruction of property after a knife-laden confrontation allegedly over a girl escalated in the parking lot of a Lowell Street gas station on Saturday afternoon.

Police arrested Nicholas Kenyon, 30, of 118 Greenwood Road at his home and charged him with assault with a dangerous weapon, armed robbery and malicious destruction of property under \$250.

Police Commander Charles Heseltine said the male victim, who police declined to identify, was walking near the Mobil gas station on Lowell Street when a car drove up to him.

Kenyon, who was sitting in the front passenger seat, "yelled at (the victim), told him, 'I'm going to get you,'" police said.

Then, as the victim, who lives in the nearby Hanover Apartments at Rolling Green, the entrance of which is located next to the gas station, was walking back to his apartment, the

vehicle approached again. Heseltine said this time, Kenyon pulled an 8-inch silver knife on the victim.

"Kenyon then ripped a pair of headphones from the victim's neck, threw them to the ground, smashing them," Heseltine said.

Kenyon reportedly called the victim an ethnic slur and told him, "You better watch yourself," Heseltine added.

"According to the victim, this incident was a result of an issue over a girl they both knew," he said.

After the victim contacted police, a "be on the lookout" bulletin and description of Kenyon was put out to area departments. Andover police, however, were able to find Kenyon at his home, where he was arrested.

The driver of the vehicle, a 23-year-old Tewksbury woman, was issued a court summons for being an accessory after the fact, Heseltine said.

The malicious destruction property charge is a misdemeanor because the damage was valued at less than \$250, according to Heseltine. Damage valued at more than \$250 is a felony.

## Family seeks justice after Dec. crash proves fatal

By DUSTIN LUCA  
[dluca@andovertownsmen.com](mailto:dluca@andovertownsmen.com)

The family of a Lawrence woman hit by a car while crossing North Main Street in December is seeking justice after she died from her injuries earlier this month.

Doris Lopez, 61, of Lawrence, had just gotten off a bus on North Main Street on Dec. 30 and was headed to visit one of her nieces in Washington Park when the accident occurred at 6:23 p.m.



Doris Lopez

As Lopez crossed the typically busy road, she was struck by an SUV and carried about 20 feet on its hood before the vehicle came to a rest and she fell to the ground, according to police.

Last Wednesday, Feb. 5, after more than a month of fighting to overcome a host of injuries and health complications, Lopez succumbed to her injuries, which her family said had included kidney failure, internal bleeding, complete dependence on a tube in order to breathe and a sudden attack of a fungus on several of her internal organs.

Now, Lopez's family is looking to hold accountable the driver responsible for her death.

Christina Nickerson, 42, of Lancaster, was cited by Andover police for impeding operation following the accident. Andover Police Commander Charles Heseltine said at the time that Nickerson had told officers she "had taken her eyes off the road to attend to something on her (vehicle's) console."

Heseltine also said at the time the fact it was dark and Lopez wasn't in a crosswalk when crossing the busy road may have contributed to the crash. He said there was a crosswalk about 30 feet north of where the accident occurred.

In light of Lopez's death, Heseltine said the Police Department is now reviewing the case in conjunction with the district attorney's office.

"The officers are going to meet with the district attorney's office and look at the report and what occurred," he said.

Heseltine declined to speculate on what could come out of the meeting. However, when asked if the situation facing Nickerson may change, he said, "it could." Lopez's family, particularly

her 20-year-old granddaughter, Lucinda Lopez, is hoping for more. They also question some of the details that have been assembled surrounding Lopez's death.

"I was really offended when (the other driver) just got cited," Lucinda Lopez said. "My grandmother had a future."

After living in Lawrence for much of her life, Doris Lopez moved about a dozen years ago to Springfield, where she taught special education.

In June 2012, she returned to Lawrence to live with and help take care of her granddaughter, then a recent high school graduate with big plans ahead of her.

"Since I was little, she always took care of me," Lucinda Lopez said. "I never considered her my grandmother. I called her my mom. She was there for my prom. She bought me my dress. She got my make-up."

The two enjoyed planning vacations together — "her dream was to leave New England and go to Florida," Lopez's granddaughter said — and they went out to eat frequently, often to Olive Garden.

When asked to describe her grandmother, Lucinda Lopez spoke of her loud, energetic laugh.

"She was always laughing. She was so loud," the young woman said, chuckling. "She'd say, 'I'm Puerto Rican! I'll laugh all I want, as loud as I want to.'"

As they grieved her death, Lopez's family also reached out to the community for help raising \$15,000 to cover her funeral expenses.

They established a donation drive through GoFundMe.com. According to the page, "Doris was an amazing 61-year-old woman who dedicated her life to satisfying all of the roles she was given in life as mother, grandmother, aunt, sister and friend," the page reads.

"Doris and her granddaughter, who she raised, lived together and struggled financially to pay the expenses of their rented apartment. ... We pray that you may find it in your hearts to make a donation toward Doris' barrel."

Lucinda Lopez, meanwhile, said she takes comfort in knowing her grandmother is no longer suffering.

"I know she's happy, looking down on me," she said. "I'm going to make sure I make her happy in everything I do."

Those wishing to donate to the GoFundMe drive in Doris Lopez's memory can do so at [www.gofundme.com/6om7zs](http://www.gofundme.com/6om7zs).

## Veterans' graves to be marked with flags March 30

The town's Veterans' Services Department will be leading the placement of flags on veterans' graves at Spring Grove Cemetery on Sunday, March 30, starting at 11 a.m.

Michael Burke, director of

veterans' services, is inviting all veterans as well as Boy, Girl and Cub Scouts, cadets and other interested citizens to lend a hand at the cemetery on Abbott Street.

The effort will involve the

replacement of 3,600 flags on the graves of Andover's veterans.

The process takes about 90 minutes and affords an opportunity to see parts of Andover's history up close, Burke said.

In the event of inclement weather, the rain date will be Sunday, April 6, at 11 a.m. However, the effort will still take place in light rain.

For more information, call Burke at the veterans office at 978-623-8218.

# LAPTOP LEASE: Some members of School Committee were aware

Continued from Page 1

Committee member have said they were surprised to learn that School Department had signed a four-year, \$177,000 lease for the additional Apple MacBook Pro-13s.

But school officials say they did inform the chairmen of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee, even though neither of them remember the discussion.

Further, school leaders claim that members of the School Committee were told about the transaction, although no record of a vote seems to exist.

State procurement law requires any contract that extends beyond three years to be approved by the relevant, deliberative body — in this case either the School Committee or Board of Selectmen. Selectmen did not vote on the matter, according to Chairman Alex Vispoli.

Town finance officials say that because the purchase expanded on a Town Meeting-approved warrant article originally authorizing the lease of 400 laptops for the School Department's teachers and staff, it was covered under the provisions of the state procurement law.

During a joint meeting of the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen earlier this month, the issue cropped up again, as members of both boards said the lease should be paid with school funds while Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski's budget calls for the payment to come from the general fund.

The issue is likely to come up again soon — when next fiscal year's budget for the Information Technology Department is reviewed, and again when the school budget is analyzed.

### Who knew what, when?

According to School Committee member Paula Colby-Clements, many people knew about the lease deal. At a Dec. 9 joint meeting of the School Committee, Finance Committee and selectmen, known as the Tri-Board, she said the matter was discussed at a meeting on Good Friday last year when Stapczynski and the IT director made a presentation on the \$2.5 million IT-1 plan approved by Town Meeting.

Colby-Clements said all of the former committee chairmen, including Selectman Paul Salafia, Finance Committee Chairman Jon Stumpf and she herself were at the meeting.

Neither Stumpf or Salafia said they could recall the meeting. But after reviewing his notes, Stumpf said while he was, indeed, in attendance, he had no recollection of discussing the additional computers.

"There was a meeting," Stumpf said, "but I did not see anything in my notes about the number of devices (laptops) going from 400 to 560."

Salafia also did not remember authorizing the additional leases. "We didn't take a vote on it. We didn't authorize it and we weren't informed about it at the chairs' meeting," he said.

Minutes of that meeting do not appear to exist since it was not an advertised session given there was not a quorum of elected officials from any of the various boards present, Town Clerk Larry Murphy said. School Committee informed?

According to Colby-Clements, the issue of the 160 additional leases was "brought back to the School Committee at a budget subcommittee meeting," she

said during the Dec. 9 Tri-Board meeting.

However, School Committee member David Birnbach disputed that assertion. "Absolutely not. I totally disagree. This is all news to me," he said.

Colby-Clements responded, "I don't remember whether you were there or not," she told Birnbach. "You can disagree all you want, but it was brought to the budget subcommittee of the School Committee."

Birnbach persisted that any major change — like the leasing of more computers than originally approved by Town Meeting — "should have come back to everybody (on the School Committee). Whether or not I was there is no excuse."

An email from Superintendent of Schools Marinel McGrath to the Andover Townsman seems to support the contention that at least some members of the School Committee knew about the lease.

"I brought the situation forward to the School Committee chair, vice chair and budget subcommittee," McGrath said, adding that they agreed the schools could use surplus funds left over at the end of fiscal year 2013 "to cover the shortfall in the technology purchase."

It is unclear when that meeting took place or if minutes of it exist.

Current School Committee Chairman Dennis Fergie said he can't remember when it came up or if there was ever a vote. But he said at some point "there was a suggestion" that the first year of the lease would be covered by surplus funds in the school budget, with the payments for the second and third years coming out of the general fund and the expense becoming part of the town manager's Capital Improvement Plan request.

A vote does not appear to have happened during a regular School Committee meeting. School Committee minutes around the time the purchase order was filed at the end of June 2013 do not indicate any mention of a lease deal.

Minutes for the budget subcommittee are not available on the School Department's website.

Vispoli said a vote should have been taken and recorded.

"It requires a vote of somebody," he said. By entering into a four-year lease, he said, they are "encumbering money for future years. If you spend that money within the parameters of the budget, that's one thing. But if you sign a contract beyond that period of the budget, that's another."

"We never voted on it. It

never came to us. We found about it afterward."

### Part of the plan

Some town officials say it was not necessary to get School Committee or selectmen's approval for the expanded lease because it was part of the "master plan" put together by the IT director and because Town Meeting had approved the overall program.

"When we procured the 160 Macs, we did so believing that the acquisition was consistent with the intended scope and prior approval of IT-1," school Business Manager Paul Szymanski said. "Therefore, there was no need for a separate vote."

Szymanski said in an earlier email that although the 160 Macs were not specifically included in the IT-1 Town Meeting request, members of the School Committee, along with other boards, knew about them.

"We explained the need for the additional units to the School Committee — the approving authority (and other boards and committees) and that the required purchase was to be in accordance with (chief information officer) Paul Puzanghera's master plan — that being to acquire said units on a four-year lease agreement," he said.

Purchasing Agent Tom Watkins said a Town Meeting warrant article approved in 2011 allows the town or School Department to enter into contracts up to five years without Town Meeting approval. However, he added, three- to five-year contracts still require the approval of the School Committee or Board of Selectmen.

That approval, Watkins said, was provided "via the Capital Improvement Plan and process."

Town Meeting voters did approve the original plan to lease the computers as part of the IT-1 Capital Improvements Plan article in 2012.

Town Counsel Tom Urbelis did not return two emails seeking comment about the matter.

A spokeswoman for the state inspector general's office, which oversees the state procurement law and monitors fraud, waste and abuse, would not comment on the specifics of the case.

Generally, though, if a community does violate Chapter 30B, the public procurement law, the remedy is that the vendor should not be paid.

"A contract made in violation of this chapter shall not be valid," reads Section 17B of the state procurement act. "And the governmental body shall make no payment under such contract. Minor informalities shall not require invalidation of a contract."

# INTERNSHIP: 'Crash course in careers'

Continued from Page 1

tear-down of an unusable, hazardous structure along the Merrimack River. She also put together land management policies for both that property and adjacent Phillips Academy boat house land that the town expects to purchase.

Town Conservation Director Bob Douglas, who worked with both Hill and Boulanger, said there were times that he had to remind himself they were high-schoolers he was putting to work.

"I very quickly forgot these were students and brought them on-board as trusted colleagues, and they always rose to the occasion," he said.

Douglas said the tear-down of the Merrimack River structure is something the town had been trying to get done for some time. He watched as Hill "called up different contractors and negotiated its removal for free for the town."

"It's amazing stuff to cold-call somebody and put a deal together," he said of Hill's work.

Student Sarah LaMacchia, meanwhile, worked with the town's Department of Public Works, focusing almost exclusively on residential recycling habits. After conducting a survey of how residents recycle, she created a public service announcement to explain town recycling policies.

LaMacchia signed up for the course initially because she thought it would be "a valuable experience I could put on my college application."

In the end, she said she picked up a number of other skills — time management, resume writing, all things that would normally be taught the hard way, out in the real world.

"You really had to figure out everything for yourself, managing your time, doing work outside of the building," she said. "Initially, it was the whole process of resume writing. That's something we're obviously going to need to do, but they don't teach it to us."

Angelina Lionetta, who worked with the Andover-based consulting firm Entegra Development & Investment, said her experience with green construction helped her hone



Courtesy photo

Andover High School seniors Jenny Hill and Rachel Schnakenberg stand in the Phillips Academy boat house along the Merrimack River, where they both worked on advancing town work as part of last fall's pilot Environmental Sustainability Internship Course.

in on her presentation and public speaking skills.

She did so as she covered everything from updating employees on recent certification criteria changes to running a feasibility study that ultimately recommended the company avoid a certain business opportunity.

"I used the policies I had learned about to do a feasibility study on a historical building in New Hampshire that they were thinking of renovating," Lionetta said.

With the company expecting to pursue the highest possible government rating in its renovation work, "I researched it and looked at their energy intake and said, 'No, you can't.'"

In many respects, Douglas said the students were leaving "a great legacy" in the work they did. The projects "have a strong and positive impact that will have long-lasting consequences for the town," he said.

As students completed the course and reflected on what they accomplished, Boulanger said they were "kind of the

guinea pig class" for internships at the high school.

"It would be cool to come back however many years down the road and see more classes like this," he said.

The Environmental Sustainability Internship pilot course could have broader implications, according to Cutler, who said the school administration is now considering internships in other departments, including social studies and languages.

A similar course was recently given the green light by the School Committee. Engineering and math teacher Minda Reidy is seeking to change the game by having students work with teams of professional engineers on semester-long projects — an expansion of the single-mentor concept that Cutler's course was built on.

"You're learning to work on a team, which is not something our students have right now," Reidy said. "It opens them up to a lot of industry — a lot of places, even a small shop. I'm very excited."

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<p></p> <p>181 High Street Unit 3</p> <p><b>ANDOVER - Lovely 3 bedroom Townhome with today's sought after updates! Stunning granite and stainless kitchen, private patio, master suite and finished lower level. Bus to Boston and near town and highways.</b></p> <p><b>\$359,900</b></p> <p><b>Ask for Janet Meyer</b></p>	<p></p> <p>9 Ballardvale Road</p> <p><b>ANDOVER - Private 2+ acre lott! Elegant 11 room brickfront Colonial with a custom curved staircase, gourmet kitchen, 3 fireplaces and beautiful master suite. 4 car heated garage!</b></p> <p><b>\$1,385,000</b></p> <p><b>Ask for Gretchen Papineau</b></p>

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# 'Farm to Table' highlights plight of local farmers

Three of the region's farmers are joining together next weekend for "From Farm to Plate: How We Sustain Local Farms," a wide-ranging discussion on the important issues facing local farmers and consumers.

Lisa Colby of Colby Farms in Newburyport, Glenn Cook of Cider Hill Farm in Amesbury and Rich Bonanno of Pleasant Valley Gardens in Methuen will lead the forum on Saturday, March 1, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St., Andover.

The free program is being hosted by the League of Women Voters of Andover/North Andover. It will address the many ways food and farming affect everyone and look at who keeps local farms in business, what threatens their existence and why it is important to keep them around.

Organizers say the conversation will cover everything from animal welfare and farmland preservation to energy efficiency and immigration reform. It will delve into the concerns of local food producers

and look at the actions consumers can take to support local food production.

The U.S. League of Women Voters is coordinating a national study to update its position on agriculture, and "From Farm to Plate" will help inform members before the consensus process.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots, volunteer organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

While the organization is nonpartisan in that it does not support or oppose any political party or candidate, it is political in that it takes positions on selected governmental issues after members study them and reach agreement. To learn more, go to [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org).

The League of Women Voters of Andover/North Andover welcomes new members. Find out more at [www.lwv-andovers.org](http://www.lwv-andovers.org).

# Park planning to put pen to the people

By DUSTIN LUCA  
[dluca@andovertownsmen.com](mailto:dluca@andovertownsmen.com)

Residents equipped with magic markers will be able to craft their vision for The Park at a "design charrette" meeting slated for next month.

The meeting, part of the town's ongoing quest to review and update the town park and playstead at Bartlet and Chestnut streets, will be held Tuesday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St.

Lisa Schwarz, the town's senior planner, said the meeting will be interactive and offer a chance for people to put their ideas on paper and contribute to the future vision of the park.

"I'd like groups of people to be at tables in the upstairs room at

the library and be able to mark up plans with ideas for what they have, whether it has to do with sidewalks and trees, parking circulation a playground or any other type of amenity," Schwarz said.

The master plan project grew out of past inquiries about The Park, which led Town Manager Buzz Stapezynski to decide the time was right to reevaluate the property and how it's being used, Schwarz said. Town officials will provide a history of The Park and share possibilities being considered for improving it.

"At the end, everybody can present their ideas," Schwarz said. "Maybe a new idea could come out and everyone says, 'Wow, that's great.'"

The charrette will help guide work on The Park, which could include the addition and relocation

of new attractions, changes to the landscape and more. Then, "with the list of improvements, (town officials will) come up with some sort of funding plan long-term," Schwarz said.

The Planning Board's work on The Park's master plan has been on hold pending the charrette, originally scheduled for December but postponed due to poor weather, she said.

Schwarz is hopeful next month's community meeting will generate a lot of participation from the public.

"When you have the Planning Board meetings, you have the audience, and the Planning Board is taking information. But there isn't a continuous dialogue," she said.

"I'd love to get people just talking — talking to one another, not at a board."

## TOWN BRIEF

### Dog license renewals due


Residents have until Feb. 28 to turn in their dog license renewals or they will face an additional \$5 surcharge. License renewal notices were sent to dog owners in December.

Fees and renewal requirements

have changed. The fee for spayed or neutered dogs is now \$13 with proof from a veterinarian. Intact dogs are \$14. All dogs must have proof of a current rabies vaccination.

Dog owners may renew their dog's registration in the town clerk's office

from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Renewals are also accepted through the mail by sending a check payable to the Town of Andover along with the required documentation to the clerk's office at 36 Bartlet St., Andover 01810.



## 5K Run/Walk to be held April 6, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

More information available at:  
[www.runforthetroops5k.com](http://www.runforthetroops5k.com)

Join the Andover Townsman and Eagle-Tribune in supporting this worthy cause! On Thursday, March 20th, we will publish a special section highlighting this event. Content may include a race route map, information about race participants and the organization, Home for Our Troops, and feature stories about local veterans.

Added distribution this year includes Eagle-Tribune readers in Andover and North Andover — that doubles our distribution from last year's section!

**ADVERTISING DEADLINE: Tuesday, March 11, 2014**  
**PUBLICATION DATE: Thursday, March 20, 2014**

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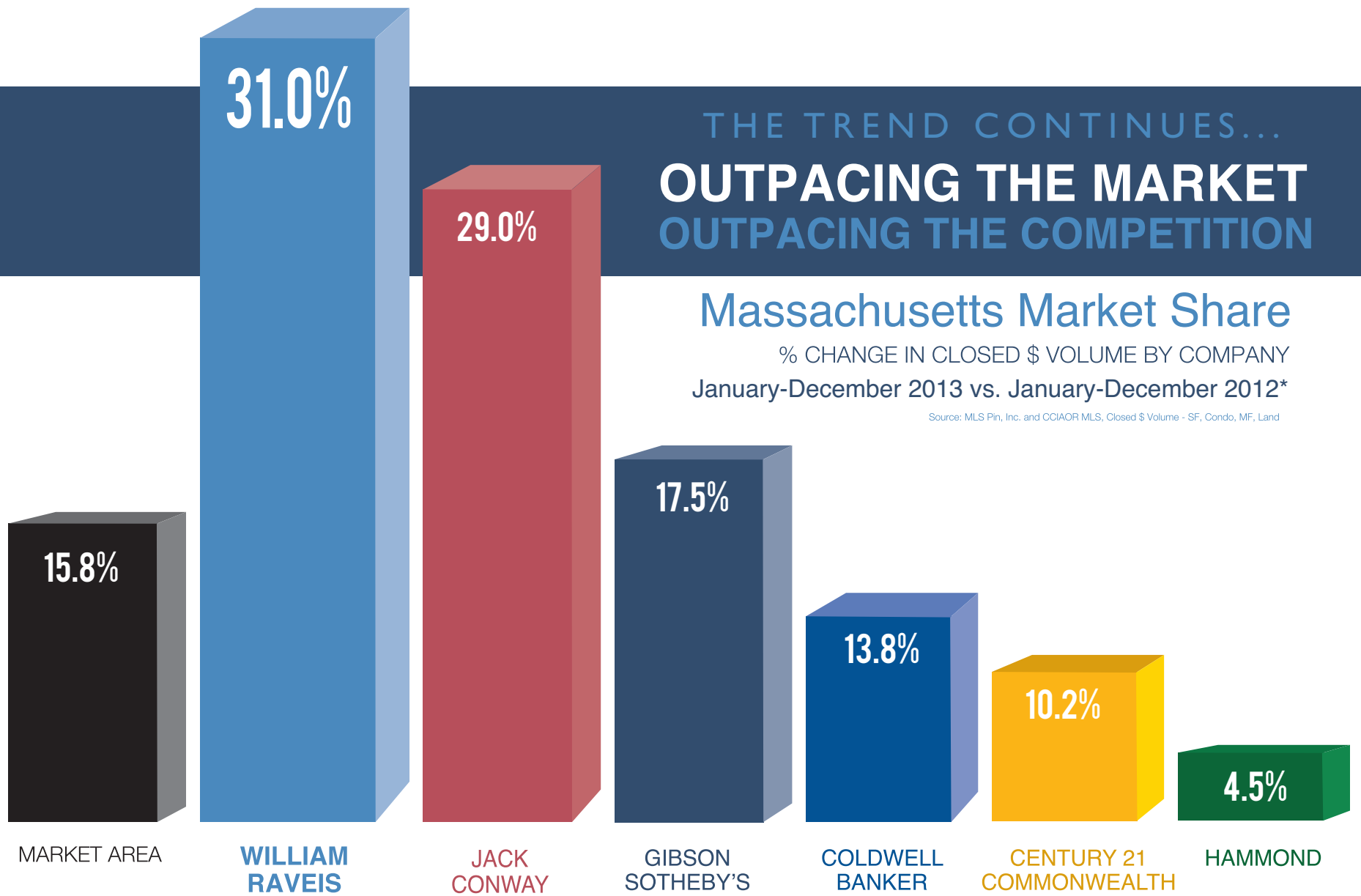
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# Education



Andover High School junior Mary Kuan, a student in the AP biology class, judges third-grader Vi-Quan Bach's project titled "Rock Candy."

## Parent series tackles strategies for student success

Dr. Ann Helmus, a licensed clinical neuropsychologist in practice for more than 20 years, will share practical strategies to help parents support their children at home when she visits Andover next week.

Helmus' visit — titled "Tips For Helping Your Child Achieve Academic Success at Home" — takes place Thursday, Feb. 27, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Pike School Auditorium, 24 Sunset Rock Road, Andover. The free program is part of the Andover Parent to Parent 2013-2014 speaker series.

Helmus will be joined by her colleague, Dr. Angela Currie, who directs an intensive psychoeducational program for children with anxiety and other self-regulation disorders at Neuropsychology & Education Services for Children & Adolescents, a group of neuropsychologists and allied staff that Helmus established in 2007.

The emotional side of homework will be discussed, along with suggestions to avoid meltdowns that leave everyone frustrated and exhausted. In addition, developmentally appropriate tips to help children become more independent with time management and organizational skills will be shared.

The mother of two high-schoolers, Helmus specializes in the evaluation of children with learning disabilities and attention deficits, as well as primary neurological disorders. In addition to assessing children, she also provides consultation and training to both public and private school systems.

Visit [www.andoverp2p.com](http://www.andoverp2p.com) for more.

## Young inventors

Bancroft Elementary School students took on the role of inventors last week for the school's annual Science Expo.

Creativity abounded at the Feb. 11 school event, sponsored by the Bancroft PTO, with experiments ranging from the ever-popular erupting volcano to the creation of a green putty creatively called Flubber.

Because of construction at Bancroft Elementary, the expo was held at Andover High School, with members of the student body there helping to serve as judges.



Fourth-graders Molly Lynch, left, and Olivia Howard show off their volcano. The girls mixed baking soda and powder, dish soap and vinegar to produce a foaming and explosive effect.



Third-graders Matthew Conte, left and Timothy Boese combined Elmer's glue, cold and hot water, borax and food coloring to create the colorful and stretchy putty they called "flubber."

Photos by Carl Russo

### EDUCATION NOTEBOOK

#### Austin Prep hosting open house

Austin Preparatory School in Reading is hosting an open house for families of students entering grades six through eight on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 9 a.m. at the school campus at 101 Willow St.

Students will have the opportunity to meet Headmaster James Hickey, speak with faculty members and tour the campus with current

middle-school students. Tours will include visits to the arts and music wings, classrooms and multipurpose facility (gymnasium). Call 781-944-4900 for more.

#### Financial aid filing workshop

A workshop on filing for financial aid for college through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid process will be held on Sunday,

Feb. 23, at 1 p.m. at Northern Essex Community College's John R. Dimitry Building, 45 Franklin St., Lawrence.

Counselors will guide participants through the process of completing and filing a FAFSA application form online.

The FAFSA is the federally required form for all students seeking federal financial aid for higher education. Students attending college during the 2014-2015 academic year must complete the 2014-2015 FAFSA,

available at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov), if they are interested in receiving federal and state financial aid.

NECC is just one of more than two dozen locations statewide hosting a FAFSA filing event. FAFSA Day Massachusetts, a College Goal Sunday Program, is a nonprofit, volunteer-driven program in its 10th year providing free assistance to students and families seeking to complete the FAFSA. Register at [www.fafsaday.org](http://www.fafsaday.org).

### ON CAMPUS

Anne Arnzen was among 31 seniors to be named a President's Fellow at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., for the 2013-2014 academic year. She received the honor for an exemplary academic record in anthropology after three years at the college.

Meghan E. Miller and Elisa M. Joel were among 1,613 students

awarded degrees from Boston University in September. Miller received her doctorate in musical arts in woodwind performance. Joel received her Master of Education in policy, planning and administration.

Sophomore Katja Grober has been named to the dean's list at Beloit College in Wisconsin for the fall 2013 semester.

Brianne Conlon, a student at Saint Michael's College in Vermont, studied abroad in Dunedin, New Zealand, at the University of Otago for the fall 2013 semester. Conlon, a junior biology major, is a graduate of Andover High School.

Two local students at Union College in New York spent the winter break studying abroad

Barrett Flynn, a geology and environmental science major, traveled to New Zealand to focus on electric power development and environmental management.

Morgan Muggia, a neuroscience major, traveled to Argentina to focus on social movements, including human rights, workplace democracy and gender equality.

## Andover Garden Club scholarships

The Andover Garden Club is seeking qualified students to apply for the Ruth I. Cleveland Scholarship Fund, which memorializes the late Ruth Cleveland, a longtime Andover resident who served as club president from 1954 to 1956.

The memorial scholarship is given annually in recognition of Cleveland's efforts to enrich the lives of garden club members in the pursuit of all the arts and sciences.

The scholarship was initially funded by Cleveland's children — Ann C. Lange, an internationally known floral arranger, artist and lifelong resident of Andover who served as Andover Garden Club president from 1985 to 1987, and the late Byron R. Cleveland Jr. It grows yearly through donations from the Lange family and the Andover Garden Club.

Applicants for the scholarship must be graduate or undergraduate students pursuing the study of the arts or sciences.

"Mother was a skilled gardener and flower arranger, but the scholarship is intentionally not limited to horticulture, landscape design or floriculture," Lange said in a release. "We wanted its scope to accurately reflect her broader interests. She loved all the arts — especially painting and sculpture — and she taught English and French in the Lawrence school system for many years."

The Ruth I. Cleveland Scholarship Fund is one of 11 scholarships administered by the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc., the parent organization of the Andover Garden Club. The 10 additional scholarships are

available in amounts up to \$1,000 for students majoring in horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, conservation, forestry, agronomy, city planning, environmental studies, land management, botany, biology and allied subjects. In 2013, the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts awarded 11 \$1,000 scholarships and one of the recipients went on to receive a national scholarship.

Applicants must be Massachusetts residents, have a minimum grade average of B (3.0 on a 4.0 scale), exhibit good character and demonstrate financial need. Applications, financial aid forms and scholarship descriptions can be downloaded at [www.gcfm.org/Education/Scholarships.aspx](http://www.gcfm.org/Education/Scholarships.aspx).

In addition, the National Garden Clubs, Inc. awards \$3,500 scholarships to Massachusetts college juniors, seniors and master's graduate students who are sponsored by the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts. Eligible applicants must have at least a 3.25 GPA (on a 4.0-point scale) and be majoring in agriculture education, agronomy, botany, biology, city (rural and urban) planning, economics, environmental conservation, floriculture, forestry, horticulture, land management, landscape design, plant pathology/science, wildlife science, and/or other related or allied subjects.

Students wishing to apply for national scholarships should also apply for the GCFM scholarships. Forms are available at [www.gardenclub.org/scholarships](http://www.gardenclub.org/scholarships). The application deadline for all scholarships is March 1.



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## Your Dental HEALTH

by Nicholas T. Papapetros, DMD, FAGD



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# Opinion

## Lessons learned from STEAM Studio proposal

The decision last week not to award STEAM Studio high school a state charter to open this fall was ultimately the right one for Andover.

In its review of the proposed charter school, the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education recognized significant passion on the part of the STEAM Studio team, led by School Committee member David Birnbach.

It found the proposed school's "emphasis on creative exploration and invention meaningful and consistent with high academic standards and student success."

"The applicant group demonstrated a passionate understanding of and connection to the proposed mission and vision ... as well as a strong commitment to serve Andover and the surrounding communities," its analysis said.

But passion does not a school make. In the end, the STEAM Studio proposal fell short of fully providing a new option to enhance the educational opportunities for local high-schoolers.

The state analysis ultimately identified 34 weaknesses, and only 14 strengths with the proposal, concluding the vision behind STEAM Studio "is not sufficiently developed or integrated into the implementation of a comprehensive educational program."

There was limited information on how STEAM Studio would operate and no guarantee of enrollment to support the school's opening this fall. In short, it lacked the concrete proof that it could succeed.

Then, there was the significant opposition — whether justified or not — surrounding the proposal from Andover school officials, teachers and parents, a factor that was weighed by the state in its final decision.

But while STEAM Studio may have rightfully failed to win state support, what it did succeed in doing was bringing more awareness and scrutiny to the educational structure at Andover High School.

We believe School Committee Chairman Dennis Forgue was correct in his observation that the potential competition posed by STEAM Studio raised the bar for Andover schools.

Andover has been singled out consistently for the strength of its school system. The education that the town provides its youngest residents has for years been a source of pride.

Birnbach and his team, however, identified areas where improvements are needed — in particular, the study of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, the so-called STEM curriculum.

The School Department says it has been working right along to strengthen the STEM program at Andover High, with initiatives either under way or in development.

Still, some would argue the school district is not doing enough, or even possibly lagging behind. However, we believe whatever advancements can be made in the area of STEM education can be achieved within the existing framework of the school district in Andover.

A new charter school, which would have competed for valuable state funding, would have potentially impeded the district's ability to continue making the strides necessary for Andover's students to remain competitive in our changing world.

That's not to say there isn't a place for Birnbach and his ideas. We encourage him to continue raising his concerns and pushing for changes and innovations from his seat on the School Committee.

In the past, some of his ideas have fallen on deaf ears. We hope this process leads his fellow school board members to be more receptive going forward for we believe by working together, Andover High School can aspire to the next level in helping shape the next generation to lead today's technology-driven world.

## WEB QUESTION

### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Where do you stand on the school district's purchase of 160 additional laptop computers beyond what was approved by Town Meeting?

**I support it.** The MacBook Pros go to school staff who need them, so however they were obtained, the end result is justified.

**I'm OK with it,** but not how it was done. It should have been handled more officially like everything else tied to town dollars.

**I don't support it.** Town Meeting approved 400 MacBook Pros, so the School Department should have purchased only 400 and no more.

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

Last week, we asked, "With the School Committee considering three school calendar options for 2014-15, which do you prefer?" With 100 responses, the answers were:

**OPTION B:** Students start school Tuesday, Sept. 2, and end the year on Wednesday, June 17, without any snow days — 39 votes.

**OPTION C:** Students start school Thursday, Sept. 4, and end the year on Friday, June 19, without snow days. The option leaves room for just seven potential snow days before school must be recessed by the end of June under state mandate — 26 votes.

**OPTION A:** Students start school Wednesday, Aug. 27, and end the year on Monday, June 15, barring any snow days — 23 votes.

**NONE OF THEM:** There are other options the school district should be considering — 12 votes.

## Go, FIGHT, WIN!



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover High percussion instructor Jon DiPrima beats the bass drum alongside seniors Ben Douglas on drums and Daniel O'Leary on cymbals as the Andover High School Pep Band generates team spirit during the Andover girls basketball game against Central Catholic last week. Despite the band's enthusiasm, the Golden Warriors were defeated by Central.

## ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

### Compiled by Susan McKelliget

#### 100 Years Ago Feb. 20, 1914

There has recently been published by the Houghton Mifflin Company a textbook titled "Selected English Letters," edited by Dr. Claude M. Fuess. Dr. Fuess is an English instructor at Phillips Academy. The letters are some of those written between various prominent literary men compiled into a book for school use.

Miss Nellie G. Lawrence is confined to her home on Shawsheen Road by illness.

#### 75 Years Ago Feb. 16, 1939

The Puncnard quintet "went to town" with Methuen High Saturday evening in the Memorial gym, winning 23 to 13. The

Puncnard lads — with Warren Deyermmond doing most of the scoring, aided by the Yancey boys, Fred and Bill — held the Methuen aggregation almost scoreless for the first half of the game.

Frederic S. Boutwell, one of the most prominent and well-liked people in Andover's business and civic life, passed away early this morning at the Phillips House, Boston. He had been able to perform his usual duties at the Andover Savings Bank on Monday and had been out riding on Tuesday, but Wednesday, he was rushed to the Boston hospital.

Motor Inn. The Internal Revenue Service will locate its northeast service center on the land, which has been zoned for shopping centers for several years. Harry Axelrod is the owner of the property.

A 14-day supply of food, water, medical and sanitary supplies for 19,071 men, women and children is being stored here now, inside 14 potential civil defense shelters. Civil Defense Director Burton B. Batchelder announced completion of this phase of the shelter program. In addition, a radiological kit has been supplied for each of the shelters.

#### 25 Years Ago Feb. 28, 1989

St. Augustine Church was filled to capacity Wednesday morning as family and friends paid

final respects to a man whose love of life and people won him the affection and admiration of thousands in the Andover community. Ted Boudreau, 62, of 183 Summer St., a teacher and coach at the junior/middle school level, died suddenly Saturday night at Lawrence General Hospital, where he had been rushed after suffering a second heart attack. He had returned home Friday after recovering from an initial attack on Feb. 7.

The freshman class at Andover High School recently held its clothing drive to help needy people in the Merrimack Valley and throughout the world. With the supervision of class advisers and teacher David Gangi, the student body donated clothing in a designated area of the school's main lobby.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### LETTERS POLICY

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

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was made. Or did I miss something?

**DON ROSS**  
198 Chandler Road

### Town Meeting article seeks support for four-legged friends

**Editor, Townsman:**

I am writing to clarify some issues around the dog park warrant articles coming before Town Meeting in May. There is missing information about the dog park

in the Feb. 6 Townsman article, "Dog park, property tax freeze before Town Meeting."

There are two warrant articles that have been submitted about the dog park. The first article seeks \$60,000 from the general fund for construction of the dog park. Andover's dog owners have been contributing to the general fund for many years through an annual requirement to buy a \$13 dog license. In 2013, Andover's 2,800 dog owners paid more than \$37,000 into the general fund. This article asks that a portion of this money be allocated for the dog park, a natural use for the money paid by dog owners.

The article also states that any additional funds needed to build the park that are not provided by the town are to be funded by the Friends of Andover Dog Park. It is important to understand that the final cost of the dog park being built is like a moving target because of prevailing wages now required by the town.

The second warrant article requests that the 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. This article is only necessary if the town approves the \$60,000 as a loan rather than as a grant, as requested in the first warrant article. Should the funding from the general fund be approved as a grant, the increase in the dog license fee will not be necessary.

Andover dog owners have paid the monies requested by the warrant articles to the town for years. The money has been held in the general fund and it is time to give it back to our four-legged friends and build them a place to run free.

**CHARISSA RIGANO**  
18 Lincoln St.

### Town budget is 'out of control'

**Editor, Townsman:**

If every voter in town who attends Town Meeting who did not receive a raise of 4.5 percent or more in the past year votes "no" on the town budget, what happens?

It's time we tell our out-of-control governments that enough has been far too much.

**STEVE LEET**  
Crescent Drive

## READER ACCESS

### EDITORIAL SERVICES

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

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■ **Reporter Dustin Luca** at 978-475-7000, ext. 8723, or [dluca@andovertownsmans.com](mailto:dluca@andovertownsmans.com)

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Published Thursdays by  
North of Boston Media Group  
33 Chestnut St., Andover, MA 01810  
978-475-7000 •

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# TownsBeat



Casey McQuillen poses with some of her youngest fans at the Valentine's Dance for the town's seventh- and eighth-graders.

CARL RUSSO/Staff photos

## 'IDOL' HOMECOMING

### McQuillen leaves reality show disappointed, but poised for future



Casey McQuillen entertains the crowd at last week's Andover Youth Services' Valentine's Dance at Old Town Hall.

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

When three of Hollywood's top recording stars talk to you about your voice strengths and weaknesses, you are very grateful for the meeting and take lots of notes.

At least that's what Andover's Casey McQuillen did last week.

While the 21-year-old singer-songwriter may have seen her "American Idol" hopes fade after being cut from this season's reality show competition on Feb. 12, she is feeling buoyed by the opportunity and exposure she gained as a contestant — however short-lived.

McQuillen said she learned a lot from the feedback she received from the "Idol" judges — Jennifer Lopez, Keith Urban and especially Harry Connick Jr. — after she failed to proceed to the next round in the competition.

Before she left the stage, McQuillen said she had a chance to talk to the judges, with Connick providing the best takeaway.

"He told me to attack my music career with vigor ... to put out CDs and to keep singing with my Berklee connections," said McQuillen, a 2011 Phillips Academy graduate who grew up in town and is now pursuing her education at Berklee College of Music in Boston.

"He is so nice, was so supportive and although my singing may not be enough to be the next ("American Idol" megastar) Carrie Underwood or Kelly Clarkson, he talked to me about Berklee and getting a music education."

McQuillen, who made it to the Hollywood round of the competition and was among the final 75 still standing before being sent home, was not alone in getting eliminated from the show last week. She said female singers were hit hardest by the show's ax.

"You couldn't tell on what aired, but 15 girls and just three guys were cut. ... The show needs guys," she said.

While disappointed, McQuillen stayed positive. "It's been a crazy ride! I told the judges that #AmericanIdol was just a stop for me, not the whole journey, and they agreed," she immediately posted on Facebook. "The judges were incredibly supportive and complimentary and I left Hollywood feeling better about my career than ever before."

One of her first stops was her hometown of Andover. She returned to town last Friday to make a special guest appearance at Andover Youth Services' annual Valentine's Dance.

McQuillen — who has participated in and been a big supporter of her town's youth services program — played an acoustic set at the Feb. 14 fundraiser for the town's seventh- and eighth-graders at Old Town Hall on Main Street.

A packed house welcomed McQuillen, who was touched by the turnout and said she almost cried when the crowd held up a banner at the end of her performance that read, "Thank You Casey."

It wasn't the first time McQuillen has performed for an AYS benefit.

Growing up in Andover, the rising musician was frequently involved in youth services programming. In fact, she used to attend the Valentine's Dance as a kid.

In recent years, she's taken to giving back to the organization. Last year, she took the stage to perform during the group's annual telethon.

"Just the first time I met her, she was a bright light," AYS Director Bill Fahey said. "We're talking about a young person here who has all the gifts, but on top of that, is a really awesome human being."

Earlier in the day Feb. 14, before heading to Andover, McQuillen was at Melrose Middle School talking to 900 students about bullying, a good work ethic and confidence.

She said she plans to keep up a connection with teens as it's an audience she enjoys working with.

"I plan to use the attention from 'Idol' and talk to teens about those issues," she said. "I want to help them."

Staff writer Dustin Luca contributed to this report.

## Out & About: 'On the Wing' taking flight at Phillips

Phillips Academy presents "On the Wing: A Celebration of Birds in Music and Spoken Word" on Sunday, Feb. 23, at 2 p.m. at Addison Gallery of American Art on the campus at 180 Main St., Andover.

The program aims to exalt birds as symbols of wonderment, freedom and beauty. "On the Wing" will showcase 12 original songs by composer Andrew List, played by noted pianist George Lopez, artist-in-residence at Bowdoin College in Maine, and sung by mezzo-soprano Krista River.

"Creating 'On the Wing' is a fulfillment of a lifelong desire to make a special work that celebrates birds and the natural world," List said in a release. "I draw most of my inspiration as a composer from the outdoors and nature, which have always been

a grounding force for my music."

Interspersed through the song cycle will be poems written and recited by poet and Babson College English Professor Mary Pinard, who also wrote lyrics to the music, and commentary by ornithologist Wayne Petersen, Mass Audubon's director of important bird areas and an expert guide.

Petersen, who has traveled the globe in search of bird life, said the performance has great potential for connecting people to nature in an original way.

"When Andrew proposed this project, I was immediately intrigued because of our shared love of birds," Petersen said in the release. "And the way he has reached out to colleagues in the worlds of music and literature to join him in this concert



COURTESY PHOTO

The New England Tenors, accompanied by special musical guests, will perform Sunday at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College in North Andover.

series has reaffirmed for me how nature can inspire artists and build communities."

The program will conclude with a question-and-answer period moderated by List.

Admission is free. Call the Music Department at Phillips at 978-749-4260 for more information.

### Tenors for a Sunday at Rogers Center

The New England Tenors teams with two female guest soloists, a youth dance group and an interfaith choir to present its third annual concert in the Valley this weekend.

The ensemble will perform its third annual

concert at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College in North Andover on Sunday, Feb. 23, at 3 p.m.

The tenors — John Middleton-Cox, Damien Corcoran and Jeffrey Hartman — have assembled a program of all-time favorites and have added a "Sound of Music" set that will feature special guest soprano April Foley of North Andover, youth dancers from Dance Infusion and an interfaith choir.

The tenors will be accompanied by a pianist and violinist as well.

In addition, Nurylis Centron, winner of the 2013 Merrimack Valley Idol contest sponsored by Quota International of Andover, will open the show with her award-winning reprisal of "I Am Changing" from the Broadway hit "Dreamgirls." Tickets are \$20 in

advance, \$25 at the door. They can be purchased online at [www.newengland-tenors.com](http://www.newengland-tenors.com) or by calling the Rogers Center box office at 978-837-5355. Visit [www.merrimack.edu/rogerscenter](http://www.merrimack.edu/rogerscenter) for more.

### Local pitching in at Emerson Stage

Rachel Shaw of Andover is lending a hand to the stage production of Emerson College in Boston's "Fefu and Her Friends" this weekend.

Shaw, who is majoring in stage/production management, is serving as an assistant production supervisor for the Emerson Stage production, which plays Feb. 20 through 23 at the Semel Theater on campus.

To submit an item for Out & About, email [townsman@andovertownsmen.com](mailto:townsman@andovertownsmen.com).

## Former Bruin Sanderson 'Crossing the Line' to Andover

Maybe you still have that "Derek is Unreal" gold and black sweatshirt or some other No. 16 memory from that famed Boston Bruins hockey era of yesteryear.

Next month, you'll have a chance to meet former Bruins great Derek Sanderson, nicknamed "Turk," when he

pays a visit to Andover. Sanderson will highlight his autobiography, "Crossing the Line: The Outrageous Story of a Hockey Original," on Saturday, March 8, at Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6 Locke St., Andover.

Admission is the price

of one book — \$25.95 hardcover — which Sanderson will autograph.

His appearance, which starts at 3 p.m., is hosted by Andover Bookstore, but is being held at the church to accommodate a larger crowd.

Considered one of

hockey's first rebels, Sanderson shares his road to two Stanley Cup victories in the early 1970s and comes clean on his life in hockey, including what he says were the demons that threatened to consume him and the strength and courage it took to fight his way back.

The venue seats 110 guests, although additional standing room may be available. Andover Bookstore recommends that people buy a book in advance to receive a ticket and ensure admittance. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis. No memorabilia

beyond Sanderson's book will be signed at the event.

For more information, to order a copy of the book and get a ticket, call the bookstore at 978-475-0143 or stop by the shop at 89 Main St.

— Judy Wakefield, staff writer

# Arts & Entertainment



COURTESY IMAGE

Photographer Tony Decaneas' black-and-white work includes humanistic documentary photography as well as lyrical and narrative landscapes.

## NECC presents 6th annual Peace Poetry Contest

What started as one veteran's commitment to peace has evolved into an annual Peace Poetry Contest at Northern Essex Community College that attracts hundreds of peace-focused poems from school children in the Merrimack Valley and beyond.

NECC English Professor Dr. Paul G. Saint-Amand, a Vietnam-era veteran who is committed to peace, introduced the contest six years ago.

Students in kindergarten through grade 12 from both public and private schools as well as NECC students and adults affiliated with the schools are invited to participate in the poetry contest and reading. Participants may create and submit original poems on the subject of peace.

The submission deadline is Friday, March 15. Some 80 poems and accompanying artwork will be selected for publication in a small book of poetry to be released this spring.

In addition, selected entrants will be invited to take part in a poetry reading on Friday, May 2, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Hartleb Technology Center on Northern Essex's Haverhill campus, 100 Elliott St.

Last year's contest attracted more than 1,000 entries from almost 50 schools. The contest is coordinated by Saint-Amand, who has been teaching at the college for seven years and has made it his personal mission to promote peace.

"As an educator, I want to fuel children's imaginations toward peace," he says in a release. "A lot more has been written about war than about peace."

NECC students are collaborating on the project, designing posters and award certificates. They will participate in judging entries and will host the public reading.

Entries can be submitted to [peacepoetry@necc.mass.edu](mailto:peacepoetry@necc.mass.edu) or NECC Peace Poetry Contest, 100 Elliott St., Spurk 317H, Haverhill 01830-2399.

The contest is sponsored by the NECC Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs, the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, the English Department, and the Service Learning Committee. For more information, contact Saint-Amand at 978-556-3307 or [psaintamand@necc.mass.edu](mailto:psaintamand@necc.mass.edu) or visit [www.necc.mass.edu/academics/enrichment/service-learning/peace-poetry/](http://www.necc.mass.edu/academics/enrichment/service-learning/peace-poetry/).

## 'Past to Present' with Greek photographer

The Robert Lehman Art Center at Brooks School in North Andover is showcasing the work of photographer Tony Decaneas this winter in "A Retrospective: Looking from Past to Present."

Decaneas started Panopticon Gallery in 1970. The company, now called Decaneas Archive, began as a black-and-white custom lab and reflected Decaneas' own photographic interests: humanistic documentary photography as well as lyrical and narrative landscapes.

Decaneas is the author of "Bradford Washburn: Mountain Photography" and he has published collections of photographs by Ernest C. Withers. He has also published the book "Pavlia, Portrait of a Greek Village," a collection of photographs of his father's village.

The exhibit features both recent projects and photographs from Decaneas' publications.

"His exhibition shows the evolution of a photographer," Mark Shovan, Brooks English teacher and Decaneas' longtime friend, said in a release, "How did he start out, and now that he's 60-something, what does he see now?"

Decaneas served as the



COURTESY IMAGE

The retrospective exhibit features photographs from Tony Decaneas' recent projects as well as some of his publications.

school's artist-in-residence for one week earlier this month, working with students in the visual arts classes.

His exhibit runs through March 10 at The Robert Lehman Art Center at Brooks, 1160 Great Pond Road. Gallery hours

are Mondays through Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon (closed during school vacations). Admission is free.

For more information, call 978-725-6232 or visit [www.brooksschool.org/lehman](http://www.brooksschool.org/lehman).

## Digging deep for 'Gardening for the Spirit'

Photographer and gardening expert Cheryl Collins will present "Gardening for the Spirit: Connect Your Gardening to Your Soul" at the next meeting of the Andover Garden Club on Tuesday, March 4, at 10 a.m. at South Church, 41 Central St., Andover.

Collins will show club members and their guests how to look at different types of gardens and decide what defines them.

She'll offer simple tricks to design and plant a garden to delight all five senses. The program will seek to inspire people to create a new space — or reinvent an older space — in a way that brings joy to the soul and peace to the spirit.

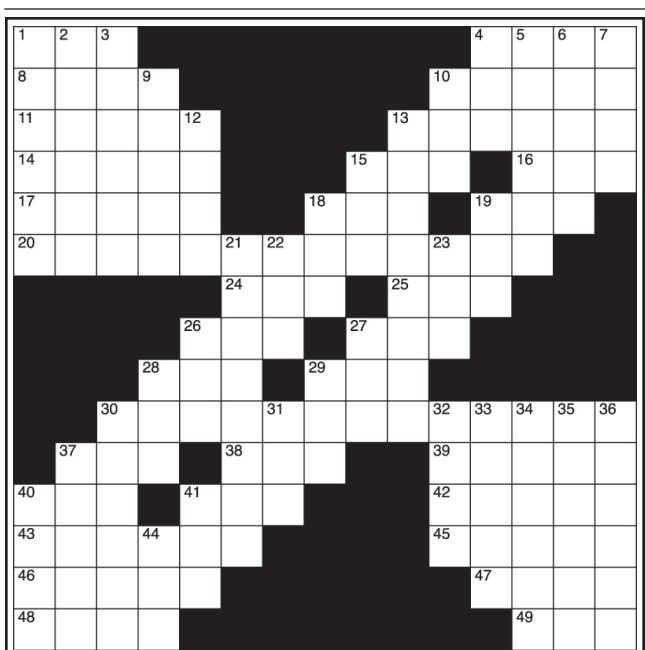
A freelance photographer for nearly 30 years, Collins served as state photographer for the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts for six years. Her work has been featured in The Vision of Beauty

Calendar and National Gardener Magazine and on the state federation website.

Collins has presented to garden clubs and civic organizations throughout New England. A past president of the Garden Club of Mansfield, she has also served as South Shore district director for the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts.

The program opens with some social time and a brief business meeting. Admission is free for members of the Andover Garden Club; a \$10 donation is requested from guests. Refreshments are included.

Information about joining the Andover Garden Club is available from membership chairwomen Linda Carpenter at 978-475-7430 or [lcarpenter1@comcast.net](mailto:lcarpenter1@comcast.net) and Ronnie Haarmann at 978-475-4414 or [rchaarmann@comcast.net](mailto:rchaarmann@comcast.net).



### CLUES ACROSS

1. Boring routine
4. Back talk
8. Emerald Isle
10. Snow leopard
11. 1/20 of an ancient shekel
13. Language of Apia
14. Relating to NH2
15. British Air Aces
16. Woman (French)
17. Cheese skins
18. Deafening noise
19. Cheeky talk
20. Early photograph
24. Basics
25. 007's Flemming
26. Photograph (slang)

### Solution in Classified Section

27. Male sheep
28. Norse sea goddess
29. Small cask
30. Ch. Osgood hosts
37. Confederate soldier
38. Radioactivity unit
39. Chocolate tree
40. Express surprise
41. Express delight
42. Mary mourning Jesus
43. 18th century indoor cap
45. Thanjavur University
46. Skilled
47. Hindu mother goddess
48. Follow by one's foot
49. Born of

### CLUES DOWN

1. Respect
2. Azotemia
3. Exhausting
4. Accumulation
5. Lack of moral standards in a society
6. A rascal
7. X100 = 1 tala
9. River of Haikou, China
10. Lout
12. Stockings
13. Capital of Chile
15. Spanish for river
18. 12th month (abbr.)
19. Skilled nurse
21. Unit of precipitation
22. Corpse count (abbr.)

23. Sweet potato
26. God of fields & woods
27. Dream sleep
28. Polish or stroke
29. Kilo yard (abbr.)
30. Member of U.S. Navy
31. Express pleasure
32. Written acknowledgment (abbr.)
33. Neptune's closest satellite
34. O'Neill play "The \_\_\_ Cometh"
35. Homegrown
36. Goalkeeper
37. \_\_\_ Island, U.S. State
40. Far East nursemaid
41. Food grain
44. 2 stripe rank (abbr.)

2/20/14

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### AUTHOR/READING

**HOCKEY ORIGINAL.** Boston Bruins great Derek Sanderson discusses his autobiography, "Crossing the Line: The Outrageous Story of a Hockey Original," Saturday, March 8, 3

p.m., Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6 Locke St., Andover; hosted by Andover Bookstore, 89 Main St.; admission one hardcover book, \$25.95; 978-475-0143, <http://hugobookstores.com/andover>.

### FILM

**SCREENING ROOM.** Boomer-Venture Screening Room Film Festival series featuring "The Other Son," Feb. 27, 7 p.m.; free, snacks available; Center at Punchedard, 30 Whittier Court, Andover; 978-623-8321, [www.andoverseniorcenter.org](http://www.andoverseniorcenter.org).

### MUSIC

**ON THE WING.** Phillips Academy presents "On the Wing: A Celebration of Birds in Poetry and Music," Sunday, Feb. 23, 2 p.m., Addison Gallery, Phillips Academy campus, 180 Main St.; free; 978-749-4260, [music@andover.edu](mailto:music@andover.edu).

**ORCHESTRAL WORKS.** The Symphony and Chamber Orchestras of Phillips Academy perform works by Dvorak, Britten, Puccini and more, plus an original piece and other selections by Phillips Academy seniors, Friday, Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m.; Cochran Chapel, Phillips Academy campus, 180 Main St.; free; 978-749-4260, [music@andover.edu](mailto:music@andover.edu).

**TENOR SOUNDS.** The New England Tenors join with

special guest female soloists, a youth dance group and an interfaith choir, plus piano and violin accompanists, for third annual concert, Sunday, Feb. 23, 3 p.m., at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover; tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 at door; [www.newenglandtenors.com](http://www.newenglandtenors.com), [www.merrimack.edu/rogerscenter](http://www.merrimack.edu/rogerscenter); 978-837-5355.

### 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](http://www.merrimack.edu/rogerscenter).

To submit an item for the Events Calendar, email [townsman@andovertownsmen.com](mailto:townsman@andovertownsmen.com).

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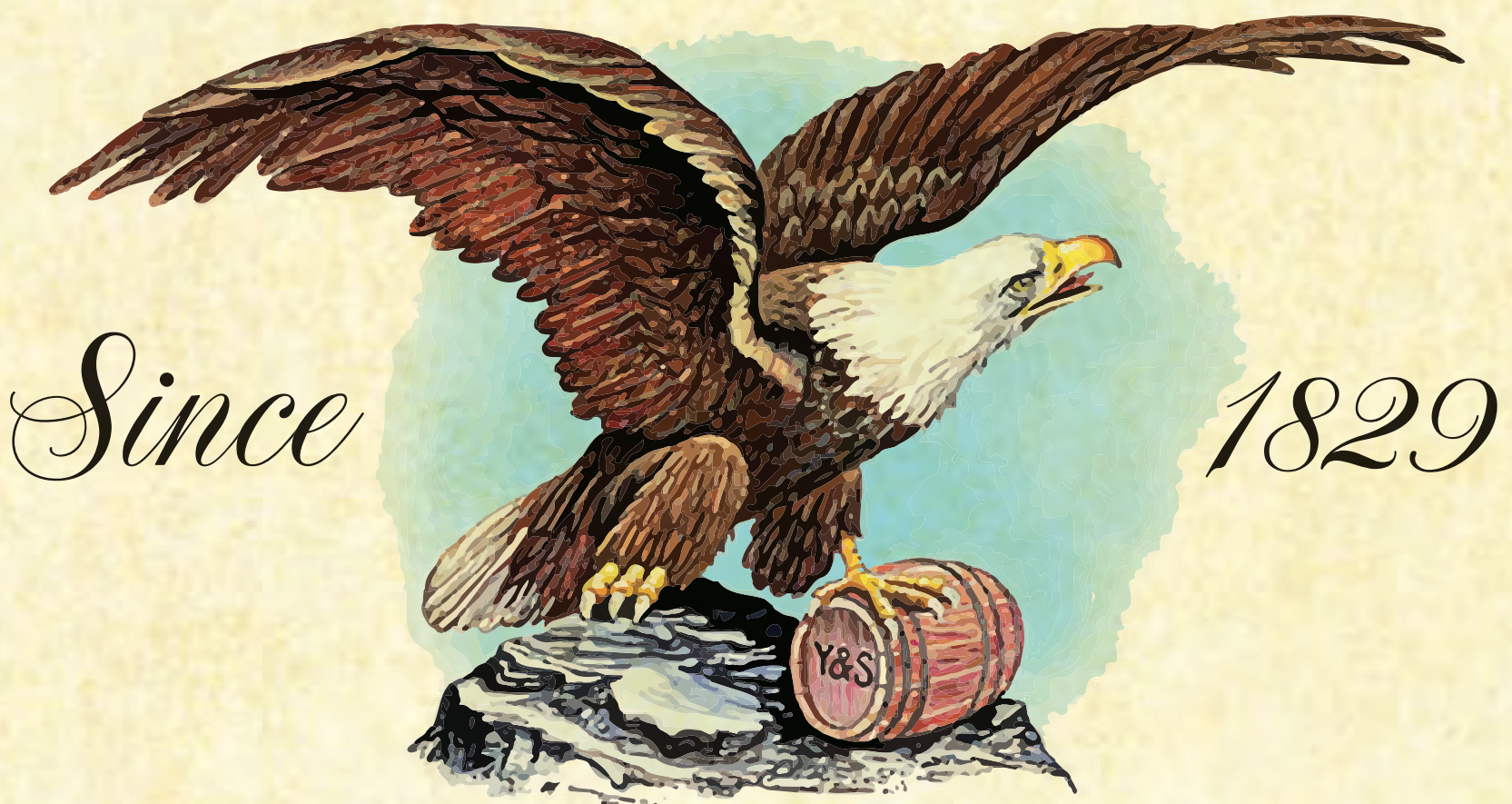
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# Townspeople



Dave Brian shares an impromptu moment with young residents of a Navajo reservation in Tuba City, Ariz.



Dave Brian poses along the Mississippi River in New Orleans — the second time he crossed the Mississippi — after passing through Davenport, Iowa.



Almost five months after he left Boston, Dave Brian celebrates the completion of his cycling adventure on Oct. 30 at the edge of the Atlantic Ocean in Saint Augustine, Fla.

## A 6,800-MILE LESSON IN LIFE

### Cyclist's soul-searching adventure takes him coast to coast

By DUSTIN LUCA  
dluca@andovertownsm.com

For one Andover man admittedly lost in life, finding direction meant going on a bike ride — one that covered 6,800 miles across 24 states in 121 days.

Dave “Davey” Brian, a 22-year-old North Main Street resident, embarked on an adventure that has left him with a new attitude on life.

The decision to pedal from Boston to Seattle and then back east to Florida came at a time of uncertainty in Brian's life.

“I wasn't really doing stuff after high school. I was confused,” he said. “All my friends were going to college, and I had no idea what I wanted to do.”

Brian decided to realign his life, putting his studies in psychology and marketing at Bunker Hill Community College in Charlestown on hold for the chance to do something memorable while he was still young and had both the ability and energy, he said.

He started working seven days a week at two Dunkin' Donuts locations to save up for the trip. Come last June,



Dave “Davey” Brian used a time of uncertainty in his life to embark on a bicycle trip through 24 states last year.

he had put away \$5,000. He sunk \$800 into a bike; grabbed a sleeping bag, tent and other supplies; and then set off from Boston on June 4.

Early on, he encountered

some issues with his knees. But by the time he reached Chicago, they were gone. From there, he headed to Des Moines, took in the sights at Mt. Rushmore and Yellowstone

National Park, and then continued on to Seattle, almost entirely on pedal power.

Brian would cycle by day, then find shelter at night. He relied heavily on two social media websites he discovered on his travels — WarmShowers.org, described as “a site for reciprocal hospitality for touring bicyclists,” and CouchSurfing.org, with the motto, “Travel the world, explore your city and host new friends.”

“When I first started my trip, ... I was skeptical about it,” Brian said. “But it worked out great. I met so many people I still keep in contact with.”

After taking a month off to rest and explore, Brian made a one-day beeline from Portland to San Francisco, covering 200 miles in 16 hours, his longest one-day trek of the entire trip. By the end of it, he was shaking and had a pounding headache to show for the mistreatment. And his knee troubles returned.

The knee issues prompted him to forego a rougher part of the ride, opting instead for a 23-hour bus trip from San Francisco to Texas in early-September. From there, he got back

on the bike and spent the next almost two months cycling east through New Orleans and into Florida. He arrived in St. Augustine, dipping his front tire in the Atlantic Ocean on Oct. 30.

There were rough patches along the way, he said. Warm showers and couches to crash on weren't always easy to come by. At times, he'd set up his tent and spend the night at a campsite or, on some instances, rough it entirely, he said. Nutrition also became a challenge.

“By the end of my trip, I really lowered my health standards because I was low on money,” he said, explaining how he would stop at dollar stores in Louisiana and Florida and buy boxes of Pop-Tarts for \$2 to keep himself going.

“It was so bad,” he said, laughing.

Brian returned east in late fall with no money, but filled with a sense of accomplishment. He has settled in Andover, where he works at the front desk at Planet Fitness in Shawsheen Plaza. He plans on going back to school at some point, but for now, he said he enjoys working at the gym surrounded by people like

himself who are interested in fitness.

His main takeaway from the trip is the hospitality he experienced from coast to coast.

“You hear so much on the news, how corrupt people are. ... I did this bike trip, thought I'd have knives put up to me, crazy things. But I didn't have any bad experiences,” he said. “I met so many people along the way that helped me out, gave me stuff along the way. Everything fell into place.”

In the end, the bus trip from San Francisco to Texas still bothers him, almost like it invalidates the rest of the journey. He intends to some day return to the south to complete that leg and make the trip whole.

Despite that one minor regret, he said he learned something valuable about life — the power of a simple smile.

“I had days where I put a frown on my face and would curse and have a negative attitude, and nothing good would happen from there. It just got worse,” he said. “I'd take a deep breath, realize tomorrow is a new day.

“If you keep a positive attitude, a smile on your face and be good to others, good will come back.”

## Going Unleashed for Andover Dog Park

### Major fundraiser March 8

“Unleashed” — a fundraiser to support the construction of a dog park in town — is set for Saturday, March 8, at 7 p.m. at Andover Country Club.

Hosted by the Friends of the Andover Dog Park, the event will include silent and live auctions, raffles, appetizers, drinks, desserts and live entertainment.

Proceeds will go toward the completion of an outdoor recreation area for dogs, their owners and anyone who enjoys the company of dogs.

The town of Andover has approved a parcel of land near the Bald Hill Conservation property on High Plain Road for use as a public dog park. The Friends of the Dog Park, a group of private individuals, is currently raising the funds to complete the park infrastructure. They hope to start construction this spring, dependent on the success of their fundraising efforts.

When the park is complete, dogs will be allowed to exercise, play and train leash-free within the fenced boundary. While town leash laws currently prohibit dogs from being off leash on public land, the new park will provide an area for dogs to enjoy a little freedom. A double gate will guarantee that the dogs are kept safely within the fenced area. The park will also include benches and wooded shady areas where dog owners and outdoor enthusiasts can relax and socialize.

Group leaders say while the Friends of the Andover Dog Park is working to raise all the necessary construction funds privately, they realize that some of the funds may need to be provided by the town through a warrant

request at this spring's Town Meeting. They say the private-public funding model has been successful for Andover projects in the past, and they want to raise a significant amount of funds at Unleashed to demonstrate a good-faith effort to Andover residents.

Attendees of Unleashed will have the opportunity to bid on such items as in-home wine tastings, Bruins tickets, a chef's table at a local restaurant, golf at The Country Club in Brookline and artwork from local artists. In addition, there will be fun activities and dog park-related items available for purchase to benefit the cause.

Tickets are \$50 and available online at [www.AndoverDogParkMa.com](http://www.AndoverDogParkMa.com), or at the following local businesses — River Road Veterinary Hospital, Groom Town, Blue Dog Academy, Learning Express, Cakes by Design, Andover Animal Hospital, Alpers Fine Art and Shawsheen Village Liquors.

A pre-event kick-off featuring light appetizers takes place next Thursday, Feb. 27, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Brasserie 28, 2 Elm Square, Andover. The public is invited to donate items for the auction and hear about items that will be up for bid at Unleashed, buy tickets for the fundraiser and learn about the dog park.

A Facebook page that includes more details on the fundraiser has been created for the Friends of the Andover Dog Park at <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofAndoverDogPark>. For more information, visit [www.AndoverDogParkMa.com](http://www.AndoverDogParkMa.com) or email [www.AndoverDogParkMA@yahoo.com](mailto:www.AndoverDogParkMA@yahoo.com).

## Hometown support



COURTESY PHOTO

Brickstone Square is rooting on Andover freestyle skier Annalisa Drew, who is set to compete on Thursday, Feb. 20, in the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, with the U.S. half-pipe team. The 20-year-old Drew, whose father is a tenant of the building, was tapped as the coach's pick to make Team USA. Brickstone Square owner Pearlmark Real Estate Partners and leasing agent Jones Lang LaSalle teamed to create the banner.

## Sharing more than a meal

### Parents of autistic children launch dinner club

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
jwakefield@andovertownsm.com

Raising a child with autism comes with a host of challenges along with the joys — and going out to dinner can prove one of them.

Behaviors can be unpredictable, with children sometimes having trouble sitting still, talking too loud or even sampling food from a plate at another table, parents say. Other diners may be disturbed and the restaurant staff may not know the best way to service the table — sometimes leaving parents self-conscious and wondering if the trip to the restaurant was even worth it.

“We can feel isolated,” said Lenard Zohn of Andover, who has an 8-year-old autistic daughter who attends West Elementary School. “It can be very isolating for any of us and I've heard that from many parents.”

So, Zohn has banded together with some other local parents who have autistic children and formed a family dinner club called Autism Eats.

The group will host its first night out on Tuesday, Feb. 25. The inaugural dinner is planned from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the Rose Room at Andolini's Restaurant, 19 Essex St., Andover.

The hope of Autism Eats is to help reduce the stress and increase the enjoyment of going out to dinner for families affected by autism, Zohn said.

He said the group will seek to create relaxed, non-judgmental environments

for families to socialize and connect with others who share similar experiences. That connection, Zohn said, can mean a lot to families like his.

Zohn's goal is to host a family dinner out every six weeks or so. They will be held in private rooms of restaurants or function facilities. Food will be served buffet or family style so there is no waiting. In addition, music and lighting will be adjusted to accommodate those with sensory sensitivity. And gluten-free options will be available to cater to all dietary needs.

Because everyone attending has a loved one on the autism spectrum, Zohn said there will be no need for parents to apologize, explain or feel uncomfortable.

“We hope to branch out to families all over,” he said. “We want our families to be like other families.”

To help with the inaugural event, Zohn has gone to Andover High School and solicited the aid of students to volunteer for the evening. “It's going to be a great time for families,” he said.

Next week's Autism Eats at Andolini's will feature an Italian buffet including crunched and spicy chick peas, fresh green garden salad, chicken fingers, fresh-cut french fries, penne bolognese, fusilli primavera, gourmet margherita and pepperoni pizza, bread, dessert and drinks. Prices are \$25 for adults and \$15 for children. For reservations or more information, visit [www.AutismEats.org](http://www.AutismEats.org).

# BoomerVenture launches a fit lead-in to spring

BoomerVenture Campus at The Center at Pynchard is looking forward to spring with a new roster of classes and activities launching next week that is aimed at making the most of the changing seasons.

At the top of the to-do list for many boomers is leading an active lifestyle. So BoomerVenture is making sure fitness factors prominently into the spring schedule.

Also acknowledging the need for reflection and replenishment, organizers are offering a hands-on, how-to-for meditation, as well as an opportunity to reflect on

nature with the Clear Water Haiku writing series.

Boomers are invited to discover their inner artist by joining the campus' Spirited Painter outing at Metamorphosis in town; no experience is necessary.

Those needing support in caring for loved ones are encouraged to check out the four-week "Coping With Caregiving" series that will offer caretakers the resources and information they need to carry out the tasks before them.

BoomerVenture classes begin the week of Feb. 24 at The Center, 30 Whittier

Court, Andover. The schedule includes:

**BoomerVenture Screening Room:** Thursdays at 7 p.m., featuring award-winning foreign and independent movies.

**Boomer Energize with Exercise:** Mondays, 3:30 p.m., though May 12; aerobic workout without going to the gym, \$60.

**Boomer Zumba Intervals:** Thursdays, 3:30 p.m., through May 15; combines weight training and cardio fitness with dance, \$65.

**Bender Barre:** Thursdays, 6 p.m., through May 15; challenging workout combining elements of Pilates, yoga and

ballet to strengthen, sculpt and tone; ends with extended stretching and relaxation exercises; no previous experience required, bring two yoga mats; \$65.

**Serenity Yoga:** Thursdays, 7:15 p.m., through May 15; gentle postures that open the body while quieting the mind; each class includes meditation, \$65.

**Meditation:** Thursdays, March 6 through 27, 7 to 8:30 p.m.; simple self-generated relaxation process that brings participants to a calm state in only a few minutes, even in moments of stress. Practitioners say the gentle practice

can bring health benefits and key insights to the surface when practiced regularly; \$16.

**Coping With Caregiving:** Thursdays, April 3 to 24, 7 to 8:30 p.m.; experts offer vital information about the challenges and rewards of caring for loved ones as their needs increase; free with registration.

**Nordic Walking:** Wednesdays, April 23 to May 14, 3:50 to 5:15 p.m.; aerobic and upper-body workout using specially fitted poles; outings take place at AVIS properties in town, \$22.

**The Spirited Painter:** Wednesdays, April 16, 7 to 9 p.m., at

Metamorphosis, 10 Essex St., Andover; participants will paint and sip their way through a relaxing evening and go home with their own work of art; no previous art experience required, bring your own drinks; \$20, register at BoomerVenture campus.

**Clear Water Haiku:** Thursdays, May 8 and 15, 7 to 8:30 p.m.; read, write and share haiku in a supportive, relaxing workshop; no experience needed, \$10.

For information, call 978-623-8321, email kpaynetaylor@andoverma.gov or visit www.boomerventure.com.

# Board of Trade a catalyst for vibrant downtown



## Andover Stories

Gail Ralston  
ANDOVER  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

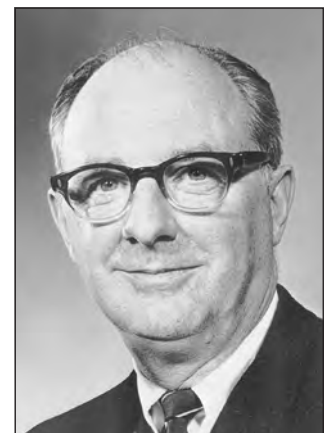
Promoting downtown Andover businesses and planning activities to entice folks to "shop locally" is not a new concept. Today, that is the focus of the Andover Business Community Association. In 1951, that role was taken on by the Andover Board of Trade.

Sponsored by a committee of the Andover Service Club led by President Harold Heseltine, the Board of Trade brought together mercantile and industrial leaders throughout town.

Meeting in the hall of the Square and Compass Club (the Masonic Lodge), 48 Andoverites established the groundwork "which promised to contribute greatly to community life."

Jack Barry, representing the Greater Lawrence Chamber of Commerce, addressed the gathering, speaking on the importance of a local commerce group and highlighting projects to be considered.

After much discussion, William Doherty of Doherty Insurance Agency moved that plans



COURTESY PHOTO

**Harold Heseltine led the formation of the Andover Board of Trade – the forerunner of the Andover Business Community Association – in 1951.**

be furthered to form a trade group. Carl Elander of Elander & Swanton, the men's clothing store, seconded the motion. Selectman Roy E. Hardy suggested that the original committee of seven pursue this proposal, adding additional people as deemed desirable. The motion passed unanimously.

Formation came closer to completion at a general meeting, for which invitations were sent to many of the town's businessmen and women. That evening, it was recommended:

- To establish the Andover Board of Trade.
- To promote the industrial, business and civic welfare of Andover.
- To elect officers.

■ To open membership to any person or firm engaged in a business or profession in Andover, or any resident approved by the executive committee.

■ To establish minimum dues of \$5 annually.

The first meeting concluded with 37 businesses signing up for membership. The following week, officers were elected with W.R. Hill (Hill's Hardware) as president, Heseltine (Ford's) and Samuel Glazerman (Michael Jay's, children's and women's clothing store) as vice presidents and Anna M. Greeley (attorney) as secretary-treasurer. Another woman holding a prominent position in the group was Miriam Putnam, town librarian.

Foremost on the agenda was the creation of a Lighting Committee to supervise financing and lighting for the downtown Christmas season. Planned also was a parade preceding the lighting, shortly after Thanksgiving. A full-page ad in The Townsman solicited donations to the program with the entreaty to "Patronize Your Andover Merchants."

Political issues were also taken on by the board. In December, the group joined others in town to go on record as opposing a proposal by the state commissioner of conservation to establish a prison camp within Harold Parker State Forest.

Another issue drawing heated discussion was the "problem of securing suitable parking areas in the downtown area." It was the opinion of the group at one meeting that "off-street parking is essential to the welfare of the town, the convenience and safety of the public, and the maintenance and growth of shops that meet the public needs." In addition to leading to greater foot traffic, improving the parking situation would also, in the board's opinion, "lead to more complete stocks and more sanitary areas in the rear (of the stores), which present less of a fire hazard."

The Board of Trade continued to urge members to take an active part in all community life. To that end, committees were formed representing a cross-section of the town and focusing on schools, business and the challenge of attracting various industries to town.

Now 63 years later, today's downtown business group still holds true to the goals of the earlier trade group. And clearly, some issues haven't changed. Thankfully, however, through the efforts of these local businesses and citizens' commitment to shopping locally, downtown Andover is thriving.

*Andover Stories, submitted by the Andover Historical Society, is a regular feature in The Townsman.*

## WHAT'S HAPPENING: UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AT CENTER AT PYNCHARD

The Center at Pynchard (The Center), 30 Whittier Court, Andover, has several activities on tap. Here are some of the highlights:

**Continental Breakfast:** Monday, Feb. 24, 9 a.m. Complimentary continental breakfast.

**Downsizing ... The Agony and the Ecstasy:** Thursday, Feb. 27, 1:30 to 3 p.m. A look at the ins and outs of downsizing in a timely, effective manner; \$3.

**Greater Lawrence Community Action Council:** Friday, Feb. 28, 9:30 a.m. An overview of available community services.

**Healthy Eating Habits: Supermarket Persuasion:** Friday, March 7, 9:30 a.m. Behind-the-scenes video tour of the supermarket reveals how marketers shape shopping behavior. Breakfast provided; free.

**Petticoat Patriot: A Woman in the Continental Army – Trip to Nashua, N.H.:** Monday, March 3, 11:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. Living history program featuring Deborah Sampson, who, disguised as a young man, served 17 months undetected in the Continental Army during the American Revolution. Includes program and lunch, \$41.

**Bridge for Advanced Beginners:** Mondays, March 10 to May 12, 10 a.m. to noon. Life master Terry Kay Bargar instructs those who play bridge or are currently taking lessons and are ready to learn some conventions, including slam bidding,

stayman, Jacoby transfers and more, while also offering a basic bidding review; \$149.

**The Caste Systems of India:** Tuesdays, March 11 and 18, 10:30 a.m. Author and journalist Madras Sreenivas explores the ancient socio-religious practice; \$6.

**Meet the Author: Bill Dalton:** Wednesday, March 12, 2 p.m. Former town moderator, selectman and longtime Andover Townsman columnist Bill Dalton chronicles the people who created the complex tapestry that is Andover in "Legendary Locals of Andover."

The center's new exercise term begins the week of Feb. 24 and runs through May 16. Classes are offered in aerobics (seated to very vigorous), strength training, beginner and intermediate yoga, basic and performance tap dancing, intermediate tai chi as well as line dancing. If space allows, individuals may enroll for a half session or audit a class once to see if it is the right fit. Check at the center or online for a complete schedule and details.

All programs and events are open to the community. However, space is limited and registration is required.

The Center at Pynchard is open daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For a complete listing of classes and programs, check the center's newsletter or visit www.andoversenior-center.org. For more information, call 978-623-8321.

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# Sports

## BC mourns passing of quiet giant

By Michael Muldoon

Dick Kelley could have gone to top law schools or pursued several lucrative business opportunities out of college.

Later on, other universities and professional sports teams offered jobs.

But Dick Kelley leave Boston College? Preposterous! Kelley, who never married, and the school had a nearly 30-year love affair.

Kelley, Boston College's longtime sports information director, lost his nearly three-year battle with ALS — amyotrophic lateral sclerosis — last Thursday, Feb. 13. The Andover native was 48.



A quiet, humble man, his impact was profound on the school, its athletes and its teams. The dreaded Lou Gehrig's disease soon robbed him of his speech and his mobility, but his character and compassion remained as strong as a 300-pound Boston College lineman.

Legendary BC hockey coach Jerry York was a close friend of Kelley's.

"If we can model our lives, all of us, watching how he went through his life, that will be our tribute to Richard," York said.

"I was fortunate to list him as a real friend from my first press conference until his untimely death."

The Eagles were wearing a "DK" decal on their helmets in their recent game against the University of Vermont.

"That will be our tribute to Richard," said York, who praised Kelley for "always trying to make us better as people, not just hockey and basketball players."

Kelley's relationship with the university was unique. Colleagues marvel at the hours he put in. About the only one who ever beat him to the office was the workaholic coach Tom Coughlin in his days at the Heights.

"BC remained everything to Dick," said Tim Clark of the BC sports information department. "He remained an employee of the institution until physically he couldn't do it any more. It speaks to the level of devotion he had to the place."

And BC was devoted to Kelley, who earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the Jesuit school. Kelley, a devout Catholic, was blessed to have two incredibly loving and loyal families.

The first, of course, were the Kelleys: parents Ed and Ann of Andover, brother Ted and sister-in-law Carrie of Foxboro, and brother Patrick of Andover. They've made extraordinary sacrifices to make Dick's life comfortable these last few years.

The second family was Boston College, especially his co-workers in the sports information department.

Paul Yannalfo, Kelley's best friend since grade school, said, "He was just an incredibly genuine person. He had a lot of integrity. He was always trying to help others. It's a legacy that won't soon be forgotten."

What amazed even those who knew Kelley best was his outlook while his body was ravaged by ALS.

"You see someone's nature when they are dragged through this," said Yannalfo, a financial planner who lives in Andover. "Every single time I walked in that room, he had a smile for me. He kept his sense of humor. It was hard."

In a moving, lengthy story by Sports Illustrated's Pete Thamel last May, Kelley said, "I have my highs and lows. Doesn't everyone? Though many, many more of the former."

Some of the most powerful people who came through BC were most touched by the Irishman with the quick wit dripping with sarcasm.

It's been my great fortune to know Dick and the Kelley family for over 30 years. Visiting his apartment last year, I couldn't resist, when nobody was looking, to take a peek at the note that Coughlin wrote to Dick in the two-time Super Bowl-winning coach's book.

Even the toughest coach in the sport was moved by Kelley's bravery.

Before ALS forced Kelley to use a feeding tube, the Kelley family said York would often bring his friend dinner and help feed him.

There are many stories of the BC community giving back to the man who gave it so much.

Ex-Eagles star Ben Smith visited Kelley's apartment unannounced last summer ... with the Stanley Cup!

New York Rangers star Chris Kreider from Boxford and Phillips Academy would regularly stop by. Don't anybody dare say a bad word around the Kelley family around basketball coach Steve Donahue, who, along with his players, was devoted to him until the end.

Kelley won several national awards. He was honored for his decades of selfless service to BC and to the media from coast to coast. But more so for the "quiet dignity," as Clark called it, with which he faced his disease.

See KELLEY, Page 17

## Making her own way



COURTESY PHOTO  
Veronica Alois has emerged as a star for the Andover High girls hockey team. The sister of three basketball state champions, Alois has scored 30 goals for the Golden Warriors this season.

### From a basketball family, Alois becomes a star in hockey

By DAVID WILLIS  
dwillis@andvertownsmian.com

Veronica Alois was destined to play basketball for Andover High, most everyone assumed.

The younger sister of Alex, Jackie and Rebecca Alois — all of whom won at least one state title during Andover's magical girls hoops run of three straight state crowns from 2010-12 — would surely follow in her siblings' paths at Dunn Gym.

And for many years, Veronica Alois believed that would be the case, too. That is, until she fell in love with hockey.

"I grew up playing basketball," Alois said. "But as soon as I tried hockey, I loved it. It is such a different sport. Eventually I had to make a decision, and I went with hockey."

That choice has worked out tremendously well for Alois and the Golden Warriors hockey team.

Heading into the week, Alois, a sophomore, has

#### AMONG THE BEST

Here are the best scorers in Andover girls hockey history:

Name	year	goals
Maria Nasta	2006	47
Maria Nasta	2005	43
Maria Nasta	2004	36
Sarah Oteri	2010	35
Veronica Alois	2014	30

(as of Feb. 17)

posted a whopping 30 goals to lead Andover to a 10-4-3 record and the No. 9 ranking in the state.

"Veronica's greatest asset is that she is the ultimate competitor," coach Liz Keady said. "She is also an awesome all-around athlete. She is already making her mark on the hockey world, and will only get better from here."

Growing up, Alois imagined something far different.

Oldest sister Melissa actually began the state title tradition, winning four with the powerhouse Andover swim team (2003-07).

After that, the Alois name

became synonymous with girls hoops greatness at Andover.

Older sister Alex was a starting forward as a senior for Andover's 2010 Division 1 state title-winning team.

Sister Jackie was a freshman on that team and went on to then start on the 2011 and 2012 title team. Sister Rebecca was a freshman on the 2011 team and a starting forward on the 2012 team.

She is currently a girls basketball co-captain for the Warriors.

And the No. 1 fan for those teams was Veronica.

"It was so awesome watching my sisters accomplish that," Alois said. "I was always in the front row screaming and wearing their jerseys. They love the game so much and I loved watching them."

It turned out to be a pure accident that led Alois onto the ice.

"When I was about 12, my mother took my brother (Donald) to sign up for hockey because my parents

wanted him to try different sports," she said. "I just happened to be with them that day at the sign-up and my brother said he would only play hockey if I played, too."

"I had never stepped on the ice before that in my life, but I said OK. He eventually decided on basketball, but I stayed with it. I loved hockey right away. It was such a different sport. It was so fast and so physical."

For the next few years, Alois juggled both hockey and basketball, until it became impossible.

"For years, I would go from one practice to the other," she said. "But in the eighth grade, the practices started to overlap and I just couldn't do both anymore."

"It was such a hard choice because my two favorite sports were hockey and basketball. My sisters wanted me to play basketball because they wanted me to play with them. But they also wanted me to choose the sport I wanted."

See ALOIS, Page 17

## Comeau takes Div. 1 state hurdles title

### GIRLS TRACK

Courtney Comeau may still be fighting off the pain of the back injury that cost her an entire season, but the Andover High senior was certainly in top form on Monday.

#### THIS WEEK IN ANDOVER SPORTS

Comeau broke the tape in 8.74 to win the Division 1 state title in the 55-meter hurdles at the Division 1 State Track Meet.

"It was very exciting, almost unreal," Comeau said. "It means so much more considering the season I have had and everything I have been through. To know that I can still win and be a state champion is great."

The UMass recruit's teammates Hannah Chapman (3rd, 8.92) and Lizzie Kobelski (8th, 9.19) also scored.

Comeau was coming off a second-place effort at the MVC Championships at Reggie Lewis where she was clocked in 8.76.

"I am still running in a flexible back brace that keeps my muscles warm," Comeau said. "After the preliminaries, I was the only runner that broke 9 seconds, so that was a confidence boost. The finals were close, but I knew when I crossed the finish line that I had won. Now I can go into the rest of the winter and spring feeling strong and confident."

Comeau's close friend Catherine Haut added another big finish,



COURTESY PHOTO

Andover's Courtney Comeau crosses the finish line to win the Division 1 state title in the 55-meter hurdles on Monday. Finishing third was teammate Hannah Chapman, left.

placing second in the long jump with a 16-5.25.

For the boys, the 4x200 (1:32.71) and 4x400 (3:29.84) each took third.

### BOYS BASKETBALL

#### Giribaldi nets 34

David Giribaldi set a new season-high with a whopping 34 points to lead Andover past Lawrence 67-47 last Monday, Feb. 10. Connor Merinder added 10 points for the winners.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

#### Casey, Caveney shine

Colleen Caveney scored 20 points to help Andover hold off pesky Whittier 51-39 last Wednesday, Feb. 12. Alyssa Casey and Jessica Witten each added nine points and Rachael Cormier had eight points for the winners.

Alyssa Casey scored a team-high 14 points to help Andover top Billerica 40-35 last Monday, Feb. 10. Colleen Caveney added 13 points of her own for the Warriors.

Despite three assists for senior Rebecca Alois and 17 points for freshman Alyssa Casey, upstart Andover fell to archrival Central Catholic 67-57 last Friday. Colleen Caveney added 16 for the Golden Warriors.

### GIRLS SKIING

#### Lawler, Ganley in top 5

Olivia Lawler was fifth overall in 49.76 and Julia Ganley once again starred by taking second in 47.08 to lead Andover to a second-place finish as a team at the Interscholastic Meet last Monday, Feb. 10. The Warriors scored 514 points, just off the

lead of rival North Andover (523).

### BOYS GYMNASTICS

#### Aronov keeps wowing

Joseph Aronov took second in the vault, high bar, rings and all-around to help Andover capture third as a team at the State Meet last Wednesday, Feb. 12. Dan Harvey added a second in the pommel horse and fourth in the all-around and Evan Igor was fourth in the high bar and fifth in the all-around.

### BOYS HOCKEY

#### Quercia notches 2 points

Matt Quercia scored one goal and assisted on another to pace Andover in a 3-3 tie with Westford Academy last Wednesday, Feb. 12. Paul Russo and Will Sauerbrunn each added a goal and Nick Scarpa and Pat Schena combined for 33 saves for the Warriors.

Andover fell to archrival Central Catholic 6-0 last Saturday.

### WRESTLING

#### Farris places fourth

Tyler Ferris took fourth overall at 126 points to star for Andover at the Division 1 North sectional. Andover scored 30 1/2 points as a team.

### BOYS SKIING

#### Tarricone eighth

Jake Tarricone placed eighth overall in 45.69 to help Andover take fourth as a team at the

See ROUNDUP, Page 17





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\$299 MONEY DOWN  
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\*All leases are 12,000 miles per year. Tax, title, registraton, aquisition fee, and \$299 documenta-tion fee additional. Payment include all applicable factory rebates, not all will qualify for incen-tives. Offers good on in stock units only. Must finance through dealer to qualify for all incentives with approved credit. All photo may not depict actual vehicle options. Offer expires 2/17/14.

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**\$319** \*\* /mo for 36 mos  
Lincoln AFS Red Carpet Lease  
**\$2619 Cash Due at Signing**  
Security deposit waived  
Taxes, title, reg., & dealer fees extra  
Vin# 3LER817719



**NEW 2014 LINCOLN MKZ Hybrid**  
2.0L Hybrid, 45-mpg, 200A Pkg.  
**\$319** \*\*\* /mo for 36 mos  
Lincoln AFS Red Carpet Lease  
**\$2989 Cash Due at Signing**  
Security deposit waived  
Taxes, title, reg., & dealer fees extra  
Vin# 3LER821129



**NEW 2013 LINCOLN MKX AWD**  
Panoramic Roof, Navigation, 20" wheels, THX, BLIS  
**\$399** /mo for 24 mos  
Lincoln AFS Red Carpet Lease  
**\$2899 Cash Due at Signing**  
Security deposit waived  
Taxes, title, reg., & dealer fees extra  
Vin# 2LDBL46637

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Not all buyers will qualify for Lincoln AFS Red Carpet Lease. Payments may vary; dealer determines price. \*2013 MKX: Cash due at signing is after \$2,750 cash back (PGM #50127) + \$3,000 Competitive Conquest Bonus Cash (PGM #30001). \*\*2014 MKZ Gas Model: Cash due at signing is after \$1,750 cash back (PGM #50127) + \$1,000 Owner Loyalty (PGM #33135) OR \$1,000 Competitive Conquest Bonus Cash (PGM #30001). \*\*\*2014 MKZ Hybrid Model: Cash due at signing is after \$1,000 Owner Loyalty (PGM #33135) OR \$1,000 Competitive Conquest Bonus Cash (PGM #30001). Take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 2/17/14. See dealer for qualifications and complete details.

NEW 2014 BMW  
320i xDrive Sedan



**\$289**\* Lease for 36 months.

\*Lease financing available on 2014 BMW 320i xDrive Sedan vehicles, only at participating BMW centers on leases assigned to BMW Financial Services NA, LLC/Financial Services Vehicle Trust through February 2014. Lease/APR Credit is a \$500 Drive Credit against the MSRP of the loan or lease on a 320i xDrive Sedan through April 01, 2013. Monthly Lease payments of \$289.00 for 36 months based on MSRP of \$38,220

NEW 2014 BMW  
328i xDrive Diesel



**\$399**\* Lease for 36 months.

\*Lease financing available on 2014 328i xDrive Diesel vehicles, only at participating BMW centers on leases assigned to BMW Financial Services NA, LLC/Financial Services Vehicle Trust through February 2014. Lease/APR Credit \$500 Drive Credit against the MSRP of the loan or lease on a 328i xDrive Diesel through February 2014. Option Credit of \$500 against the MSRP of the loan or lease on a 328i xDrive Diesel and a ECO Credit of \$500 Included. Monthly Lease payments of \$399.00 for 36 months based on MSRP of \$43,075.00

NEW 2014 BMW  
X1 x Drive 28i



**\$313**\* Lease for 36 months.

\*Lease financing available on 2014 BMW X1 vehicle, only at participating BMW centers on leases assigned to BMW Financial Services NA, LLC/Financial Services Vehicle Trust through February 2014. Lease/APR Credit is a \$1,000 credit against the MSRP of the loan or lease on a 2014 BMW X1 through February 2014. Option Credit against the MSRP of the loan or lease on a 2014 BMW X1 through February 2014. \$500 Drive Credit available from BMWNA is included. Monthly Lease payments of \$313.00 for 36 months based on MSRP of \$35,375.00



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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Clouds and sunshine	Showers around	Rain	Rain; not as cool	Cooler	Colder with sunshine	Cloudy; not as cold
<b>High: 37°</b> <b>Low: 27°</b>	<b>High: 41°</b> <b>Low: 34°</b>	<b>High: 42°</b> <b>Low: 40°</b>	<b>High: 56°</b> <b>Low: 39°</b>	<b>High: 43°</b> <b>Low: 22°</b>	<b>High: 29°</b> <b>Low: 13°</b>	<b>High: 38°</b> <b>Low: 18°</b>

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather.com ©2013

**A new pediatric specialty center has landed in Lawrence.**



TogetherForHealthyKids.com



**REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS**

The following real estate transfers were recorded recently in town:

- **9 Bryan Lane, Unit 9:** Anne M. Yastrzemski to William R. and Helen S. Bryan, \$390,000
- **2 Colonial Drive, Unit 6A:** Nadire Ramadan to Frontline Realty Inc., \$155,000
- **6 Coventry Lane:** Carolina

Properties LLC to Ramesh and Suman Dwarakanath, \$849,900

- **44 Farrwood Drive:** David and Heather Feld to Pingyang Xiao, \$569,000
- **17 Fossen Way:** Susan T. Pulido to Wan F. Ye and Jian Q. Zheng, \$777,000
- **15 Glenmeadow Road:** Brian J. Brickley to Satish

C. Guttikonda and Anjana Nekkanti, \$582,399

- **7 Harvard Road:** Anne Marie & Associates LLC to Camille Ducey-Landwehr, \$375,000
- **5 Joseph St.:** Michael and Patricia A. Konjoian to Daniel J. and Karen B. Butkovich, \$484,500
- **83 Porter Road:**

Porter Road NT and John C. Pustell to 83 Porter Road RT and Jason J. Ardizzone, \$300,000

- **85-87 Porter Road:** Porter Road NT and John C. Pustell to Frank E. Zavri, \$325,000
- **169 Summer St.:** Tara K. Wilson to Erin C. and Daniel J. Kivlehan, \$450,000

**Red Cross blood drives set**

The American Red Cross is holding two community blood drives next month. They are scheduled for Thursday, March 13, from 1:30 to 7 p.m. at Andover Town House, 20 Main St., and Wednesday, March 19, from 1:30 to 7 p.m. at Saint Roberts Bellarmine Parish, 198 Haggetts Pond Road.

Donors are needed every day to ensure an adequate blood supply for patients in need. All eligible and new blood donors are encouraged to give. To make an appointment to donate blood, call 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767) or log onto [www.redcross-blood.org](http://www.redcross-blood.org).

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<p><b>ANDOVER NEW CONSTRUCTION</b></p> <p>New construction opportunity in High Plain/Wood Hill School District on attractive cul-de-sac lot with town water/sewer &amp; natural gas. 8 room Colonial with 2849 +/- sq. ft. of living space. This home will boast an eat in kitchen with granite counters, HW flooring &amp; tiled baths. Upstairs you'll find 4 spacious BRs, 2 full baths &amp; ample closet space. Excellent opportunity to customize your dream home in a desirable location. Please call for more information on options and upgrades.</p> <p><b>\$739,900</b> Call Tom Carroll 978-502-8347</p>	<p><b>ANDOVER NEW CONSTRUCTION</b></p> <p>New construction opportunity in High Plain/Wood Hill School District on attractive cul-de-sac lot with town water/sewer &amp; natural gas. 8 room Colonial with 3162 +/- sq. ft. of living. This home will boast an eat-in kitchen with granite counters, HW flooring &amp; tiled baths. Upstairs you'll find 4 spacious BRs, 2 full baths &amp; ample closet space. Excellent opportunity to customize your dream home in a desirable location. Please call for more information on options and upgrades.</p> <p><b>\$799,900</b> Call Tom Carroll 978-502-8347</p>	<p><b>ANDOVER NEW CONSTRUCTION</b></p> <p>New Construction in the High Plain/Wood Hill School District on attractive cul-de-sac lot with town water/sewer &amp; natural gas. 9 room Colonial with 3497 +/- sq. ft. of living space. This home will have 4 spacious bedrooms, 2 full tiled baths, ample closet space, eat-in kitchen with granite counters, hardwood flooring. Excellent opportunity to customize your dream home in a much sought after area. Please call for more information on options and available upgrades.</p> <p><b>\$849,900</b> Call Tom Carroll 978-502-8347</p>
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View homes & Open House schedules on [www.Andover-TopBroker.com](http://www.Andover-TopBroker.com)

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Feb. 22 & 23  
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