



KRIT CLASSIC VI READIES FOR RACE DAY

PAGE 13



PARADE, BRIDGE DEDICATION TO MARK MEMORIAL DAY

PAGE 6



KOH INSPIRES UMASS LOWELL GRADUATES

PAGE 10

OUR 126<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

# Andover Townsman

Issue No. 29

MAY 22, 2014

75 CENTS

## Middle school teacher charged with NH sexual assault

By DOUGLAS MOSER  
Staff Writer



Darrell Keene Jr.

A math teacher at West Middle School involved in community theater is being held without bail after being accused of assaulting a child in New Hampshire whom police say he contacted online.

Darrell Keene Jr., 40, of 242 Mill St. in Haverhill,

is charged with aggravated felonious sexual assault in New Hampshire. He was arrested Monday at the end of the school day at West Middle School.

In an email to parents and

staff on Tuesday morning, Superintendent Dr. Marinel McGrath said Keene, an eighth-grade math teacher at West since 2007, "was immediately placed on administrative leave" and that she was not aware of any local allegations.

Stratham, N.H., Police Chief John Scippa said a warrant for Keene's arrest was issued Monday as the

result of a complaint to his department.

"Based on a local complaint, the Stratham, N.H., Police Department began an investigation into an incident where it is alleged that a local New Hampshire juvenile was contacted by an adult over the Internet," Scippa said in a statement. "Subsequent to that contact, it is alleged that the

adult perpetrated a sexual assault against the juvenile in New Hampshire."

Police are still investigating whether Keene knew the alleged victim, whose age Scippa declined to release, before the contact, but more charges still could arise.

"Clearly, we have the single charge now, but we are investigating the possibility

there was more than that single occurrence," Scippa said.

Stratham is just west of Portsmouth.

In a follow-up email later in the day Tuesday, McGrath wrote: "The incident which led to yesterday's arrest allegedly involves the teacher

See ARREST, Page 7

## Dresses of hope



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photos

Thea Shapiro, the director of religious education at the Universalist Unitarian Church in Andover, holds an origami dress, one of almost 300 she has folded in honor of the kidnapped Nigerian schoolgirls.

### Artist's origami project remembers kidnapped Nigerian girls

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
jwakefield@andovertownsman.com

Thea Shapiro couldn't erase the haunting image of hundreds of innocent schoolgirls in Nigeria being kidnapped by an Islam extremist group last month.

So, the Haverhill Street artist paired her talents with her socially conscious mind set and went to work thinking about how she could help the more than 200 girls, ranging in age from 12 to about 18, from



Some of Thea Shapiro's origami dresses.

See PROJECT, Page 3

## Health insurance pact faces scrutiny

### Town manager under fire amid call to renegotiate

By BILL KIRK  
bkirk@andovertownsman.com

Questions continued swirling this week over a municipal union group's pre-Town Meeting rejection of a low-cost health insurance option that could have saved taxpayers anywhere from \$400,000 to \$1 million.

The Board of Selectmen on Monday night voted unanimously to order Town Manager Reginald "Buzz" Stapeczynski to approach the group's 14 union leaders and one retiree representative about reconsidering their April 29 decision to stay with their more expensive health carrier — Blue Cross/Blue Shield — rather than switch to a cheaper, but equivalent, option from Tufts.

"They had two options," said Selectman Mary O'Donoghue, referring to the municipal union group. "They could stay with (Blue Cross/BlueShield), which increased premiums by 2 percent, or go with Tufts, which reduced premiums by 3.5 percent.

"It was a delta of 5.5 percent, which would have resulted in a savings of \$900,000."

Just a couple days before a May 1 deadline and less than a week before Town Meeting, the Public Employees Committee, or PEC, voted to continue with the Blue Cross/Blue Shield

*During Town Meeting, the unions' decision to select the more expensive plan was decried by speakers who said it showed a disregard for taxpayers, who pay their salaries and benefits.*

plan offered by the Mass. Interlocal Insurance Agency, or MIIA. It is a plan that town workers have had for years and which many felt more comfortable with, despite the savings to both taxpayers and employees.

During Town Meeting, the unions' decision to select the more expensive plan was decried by speakers who said it showed a disregard for taxpayers, who pay their salaries and benefits.

The first night of Town Meeting, resident Bob Landry proposed an amendment to cut the health insurance budget by \$680,000, or roughly the amount taxpayers would have saved if employees had gone with the Tufts plan. The amendment failed by just nine votes.

Selectmen now want the town manager to go back to the unions, reopen negotiations and try to achieve

See INSURANCE, Page 7

## Youth center hit with new delay

### Issue over steel pushes project back 2 to 3 months

By BILL KIRK  
bkirk@andovertownsman.com

The highly anticipated Cormier Youth Center has been struck by another delay, as architects and engineers

argue over the final technical drawings for the 20,000-square-foot, pre-fabricated structure.

Before the latest setback, construction of the \$5.6 million youth center — to be

located behind Doherty Middle School on Bartlet Street — was scheduled to be completed by Dec. 1.

Now, the project isn't scheduled to be done until Feb. 15, 2015, according to Chris

Huntress, chairman of the building committee.

"It has been frustrating," Huntress said. "We've got a scheduling issue. We are not

See DELAY, Page 2

### INDEX

Business .....	23
Classified/Real Estate .....	16
Editorial .....	11
Education .....	10
Letters .....	11
Obituaries .....	4
Police Log .....	4
Sports .....	15
TownsBeat .....	5
Townpeople .....	8
Weather .....	24

### Clown Town



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo

Evie O'Brien, right, takes a ride with her dad, Jim, on the Sizzler during the opening night of Clown Town Friday in The Park. After a rainy start, the weather on Saturday proved perfect for the annual event presented by the Andona Society. More photos, Page 3.

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**TOWN BRIEFS**

**Democratic Candidates Night planned**

The Andover Democratic Town Committee is holding a Candidates Night on Wednesday, June 4, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Andover Baptist Church at 7 Central St. at the corner of Essex and Central streets.

Democratic candidates for statewide and regional offices will attend. Citizens will be able to meet the candidates and ask questions.

The public is invited. Area parking is available. Homemade desserts and light refreshments will be provided.

**Sen. Finegold holding office hours**

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

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

Finegold will also be having office hours that day at

Lawrence Public Library, 51 Lawrence St., from 10 to 11 a.m.; Parker Memorial Library in Dracut, 28 Arlington St., from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.; and Tewksbury Public Library, 300 Chandler St., from 3 to 4 p.m.

**Yard sale at Congregation Beth Israel**

The Social Action Committee of Congregation Beth Israel, Andover, is sponsoring a yard sale at the synagogue, 501 South Main St. (Route 28) on Sunday, June 1, from 9 a.m. to noon. A large assortment of household items will be for sale.

Proceeds will support a variety of community-outreach projects. Throughout the year, the Social Action Committee works with food pantries, shelters, and other groups to provide food, clothing and necessities to area residents in need. Also, through CBI Cares, the committee reaches out to members of the congregation who need prepared meals, transportation to medical appointments, visitations and other assistance.



BILL KIRK/Staff photo

The construction site for the Cormier Youth Center on Bartlet Street behind Doherty Middle School has been quiet lately as the project has been plagued by delays.

**DELAY: Issue pushes youth center project back**

Continued from Page 1

going to sacrifice quality. I'm upset we are behind schedule, but the steel has to be right. I don't want to force it."

The problem has to do with the way the building is being constructed, Huntress said. Steel beams that hold up the structure are being made in North Carolina, based upon specifications that must match the foundation at the site. If the steel doesn't match, anchor bolts set in the foundation of the building won't be erected correctly.

As a result, the manufacturing and delivery of the steel has been held up until architects and engineers working for the town, the contractor and sub-contractors can agree on exactly how the pieces should be designed.

Huntress said that he got some good news last Friday: have signed off on the final designs of the steel, meaning delivery should take place on the newly amended schedule, which would set a delivery date of Aug. 1. Originally, the steel, which is being manufactured by a company called Ceco Building Systems, was to



Courtesy Graphic

The entrance of the Cormier Youth Center, as seen in this architect's rendering, is welcoming and modern-looking.

be delivered May 15.

"The Andover Youth Foundation is anxious and wants to see more activity on the site," Huntress said.

Diane Costagliola, chairwoman of the Youth Foundation, did not return a call for comment.

Bill Fahey, executive director of Andover Youth Services, could not be reached for comment.

"Everyone wants to see this thing coming out of the ground," said Huntress,

noting that the theme of this year's fundraising drive for the Andover Youth Foundation was "Rise." "We are getting there."

The good news, he said, is that the cost of the project hasn't changed. Officials are working with the general contractor on the project, Dagle Electric of Melrose, "to make sure the town is not exposed to additional costs."

"So far, we are fine ...," he said. "We are on budget. This hasn't cost us any money."

We've only approved \$8,000 in change orders so far, which was a National Grid issue that had nothing to do with the building."

Huntress added that starting this week, materials should start arriving on site.

"The big milestone for us will be when the steel shows up," he said. "I really wanted to fast-track this stuff, but I wanted to get it right. It's been painful to watch our schedule slip. But making sure we get it right means everything."

He said the town's architect, Chris Rotti of BH&A of Boston, is "doing a great job, staying on top of these guys and coordinating everything."

With the delay, he said, "now we need to find ways to advance the schedule, which can be done. We can put two erection crews on the project once the steel shows up. Originally, the plan was to put up all the steel first, then slide in the wall panels. But there's no reason they can't slide the panels in as soon as the steel is up for the gym."

He added that workers "won't make up 2 1/2 months (of lost time), but they will be able to make up some of it."

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**Local Doctor Launches Biotech Hedge Fund.**

**Bhavneesh Sharma, MD**, an Andover-based medical doctor is launching a hedge fund, focusing on rapidly growing biotechnology companies. "The valuations in the biotech sector are most attractive in more than 5 years at present. We expect our investments to likely double in next 2-3 years." — said Dr. Sharma. Dr. Sharma holds an MBA in finance from the prestigious New York University-Stern Business School. Interested investors can access more details about subscription at the fund website [www.vasudacapitalmanagement.com](http://www.vasudacapitalmanagement.com)  
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# Clown Town lights up with fun

The Andona Society of Chestnut and Bartlet streets Andover's annual Clown Town celebration lived up to its billing as a fun-filled community event last weekend. Hundreds of people young and old filled The Park at

rides, playing the games and reveling in the many other attractions. Proceeds from the popular event support programs, activities and scholarships benefiting the young people of Andover.

last Friday and Saturday for the two-day town tradition. While a rainy start on Friday made for a little wet going, the sun was out in force on Saturday so were the crowds, enjoying the



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo

ABOVE: Monique O'Toole, right, and Amelia Faucher, both of Andover, scream as they take a ride on the Sizzler during the opening night of Clown Town.

LEFT: Passing showers, some heavy at times, didn't keep the crowds away from Clown Town on Friday night. The Park was filled for opening night of the Andona Society's annual event.



## PROJECT: Artist aims to raise awareness for kidnapped Nigerian girls



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo

Thea Shapiro, the director of religious education at the Universalist Unitarian Church in Andover, has folded almost 300 origami dresses in honor of the kidnapped Nigerian schoolgirls.

Continued from Page 1

thousands of miles away. "I just knew I wanted to do something," said Shapiro, who herself has a daughter in college. "I don't want people to forget about them. I can't imagine how scared, how terrified those poor girls are."

Her answer has taken the shape of nearly 300 carefully folded origami dresses — one for each girl who was abducted. Each dress, crafted out of colorfully printed paper, has been numbered and named after the first names of girls found in a Christian book.

"I used first names only, because using last names might be harmful to the girls and I couldn't take that chance," she said. "I am very worried about the girls, like a lot of people," said Pictures of the dresses are posted on Shapiro's Facebook page that she created as part of her campaign. Called "Remember the Girls," the page asks visitors to keep the Nigerian schoolgirls in their hearts.

It's been over a month since the kidnapping, which happened at a school in the isolated village of Chibok in Nigeria's far northeast corner. The girls were kidnapped by extremists who want Boko

### A PRAYER FOR THE GIRLS

Last Wednesday, May 14, one month after the kidnapping of the Nigerian schoolgirls, Thea Shapiro left a prayer on her "Remember the Girls" Facebook page and asked others to do the same with a prayer or words of love and support, in their own words or in the words of their religion.

"I know it is only a prayer, but maybe one day when the girls are returned home we can share these words with them," she wrote.

Shapiro's prayer to all the Nigerian schoolgirls went like this:

"May you find the strength to go on. May you be safe. May you know deep down that you are loved, that you are being searched for, and that we hold you in our hearts. May you be brought home soon."

Haram members released from prison, according to news reports. About 30 U.S. State Department officials are among the rescue team members who are now in Nigeria searching for the girls.

A popular local arts teacher, Shapiro said she loves "all things girly" like pretty dresses and has been doing origami art for about two years, so the project was a natural fit.

Shapiro has taught at Esperanza School and Essex Art Center in

Lawrence and is currently leading a class at the Boys and Girls Club in Lawrence.

She also works at Unitarian Universalist Church on Locke Street in Andover as director of religious education and is studying to be an interfaith chaplain using the arts as a way to connect to the world. She and her husband, David Grober, have two children, Katja and Eli.

Shapiro said she wants the "Remember the Girls" Facebook page to be a place that people can visit to remember, to pray or to just think about these girls. Visit it at [www.facebook.com/pages/Remember-the-Girls/1480490325513490](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Remember-the-Girls/1480490325513490).

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OBITUARIES

## Laura Ann (Cosentino) Chambers, 49

February 25, 1965 — May 14, 2014

TOWNSEND — Louann (Page) and Greg Basillio, Tony and Mary Cosentino are sad to say their daughter, Laura Chambers of Townsend, wife of the late Robert Chambers, has passed away after an eight-month battle with lung cancer. She leaves behind her daughters, Sarah and Samantha; brother, Greg Basillio and his wife, Yoleida and daughter, Alexandra. She also leaves her brothers, Joseph, John and sister, Jennifer Cosentino; her loving companion, Sal Finocchiaro and longtime friend, Merideth Robinson. We want to thank so many special friends: Interactive Data, Lahey Hospital, Kaplan Hospice House and loving family members for their continuous support during this difficult time.



**ARRANGEMENTS:** Laura's visiting hours were held Sunday, May 18, at the Murphy Funeral Home, 85 Federal St., (corner of North Street), Salem, from 3 to 7 p.m. Her funeral service was held on Monday, May 19, at 10 a.m. at the Murphy Funeral Home. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend. Interment will follow at St. Mary's Cemetery, Salem. For those who wish to honor Laura's love and devotion to her children and family, please consider a donation to Family Services of the Merrimack Valley, 430 Canal St., Lawrence, MA 01840, or American Cancer Society. For additional information or online guest book, please call 978-744-0497, or visit [www.MurphyFuneralHome.com](http://www.MurphyFuneralHome.com).

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## William Richard Wholey Jr., 78

December 8, 1935 — May 11, 2014

ANDOVER — William Richard Wholey, Jr. 78, a resident of Andover for more than 40 years, died Sunday May 11, 2014, at Wingate of Andover.



Born December 8, 1935, in Methuen, he was the son of the late William R. Sr. and Agnes (McNulty) Wholey. He was a graduate of the Edward F. Searles High School in Methuen, Class of 1953.

Mr. Wholey was an accomplished pianist for many years in Boston, Mass. He retired from the First National Bank of Boston in 1990 after 25 years in their International Division. Following his retirement, William resumed his musical career, entertaining locally and in many nursing homes.

William is survived by his niece, Hilary W. Munroe; his nephew, E. Lincoln Field; his brother-in-law, Attorney Marshall L. Field; and cousins,

including Thomas McNulty, Judy Murphy, and Joyce McNulty.

William was predeceased by his sister, Susan W. Field, who died on March 14, 2014.

**ARRANGEMENTS:** Services were previously held.

## Donald Woodman Fogg, 83

May 28, 1930 — May 14, 2014  
U.S. Air Force Veteran

ANDOVER, MA — Donald Woodman Fogg, 83, passed away quietly at his home on May 14, 2014, of liver cancer.



Donald was born on May 28, 1930 to Eleanor (Russell) and Lloyd W. Fogg in Exeter, N.H. He graduated from Dover High School and Northeastern University in Boston with an associate degree in mechanical engineering. He spent four years in the Air Force, where he became a crew chief on B-47s. When he returned to civilian life, he worked for the labs at Oak Ridge, Tenn., followed by AVCO in Wilmington, Mass., and then became a CADD/CAM applications engineer at Computervision. He was active at Trinitarian Congregational Church in North Andover, their Trinitarian Neighborhood Theatre, the church choir, Merrimack Valley Camera Club, and the 495th R.C. Squadron. He loved the outdoors, especially hiking and sailing. He was a conservation warden for the Avis land in Andover.

Don loved being in the "TNT" musicals, playing everything from a rich elderly grandfather to a rabbi. The members of "TNT" all called him "Grampa," and loved him dearly, and they just loved to hear him laugh. He was very close to his three grandchildren, encouraging by example for them to

live life to the fullest and to be true to themselves.

Don is survived by his wife of 61 years, Barbara; daughters, Joy and husband, Bruce Reynolds of Andover; Candy Orr of Raleigh, N.C., and Connie and husband, Brad Bouchard of Andover; grandchildren, Lea and Ian Orr; and Eric Bouchard; sister-in-law, Rose Fogg of Dover, N.H.; brother and sister-in-law, Norman and Patsy of Maryville, Tenn.; several nieces, nephews and cousins; and his constant friend and walking companion, Reigner. He was predeceased by his brother, Russell.

**ARRANGEMENTS:** Calling hours will be today, Thursday, May 22, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover. His Celebration of Life Service will be on Saturday, June 7, at 11 a.m., at the Trinitarian Congregational Church, 72 Elm Street, North Andover, MA 01845.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Trinitarian Congregational Church, or to the Nature Conservancy at [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org). For funeral home directions, or to sign the family guest book, please visit [www.contefuneralhomes.com](http://www.contefuneralhomes.com).



# Crash injures 21-year-old woman

## Driver ejected while wearing seat belt

By BILL KIRK  
bkirk@andovertownsmen.com

A 21-year-old Stevens Street woman was wearing her seat belt, but was still ejected from her car after hitting a utility pole near 75 High St. early Tuesday morning, police said.

Montserrat Familiar-Bolanos was sitting upright in the driveway of a house near the accident scene when police officers arrived, according to police Commander Charles Heseltine.

Her car, possibly an Audi, was "severely damaged" in the crash, Heseltine said. Photographs of the vehicle show that it was cut in half by the impact.

Neighbors at the scene said



Courtesy photo

An accident in front of 75 High St. early Tuesday morning left a car cut in half and sent its 21-year-old driver from Andover to a Boston hospital. Her condition was not available at press time.

they heard a "loud bang" at around 5:20 a.m. When they went out to investigate, they found the girl outside the car, having been ejected along with the driver's seat.

They said she was able to talk. Heseltine said she was wearing her seat belt.

Heseltine said firefighters were concerned she might have internal injuries so she

was taken to Lawrence General Hospital and flown to a Boston hospital.

Lawrence General had no record of her being treated at the hospital. Neither did Brigham and Women's Hospital, which is where Heseltine said she was taken.

Police are continuing the investigation, but there was no sign of drugs or alcohol at the scene, Heseltine said.

According to witnesses at the scene, it appeared the woman was headed south on High Street and had just crossed the intersection with Harding Street and Walnut Avenue when she veered off the road, plowed through some trees and fence posts, hit a tree and a utility pole, and came to rest across the mouth of Hartigan Court.

The street was closed part of the morning to allow for the investigation, according to the Andover Police Department Facebook page.

# Chism defense will ask judge to dismiss case

By JULIE MANGANIS  
Staff Writer

Lawyers for the Danvers teen charged with raping and murdering a popular Danvers High School math teacher from Andover last fall will ask a judge to dismiss the charges during a hearing scheduled to take place in August.

Philip Chism's lawyers haven't yet filed a motion outlining the grounds for the motion to dismiss, scheduled to be argued on Aug. 12.

Chism, 16, is charged with robbing, raping and killing Colleen Ritzer, 24, of Andover, at Danvers High School on the afternoon of Oct. 22, then leaving her body in a wooded area adjacent to the school.

Chism's attorneys, Denise Regan and Susan Oker, also told Salem Superior Court Judge Howard Whitehead this week that they plan to file a motion to suppress nearly all of the evidence in the case, including the initial stop of Chism as he walked along Route 1 an hour after the

killings, statements he made to investigators, including his admission to killing Ritzer; and evidence collected in the case.

That motion will likely last an entire day, the lawyers said. It is currently scheduled for Oct. 15.

Both sides also discussed procedural issues with Whitehead this week, including the sharing of evidence.

Prosecutor Kate MacDougall told the judge that DNA testing is expected to be completed next month and that she will turn over all the results to the defense as soon as she receives them. She also invited Regan to view the numerous papers that investigators seized from Chism's locker, backpack and bedroom.

Chism was not brought in for the court proceedings from the Department of Youth Services facility, where he's being held pending trial as an adult. Neither Chism's mother nor members of Ritzer's family were in court for the brief proceedings.

# Police arrest two in thefts of wedding gifts, laptop

By BILL KIRK  
bkirk@andovertownsmen.com

Police arrested two men this past Sunday and charged them with breaking into two cars, including one filled with newlyweds' wedding gifts and envelopes of cash.

Jeffrey Lavin, 43, of Arlington Street, Lawrence and David Dube, 42, of Woodburn Drive, Methuen, were both charged with two counts of breaking and entering in the daytime to commit a felony and receiving stolen property over \$250. Dube was also charged with driving without a license and driving an uninspected car.

At about 6:30 a.m. Sunday, May 18, police on an early-morning road detail on Old River Road and River Road saw a gray Buick and the two men who matched the description of suspects in two car break-ins that occurred the previous Sunday, May 11, at the Wyndham Hotel, 123 River Road.

Security camera footage at the hotel had allegedly captured the two men breaking into cars in the parking lot,

according to police Commander Charles Heseltine.

The officers on the road detail called for a cruiser, and patrolmen pulled over the car. Inside, they found a set of knives that the wedding couple had listed as having been stolen from their car.

"One of the cars broken into had a lot of wedding gifts in it," Heseltine said. "The couple had just gotten married, so there were also wedding cards with cash in them. The rear window was smashed."

He said the victims of the theft had provided police with a detailed description of the items stolen from their car.

The other car broken into at the Wyndham that day had a laptop stolen.

"It was a good heads-up by the guys on road detail," Heseltine said of the officers who spotted the car on their road detail, got the license plate and called in a cruiser.

He said police are continuing to investigate, but he wasn't sure if any of the other items stolen from the married couple's car had been recovered.

## POLICE LOG

### Monday, May 12 INCIDENTS

A Southridge Circle resident called at 2:58 p.m. to report that a fox was in the house. The animal control officer reported that he was able to extricate the animal.

Police diverted traffic around a minor brush fire on the side of Shawsheen Road at 4:11 p.m.

A caller reported at 10:55 p.m. that her Jeep had been stolen. Police responded and found that in fact the emergency brake to the vehicle had failed and the Jeep rolled away. The owner was able to pull the vehicle back into the driveway without incident.

### Tuesday, May 13 SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

A Wild Rose Drive resident reported at 9:31 a.m. that a silver Acura was driving slowly around the neighborhood. Police checked, but were unable to find the vehicle.

A Liberty Street resident called around noon to report that a man wearing a reflective vest was wandering around her backyard. When confronted, the man said he was from Columbia Gas. When she called police, they said Columbia Gas was

not working in the area. She asked the man to leave. A neighbor also reported seeing him. Police said he was gone on arrival.

### Wednesday, May 14 SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

A resident reported a silver Chevy sedan was parked on Wild Rose Drive at 12:46 p.m. Police checked and the young man in the car said he was waiting for his girlfriend.

### INCIDENTS

A 911 caller from Linwood Street told police at 2:10 p.m. that his sister was overdosing and had a gun in her hand. He said he got the weapon out of her hand. Police and paramedics arrived and she was transported to Lawrence General Hospital.

A caller reported that while he was traveling south on Route 28 between the Phillips Academy rink and Bancroft Road at 8:50 p.m., his front passenger window was shot out by either a BB gun or a pellet gun. Officer Timothy Hagerty "spoke to the subjects" on Gardner Road and their parents.

### ACCIDENT

A three-car crash was reported at 6:04 p.m. on Elm Street. One car was towed

and two cars were damaged, according to the police log.

### Thursday, May 15 ACCIDENT

A two-car crash was reported at Andover and Clark streets at 6:36 p.m. Both cars were towed.

### INCIDENTS

A caller from Main Street reported at 9:04 p.m. that her cat had just had surgery and was attacking her. She told police she was outside waiting for officers to arrive to help contain it. Police arrived and placed "Smooch" in her cage and the owner was going to transport it to the vet.

A bat was reportedly trapped inside a light fixture in a bedroom on Muirfield Circle at around 9:30 p.m. Police were unable to reach the fixture and suggested the woman call a pest control company. She said she would sleep at a friend's house and deal with it the next day.

A noise complaint came in from a resident of Woodcliff Road. Police spoke to security at Merrimack College about music being played outside the Ashe dorms.

### Friday, May 16 ARREST

Michael T. Howell, 30, of 360 Littleton Road, Chelmsford, was charged with OUI liquor, unarmed burglary,

destruction of property over \$250 and trespassing. A resident called police at 3:44 a.m. to report a man was trying to break into his bedroom. The man fled in a silver car, possibly a Mercedes. Police stopped the vehicle near 517 Lowell St. and arrested Howell.

### Saturday, May 17 ARREST

Theodore Pineault, 20, of 8 Tanglewood Way South, Andover, was arrested at 2:35 a.m. at 40 Railroad St. and charged with being a person under 21 in possession of liquor.

### Sunday, May 18 ARRESTS

Bryan Grogan, 22, of 44 Ivan St., and Mark Landry, 22, of 116 Bedford St., Lexington, were arrested at 50 Foxhill Road around 2 a.m. and charged with trespassing and disturbing the peace. They were held by Merrimack College police for booking by Andover police.

Kemper Mazzarelli, 50, of 22 Foster's Pond Road, Andover, was arrested at the police station on four counts of domestic assault and battery, one count of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, a shod foot, which is a felony; and three counts of threatening to commit a crime.

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# Out & About: 'Books in Bloom' ready to sprout

The Spade & Trowel Garden Club of Andover is gearing for its annual "Books in Bloom" event next week at Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St.

The display — a twist, on a small scale, on the Museum of Fine Arts Boston's popular "Art in Bloom" exhibit — shows off the floral-arranging talents of the club members who draw on book themes and covers for inspiration.

The arrangements, along with the book covers they are based on, will be placed throughout various areas of the library starting next Wednesday, May 28, through Friday, May 30. They may be viewed during regular library hours.

Club members say they hope library patrons derive enjoyment from their lovely arrangements.

## Spring walk through historic West Parish Cemetery

The spring History Walk at West Parish Garden Cemetery will be held Saturday, May 31, at 10 a.m. rain or shine. The walk offers a chance to experience a bit of Andover's past with a tour of the cemetery that highlights its history and the notable people buried there.

The nondenominational cemetery at 129 Reservation Road encompasses more than 50 acres and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The original cemetery was established in 1692 and enlarged in 1908 with a gift from Andover textile industrialist William

Wood. Participants, clad in their walking shoes, should meet inside the arch of the cemetery. Reservations are not required.

## Strike up the Academy Jazz Band

The Academy Jazz Band and ensembles will perform on Friday, May 23, at 7:30 p.m. The program will include funk and Latin jazz with compositions by George Clinton and Bootsy Collins (Parliament Funkadelic), Michael Philip

Mossman (Lincoln Center Latin Jazz Orchestra, Eddie Palmieri, Mario Bauza) and others.

The free concert will take place in Cochran Chapel, on the Phillips Academy campus, 180 Main St. The chapel is handicapped accessible. For information, contact the Music Department at 978-749-4260 or email music@andover.edu.

To submit an item for Out & About, email townsman@andovertownsmen.com.

# Village Garden Club to hold plant sale



Members of the Village Garden Club recently dug into the Senior Garden at The Center at Pynchard to welcome spring. The gardeners, from left, Helen Ann Knepper, Cheryl McKeough, Joanne Weightman and Nan James, have been maintaining the Senior Garden throughout the year, working to plant, prune and recycle plants and rake and clean up the flower beds as one of the club's civic beautification projects. Some of the plant material has been repurposed through the garden club's annual plant sale, which is set for Saturday, June 7, from 9 a.m. to noon at 170 Elm St., Andover.

Courtesy Photo

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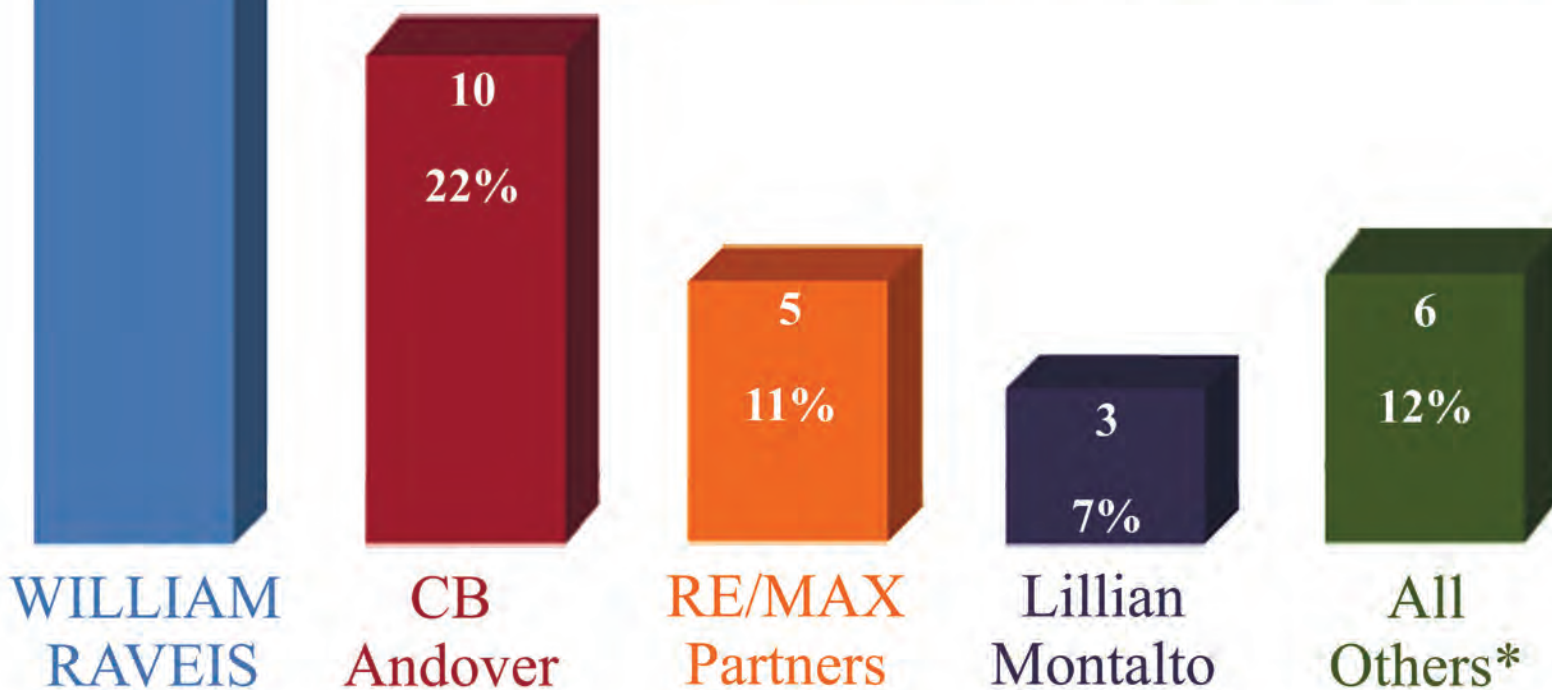
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# Local

## Scottish residents served admirably in World War I

**Joan Patrakis**



This article is written in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the start of the Great War. Today, it is known as World War I. Although the U.S. did not enter the conflict immediately, Britain's declaration of war in August 1914 prompted several Andover residents to respond to its call. Almost all of the early enlistees were natives of Scotland.

Three years before this country entered World War I, 11 loyal Andover residents rushed to the British Isles and Canada to defend their native countries. The men were enlisted in some of the world's finest combat units and saw some of the conflict's heaviest fighting at Ypres, Loos and the Somme. By the time the U.S. entered the war in April 1917, two of them had returned to Andover forever.

Ten of the enlistees were natives of Scotland. Five were born in the coastal town of Arbroath. The city of Dundee was the birthplace of four others. One man was a native of Montrose. The eleventh enlistee was an Irish emigrant.

Records show five men joined the legendary Black Watch. The Royal Highland Regiment was a Scottish infantry battalion of the British Army. The historic



Selectman Alexander Vispoli reads the plaque rededicating the World War I Memorial at the site of the old Doherty School in 2010. The names of the 584 Andover men and women who served in the war are listed on a bronze tablet in the lobby of Memorial Auditorium, across from The Park.

regiment, created in the 1700s, participated in some of the heaviest fighting of the war in France. Its name was derived from the dark tartan worn by the men and from the unit's initial role to "watch" the Highlands. German troops labeled the killed fighters "Ladies from Hell."

Of the eight Andover men killed during the war, four were Scottish soldiers who had answered Britain's early call. Three of them were members of the Black Watch.

William Pert was the first Andover man to enlist in the war in 1914 and the first

resident to sacrifice his life in battle. As a sniper in the Black Watch, he served at the battle of Loos in France where he was killed in 1916.

Twenty-nine-year-old David Croall enlisted in the Lewis Gun section of the 5th Black Watch Regiment in 1915 and participated in several battles in the early part of the war. He was badly wounded and sent home to recuperate. Six weeks after his return to the firing line, he was killed at Voorneghelecon, Belgium in April 1918. He was on the firing line more than 2 1/2 years. Lance-Sergeant William

Rae joined the Black Watch in spring 1915. He served in France, where he participated in some of the fiercest fighting. He was killed at Loos in August 1917.

James Cavan enlisted with the British Army in 1915. He saw constant fighting during his time of duty and escaped without a scratch. In April 1917, when returning from a comrade's funeral, he was shot and killed by a German sniper.

The remaining enlistees served to the end of the war. James Fettes and David Gillespie were also members of

### MEMORIAL DAY PARADE STEPS OFF MONDAY

The annual Memorial Day Parade will be held Monday, May 26, at 10 a.m.

The parade route goes from the intersection of Elm and Florence streets to Main Street, over to Punchard Avenue and Bartlet Street before ending at The Park at Chestnut and Bartlet streets.

A collation for all parade participants will follow at 11:30 a.m. in Doherty Middle School cafeteria.

In the event of heavy rain, all observances will be held inside Memorial Auditorium on Bartlet Street adjacent to The Park.

Any civic, patriotic or fraternal organization wishing to march should contact the town Veterans' Services Office at 978-623-8218. As is custom, no political activity is allowed as part of the parade.

the Black Watch. Both had seen action at Ypres. Fettes was wounded twice; Gillespie was gassed and temporarily blinded.

Henry Cairnie and Harry Nicoll served overseas with Canadian units. Norman MacLeish, a member of the 2nd Battalion Cameron Highlanders, received the 1914-1915 Star from the British government. David Waldie, who was wounded in the arm and leg and gassed twice, was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

Throughout the war, the loyalty of Scottish residents to their homeland and adopted country was admirable.

There were 584 Andover men and women who served in the war. Of those, 126 were described as foreign-born. Half of the foreign enlistees were natives of Scotland. They included 62 men and one woman who served overseas in the Army Nurse Corps.

Statistics support the valor of Scottish enlistees.

Forty-eight saw action on the battlefronts of Europe. In addition to the four men who were killed, 23-year-old Charles A. Young died from his wound. Sixteen men were wounded — three of them were wounded twice. Five men were gassed. Citations for bravery were awarded to three men.

During this centennial observance of World War I, the contributions of Andover men and women will be recalled. Among the stories that will not be forgotten is the honorable record of the loyal residents from Scotland.

A bronze tablet listing the names of Andover's 584 men and women who served in the war is permanently displayed in the lobby of Memorial Auditorium, located on the hill across from The Park.

Joan Patrakis is a local historian and author who has written several columns on behalf of the Andover Veterans' Services Office.

## Bridge to honor Iraq, Afghanistan veterans

The bridge on High Plain Road over Interstate 93 will be dedicated to the town's veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars during a Memorial Day ceremony on Monday.

State legislation was

approved last month to rename the bridge in tribute to those in town who have served in the U.S. armed forces during the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The act, which has been signed by Gov. Deval

Patrick, was sponsored by state Sen. Barry R. Finegold, D-Andover, and Reps. James L. Lyons, R-Andover, and Frank A. Moran, D-Lawrence, all of whom represent Andover.

American Legion, Andover

Post 8 will lead Monday's dedication ceremony, which starts at 2 p.m.

Scott Parrish, an Iraqi veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, will be the guest speaker. Finegold will also speak, and Michael Burke,

director of Andover Veterans' Services, will deliver the closing remarks. Post 8 led by Commander Ted Witman will place the floral wreath and offer a rifle salute to Iraqi and Afghanistan veterans.

The state Department of Transportation is expected to erect a sign at the bridge commemorating the designation.

This will be the seventh bridge in town honoring local veterans and the wars they have fought.

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■ **WHAT'S HAPPENING: CENTER AT PUNCHARD**

The Center at Punchard (The Center), 30 Whittier Court, Andover, has several upcoming programs. Here are some of the highlights:

**Older Americans Month – 85-Plus Birthday Party:** Thursday, May 22, 2 to 3 p.m. Andover residents who are 85-plus are invited for cake and ice cream. Transportation and special accommodations, including valet parking, are available.

**Yellow Dot Program – TRIAD Event:** Friday, May 30, 10 a.m. An overview of important emergency and medical information for your vehicle's glove box.

**Wail with a Harmonica:** Fridays, June 6, 13 and 20, 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. Dave Cook, experienced harmonica

teacher, shows how to expand one's lungs, stretch one's musical mind, pucker up and have fun; \$15.

**Healthy Eating Habits:** Water and Other Fluids: Friday, June 6, 9:30 a.m. Learn how much is needed and the sources that count toward daily requirements; a healthy breakfast will be provided.

**Community Coffee-house:** Tuesday, June 10, 2 to 4 p.m. Show your creative side or simply enjoy an afternoon of music, poetry and prose at the new Writers' House at Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover. Participants are invited to make up to a five-minute presentation.

Andrea Cohen, poet and

director of the Writers' House, hosts the event.

**Insiders Tour of Addison Gallery of American Art:** Wednesdays, June 11, 18 and 25, 1:30 p.m. Meet in the Addison lobby at Phillips Academy, Main Street; \$6.

**Summer Outdoor Grill Nights:** Thursdays, June 12 and 26, 5 to 7 p.m. Reservations open June 2 for the summer favorite. Selections include salad, drink and dessert as well as a main protein; prices start at \$5 for a complete meal. Includes an optional BoomerVenture Screening Room feature movie each evening. All are welcome; reservations and advance payment required.

**Tarbin Gardens Tour and Tea in Franklin, N.H.:** Thursday,

June 19, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Enjoy a guided tour of the gardens followed by an authentic English Cream Tea in the Rose Garden; \$45.

**Life is a Cabaret:** Sunday, June 22, 6 to 8 p.m. The Center at Punchard's talented performers will present a delightful evening show; \$6, includes dessert, fruit and beverages.

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

The Center 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.andoverseniorcenter.org](http://www.andoverseniorcenter.org). For more information, call 978-623-8321.

**ARREST: Middle school teacher faces charges**

■ *Continued from Page 1*

contacting a local New Hampshire juvenile over the Internet and a subsequent sexual assault. ... Consistent with what we advised earlier today, the charges which resulted in the arrest do not involve any Andover students."

According to court documents, Andover police and Massachusetts State Police arrested Keene, and he was held without bail overnight at Middleton House of Corrections.

Becki Jacobson, Keene's attorney, said her client disputes the basic facts of the allegation.

"He wants to solve this issue," she said. "He has a lot of doubt this is accurate. He wants to get there and get it over with. He wants to get to New Hampshire to preserve his right to a fair and speedy trial."

If convicted, Keene faces a sentence of between 3 1/2 and seven years in state prison, Rockingham County Attorney Jim Reams said.

Jacobson and New Hampshire officials said no date has been set yet for an arraignment in Rockingham County. Keene's next court date in Massachusetts is a case status check on June 9 in Lawrence District Court, but that would be canceled if he has gone to New Hampshire by then, Jacobson said.

Stratham police worked with the New Hampshire Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, the Massachusetts State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and Andover police, Scippa said.

In her email, McGrath

*"We have no information that the allegations involve any Andover students. At this time, the case is being investigated by the Stratham, N.H., police."*

**Superintendent Dr. Marinel McGrath**

said that the West Middle School employee was arrested on school property at about 3:40 p.m. "based on a warrant issued in New Hampshire on allegations involving a child" and that Andover Public Schools is cooperating with the investigation.

She continued, "We have no information that the allegations involve any Andover students. At this time, the case is being investigated by the Stratham, N.H., police."

According to the Andover School Department, Keene was hired on Sept. 1, 2007, and earns \$90,383 per year. Keene also was involved in local theater, serving as artistic director of Spotlight Playhouse in Haverhill until last year and as stage manager and actor at The Barnstormers Theater in Tamworth, N.H., which is about 10 miles south of Conway, from 1998 to 2012.

He has been a middle school math teacher since 1995, first at Sabattus Central School outside Lewiston, Maine, then at Kennett Middle School in Conway, N.H., and finally in Marblehead, before coming to Andover.

**INSURANCE: Questions about rejection persist**

■ *Continued from Page 1*

the savings that eluded the town late last month. But it is unclear if the process can even be reversed, since paperwork has been filed with MIAA and town employees are already choosing benefit options.

Whether the unions decide to reopen negotiations now or reconsider their options next year, one thing remains certain: The entire process is mired in controversy, with questions about the process and other issues, including whether the town manager should have recused himself from negotiations.

**Delayed notice**

In fact, selectmen on Monday night saved most of their criticism for the town manager, saying they had not been kept abreast of negotiations with the unions and didn't know until the last minute the union group was even considering two health plans.

Selectmen said the first time they knew that the Tufts plan was even being considered, much less that it could save the town hundreds of thousands of dollars, was on Monday, April 28, during a presentation by the town's health insurance consultant, Ken Lombardi.

Lombardi alerted selectmen that the employees' group was about to vote on a plan to meet a May 1 deadline set by the MIAA.

"It's concerning," Selectman Alex Vispoli said this week. "That night we heard about it for the first time. And it was extremely disappointing to me that we had to find out in the newspaper" that the unions had decided on April 29 to go with the higher-cost option.

"The Board of Selectmen had no recourse," Vispoli added. "This was a fault in the way it played out. It was very disappointing and frustrating for all involved. I'd hope there is an opportunity to go back to renegotiate a new plan."

Stapczynski said this week that he was disappointed, too, noting that he had presented the unions with both options weeks before the May 1 deadline, but that they delayed taking a position until just a few days before the deadline.

"I spent weeks with this group," he said. "I expected them to reject the Tufts proposal on April 11."

That admission caused an uproar among selectmen Monday night, with Vispoli lashing out, "If you knew it was going to be rejected, why didn't you tell us? There was no conversation. No opportunity to have that conversation."

Selectman Brian Major, in an effort to quell criticism of Stapczynski, noted, "it's a learning moment." He urged the board to send the health carriers a message that the town wants lower premiums in the future.

"This sends a message to the carriers that the community is serious about savings," he said.

O'Donoghue agreed, but went a step further. She asked the town manager why he didn't negotiate with PEC to go for the lower cost.

"Why wouldn't you go for Tufts or go back to MIAA to say, 'If you want this contract, we need to talk

*Whether the unions decide to reopen negotiations now or reconsider their options next year, one thing remains certain: The entire process is mired in controversy, with questions about the process and other issues, including whether the town manager should have recused himself from negotiations.*

turkey," she said.

**Conflict of interest?**

Newly elected selectmen Chairman Dan Kowalski said on Tuesday that some questions are being raised about Stapczynski's performance during the negotiation process with the PEC group.

Stapczynski sits on the board of directors of MIAA, the group that offered the higher-cost Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan.

MIAA is a quasi-public organization affiliated with the Massachusetts Municipal Association that offers a variety of insurance products to 300 cities, towns and other municipal organizations like regional school and water districts across the state.

Stapczynski said he has been involved with MIAA for 15 years and now sits on its board of directors.

He also serves on MIAA's health benefits trust and the organization's reinsurance company.

While the town manager gets no compensation from MIAA, the fact that he is on the board was enough to prompt him last year to file a letter with the Board of Selectmen disclosing that there was a potential for a conflict of interest.

"According to the state Ethics Commission, that covers me for appearance of conflict of interest," Stapczynski said recently.

While he did negotiate with the union group, he said, "I don't sign any agreements that have to do with MIAA."

The president of the firefighters union, Eric Teichert, said he was curious why Stapczynski didn't press harder for the Tufts plan, knowing it would save the town so much money.

Stapczynski said that he tried to remain neutral during the negotiations.

"I had to be even-handed," he said.

Kowalski, however, said it might have been a good idea for the town manager to delegate the negotiating responsibilities to someone else.

"I recall he filed a disclosure about his involvement in that organization, so we were put on notice that he's on the board and that there was a disclosure of potential conflict of interest," Kowalski said. "But just disclosing he is affiliated with that organization doesn't absolve you of any conflicts of interest. You need to handle every situation that could lead to a conflict of interest conservatively and not put yourself into a position of conflict of interest."

"I would like to have seen the situation handled differently. He could have delegated the entire task to someone else, but he chose a different approach."

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# Townspeople

## TRIBUTE TO WOMEN



**ABOVE:** Former state Sen. Susan Tucker of Andover speaks at the opening of the YWCA of Greater Lawrence's annual Tribute to Women awards luncheon last week at Andover Country Club. Tucker served as honorary chairwoman of the event, which recognized the contributions of 24 of the region's top women from all walks of life.

**RIGHT:** Diann Anderson, center, president and CEO of Lawrence General Hospital, holds up her Tribute to Women award flanked by Nick Zaharias, who nominated her, and Rebecca Hall, executive director of the YWCA of Greater Lawrence.

RYAN HUTTON/ Staff photos



## A broad perspective

Students, seniors collaborating to illustrate 'Andover 2014'

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
jwakefield@andovertownsm.com

The town's elementary school students and senior residents are joining together this spring on a collaborative photography project that will culminate in "Andover 2014: In Our Eyes."

Through a grant from the Andover Cultural Council, the two groups have been busy taking photos illustrating what the town means to them. Then, they will unveil their individual perspectives in an art show come fall.

Judith Farzan and Leslie Seaton Malis, co-chairwomen of the Andover Cultural Council, said in a release that their group is excited about the project on many levels.

"It's the first time anything like this has been done," they said. "We hope it will bring together the viewpoints of the two groups who were cited in our recent community survey as the highest priority for more cultural opportunities."

The cultural leaders say the project is also timely because Andover is rapidly growing and changing, and the project touches on multiple areas of this change: architecture, history, geography and the community's social nature.

It also represents a shift for the council from "simply a funding resource toward a broader role as a more effective advocate for the arts in Andover," they said.

Farzan said students at

*"It's the first time anything like this has been done. We hope it will bring together the viewpoints of the two groups who were cited in our recent community survey as the highest priority for more cultural opportunities."*

**Judith Farzan and Leslie Seaton Malis, co-chairwomen of the Andover Cultural Council**

some of the town's elementary schools as well as Pike and St. Augustine schools are collaborating on the project with local seniors at The Center at Punchard. They are using their cell-phone cameras to take their photographs, with grant money then paying for matting and framing the images. The students will also work with their art teachers on collages.

The finished works will go on display during the month of September, with the students' photos being shown at Memorial Hall Library on North Main Street and seniors' images being exhibited in the windows of CVS on Main Street.

"It's our hope that the juxtaposition of views will be a source for educational, artistic and generational discussions, and possibly serve as a springboard for greater town-wide exchange," Farzan and Seaton Malis said.

## BoSox World Series trophy tour heads to town

Ironically, the Yankees will be in the house when the Red Sox 2013 World Series trophy stops in Andover this Saturday, May 24.

But rest assured, these Yankee players waiting in line to see the prized trophy will be Red Sox fans, despite

the fact that their Andover Little League team coached by league president Scott Nichols represents the rival pinstripe-wearing foes from New York.

"The whole team is going to see the trophy ... we let all of the Little League teams know

about this event and many families are going. It's very exciting," Nichols said.

The trophy's two-hour stop at Old Town Hall, 20 Main St., is a benefit for Creative Living, a private, nonprofit organization that provides programs and support to the

developmentally disabled and their families. The program is based next to Faith Lutheran Church on South Main Street (Route 28).

The trophy will be available for viewing from 5 to 7 p.m. The public is encouraged to bring cameras to take

their own photographs. DJ Jake Gordan of Andover High School will provide the music. Admission is \$5 per person or \$10 per family. Special needs friends are welcome free of charge.

Creative Living hopes to use the event to raise

awareness and support for its work to enrich the lives of the developmentally disabled. Since Creative Living doesn't receive state funding, it relies on the generosity of the community to fulfill its mission. See [www.creativelivingandover.org](http://www.creativelivingandover.org) for more information.

## The many perks of AYS' Java Jam

SUBMITTED BY EMMA PLOURDE  
Andover Youth Services

Tired of the same old weekend routine? Don't be a wallflower; come join the Andover Youth Council and the rest of the community and enjoy the perks of the long-awaited, highly anticipated Java Jam.

The annual Java Jam returns to Old Town Hall, 20 Main St., next Friday, May 30, from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

For \$10, high school students are invited to sink into some comfortable couches and listen to the talents of their peers offering musical performances, poetry, comedy and a diverse exposition of local art. The aromatic waves of Ultimate Perk coffee, waffles plus

*Andover's own Harrison Cobb and Jesse Mattinson are returning as featured performers at the Java Jam, which aims to celebrate the work of local young people.*

free milkshakes round out the offerings.

Andover's own Harrison Cobb and Jesse Mattinson are returning as featured performers at the Java Jam, which aims to celebrate the work of local young people.

## Rotary Club hosts Maasai warriors



Courtesy Photo

The Andover Rotary Club hosted a group of visiting Maasai warriors at its May 2 breakfast meeting at the Lanam Club in Andover. Chief Ole Tipanko, center, along with his wife, Cicilia, second from left, and his assistant, "John" Kilenyi Parsitau, left, were visiting from the Kenyan village of Intashart located in the Ngong Hills near Tanzania. They were guests of Rotarian J.B. Doherty, third from left, during a month-long mission for Magsa Outreach. Gary Jaffarian, third from right, CEO of Jaffarian Volvo Toyota Scion in Haverhill, was the guest speaker. Rotary President Robert Lavoie, right, and Rotarian Craig Saline, second from right, welcomed the visitors to the meeting.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Taxing takeaways from Town Meeting

**Editor, Townsman:**  
I am a lifelong resident of Andover in the middle of three generations that currently live here so my family represents all demographics: children, working class and seniors.

I attended all four nights of Town Meeting. There seemed to be about a 2 percent turnout of the registered voters by my rough calculations, which is quite pathetic indeed. Some folks I know opted to watch the Bruins instead of attending night three. Others came and left for one single article. Too bad we are not taking the brilliant lead of other towns like North Andover to foster greater citizen participation via the Internet, for example.

One of the primarily unnoticed highlights of night No. 1 was when about one-third of the audience got up and walked out just after the huge, inefficient school budget was passed, showing that a large portion of the voters were resident town employees with a special interest other than that of the public common good.

Who knows how many nonresidents voted fraudulently under a name of the 98 percent that did not show because the staff still refuses to simply verify a picture ID at voter check-in. It's no secret that there has been voter fraud in our country such as was in the 2012 election with cases of multi-state voting and deceased folks voting.

The most significant part of the first week for the first half where we narrowly missed a great opportunity to save the town about \$1 million per year simply by switching health insurance brands from Blue Cross to Tufts without any loss of quality. Regardless of the invalid excuses given by those on the stage, it is possible to do, such as done in the private sector. Someone whispered the term "StapczynskiCare," which I can't seem to get out of my

head. Another major issue that was quickly skimmed over was the absurd, unfunded financial sinkhole called OPEB, where they just talked about throwing money into the ever enlarging bottomless pit instead of ways to prevent the sinkhole from happening again by aligning the overly generous employee retirement benefits with those of the private sector.

All of the above issues have a common issue/problem that I constantly witness firsthand: making Andover affordable for our seniors to remain in their homes. Taxing seniors out of their homes means more children moving in, which means a larger school system and all of the (above noted) expenses related thereto, which means another cycle of taxing seniors out of their homes. There was a petty token discount offered (squabbled over) to help our seniors. One speaker made a brilliant point where, in theory, zero senior taxation would have resulted in a cost savings for the town when you consider the influx of school children that happened on his street, for one example.

**FRANK E. LICATA**  
36 Vine St.

## Lynn has been a gift to Andover High School

**Editor, Townsman:**  
I am writing to express my gratitude to a colleague and outstanding educator who is leaving Andover High School.

Mei Lynn, teacher of Mandarin Chinese at Andover High School, arrived at AHS in 2007. She initiated the Chinese language program under Principal Peter Anderson and saw it flourish over the course of the next six years. In 30 years of teaching, I have rarely seen a teacher more dedicated to her students and her craft. Mei Lynn not only taught Chinese language to her students, but she also taught them to appreciate and love

Chinese culture. Trips to Chinatown in Boston for scavenger hunts, preparing Chinese dumplings, understanding the importance and meaning behind Chinese New Year with song and dance and teaching respect for education were some of the many contributions made by Mrs. Lynn over the years. She also established a sister school in China and that relationship will continue to grow in years to come.

As a colleague, Mei was a joy to be with day in and day out. She understood keenly what needed in the office each day and she will be sorely missed.

A great educator is a gift to a school district and most especially to the students who carry those gifts for a lifetime. Thank you, Mrs. Lynn, for your inspiring career.

**ELLEN GAUDIANO**  
Spanish teacher  
Andover High School

## Town Meeting supports Constitutional amendment

**Editor, Townsman:**

At last week's Town Meeting, Andover residents voted to join 182 other communities in the commonwealth and 16 states including Massachusetts in calling for an amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The message citizens across the state are sending is that we believe our democracy is in danger and that steps must be taken to save it. The country has slid too far down the dangerous slope of taking power away from each individual equally and giving it to the few individuals or corporations with enormous wealth: of turning from a democracy to a plutocracy.

Passing Article 64 was a step this community took as part of a national movement to reverse the direction of our country. Its vote joined the call for a constitutional amendment that makes clear that people are people — corporations are

not, and that money is not speech and its use can be limited for the sake of the integrity of our democracy.

North Shore Move to Amend, an affiliate of the national Move to Amend organization, initiated this local action by citizens. Move to Amend is one of the leading organizations coordinating the call for an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would make it clear that "money is not speech and that corporations are not people." Individuals who favor this effort can go to [Movetoamend.org](http://Movetoamend.org) and sign a national petition.

**ELLEN KAMINSKI**  
North Shore Move to Amend  
Essex

## Women make choice to pursue careers

**Editor, Townsman:**

I am writing to express some frustration over wording in an article last week regarding the Andona Society. I found it extremely unfortunate that in discussing reasons for the decreasing membership for this worthy group the article stated that: "In 2014, it's a whole different scene for the young mothers of Andover, where high housing prices and the skyrocketing cost of living has forced many women to work outside the home, leaving them no time to join the group."

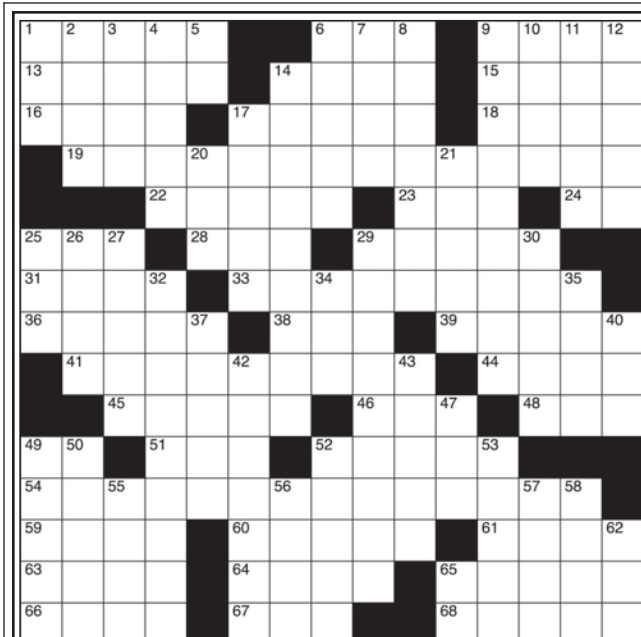
Forced women to work outside the home? That statement is both sexist and antiquated. Does the same hold true for men? Both men and women work to support their families financially, and many out of need in this economy. But many women choose to work in their desired careers to contribute to society and feel fulfilled, all the while setting wonderful examples for their families.

I highly doubt this is the message the Andona Society would like put out there. Working women stay away! You are too busy working outside the

home to participate in our group! I am sure there are women who work outside the home who are members of the group. I may not be expressing my feelings as eloquently as I would like, and I just hope the next time The Townsman publishes a similar article they

think twice about wording and bring things from 1952 to 2014.

**LISA KEELER, RN, CPNP-AC**  
Nurse practitioner MSICU  
**Editor's Note:** The word "forced" was added in the editing of the story and was not used by the writer of the article.



### CLUES ACROSS

1. Extremely severe
6. Doctors' group
9. Impetuous
13. Parks, Salazar and Blasi
14. Islamic leader
15. Shallowest great lake
16. A function to be performed
17. Bosnian border river
18. Boys
19. Midsummer derby
22. Rice wines (var. sp.)
23. College entrance exam
24. The first state
25. Payment (abbr.)
28. Fishing fabric
29. Short line after a character
31. Liquid dish
33. Evel Knievel
36. Progressive bodily wasting

### CLUES DOWN

1. Honeymooners actor Carney
2. Outer covering
3. Former Soviet state
4. Bangladeshi currency
5. Spanish be
6. Out of order
7. Head of hair
8. Built up
9. Kins
10. Distilled Middle Eastern beverage
11. Took sides
12. Siddhartha author
14. Exasperates
17. Faked an opponent
20. Delivery vehicle
21. Counterbalances
25. CA local time
26. Trench
27. Toothpaste containers

### Solution in Classified Section

38. Convert into leather
39. Gland secretion
41. Rundown apartments
44. A stratum of ore
45. Fathers
46. Goddess of the dawn
48. Feel regret
49. Bone component element
51. Steeped beverage
52. Set into a surface
54. 360 host
59. Southern annoyance!
60. Paths
61. Yemen monetary unit
63. Musician Clapton
64. Supplements with difficulty
65. Lofly nest of a bird of prey
66. Duct or masking
67. Used to be United \_\_\_
68. 18th Hebrew letter (var. sp.)

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# Education

## COMMENCEMENT 2014

### Koh to UMass Lowell graduates: 'Pinpoint your passions'

Andover's Howard Koh — the U.S. assistant secretary for health — urged UMass Lowell graduates at the school's commencement ceremonies on Saturday to be willing to challenge the odds to make a difference.

"Leaders are those who refuse to accept the status quo. They overcome their fears, step into the unknown and accept being the underdog," Koh told the graduates at the school's afternoon commencement at the Tsongas Center in Lowell.

Koh joined morning commencement speaker Bill Nye — scientist, engineer, author and inventor best known as "the Science Guy" from his award-winning TV show — in addressing a record 3,478 graduates at the school's two commencement ceremonies.

It marked the third consecutive year that UMass Lowell held two commencement ceremonies to accommodate the growing class of graduates — up 10 percent over last year and 77 percent since 2008.

"When you pinpoint your passion, you will feel that you have found your calling. You can then dedicate your future to expressing yourself, not proving yourself," Koh said.

"As you prepare for the



Howard Koh, left, with UMass Lowell Chancellor Marty Meehan, prior to delivering the commencement address at the afternoon ceremony this past Saturday. During the ceremony, Koh was presented with a Chancellor's Medal and an honorary degree from the university.

Courtesy photo

future, I hope you will fully understand that leadership is fundamentally about

encouraging the heart. ... Fundamentally, it's about recognizing people, enabling

people, caring for people and connecting with people."

Koh, the 14th assistant

#### ANDOVER CEO WINS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI HONORS

The president and CEO of Andover-based MKS Instruments and his wife received this year's Distinguished Alumni Award from UMass Lowell during Saturday's commencement exercises.

Gerald Colella, a 1978 graduate, and Joyce (Liakos) Colella, class of 1977, met as students at what was then the University of Lowell. The couple, who live in Seabrook, N.H., and Naples, Fla., have been active supporters of the Honors Fellows Scholarship Fund, UMass Lowell Fund and Manning School of Business at UMass Lowell.

With operations in 12 countries, MKS Instruments is a global provider of instruments, subsystems and process control solutions for advanced manufacturing.

and master's and doctoral degrees from the Graduate School of Education as well as the university's four other schools and colleges. He received a Chancellor's Medal from UMass Lowell Chancellor Marty Meehan, also of Andover, who presided over both ceremonies.

It was the second commencement address Koh gave in two days. Last Friday night, Koh was honored at Wheelock College in Boston's 2014 commencement. The theme of the ceremony for the school's undergraduates was "Innovation. Access. Opportunity."

Koh was singled out for his influential work increasing access to quality healthcare for children and families around the globe. Wheelock President Jackie Jenkins-Scott called Koh, who received an honorary degree, a "passionate public health advocate who shares an unwavering commitment to our mission of improving the lives of children and families."

Before being named assistant secretary for health in 2009, Koh served as Massachusetts commissioner of public health from 1997 to 2003. His son, Daniel Arrigg Koh, is chief of staff to Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh.

### A diploma — with a surprise Andover Marine pays wife unexpected NECC graduation visit

By MIKE LABELLA  
Staff Writer

It isn't often you see a couple kissing on stage during a college graduation. But Jared Harkins and Melissa Streed-Harkins just couldn't help it.

The couple hadn't seen each other since last February — when he'd left for North Carolina for combat training with the Marines just 10 days after their marriage.

Last Saturday, during Northern Essex Community College's 52nd annual commencement exercises, Marine PFC Harkins, a 2009 Andover High School

graduate, surprised his wife as she stepped on stage to receive her diploma.

Harkins had traveled to Haverhill from Virginia after being granted special leave to attend his wife's graduation.

Streed-Harkins, a Salisbury native who graduated from Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School in Haverhill in 2005, was shocked to see her husband.

"The last I spoke to him, he was having a hair cut on his base," she said moments after receiving an associate's degree in general studies.

"She thought I was stuck on base," Harkins said.

The couple met two years ago in a public speaking

class on the Haverhill campus of Northern Essex. He waited until the final day of class to ask her out. They fell in love and got married. But 10 days later, he reported for duty.

Their reunion — captured on video — has received national attention, with footage of their embrace airing on news shows across the country.

More than 1,000 graduates were awarded certificates and associate degrees at last weekend's commencement. NECC President Lane Glenn presided over the exercises. Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera was the guest speaker.



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

U.S. Marine Jared Harkins, of Andover, surprised his wife, Melissa Streed-Harkins, as she took the stage to receive her diploma Saturday at Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill. The couple, who met at the college, had not seen each other since February.

### Lunch with the principal



Courtesy photo

A group of lucky students from Shawsheen Elementary School collected on a special lunch with Principal Moira O'Brien earlier this month after winning a PTO raffle. The students joined O'Brien in walking down the street to the Shawsheen Luncheonette for their lunch date. The lunch bunch included, from left, Bode Rouse, Matthew Marade, Brynn McMillan, Aria Nepomnayshy, Sasha Dicovitsky, John Nies, Riley McMillan, James Bourgeois and Jake Smith.

#### LOCAL SCHOLARS

The following local students were named to the third quarter honor roll at Austin Preparatory School in Reading:

**Distinction:** Logan Bravo  
**Honors:** Matthew Belluche, Caroline Benson, Cecilia Bole, Emily Cross, Matthew Dona, Aleksey Gorman, Alicia Green, Niamh Green, Alexis

Horan, Andrew Kazmer, Aileen Kim, Christopher McCarthy, Ryan McDonough, Mercedes Pare, Nicole Poirier, Sofia Saltamartini, Poppy Simmonds, Grant Smith, Patrick Szekely, Casey Williams

**Marcos Jonathan Dymond**, a junior at Phillips

Exeter Academy in Exeter, N.H., earned high honors for the winter 2014 term.

**Peter Traub**, a sophomore at Minuteman High School in Lexington, was named to the third quarter honor roll. He is in the engineering technology program at the high school.

#### ST. JOHN'S PREP HONOR ROLL

Several local students earned academic honors for the third quarter at St. John's Preparatory School in Danvers.

**Headmaster's List**  
**Freshmen:** John Fraser, Stephen Kennefick, Ryan Latanzio, Cole Sawyer, Andrew Selima  
**Sophomores:** Joshua Lang,

Francis Straceski  
**Principal's List**  
**Freshmen:** Kevin Hern, Joshua Hurst  
**Sophomore:** Peter Dankert  
**Honor Roll**  
**Freshmen:** Peter Abbe, Samuel Conte, Santiago Jacome, Christopher Kennedy, Zachary Laramie, Michael O'Connor

**Sophomores:** William Hartnett, John Romano, Joseph Straceski  
**Juniors:** Andrew Cadigan, Mateo Jacome, Walker Martin, Marcus Pelletier, Anastasios Wallingford  
**Seniors:** Taylor Brock-Fisher, Rory Burke, Gregory Kobelski, Cory Lang, Sean Nork, Daniel Reilly, Timothy Tully

### Praise from the top Bread Loaf leader earns kudos from U.S. secretary of education

By LAUREN DiTULLIO  
Staff Writer

Rich Gorham, who has been teaching for a little over 20 years, has never expected accolades for his time and effort.

He simply enjoys his work as the first chairman of Lawrence High School's English Department and as facilitator of a partnership between Lawrence and Andover through the Andover Bread Loaf Teacher Network. He also serves as a track and wrestling coach at his alma mater, Phillips Academy in Andover.

But it was during a track practice earlier this month that he received perhaps one of the biggest accolades a teacher can imagine.

He got a surprise phone call from Arne Duncan, the U.S. secretary of education. "I was quite surprised and excited. It was incredibly humbling," Gorham said of the May 8 phone call, one of a few that Duncan made as part of national Teacher Appreciation Week.

Gorham said his conversation with Duncan centered around work in underprivileged communities. Gorham will be traveling to Haiti this summer with Andover Bread Loaf, the local arm of an organization started in 1987 at Middlebury College in Vermont. Duncan recently returned from Haiti himself.

Bread Loaf focuses



Courtesy photo

Rich Gorham received a surprise call this month from U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan to be praised for his 20-plus years of teaching efforts.

on promoting literacy and educational revitalization in the most economically disadvantaged school systems and communities around the world.

"Professionally, the (Bread Loaf) network has enriched me tremendously," Gorham said. "I know that I am being recognized because of the network I am a part of ... I was just the one lucky enough to receive the phone call."

Gorham said Duncan was interested in the "public/private partnership" that he fosters by working both at Lawrence High and Phillips. The local educator told the U.S. secretary how he believes that teamwork — both between neighboring communities and across oceans — is essential to successfully educating students. He also encouraged Duncan to visit Lawrence to see the city's partnership with Phillips in action.

"Most schools function in isolation. It is my belief that schools must connect

with each other ... in order to share best practices, in order to move forward," he said. "It's the 21st century. We can't afford to operate in isolation anymore."

Gorham also believes that a student's education must be complemented with after-school enrichment opportunities. While athletics is Gorham's passion — in addition to coaching at Phillips, he is the announcer for Lawrence High School football games — he also is a big supporter of theater and music programs.

Gorham said Phillips is fortunate that it has the resources to afford a vast array of after-school activities. He said his goal is to establish more extracurricular opportunities similar to those for Lawrence students. But he is already seeing the Lawrence school system heading in that direction.

"We've been fortunate in the last few years. We've been able to add a lot," he said.

# Opinion

## More help needed to fight drug addiction

The Andover Police Department last week unveiled its latest tool in fighting the drug epidemic sweeping the state: a drop box for prescription pills.

The presence of the green, steel box, which is bolted to the floor of the lobby in the Public Safety Center at 30 North Main St. is an acknowledgement that a drug problem exists here. But more important, it is a proactive effort to encourage residents to remove opiate drugs like Oxycontin from their medicine cabinets so they don't become a gateway to heroin and a life of drug addiction.

Heroin addicts have told police that they got addicted after starting first with marijuana and alcohol, but then moving onto prescription drugs like Oxycontin. But the prescription drugs are expensive and harder to get than heroin, which is less than \$10 a bag and can be easily purchased.

Unfortunately, heroin is acutely addictive and because it is unregulated, it can lead to sometimes deadly overdoses when laced with other drugs like fentanyl.

But the drop box is just one prong among several being deployed in town to tackle the problem. After a drug forum last fall on the top floor of Old Town Hall, it was clear that something needed to be done right here in Andover. Young men and women stood up in front of more than 200 people and bravely recounted how they or their friends had grappled with drug abuse, forcing them in and out of rehab, and all but destroying their lives. The mother of a Tyngsboro woman told the heartbreaking tale of how her daughter succumbed to heroin, dying of an overdose at the age of 20.

Police Chief Pat Keefe was put on the spot at the November forum, when several parents asked why Andover didn't have a drop box for prescription drugs. He vowed to look into it. Last week, he made good on his promise and the drop box was installed, thanks to legwork by police Lt. Edward Guy.

Meanwhile, Fire Chief Mike Mansfield has led the way locally in the use of Narcan, a nasal spray that snaps heroin overdose victims back to life by restoring their breathing. Since it was put in ambulances and fire trucks in early April, it has been used at least twice to bring people back from the brink of death. A 21-year-old man was revived at the La Quinta Hotel on May 1 and a 30-year-old man was brought back to life just a few days later, after overdosing in a Main Street apartment.

Police are also being trained and should have the nasal spray kits in cruisers within a month or so. Police also offered Narcan training for families of addicts at a forum at the police station earlier this week.

Town Meeting also responded by funding a new employee for Andover Youth Services who will specialize in helping teenagers and their families dealing with drug addiction.

Even kids are getting involved.

In December, the Townsman published a letter from a group of eighth-graders at Doherty Middle School imploring the chief to install the drop box. Their plea was answered and the drop box was installed. They are getting their picture taken with Keefe this week.

While all of this is positive, it is happening seemingly without the input of the town's elected and appointed officials. The fire chief took it upon himself to put Narcan in all of the town's emergency vehicles. The police chief took it upon himself, at the urging of eighth-graders, perhaps, to install a drop box at the station and conduct Narcan training for citizens.

The hiring of a new town worker to deal with drug addiction issues was only accomplished after elected officials heard the outcry in the community and responded accordingly — forcing the town manager to cut his budget in other places to fund the position.

And there is much more to be done. The town needs to involve the schools and the Health Department, not to mention local hospitals and other nonprofit groups, in the fight against drug addiction.

It is understandable that drugs and addiction are difficult subjects to confront. But sticking their collective heads in the sand is no way for town officials to deal with it.

## WEB QUESTION

### This Week's Question

As taxpayers grapple with rising costs, should the town scale back employee benefits?

**YES.** A 20-hour-a-week employee working 10 years gets health insurance for life. That's outrageous.

**YES.** The public sector needs to come in line with the private sector or else Andover will face bankruptcy like Detroit.

**MAYBE.** Although town employees work hard, they should give something back.

**NO.** Town workers are devoted to their jobs. They are underpaid and deserve good benefits.

**NO.** The only people complaining are jealous because they don't have good benefits.

### Last Week's Question

The 62-year-old Andona Society is struggling for members. What should be the organization's next step? With 64 votes, the answers were:

**Launch a membership campaign.** The organization serves as an important funding tool for youth activities and must continue. 42 percent, or 27 votes.

**Initiate new fundraisers.** Clown Town is fun, but perhaps it's time to introduce some new events. 22 percent, or 14 votes.

**Encourage more men to get involved.** The group would be stronger if the membership base was broadened. 19 percent, or 12 votes.

**Keep the status quo.** There's an ebb and flow with every organization. Andona is no different. Ride the wave and maintain tradition, especially when it comes to Clown Town. 11 percent, or 7 votes.

**Other.** 4 votes, 6 percent.

## TIME TO CELEBRATE



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Troy Lamontagne of Andover takes a selfie with his camera phone during commencement exercises at Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill this past Saturday.

## All Those Years Ago

Compiled by  
Susan McKelliget

**100 Years Ago  
May 22, 1914**

A horse, owned and driven by Ralph Bailey, became frightened in the square yesterday morning by an electric car. The animal jumped, breaking the breeching, and ran off up Elm Street. He turned down Florence Street, where he was stopped, but not until Mr. Bailey had been thrown from the buggy in which he was riding. Vegetables were strewn along the streets and Mr. Bailey received a severe shaking up, but fortunately no further damage resulted.

The Fire Department was called out about eight o'clock Wednesday morning to a fire on the old Tucker place, off Salem Street, occupied by Jacob

Glowacki.  
**75 Years Ago  
May 18, 1939**

30 Andover boys, members of the schoolboy patrols, visited Washington D.C. and the New York World's Fair with officer David Gillespie. Jimmie Christie Jr. reported that they saw "the General Motors building, the Ford exhibit and Frank Buck's place." At the General Motors exhibit, "they saw the world of 1960 with a model village. We rode around looking at it in little cars that were on an escalator, or something like that. No we didn't go in the Perisphere and Trylon. We passed the W.P.A. building and one of the boys said: 'I wonder if it's finished yet?' It wasn't."

Don't forget Poppy Day Saturday, and when you're buying your flower,

remember that you're buying a little comfort and care for someone who became disabled fighting in defense of our country. Let's show them we haven't forgotten.

**50 Years Ago  
May 21, 1964**

For the first time this year, cemetery services will begin early — at 7:30 a.m. — to be followed by a service at Memorial Hall Library. The parade itself will start immediately at 9:30 a.m. Congressman F. Bradford Morse will speak at the Memorial Hall Library at 8:30 a.m.

Selectmen do not plan to appoint an acting town manager, unless their search for a permanent appointee strikes major, unexpected snags.

First-graders took their turn recently, in presenting a monthly program at Shawsheen School. The

playlet was woven around the story of the Old Woman and the Shoe. Some of the participants included Ellen Cheetham, Richard Pare, Diane Fraser, Daniel Lafond, Dennis Whitton, Karen Sorenson, Andrew Buck, Albert Winwood and Peter Richmond.

**25 Years Ago  
May 25, 1989**

If living by a golf course sounds like nirvana, then Andover appears to be a haven of the future for golf addicts. Two housing projects overlooking Andover's golf links took small steps forward at a Planning Board meeting Tuesday night. Although the board delayed a vote on the Andover Country Club's 115-unit proposal, the project received a boost as Town Physical Planner Steve Colyer backed developer Yvon Cormier's preliminary plan.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### 'Noise of democracy' is good to hear

Editor, Townsman:

Andover's annual Town Meeting this year was described as "contentious," "raucous," "disrespectful" and "boisterous." President James Buchanan once said, "I like the noise of democracy." So do I and here's why.

As cofounder of the fiscal watchdog website, TownofAndover.com, I made some noise at Town Meeting by proposing budget amendments related to the unfunded liability for retiree health insurance (OPEB) and health insurance costs for active employees. These amendments failed, but exposed some important fiscal issues.

Let's take OPEB first: If someone works for the town for just 20 hours a week for just 10 years, that person (and any surviving spouse) receives highly subsidized health insurance benefits for the rest of their life beginning at age 55. That is outrageous by any reasonable standard.

Unlike pensions, town employees contribute nothing to fund this benefit while employed. The town hasn't been funding it either for the decades the benefit has been offered. The result is a vastly understated \$145 million unfunded liability.

We currently pay around \$5 million annually to provide health insurance to former full- and part-time employees, and Town Meeting just approved putting \$1.7 million toward the unfunded liability. The truth is, this \$6.7 million is only about half of what we should be funding.

If our town leaders were honest, they would tell us the real cost is \$12.6 million next year to pay both current OPEB benefit costs and to amortize the unfunded liability in 30 years. In just 10 years, this cost will rise to \$20 million per year.

OPEB is a runaway train. Still, no elected official, nor our town manager, will publicly state the obvious. Retiree health insurance is an antiquated benefit that we can no longer afford. Eighty percent of private-sector employers stopped this benefit, because it is unsustainable.

I also made noise on health insurance costs for active employees, which account for 10 percent of Andover's entire budget. We spend more for health insurance than we do for the Police and Fire departments combined.

A week before Town Meeting, a win-win opportunity to save taxpayers and town employees \$1 million simply by changing from Blue Cross to Tufts Health Plan

was rejected by the teachers union, over the objections of the firefighters union and others in favor of switching. At Town Meeting, one resident, a parent and PTO president, described the teachers union leadership's behavior as an "act of retribution" over dissatisfaction with cuts to the school budget.

My amendment to cut the health insurance budget by \$680,000, the taxpayers' share of savings, fell just nine votes short. If my health insurance amendment had passed, town leaders could have quickly reconvened all town union representatives to do the right thing and switch to Tufts Health Plan. However, in a calculated move to thwart the will of taxpayers and to avoid being embarrassed by a successful cut to his budget, our town manager "lawyered up."

Using our tax dollars, he paid "a lot of money," according to town counsel, for a legal opinion that had no bearing on our right as residents to express our will in a Town Meeting vote. Read immediately after my amendment presentation, this legal opinion confused voters, and at least one selectmen, to wonder if a vote for my amendment was illegal, when in fact, it was legal. The vote was tainted. The damage was done. The moderator rejected my motion for reconsideration

and our elected officials sat by silently.

With the average homeowner property tax bill approaching the \$10,000 per year mark, escalating town budget, and unfunded liabilities for retiree health care and pensions exceeding \$300 million, I hope more Andover residents join me in making noise.

**BOB LANDRY**  
Seminole Circle  
Cofounder, TownofAndover.com

### Town Meeting a 'head-scratcher'

Editor, Townsman:

I was very impressed with Bob Landry at Town Meeting. The biggest head-scratcher was his not being allowed to use quotes by anyone not in attendance. Moderator Sheila Doherty then immediately allowed Town Counsel Tom Urbelis' reading, from an attorney not in attendance.

More eyes need to be on these Town Meetings as the proceedings are always curious, to say the least.

Selectmen rail against townspeople for not attending all meetings leading up to Town Meeting. But these people work and have family and other obligations. We count on our selectmen to serve our best financial interests. It's not happening.

**CHRIS MEECH**  
18 Fleming Ave.

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# Krit Classic 2014

## Annual race remembers AHS graduate

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

Andover native Kristin "Krit" Kearins should be a bicycle-riding enthusiast turning 32 in June, but a fatal bike accident in Boston six years ago took her promising life away.

Kearins' big heart and zest for life, however, lives on as her hometown continues to celebrate her memory by hosting a 5K Race and Fun Run close to her June 6 birthday.

This year's sixth annual Krit Classic is set for Sunday, June 1, from Andover High School and over 1,000 people



FILE PHOTO

Runners break from the start line of last year's fifth annual Krit Classic 5K. Simon Voorhees, of Andover, far left, won the race.

are expected to participate.

The 2000 graduate of Andover High was a stand-out athlete who captained the gymnastics as well as swim

and dive teams, leading both to state championships.

After graduating from Plymouth State University in 2004 with a degree in early

childhood education, she began working as a clinical assistant at Children's Hospital in Boston, while pursuing a career as a pediatric nurse.

### IF YOU GO

■ **What:** Sixth annual Krit Classic 5K Race/Fun Run to support the Kristin "Krit" Kearins Memorial Scholarship Fund.  
 ■ **When:** Sunday, June 1; Kids Run starts 8:30 a.m., 5K 9:30 a.m.  
 ■ **Where:** Andover High School, Shawsheen Road  
 ■ **Registration:** \$25 in advance, \$30 race day. Race-day registration starts at 7 a.m. in the Andover High cafeteria. Packet pick-up for advance registrants Friday, May 30, 3 to 6 p.m., and Saturday, May 31, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.,



at IPFitness, 303 Main St., North Reading.

■ **Details:** Visit [www.kritkearinsclassix.com](http://www.kritkearinsclassix.com).

She was cycling to her home in Charlestown after work when the accident occurred in September 2008. It was raining and some say her bicycle may have slipped on a slick bridge in

Boston. Kearins, who was not wearing a helmet, hit her head and she later succumbed to her injuries at the age of 26.

See RACE, Page 14



Courtesy photo

Twelve-year-old Riley of North Andover, who has cerebral palsy, has enjoyed weekly therapeutic horseback-riding sessions at Ironstone Farm in Andover thanks to a new scholarship from the Kristin "Krit" Kearins Memorial Fund. Riley's mother and Kearins were classmates at Andover High School, where they were also members of the gymnastics and dive teams.

## Krit's spirit trots on

### Horse therapy another layer of Kearins' generosity

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

When a 12-year-old North Andover girl, born prematurely and with cerebral palsy, arrives for her weekly therapeutic horseback riding session at Ironstone Farm in Andover, Pam Sheehy knows her late daughter, Kristin "Krit" Kearins, is smiling down from above.

"She loved helping people, especially kids with special needs. Those kids were so special to her," Sheehy, of Andover, said of her daughter, who died following a bicycle accident in Boston six years ago.

Thanks to an annual memorial race, children with special needs are continuing to enjoy the benefit of Kearins' kindness.

In addition to supporting a yearly scholarship for a graduating Andover High School scholar-athlete, proceeds from the annual Krit Classic 5K Race and Fun Run in Kearins' memory are now funding a scholarship allowing a child with disabilities to receive weekly therapeutic intervention at Ironstone — Challenge Unlimited for one year.

Sheehy said she wanted to branch out this year beyond the scholarship awarded to a graduating Andover High senior and add another layer of generosity in her daughter's memory.

"I asked around, thought a lot about what Krit would have wanted and decided on this scholarship for the Ironstone program. Krit had a huge heart and this was such a good match. Krit just loved special kids," Sheehy said.

It's probably no coincidence that 12-year-old Riley is the first recipient of the Ironstone scholarship.

Riley is the daughter of one of Kearins' classmates at Andover High School



Courtesy photo

Pam Sheehy, right, says her daughter, Kristin "Krit" Kearins, left, would like that a scholarship fund in her memory was supporting Andover High School graduates and therapeutic horseback riding sessions for children with disabilities.

and a fellow teammate on the gymnastics and diving squads. The two graduated together from Andover High in 2000.

Their paths crossed again at Children's Hospital in Boston, where Kearins was working as a nursing assistant in the Emergency Department following her graduation from Plymouth State University in 2004.

Kearins' family says she was known for her amazing ability to communicate with her young patients, even in the most trying of circumstances. It was something the doctors and nurses she worked with immediately noticed, according to her family.

It was something Kearins' Andover High classmate and her husband, who didn't want their names used, noticed as well when they brought their daughter, Riley, to Children's for medical care.

Riley's mother, who remembers Kearins in high school as a "fun girl who was always happy," said her Andover High classmate proved more than a familiar face when they would see her in the

Emergency Department at Children's.

"She could take care of children who were disabled and treat them like others," Riley's mother said. "She was able to treat them like they didn't have a disability."

Through the Kristin "Krit" Kearins Memorial Scholarship Fund, Riley

has now been going to Ironstone once a week since September and has made some noticeable progress. Her mother said the sessions have allowed her daughter, who is in a wheelchair, to substantially improve her core strength.

See THERAPY, Page 14

### RIDING PARTNERS

People with the following disabilities are among those served at Ironstone Farm:

Apert syndrome, attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism, cancer, cerebral palsy, cognitive delay, developmental disability, Down syndrome, epilepsy, hearing impairment, Huntington Disease, learning disability, low muscle tone, mental handicap, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, pervasive development delay, Prader-Willi syndrome, seizure disorder, spina bifida, spinal cord injury, stroke, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment, Williams syndrome

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## Scholarship winners embody Kearins' legacy

Kristin "Krit" Kearins' annual awards a \$5,000 scholarship to a graduating Andover High School student-athlete who exhibits superior sportsmanship and team spirit — both qualities she herself embodied.

Kearins was a top diver and gymnast at Andover High. In 1999, she helped lead the AHS diving team to its first state championship title. A year later, with her help, the AHS gymnastics team captured its first state championship title. As captain of both teams during her senior year, Krit was a role model and leader. She always worked hard whether on the springboard or the mat, and while she had a competitive streak, she knew the importance of having fun, her family and friends say.

Each year, the scholarship board looks for a recipient who demonstrates the passion and heart that Kearins was known for during her four years as an athlete at Andover High.

The Kristin Kearins Memorial Scholarship is funded by race proceeds. The 2014 winner will be announced at this year's Krit Classic.

Here is a look back at the past recipients:

**LEAH PSOINAS**  
2009 recipient

Psoinas, the first scholarship recipient, was co-captain of the Andover High School gymnastics team and was introduced to diving by Kearins at Indian Ridge Country Club in Andover, taking diving lessons from her for two summers. She went on to graduate from Syracuse University.

**KAYLA BALDWIN**  
2010 recipient

Baldwin was the assistant captain of the Andover High gymnastics team in her junior year and helped to lead the team to the Merrimack Valley Conference Championship. She graduated from UMass Amherst.

**KANELLA CHRISTOPULOS**  
2011 recipient

Christopulos was a quad-captain for the 2010-2011 Andover High swim and dive state championship team and a recipient of the Coach's Sportsmanship Award. She was also involved with the AHS Red Cross Club and Students Against Destructive Decisions team.

**COURTNEY STONE**  
2012 recipient

A tri-captain of the 2011-2012 Andover High swim and dive state championship team, Stone placed in the top 10 at north sectionals and states for diving her sophomore, junior and senior years. The 2012 Andover High graduate went on to Bentley University in Waltham.

**MACKENZIE DUTTON**  
2013 recipient

Dutton was an honor roll student and a two-sport varsity athlete on multiple state championship girls swimming and diving teams, as well as the goaltender for the girls ice hockey team. She was selected to represent Warrior Way — a program designed to promote and encourage positivity, integrity, sportsmanship, determination and symbolism of being a student-athlete while stressing the importance of academics to elementary and middle school students. She volunteered her time as a youth ice hockey and baseball coach.

During her freshman year in 2010, Dutton's father passed away after his battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. While managing her own loss, she became a compassionate support system for her mother and younger brother as well as others as a volunteer camp counselor at a bereavement camp. She has raised thousands of dollars for ALS awareness efforts and courageously spoke at the ALS world conference.

Dutton is pursuing a degree in nursing at Endicott College in Beverly.

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# Who was Krit?

## Remembering a competitive good sport with heart of gold

This story of Kristin "Krit" Kearins' life was supplied by her family.

### Kristin Lee Kearins

■ June 6, 1982 – Sept. 19, 2008

■ **Parents:** Pam Kearins Sheehy and William Kearins (deceased); stepfather Brendan Sheehy

■ **Siblings:** Mia Kearins Fagan and brother-in-law, Mike; Kasie Kearins Sullivan and brother-in-law, Mike; Billy Kearins and sister-in-law, Dorthe; stepbrothers Brendan Sheehy, Mike Sheehy and Tim Sheehy and stepsister Colleen Sheehy McCormick

■ **High school:** Andover High School, class of 2000; varsity gymnastics and varsity swim and dive teams, four years each and captain for both in senior year

■ **College:** Plymouth State University, Plymouth, N.H., class of 2004 with Bachelor of Arts in early childhood education; swim and dive team, four year

■ **Career:** Nursing assistant, Emergency Department, Children's Hospital in Boston

Kristin "Krit" Kearins was born on June 6, 1982 at Melrose-Wakefield Hospital in Melrose. She was the baby of the Kearins family, an adorable blonde who from an early age made it clear she was determined to enjoy life to its fullest. Krit was a happy, energetic child who cherished her three older siblings, Mia, Kasie and Billy, and had a very special bond with her parents.

She was all about family and when, years later, hers expanded to include the Sheehys, Fagans and Sullivans, it brought even more joy into her life. Krit was dedicated and loyal to all who were lucky enough to know her. To say she had a heart of gold is an understatement.

Krit attended Sanborn Elementary School in Andover, and then West Middle, where she made many friends who remained close to her



Andover High School diving coach Mary Wermers Schissel, on the diving board, with her team, from left, senior captain, Kristin "Krit" Kearins, junior Gretchen Fuhr, junior Jen Busby and sophomore Kristin Elsmore. The 1999 team made a big splash, advancing to the states.

File photo

throughout high school, college and beyond.

In nursery school, her mother signed her up for a gymnastics class and she fell in love with the sport. Krit was strong, flexible and smart. She was quickly moved up to the competitive team at Merrimack Valley Gymnastics in Methuen, where she excelled, winning numerous medals and trophies over the years. The shelves in her bedroom were filled with memories of competitions from Massachusetts to New York to Arizona. The new friends she made along the way were just as important to Krit as the accolades. She was the definition of a good sport, competitive yet compassionate. Over the years, Krit also competed for Northeast Gymnastics in Wilmington and Miller's Gymnastics in Tewksbury.

As a member of Indian Ridge Country Club in Andover, Krit also began diving. From the moment she hit the diving board, it was clear that her elegant style and twisting ability would take her far in the sport. From there, she followed in her sisters' footsteps and continued her competitive diving for Andover High School.

A top varsity diver and gymnast at Andover High, she helped lead both teams

to their first state championship titles. She was captain of both the swim and dive team and the gymnastics team during her senior year, graduating Andover High in 2000.

She went on to attend Plymouth State University in New Hampshire, where she continued her diving career, setting school records on the 3- and 1-meter diving board. She would remain involved in the sport even after college graduation, coaching the diving team at Central Catholic High School in Lawrence for two years as well as serving as a part-time coach at Indian Ridge.

After graduating from Plymouth State in 2004 with a degree in early childhood education, she eventually moved to Boston and began searching for a career that would fulfill her strong desire to help others, especially children, with whom she had a unique connection. She found what she was looking for in the medical field when she was hired by Children's Hospital in Boston.

As a nursing assistant in the Emergency Department, Krit was known for her amazing ability to communicate with her young patients, even in the most trying of circumstances. She could perform her duties while providing calm assurance to

the children and their parents. This was something the doctors and nurses she worked with immediately noticed. Krit decided to go back to school to get her degree in nursing and had begun taking the required science courses while continuing her full-time job.

After work on Friday, Sept. 12, 2008, Krit stopped to have dinner with a friend and then got on her bike for the short ride home, where she was to meet up with another friend. That is when tragedy struck. A stranger walking over the Charles River Dam Bridge near the Museum of Science in Boston found Krit unresponsive on the ground, her bike next to her. The stranger ran to the nearby State Police barracks for help.

Krit was rushed to Massachusetts General Hospital, where doctors diagnosed her with a severe brain injury and put her on life support. She was surrounded by family and friends as she fought to survive. She lost her battle for life on Sept. 19, 2008 and was laid to rest four days later.

While those who loved her may never know what happened on that bridge or why Kearins was taken so soon, they will forever cherish the many memories they have of her beautiful, smiling face, her strong character and her giving heart.

## THERAPY: Scholarship aids special needs kids

■ Continued from Page 13

"She really had a rough time in the beginning, but then she has gotten better throughout the months," her mother said. "Her strength in her core and back is much improved and she is able to sit much better. ... I don't think people realize how hard it is to sit up on a horse like that."

But in addition to developing her core muscles, Riley's mother said the weekly sessions on one of Ironstone's gentle blonde haflinger ponies — either Kessler, Wenzel or Grummond — have been a nice change of pace from her daughter's traditional therapy program.

"She has loved being outside," her mother said. "She's so happy being outside."

Riley's riding instructor, Emily Hutson, 24, of Andover, said many riders like her don't get to participate in school sports programs, so the 30-minute sessions at Ironstone are very important.

"The horses are relaxed and Riley gets to focus on her ride ... her muscles are stronger, she sits up straighter and it's been great to see," said Hutson, who has been working

with Riley since September.

More than 45 children are fully supported by Ironstone Farm's Sponsor a Child program, allowing them to receive therapeutic riding they otherwise might not be able to afford. Neil Fater, public relations director at Ironstone, said:

What's great about therapeutic horseback riding for children with special needs is that riding a horse simulates a person's normal walking movement, Fater said. A body's trunk is strengthened, balance gets improved, and muscle tone and stamina is increased with horse riding.

"Simply put, connecting people and horses improves the quality of life for people," he said. "That's documented."

The fact that Riley's horseback-riding experience is being funded by the Krit Classic only adds to the significance.

"The sponsorship of Riley is yet another way that Krit's special spirit lives on," Fater said.

Sheehy agreed. Riley may be having a bad day, but getting on a pony quickly cheers her up, she said. And Sheehy is certain her daughter would have loved seeing that.

## RACE: Krit Classic 5K honors Krit's memory

■ Continued from Page 13

Proceeds from the Krit Classic fund a \$5,000 scholarship spread out over four years to a graduating Andover High School scholar-athlete who exemplified Kearins' life. This year's winner will be announced at the June 1 race. A scholarship for therapeutic horseback riding at Ironstone Farm in Andover was also added to the awards this year. See related story.

"We want to use the foundation money to pay for awards that Krit would have supported. She was a very caring and loving person ... she would like what we are doing," Kearins' mother, Pam Sheehy, said.

Organizers of the Krit Classic say the event is for the avid runner, weekend runner, anyone who wants to be a runner and those who just love to walk.

Joining the field for this year's Krit Classic for the first time will be about 100 members of Girls on the Run paired with their running buddies.

GOTR is national organization catering to girls ages 6 to 13 that teaches life skills through fun, engaging lessons that celebrate the joy

of movement. Groups meet twice a week for eight weeks, culminating with a 5K event.

"GOTR reached out to us because one of their team leaders worked with Krit at Children's Hospital in the Emergency Department and thought this would be a perfect fit for the girls," Sheehy said. "Krit would have loved to have the girls involved."

For the third year, the Krit Classic will kick off promptly at 8:30 a.m. with a Kids Fun Run for runners up to 12 years old. The children will run twice around the high school track in two heats — one for ages 7 and under and another for ages 8 and up.

Then, Chrissy Catino will sing the national anthem, followed by the traditional release of 100 green balloons set to the music of "Somewhere Over The Rainbow."

The 5K goes off at 9:30 a.m. The event uses Chronotrack timing, with the capability to send results via text messages as well as Facebook and Twitter.

IPF Fitness of North Reading, formerly of Andover, is the title sponsor. New sponsors this year include FlipsR4Kids, Title Boxing Club, Snap Fitness and Andover Eye Care.

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by Nicholas T. Papapetros, DMD, FAGD

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Researchers examining a potential link between oral and mental health recently found that tooth loss and bleeding gums were indicative of middle-aged individuals' declining thinking skills. This conclusion was based on tooth and gum examinations and tests of memory and thinking skills among nearly 6,000 men and women between the ages of 45 and 64. Study participants with severe gum disease and/or tooth loss had poorer cognitive function than those with healthier gums and more teeth. This link may be due to poor oral health translating to less healthy diet and nutrient intake. Otherwise, inflammation in the gums and throughout the circulatory system may impede memory and thinking skills, or there may be a genetic link between the two diseases.

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# Sports

## Hurdles heroes



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo

Andrew Matteucci, here clearing a hurdle last season, is one of four Andover High boys hurdlers who have emerged among the best in the state this season.

## Boys' foursome a dominant hurdles team

BY DAVID WILLIS  
dwillis@andovertownsmen.com

Andrew Matteucci may have emerged as one of the top hurdlers in the state of Massachusetts, but the Andover High junior doesn't have to wait for the post-season meets to face elite competition in his best events.

He simply has to go to practice.

Matteucci and classmates Sebastian Silveira and Sean Caveney have all run times that rank them among the best in the state in both the 110-meter hurdles and 400 hurdles, while freshman Justin Mantrana is close behind and completes a relay team that hopes to earn All-American honors this spring.

"It's awesome to have a group of guys running the hurdles with me," Matteucci said. "Whenever you go to a meet you know there are going to be points on the board in the hurdles because we can all put up points. Last year, I was mostly alone running the hurdles. This season, they are there to push me every day and make us all better. Plus, it's a lot more fun."

The foursome — three of whom are in their first full year running hurdles — now have their collective eyes set on placing at nationals in the shuttle



ANDY BAUMGARTNER PHOTO

Andrew Matteucci, right, wins the men's 110 meter hurdles with teammate Sean Caveney, left, in second at last month's Ottavianti Invitational Track Meet at Haverhill High School. The two together with Sebastian Silveira and Justin Mantrana have proven to be powerhouse hurdlers for the Golden Warriors.

hurdles.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I think we could have four hurdlers this accomplished," Golden Warriors head coach Peter Comeau said. "I feel like they can score a lot of points in the state meet, place at All-States and I think they can be All-American at nationals."

**The veteran**

While his three teammates are beginners in the hurdles, Matteucci has been running the event since he first arrived at Andover High.

"I was in the trials at the beginning of my freshman year,"

See HURDLES, Page 16

### Weekly Roundup

## Brickman delivers walkoff hit for Andover baseball

### BASEBALL

With the score tied in the bottom of the ninth, Alex Brickman stepped to the plate and connected on a blast to right center field, allowing Tim Awiszis to score the walk-off winning run as Andover beat New Hampshire foe Londonderry 5-4 last Wednesday, May 14. Gabriel Hernandez drove in two runs, Reid Bryant delivered five no-hit innings of relief and Sam Bennett earned the win with a perfect ninth inning.

Alex Brickman continued to star with two hits and two RBIs, but Andover lost to archrival Central Catholic 7-5 last Thursday. Frank Potts added a hit, a run and an RBI for the Warriors.

Colin Flynn allowed just a single run, but ended up the tough-luck loser as Andover fell to Lowell 1-0 last Monday, May 12. Jack Cox and Christopher Nicholas each had a hit for the Warriors.

### SOFTBALL

### Hartnett, Olney red hot

Paige Hartnett was 3 for 3 with three runs scored and two RBIs and Mimi Olney added three hits and two RBIs of her own as Andover rallied for nine runs in the fifth inning to beat Billerica 16-13 last Friday. Amy Bordogna added three hits and three runs and Jojo Olson and Brooke Kabriel each drove in two runs for the winners.

Amy Bordogna delivered four hits and Erin Nastari and Paige Hartnett (three RBIs) each collected two of Andover's eight doubles as the Golden Warriors crushed North Andover 15-2 last Wednesday, May 14. Mimi Olney added two hits and three RBIs and Tori Roche scored twice for the winners.

Mimi Olney had two hits, as Andover rallied, but fell to Lowell 5-4 last Monday, May 12. Brooke Kabriel and Abby Day each had a hit and an RBI for the Golden Warriors.

### GIRLS TRACK

### Ameen sets dash record

Hannah Ameen won the 100 in 12.45, breaking the Andover High school record of 12.46 set by Kayla Baldwin in 2010, as Andover beat North Andover 94-51 last Wednesday, May 14. Courtney Comeau won the 100 hurdles, Sarah Rothmann took the mile, Hannah Chapman won the triple jump and Kate Donovan won the 800 for the Warriors.

### GIRLS TENNIS

### Doubles stars

The doubles team of Paige Webster and Pooja Mukund won 6-2, 6-4 this past Saturday to earn a berth in the North quarterfinals. Samantha Camilo, Karena Yan and the team of Laurie-Maude Chenard and Sydney Ferry also earned victories for the Warriors.

Paige Webster and Pooja Mukund won No. 1 doubles and Samantha Camilo continued to star with a win at top singles to lead Andover to a 5-0 win over Lexington last Thursday. Karena Yan and Courtney Nash added singles victories.

Samantha Camilo won No. 1 singles 6-2, 6-0 and Karena Yan swept No. 2 singles as Andover improved to 15-0 by beating Haverhill 5-0 last Wednesday. Erica Mazzarelli made it a singles sweep by winning at the No. 3 spot.

Courtney Nash swept No. 2 singles and Laurie-Maude

See ROUNDUP, Page 16



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo

Starting pitcher Colin Flynn delivers to a batter in a game against Lawrence High School. He has been outstanding on the hill for the Golden Warriors this season.

## Tournament win for AHS boys Ultimate Frisbee

The muddied Andover High School boys varsity Ultimate Frisbee team with its Division II trophy claimed at the 23rd Amherst Invitational earlier this month.

Courtesy Photo



SUBMITTED BY TAISSA WEBER

Andover High School's boys varsity Ultimate Frisbee team fought mud, wind and fatigue over two days to win the 23rd Amherst Invitational earlier this month.

The AHS Golden Gophers team claimed its Division II trophy May 4 after going 3 and 1 in pool play and winning both single-elimination games against Sharon and Concord-Carlisle.

The team entered the tournament having played

only a handful of games after a rainy spring closed fields for weeks. Andover had to cancel the second half of its own tournament, the Andover Invitational, on April 2 due to the conditions. Despite having little playing time under their belts, the players pulled out three wins on the rainy first day of the tournament, under all-too-familiar conditions.

"Most of the practice we'd gotten this year was in the mud, so maybe that helped

us keep our footing," coach Keith Westgate said.

Westgate also attributed the team's success to a strong defense. "We've got a group that plays well as a team. They really exemplify Ultimate Frisbee's 'Spirit of the Game' with no selfish players and a lot of heart."

Ultimate Frisbee relies on speed, agility, strength, eye-hand coordination and teamwork, but it also is characterized by the

See FRISBEE, Page 16

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# Phillips softball field to be named for longtime coach Drench

Phillips Academy is dedicating its softball field to longtime head coach Peter Drench on Saturday afternoon in a ceremony that will recognize not only his contributions to the program, but his positive influence on his players over the years.

Prior to coming to Phillips, Drench coached at Arlington, where he was 156-57, winning seven league titles and qualifying for the state tournament

10 times in 11 years.

In arrived at Phillips 26 years ago to take over a team that had not been very successful.

Drench went on to compile a 314-101 record prior to the current season and was particularly effective the last few years, winning the Big East Tournament three years in a row. The Big Blue's combined record of 28-3 in 2012 and 2013 is thought to be the

best two-year mark in school history.

"I savored the creative challenge of constructing a competitive program within (academic) constraints I accepted," Drench said. "It's a bit like coaching in the Ivy or Patriot leagues and trying to compete with the major conferences."

Drench is retiring from teaching history at the end of this year, but, fortunately

for Phillips and all of the players in the program, he will continue to coach softball. Because for him, teaching life lessons is as important as winning games, although he certainly values that as well.

After this season, his teams will be playing games on a field named in his honor, something he doesn't take lightly.

"It's a great honor, a priceless gift and an

acknowledgement of all those who participated in softball here," Drench said. "I know from experience that most people who serve in education can go through their entire career enjoying little if any recognition."

"I think of this as an opportunity to serve as a symbolic stand-in for so many others in our profession. There are so many people to thank and I look forward to expressing

my gratitude publicly at the ceremonies on the 24th."

The field dedication will take place at 2 p.m. Saturday, prior to Phillips' game with rival Phillips Exeter. Director of Athletics Mike Kuta will open the ceremony and dedicate the field with the assistance of Phillips Head of School John Palfrey. In the event of rain, the event will take place in the Cage.

— Dave Dyer, staff writer

## ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 15

**Chenard and Sydney Ferry** took No. 1 doubles 6-0, 6-0 as Andover earned a 5-0 victory over Chelmsford last Monday, May 12. **Erica Mazzarelli** added a win at No. 3 singles.

### BOYS TENNIS

**Warriors edge Eagles**

Andover faced its toughest match of the season, but managed to stay perfect by edging St. John's Prep 3-2 last Tuesday, May 13. **Andrew Imrie** battled for a 6-7, 6-3, 6-2 win at No. 1 singles, **Drew Rooks** sailed to a win at No. 3 singles and **Aaron Edelman** and **Kellen McAuliffe** took top doubles 4-6, 6-4, 6-1.

### BOYS TRACK

**Silveira takes two**

**Sebastian Silveira** took on a 110 hurdles and won in 14.95 and also took the triple jump with a 40-3.5 but Andover fell to North Andover 79-66 last Wednesday, May 14. **Sean Caveney** took the 400 hurdles, **Hamza Naveed** won the 400 and **Joe Vetere** took the pole vault for the Warriors.

### BOYS VOLLEYBALL

**Deans dominate**

**Alec Dean** scored a team-high 16 kills while brother **Devlin Dean** led with 20 service points to help Andover best Methuen 25-17, 25-14, 25-17 last Wednesday, May 14. **Adam Yee** added 15 blocks and **Chase Webber** had 12 digs for the winners.

### BOYS LACROSSE

**Cardillo notches hat trick**

**George Cardillo** scored three goals and **Will Eikenberry** and **Hunter Tyrrell** each scored twice to lead Andover past Billerica 12-7 last Friday. **Sean Carroll** and **John Oteri** each added a goal and an assist for the winners.

### GIRLS LACROSSE

**Gross nets 10**

**Weezie Gross** erupted for a whopping 10 goals and assisted on three others to pace Andover in a 21-15 victory over Billerica last Friday. **Charlotte Lenes** added

## HURDLES

Continued from Page 15

he said. "I went over and ran some hurdles and coach Comeau said, 'That's it, you are running hurdles.' I wasn't great as a freshman, but I have been getting better every year."

He ran a season-best time of 15.24 in the 110 hurdles — which ranks seventh overall in Eastern Mass. Division 1, placed first at the Haverhill Invitational and was sixth at the Andover Boosters meet.

"Sometimes it's more important to be mentally prepared than physically," he said. "You have to make sure you are loose and focused and your mind is clear once the race starts."

### The quick study

Early in his track career, Silveira never imagined hurdles would become his event.

"I tried the 400 hurdles once as a freshman," he said. "It didn't go so well and coach Comeau looked at me and said, 'Never

*"It is such a tough sport to get used to, but once you learn the technique, it is so much fun. I hope we can go to nationals and have success."*

Justin Mantrana

again.' But this winter they needed a hurdler, so I decided to give it a try and I wasn't bad."

Silveira proved to be downright dominant.

He won the 400 hurdles in each of the first three dual meets of the season, then switched and took the 110 hurdles last weekend against North Andover. He also grabbed second in the 400 hurdles at both the Haverhill Invitational and Andover Boosters. His 55.52 in that event ranks No. 2 in Eastern Mass. Division 1 this season and his 14.95 in the 110 hurdles is fourth best.

"I really never thought this would happen," Silveira said. "I love that the hurdles give you another challenge. In sprinting, it is just running, but in this you have the hurdles to take your

mind off everything else."

### The surprise star

Heading into this season, Caveney never considered himself much of a contender at all in track.

"I was trying to sprint and doing the long jump, but I hadn't really made many varsity appearances," he said. "I was mostly just doing track for fun. But Andrew suggested I try the hurdles at the end of my sophomore year and it just clicked."

He may have started a little rough, falling twice during the Haverhill dual meet a year ago, but he has certainly found his groove.

Caveney earned victory in the 110 hurdles in three dual meets, won the 400 hurdles in the fourth and was second in the 110 hurdles at the Haverhill

Invitational and Andover Boosters. His 15.01 in the 110 hurdles is fifth best in Eastern Mass. Division 1.

"Sebastian and I are always going at it in the 400 hurdles and all four of us are always battling in the 110 hurdles, which is fun and great motivation," he said. "After racing against them, I feel like I can go against the best."

### The rookie

Freshman Mantrana knows not to become frustrated if he falls behind his older teammates.

"I try not to compare myself, because they are faster than me right now," he said. "But they are great inspiration. They help me out with form and technique and it is such a great challenge to run against them."

He has loved the hurdles since he first attempt in the eighth grade.

"It is such a tough sport to get used to, but once you learn the technique, it is so much fun," he said. "I hope we can go to nationals and have success."

## FRISBEE

Continued from Page 15

integrity of the players and what is known as the "Spirit of the Game." There are no referees and every call and foul is called by the players on the field.

According to the Ultimate Players Association's official rules, "Competitive play is encouraged, but never at the expense of respect between players, adherence to the rules and

the basic joy of play."

That spirit and dedication were evident at the Amherst tournament, where 17 of Andover's 18 boys varsity team players turned out for the first day of play May 3, despite the major distraction of the high school prom that night. Roughly half the team journeyed back to Andover to attend the prom before returning to Amherst early the next morning to hit the fields again.

Their fatigue showed in a

rough start for the tournament's second day, with the team giving up its first loss to town neighbor Phillips Academy. Junior Michael Weber, who acknowledged that it was tough to rally for the second day, said, "We were tired, and the wind made controlling the disc harder, but we pulled it out when it mattered."

The AHS Gophers went on to win their final two games to take the tournament in their division. Ten schools from around

New England participated in each division of the Amherst Invitational.

Andover fielded both junior varsity and varsity boys and girls Ultimate Frisbee teams this year. About 70 players went out for the sport, which is run with a no-cut policy to give everyone who wants to play the opportunity to learn and grow on a team. The club offers training through the winter and regular practices four times a week through the spring.

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# DA: Rape victim 'courageously testified' at trial

## Jury finds Calif. convict guilty of 1988 Andover rape, stabbing

By JILL HARMACINSKI  
Staff Writer

At 3:30 p.m. on May 20, 1988, the 24-year-old nurse had just started her shift at a local hospital. She had no idea in just a matter of hours she'd be kidnapped, beaten, repeatedly raped and left for dead on a highway shoulder.

But on Monday at 3:30 p.m., just a day short of the 26th anniversary of that horrific crime, the now 50-year-old survivor watched as her attacker — an already twice-convicted murderer named Valentine Underwood — was found guilty of her kidnapping and aggravated rape in 1988.

"Valentine Underwood, you tried to kill me in many ways ... But you didn't and you are being held accountable," the petite blond victim said, looking right at Underwood before he was sentenced on Monday.

A jury found Underwood, 52, guilty of the quarter-century-old crimes he was only recently linked to through a national DNA database. Serving double life sentences in California, Underwood has been in Essex County for the past three years awaiting retrial in the Andover kidnap and rape cold case.

Jurors convicted Underwood, a 6-foot, 7-inch former U.S. Marine basketball star, of forcing the woman's car off River Road in Andover in 1988. He threw the woman, who stands 5 feet, 2 inches tall, into the orangey-red pickup he was driving and then drove her to various locations in Essex County, where he raped her.

Just past the toll booths on Interstate 95 in Hampton, N.H., Underwood stabbed



Valentine Underwood

the woman deeply in her abdomen. He tried to cut the woman's throat, but she struggled with him, holding the blade off her neck. The blade broke from the knife handle and the victim testified she threw it as far as she could.

Underwood then beat her and left her to die. But the woman managed to flag down a passerby. The Good Samaritan brought her to Exeter, N.H., Hospital, where she underwent emergency surgery and spent three weeks in the hospital.

The woman continued her nursing career, married, had three children and later divorced. In 2009, Andover police retrieved the woman's rape evidence kit from the Hampton Police Department and had samples tested for DNA. Soon after, they learned Underwood's DNA was a match.

Judge Howard Whitehead this week sentenced Underwood to 30 to 40 years in state prison on the aggravated rape charge and nine to 10 years on the kidnap conviction. The sentences are somewhat symbolic as Underwood must complete the California life sentences before the Massachusetts penalties.

Before handing down the sentences, Whitehead commended the victim, a key trial witness, for her "never-give-up attitude" that saved her life when she was attacked. He noted what happened to her in 1988 is "every woman's nightmare."

# Drug drop box open at police station

## Secure box for disposal of prescription drugs installed

By BILL KIRK  
bkirk@andovertownsmen.com

Making good on a promise he made in November at a forum on opiate abuse, Police Chief Patrick Keefe last week installed a prescription drug drop box in the lobby of the police station.

The drop box is one part of a larger strategy to combat the drug problem in town, Keefe said in a press release issued by a Boston public relations firm.

"We will remain vigilant, seeking out the drug trade wherever it presents itself, but a community cannot simply arrest its way out of a crisis like this," Keefe said in the release, issued by Guilfoil Public Relations. "Drugs affect families, workplaces, and neighborhoods. The Andover Police Department is committed to the quality of life in our community, and we will continue to take a multifaceted approach, using a variety of tools and programs to combat drugs and their effects on society."

In November, Keefe attended a forum on opiate abuse that was co-sponsored by the Police Department and Andover Youth Services. More than 200 people attended and during a question-and-answer session a number of people asked about how to get rid of old prescription drugs like Oxycontin so they aren't left in medicine cabinets where they can be found and taken by adolescents.

Keefe, who was on hand for the forum in Old Town Hall, vowed to get a drop box installed as soon as possible.

"We want to service the community the best we can," he said at the time. "There's a need for it, so we will see what we can do."

Experts have found that along with marijuana and alcohol, prescription drugs are among the leading causes of long-term addiction problems and can often lead to addiction to heroin, which is cheaper than prescription



Lt. Edward Guy shows off the Police Department's new MedReturn box, which is located in the lobby of the Public Safety Center. It is intended for the disposal of prescription drugs only.

PAUL BILODEAU/  
Staff photo

drugs and easy to obtain on the streets.

While Keefe pushed the effort behind the prescription drug drop box, it was up to Lt. Edward Guy to make it happen. Guy said he researched several different types and came up with the least expensive - at \$700 - but which is still secure. He said the same kind of boxes are used by the Boston Police Department.

The box, manufactured by MedReturn, is bolted to the floor and securely locked. A special drawer enables someone to drop their drugs into the box without being able to gain access to the interior.

Guy said he will work with officer James Moses, the evidence officer for the department, on removing the drugs periodically and then disposing of them at the Covanta incinerator in Haverhill.

He said people can drop off prescription bottles of pills or just dump the pills into a plastic bag for disposal. Either way, the disposal is completely anonymous. Guy said Moses will then take them to Covanta where he will witness them being destroyed.

The idea, he said, is to maintain the chain of custody in the same way court evidence is handled.

The box is not intended for liquids or marijuana or powdered drugs like cocaine or heroin, but is only intended for prescription medications. Similar facilities are located in Haverhill, Tewksbury and North Andover, among other communities.

Andover's box sits in a corner of the lobby of the Public Safety Center, near the elevator, and should not be confused with another drop box for needles, which is closer to the entrance to the building.

In addition to the drop box, Andover has stepped up drug enforcement as well, according to the press release.

The number of arrests for possession or intent to distribute heroin or other Class A drugs stands at 35 in 2014, as of May 15, compared to 23 arrests all last year and 26 arrests in all of 2012, putting the Police Department on pace for its largest number of heroin arrests in a single calendar year in at least a decade.

Lt. Guy said part of the reason for the increase is

that two officers have been assigned specifically to a substance abuse team. For a long time, there were no officers assigned to substance abuse because the officers formerly in that role had been promoted, he said.

Police arrested two alleged heroin dealers in January, and has made 33 additional arrests for possession of heroin or other opioids. These numbers, as of May 15, represent more Class A drug arrests than any other full year in the past decade, except for 2009, when there were 51 total arrests. The department is on pace to make nearly 75 Class A drug arrests this year, as heroin continues to be a major public health and law enforcement crisis everywhere.

Meanwhile, the department partnered with Lowell House and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to host overdose protection training earlier this week. The free training session was open to all Andover residents and focused on opioid overdose, which health officials say is one of the leading causes of death in Massachusetts, and Gov. Deval Patrick declared it a public health crisis in March.

As part of the training, DPH and Andover police taught family members and residents how to administer a medication called nasal naloxone, otherwise known as Narcan. If used properly, Narcan can block the effects of an opioid overdose and save lives. It is also easy to use, is safe, and cannot be abused.

"Police, fire, and EMS might arrive in minutes but a family member is already on-scene when they call in a suspected overdose. Proper use of Narcan has proven lifesaving potential," said Sgt. Christopher Moore, who was involved in the training program. "There is a clear and documented need for these kinds of training programs across the country."



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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
A little rain	Cloudy with a shower	Chance of a shower	Chance of a shower	Mostly sunny	Periods of rain	Not as warm
<b>High: 58°</b> <b>Low: 47°</b>	<b>High: 64°</b> <b>Low: 49°</b>	<b>High: 69°</b> <b>Low: 48°</b>	<b>High: 76°</b> <b>Low: 54°</b>	<b>High: 77°</b> <b>Low: 56°</b>	<b>High: 77°</b> <b>Low: 57°</b>	<b>High: 66°</b> <b>Low: 55°</b>

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# Health officials warn of septic work fraud

The Andover Health Division is warning local residents with septic systems about a potentially fraudulent company after someone was almost the victim of a scam. A local resident recently reported receiving an unsolicited telephone call from an unknown number telling

him that it was time to have his septic tank pumped. After authorizing the work, the owner received a bill on his door for an amount larger than he was quoted. The bill had no company name or contact information on it, and the resident was instructed to make the check out to a

first name only. The property owner realized something was wrong given the bill wasn't properly written and the company claimed to have done work for other family members when he had none in the area. He also checked and discovered his septic tank had not

been pumped out completely and ultimately did not fall victim to the scam. To avoid becoming a victim, health officials suggest residents contact the town health department to verify if a company is properly licensed in their community as required by state

law before allowing work to occur. They also say a reputable company will have a clearly labeled truck and provide both a telephone number and business address. Property owners should also insist on being home when the work is being performed. Septic tank maintenance pumping

requires that the tank be completely emptied of all solids and liquids. Septic tanks installed after 1995 should be cleaned at least every three years to remove solids; smaller septic tanks, older systems or homes with garbage grinders must be cleaned every year.

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