



FAITH, SONG INFUSE ANDOVER BAPTIST FOR 180 YEARS
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ARTS FOR LITERACY GRANT TO CONNECT ADDISON GALLERY WITH CLASSROOM
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OUR 127TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 3

NOVEMBER 20, 2014

75 CENTS

VICTORY LAP

Andover High girls swim team takes 14th state title



MARY ANN ALWAN/Courtesy photo

Senior members of the Andover High School swim team show off their Division 1 state title trophy after capturing the crown over the weekend. Teammates, clockwise starting from trophy in center, Alison Murtagh, Casey Flanigan, Diana Hansen, Morgan Starkweather, Caroline Murtagh, Sophia Allen, Shannon Fitzsimmons, Alex Crowley, Caroline Brosnan and Nara Norgil were treated to a heroes' welcome on their return home after the championship win led by veteran coach Marilyn Fitzgerald. Story, more photos, page 18.

Senior housing sees pushback

Elm Street neighbors seek to halt 110-plus-bed project

By BILL KIRK
bkirk@andovertownsman.com

■ Strawberry Hill plan also under scrutiny. Page 6.

More than 300 people have signed a petition to try to block construction of a 103-unit senior housing facility proposed for Elm Street. The 88,126-square-foot building would be constructed on a hill at 139-143 Elm St., which is currently occupied by a single-family home surrounded by about 10 acres of open fields, woodlands and wetlands. According to the town planning office, the seniors living

there would be housed in a single structure that is 35 feet tall at its highest point. Because it is on a hill, however, the building, which neighbors say will be 280 feet wide, will be more imposing, said Mark Bernardin of 140 Elm St., who lives directly across the street from the site of the proposed project. "People are concerned about See HOUSING, Page 6

Andover tackles 'eye-popping' retiree costs

Town hopes to reduce health insurance liability

By BILL KIRK
bkirk@andovertownsman.com

long-term costs of paying health insurance for retired town and school workers. The current, estimated price tag for covering retired employee health insurance over the next 35 years is more than \$160 million. But at least one member of the OPEB committee had second thoughts about the report. "It was decided that the report was OK, but not good enough," said Selectman Mary O'Donoghue, one of two selectmen on the committee, which is also comprised of the town manager, finance director and two members each See RETIREES, Page 6

A panel set up to investigate and recommend solutions to the town's burgeoning, \$160 million retiree health insurance deficit will be presenting a revamped plan to town officials later this month. The subcommittee on Other Post-Employment Benefits, or OPEB, met over the summer and into the fall to discuss what some have called a "crisis" looming over the town budget. The group put together a plan that raises a number of issues and makes a half-dozen or so recommendations to bring down the

'People power' urged to fight pipeline

By TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsman.com

Fearing for their property values, conservation land and public health, more than 100 residents turned out for a forum last week to galvanize in their fight against the proposed Tennessee Gas pipeline project.

Kinder Morgan wants to install one of the highest-pressure liquefied natural gas lines in the U.S. from the area of Richmond, Mass., just south of Pittsfield, into Dracut, with feeder lines into surrounding towns, including through 6

"If you want to stop this process, you get on the phone. You go see your representatives. You file with FERC and you harass them. Don't make this easy on them — when they call you up and they send you letters, they're not your friend. I'm a big believer in people power."

George McLaughlin, attorney

miles of West Andover.

More than 3 miles of the pipeline route in Andover would cut through either town conservation land or Fish Brook, which feeds a lagoon that serves as the town's water

supply.

If approved, the pipeline would cut through nearly 20 miles of protected land in Massachusetts, nine wildlife management areas and four regions that the state has

designated as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. Hundreds of private properties in more than 40 Massachusetts communities sit in the pipeline's projected path.

In Andover, the proposed route would come within 250 feet to 270 feet of High Plain Elementary and Wood Hill Middle schools, according to Andover High School senior Rhiannon O'Donnell, an intern with the Andover Conservation Commission who made a presentation at last week's forum in Wood Hill auditorium.

See PIPELINE, Page 2

Contentious dorm project moves ahead

By TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsman.com

Officials unable to alter Merrimack expansion plans

Despite weeks of protests, petitions and public outcry, the Merrimack College dormitory expansion project appears headed to construction.

To the disappointment and frustration of residents, Andover selectmen this week acknowledged they had little authority to stand in the way of the construction of four dorms and a community building on

Austin Field at the Elm Street entrance to Merrimack. Two of the dorms plus a community building will be constructed in Andover, with another two dorms in North Andover. The project will house an additional 350 students on campus.

Heavy equipment arrived on campus last week, and began clearing away trees to set the stage for the development.

The construction site has been fenced off as well.

Selectmen, as the town's water and sewer commissioners, had previously attempted to stall the project, voting Oct. 6 to instruct Building Inspector Chris Clemente to refrain from issuing any building permits until the specifics of an inter-municipal agreement governing Andover's providing of sewer

■ Options eyed to make it safe for students to cross Route 114. Page 7.

service to the North Andover dorms could be worked out.

The board has entered into so-called inter-municipal agreements with other communities in similar situations when water or sewer pipes for a project See DORMS, Page 2



AMY SWEENEY/Staff photo

Heavy equipment stands ready to begin preparing the Austin Field site at the Elm Street entrance to Merrimack College in preparation for construction of four new dorms and a community center.

Meeting the Challenge



PHOTO BY REBA SALDANHA

Event planners Meagan Donovan, left, and Lauren Hajjar stand with signs highlighting some of the activities that were featured at Challenge Unlimited's annual gala fundraiser. See story, more photos, page 17

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PIPELINE

Continued from Page 1

last week's forum in Wood Hill auditorium.

However, the two schools are not identified on maps used by Kinder Morgan in its recent filings with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the agency responsible for reviewing the project.

Board of Selectmen Chairman Dan Kowalski told those at the forum that Kinder Morgan submitted maps to FERC that were more than 25 years old. Much of the development that now stands along the pipeline's projected route was built after the outdated maps were created, he said.

Kowalski said Kinder Morgan representatives were not aware that Andover had two schools along the proposed route, a fact that town officials pointed out to them during a meeting a couple months ago.

"Our town officials certainly highlighted that to Kinder Morgan at the time," Kowalski said.

Yet, Kowalski said Kinder Morgan maintained its original plan even after learning of the presence of the schools and filed it with FERC.

Representatives of Kinder Morgan and Tennessee Gas did not attend last week's forum, which was organized by the Andover Village Improvement Society in



Fred Snell, a trustee with the Andover Village Improvement Society, shows hikers a map of the proposed pipeline route, right, near where it would go under the Merrimack River during a hike through the Al Retelle and Deer Jump reservations earlier this month.

collaboration with the town Conservation Commission and moderated by Kowalski and AVIS vice president John Hess.

Town Manager Buzz Staczynski told selectmen this week that Kinder Morgan representatives have reported that they would be unable to meet with the town until the first of the year at the earliest to discuss alternative routes that would have less of an impact on Andover.

The company, as required, does list other potential routes the pipeline could take in environmental impact studies known as Resource Reports that were filed with FERC on Nov. 5. One option would send the pipeline

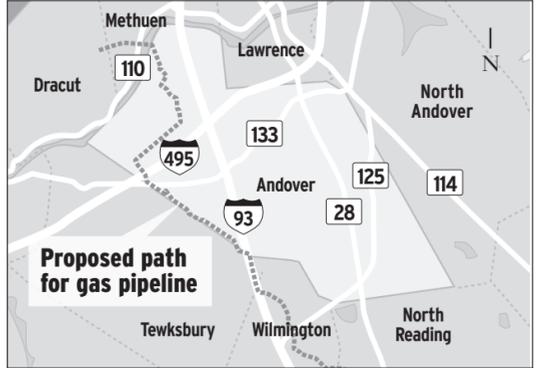
through New Hampshire, with others through Pennsylvania and New York.

According to Tennessee Gas' second installment of its FERC pre-filing, the project requires 91 miles of new rights of way and 37 miles of co-location with existing power lines. The report said the project involves 1,554 total acres for construction, affecting 357 acres of federal endangered or threatened species habitat.

While opponents of the project said they refuse to go down without a fight, the forum offered some advice on what property owners along the route can do to protect themselves if the pipeline advances.

Boston attorney George McLaughlin, one of the forum's featured speakers, explained the process of eminent domain, the constitutional guarantee that requires fair compensation for use of one's land. That process would likely come into play for homeowners whose property sits in the pipeline's path.

"Fair compensation has been determined by the courts to mean fair market value," McLaughlin said. "Fair market value, in turn, has been interpreted to mean the highest price that a hypothetical willing buyer would pay to a hypothetical willing seller in an open market." McLaughlin said that



Kinder Morgan has its own appraisers who are experts at coming up with the lowest price to save the company money.

"It's amazing how the appraisers they use have never represented a property owner," McLaughlin said. "They all magically and coincidentally represent the pipeline, and the reason for that is obvious — they're experts at coming up with the lowest price, not the highest price, to save the pipeline company money."

He recommended that residents whose homes are near the route have their properties appraised and take pictures of their land for documentation purposes. He said they should also know where their deed is and how much property they own.

Though preparing people for a worst-case scenario,

McLaughlin gave advice on how to create a best-case scenario.

"If you want to stop this process, you get on the phone," he said. "You go see your representatives. You file with FERC and you harass them. Don't make this easy on them — when they call you up and they send you letters, they're not your friend. I'm a big believer in people power."

A group created to prevent the pipeline project, called No Fracked Gas in Mass, has created a website for information on how and where to voice opposition. The site is www.nofrackedgasinmass.org/ferc-info/. The Town of Andover has also created a Web page filled with links to letters, notices and resources surrounding the pipeline project at <http://andoverma.gov/projects/tenngas/>.

Andover Townsman

Established 1887

ISSN 1524-1432
USPS 025-440

Published Thursdays by North of Boston Media Group

33 Chestnut St.
Andover, MA
978-475-7000

Ad fax 978-475-5731
News fax 978-470-2819



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

Periodical postage paid at Andover, MA, and additional mailing office.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Andover Townsman, 100 Turnpike St., North Andover, MA 01845
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ADVERTISING DEADLINES

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DORMS

Continued from Page 1

cross town boundaries.

However, the need for an inter-municipal agreement was removed from the table Monday night when Jeffrey Doggett, chief of staff to Merrimack's president, told selectmen that the North Andover dorms would be tied into that town's sewer system, eliminating the need to hook into Andover's service for those buildings.

Further, Clemente in a letter to selectmen said he could not deny the issuance of a building permit over water and sewer issues. According to Clemente, he is not aware of any regulation in the state building code that requires sewer or septic as a precondition to the issuance of a building permit.

Last week, Andover Town Counsel Thomas Urbelis also advised selectmen that Clemente has "separate statutory and state building code

requirements regarding the issuance of building permits with which he must comply in carrying out his duties."

Because Merrimack College is an educational institution, it falls under the Dover Amendment, which limits the amount of oversight communities can have on construction projects that further the school's mission. Town officials have expressed disappointment that they did not have more input into the project.

"We would have liked to see a different outcome," selectmen Chairman Dan Kowalski told residents Monday night.

Despite the news, Merrimack College neighbors who fought to have the project moved to another site on campus continued to stand strong and pushed for measures that would lessen the impact of the new buildings on their neighborhood.

"We leave as frustrated as we were when we entered in July," Brookfield Road resident Jessica Ross said. "This will change how we live our lives,

and will change how our children live their lives. I don't feel that we have been respected at all throughout this process."

Bert Ouellette of Fox Hill Road said it "appears as if we've been beating a dead horse, because in the end, Merrimack College is going to get exactly what they want. We never had issues with the college building dorms. We just don't want 350 kids living in our front yard."

Rock Ridge Road residents, whose street borders the campus, have asked that a fence or some sort of barrier be erected between their properties and the dorms. Doggett said last week that the college will seek residents' input in the design of the barrier, which he assured would not be a barbed-wire fence.

When asked how neighbors could trust the college would maintain the barrier, Doggett replied, "I don't see it slipping away."

In the face of disappointment from neighbors that several trees on the site were cut down for the project, Doggett assured

that the trees along Rock Ridge Road would remain. "Our goal is to maintain those trees," he said.

Doggett said Austin Field has been a "potential housing site for 50-plus years." Merrimack was founded by the Augustinian Order in 1947. The college now has 2,800 students, with a goal of increasing that number to 3,000.

"It (Merrimack College) needs to grow," he said.

Doggett said last week that he expects the two North Andover dorms to be completed in time for the start of the fall 2015 semester. Despite the opposition, he said he is confident that in the end, "everyone will benefit from the project."

Kowalski urged the college to listen to the reservations of its neighbors, and to work with them to help mitigate their concerns as they move forward.

"The project is going to change the character of a neighborhood," he said.

— Staff writer Paul Tennant contributed to this report.

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Handling of false bomb threat defended

By TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

In the wake of concerns from parents, the superintendent of schools last week defended the handling of a false bomb threat for Doherty Middle School that resulted in the arrest of a 13-year-old boy from town.

The boy is being charged with calling in a bomb threat for the school at 6:25 a.m. last Wednesday, Nov. 12. He was arraigned the following day as a juvenile in Lawrence District Court.

The penalty in Massachusetts for making a false bomb threat is up to 20 years in prison and a maximum \$50,000 fine.

The threat was first received by the Essex County Regional Emergency Communications Center in Middleton, the primary answering point for wireless 911 calls in Essex County, and then transferred to Andover police, Andover Police Commander Charles Heseltine said.

Police traced the cellphone to an Andover resident and the teen was later arrested, officials said. Heseltine would not say if the teen is a student at Doherty, which houses sixth through eighth grades.

The Bartlet Street school was swept by Andover law enforcement and fire officials and the building was deemed safe for school to begin as normal, according to both Heseltine and the School Department.

After students had reported to school for the day, McGrath at 8:17 a.m. issued a district-wide message by Connect 5, the telephone and email messaging service used to reach all students' families.

In the message, McGrath said although the threat may have been a "prank," Andover Police and Fire departments implemented "all measures necessary to ensure the safety of our students and staff at Doherty."

However, parents of students at Doherty and across the district took to Facebook to voice concerns with the way the incident was handled. Many expressed



TIM LIMA/Staff photo

A 13-year-old from Andover has been charged with making last week's false bomb threat for Doherty Middle School.

outrage that the district did not notify parents until after students had already arrived at school for the day, with some saying they may have opted to keep their children home. At least one parent said she went to the school to dismiss her child midday.

Some also asked if an hour was sufficient time to adequately search an entire school, saying that no emergency vehicles were present when they dropped their child off at school at 7:30 a.m. According to police reports, the 13-year-old was arrested at 9 a.m.; the first bell at Doherty rings at 7:35 a.m.

Others questioned the loud-speaker announcement made to notify Doherty students about the incident, saying they feared it could have heightened their children's anxiety.

But McGrath, in an email to The Townsman, said she felt the situation was handled very well, adding, "Our emergency protocols with police and fire and internal groups were excellent."

"Crisis situations are often quite fluid and while they are unfolding, I/we need to take great care to disseminate information in an accurate and timely manner," she wrote. "Collaborating with all emergency response and school district personnel is a tightly coordinated process that requires a series of steps before I can communicate a full and accurate message to the larger community."

In an attempt to answer questions and alleviate some

concerns among parents, McGrath did deliver a second district-wide announcement through the messaging system last Wednesday night.

In it, she said she took people's concerns seriously and twice emphasized she would not have permitted Doherty to open "if there were any ongoing threat to our students and staff."

She acknowledged there were concerns expressed over the timing of the notification to parents and said suggestions that were made would be considered as part of the review of the day's events.

"For those who expressed concern regarding the timeliness of our communications, I hear your concerns and will take steps in our review with all involved personnel to consider all suggestions," she said.

She thanked parents and staff for their support and patience and said she valued and appreciated their feedback.

"We acknowledge these situations can be quite stressful to parents, students and school personnel alike given the times in which we live," she wrote. "It is our goal to continue implementing transparent and collaborative practices that inform and support our community."

The superintendent also commended police and fire personnel for their response and expertise and the Doherty crisis team and staff for ensuring students felt safe and secure.

RELIGION BRIEFS

Parenting Through a Jewish Lens series at Temple Emanuel

Parenting Through a Jewish Lens is being offered this winter at Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover. The 10-week program meets Sundays from 9 to 11:30 a.m. starting Jan. 11

It will bring together caring parents and expert facilitators for conversations around Jewish texts leading to explorations of one's vital role as a parent. Parents from all backgrounds are welcome. Free babysitting is included.

The cost is \$145 per person, \$240 per couple. Those who register by Dec. 1 will receive a \$20 discount.

For more information, visit www.hebrewcollege.edu/parenting, email Marcy Leiman at parenting@hebrewcollege.edu or call 617-559-8734.

Shabbat Chai at CBI service on Friday

Congregation Beth Israel at 501 South Main St. in Andover invites the community to Shabbat Chai at CBI on Friday, Nov. 21. The evening begins with a spirited and uplifting Shabbat Chai service at 7, followed by dinner. CBI's musical group, Bashert, will accompany congregational singing for a meaningful, joyous, family friendly Shabbat.

The cost for the dinner is \$10 per person, with a maximum charge of \$25 per family. Children 12 and under are welcome for free. Reservations are

requested by calling the office at 978-474-0540.

Merrimack gives Jewish-Muslim dialogue prize

Merrimack College presented its biennial Goldziher Prize for Jewish-Muslim dialogue this month to Yousef Waleed Meri, a visiting professor in the Department of Studies of Islam in the Contemporary World at the University of Jordan.

Meri has taught at the Institute of Isma'ili Studies in London, and was a research fellow at St. Edmund's College at the University of Cambridge, where he organized academic conferences for the Woolf Institute on questions of Jewish and Muslim identities and interactions. He was a fellow and special scholar-in-residence at the Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought in Jordan, where he worked on and was an original signatory to "A Common Word Between You and Us," an interfaith initiative of Christians and Muslims.

The prize and \$25,000 stipend is awarded every two years by Merrimack's Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian-Muslim Relations in honor of Ignac Goldziher, a Jewish scholar who established Islamic studies in European universities.

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■ POLICE LOG

COMPILED BY TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

Tuesday, Nov. 11
Arrest

Robert Slayton, 49, of 49 Wildwood Road, Andover, was arrested at 7:50 p.m. on Shawsheen Road and charged with violating an abuse prevention order.

Incident

A caller from Haggetts Pond Road said someone was putting a boat into the pond at 2:39 p.m. Patrolman Justin Murray said it was a row boat, and there was no issue.

Wednesday, Nov. 12
Incident

A 911 call from Sunset Rock Road reported a rollover at 7:21 a.m. Patrolmen

Brian Mackenzie, Richard Crimmins and Angelo Taveras reported that everyone was out of the vehicle and unharmed.

Thursday, Nov. 13
Arrest

Hope B. Bishop, 43, of 24 Parker Road, Wellesley, was arrested at 12:23 p.m. on Lowell Street on warrant charges.

Friday, Nov. 14
Arrest

Daniel Beldin, 25, of 7082 Shaker Road, Loudon, N.H., and Amber Denoncourt, 24, of 229 Route 129, Loudon, N.H. were arrested at 100 River Road at approximately 3:15 p.m. and charged with possession of a Class A substance. Beldin was also

charged with carrying a dangerous weapon.

Incidents

A walk-in to the police station said he witnessed a man shaking car doors in the rear parking lot of CVS on Main Street at 9:40 a.m. Officers David Froburg and John Delaney checked the area, but saw nothing suspicious.

A caller from Bullfinch Drive called 911 to report being locked inside her apartment and unable to leave at 1:59 p.m. The Andover Fire Department was sent to help.

A driver on South Main Street reported seeing a horse on the other side of the guardrail at 3:01 p.m. Animal control officer Wayne Nader

and patrolman Owen Fitzpatrick searched the area, but were unable to find a horse.

Several people reported a tree blocking Haggetts Pond Road from passing traffic around 8 p.m. Officer Owen Fitzpatrick said several neighborhood people had chain saws and took care of the tree at 8:49 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 16
Incident

A resident of Abbot Street reported at 5:46 p.m. that her home was broken into sometime between 2 and 5 p.m. and that her jewelry was missing. Officer David Milne took photos and fingerprints, and officer Timothy Hagerty filed the report.

Nonprofit passed over for pot dispensary files suit

By DOUGLAS MOSER
Staff Writer

The founder of an Andover-based nonprofit passed over this year for a medical marijuana dispensary is "in utter disbelief" that a competing group accused of omitting key background information on its application got state approval last week for two additional dispensaries.

The Cardiac Arrhythmia Syndromes Foundation of Andover has accused Patriot Care Corp., a nonprofit that in June was awarded a provisional certificate to operate a dispensary in Lowell, of lying on its application when it stated that one of its executives, Nicholas K. Vita, had no legal or administrative actions against him, according to a lawsuit filed against the state Department of Public Health.

DPH in June disqualified six applicants initially selected for operation in January for providing false or misleading information on their applications. But questions persist about the veracity of information on the applications of several of the 11 allowed to proceed, including Patriot Care and Healthy Pharms in Haverhill.

On Nov. 7, DPH announced that four new dispensary applications proposed in counties currently without a dispensary would move into an inspectional phase, including proposals by Patriot Care in Boston and Greenfield. Patriot Care would be the only company in Massachusetts operating three dispensaries.

"I'm totally in utter disbelief," Jayne Vining, founder of CAS Foundation, said. "I don't understand it. I couldn't understand how they got one license, let alone two more."

Dennis Kunian, vice president in charge of government relations for Patriot Care, did not address the

contents of the lawsuit but said the nonprofit is pleased with the invitation to open two more dispensaries.

"We're really proud and honored to have received the license from DPH, and obviously we're very excited about moving forward," he said. "It's a wonderful opportunity for us, along with Lowell where we previously got state approval from DPH."

When asked whether the company was aware Vita was involved in several court actions, Kunian responded, "We're really excited about the next steps."

A DPH spokesman defended the agency's record and pointed to court rulings in its favor.

"We are pleased that the courts have ruled in our favor against eight rejected applicants, validating our comprehensive selection process and allowing us to move forward," Scott Zosback, a spokesman for DPH's Medical Use of Marijuana Program, said. "We are focused on meeting our goals of patient access and public safety. We are actively inspecting dispensaries now, with the first facilities set to open later this winter."

CAS Foundation, founded in 2008, filed a lawsuit in March against DPH, claiming that Patriot Care omitted several past legal actions against Vita in a section of the application that explicitly asked for such background information.

Section three of the application asked whether executive members had any criminal, civil, administrative, tax or other proceedings against them in the past.

According to an undated copy of Patriot Care's application, Vita's name is accompanied by "n/a" under the portions of that section asking whether members were party to civil or administrative actions pertaining to fraud, bankruptcy or tax issues, among other things.

The application questions state that "n/a" indicates "no such history" of actions.

But Vita, as chairman of a company called Diabetes America, Inc., filed for bankruptcy in the southern district of Texas in 2010, according to court documents.

That same year, the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance won a tax warrant, which according to that state department is equivalent to a tax lien, for \$22,949.24 against Vita in New York County. According to the department, that warrant was paid and closed in July 2010.

The following year, Vita, as chairman of Diabetes America, was listed as a defendant with two other company officers in a civil suit in Texas by Wellness Wireless, Inc., alleging fraud. Wellness Wireless demanded \$1.8 million and other damages in the suit. Vita was removed from the case in 2013, according to court records from Harris County, Texas, where the case was filed.

Additionally, CAS in its lawsuit argued that multiple people were improperly left off Patriot Care's executive management team roster in parts of the application, exempting them from the mandatory background checks.

Patriot Care in several places listed three executives: Vita, Robert Mayer-son of Harvard and Michael Abbot, who shares a Nantucket address with Vita.

But in another part, Patriot Care lists a total of 11 people on its executive management team. CAS argues that the job descriptions of many of those people include "individuals who are responsible for the day-to-day operations of the" dispensary according to DPH's definition of executive management team.

DPH's application included a list of instructions that warned failure to

follow them, or providing false or misleading information would result in disqualification.

The applications of several medical marijuana dispensaries were marred by accusations of misleading or false information, including Healthy Pharms in Haverhill. Several city officials there disputed the characterizations of meetings with a company representative on Healthy Pharms' application.

Healthy Pharms received a provisional certificate in June.

DPH selected a total of 20 applications from 16 nonprofits for provisional licenses in January. After media reports of inaccurate information in dispensary applications in February, the DPH conducted a second, unscheduled review of those 20 applications, including checking the veracity of claims contained within them.

Of those 20 applications, nine were rejected in June for a range of reasons. But six of them were rejected for providing false or misleading information on their applications: Three applications from Medical Marijuana of Massachusetts, the nonprofit led by former Congressman William Delahunt that proposed dispensaries in Mashpee, Plymouth and Taunton; two from Good Chemistry of Massachusetts, with a proposal each in Boston and Worcester; and one from Green Heart Holistic Health, which proposed a dispensary in Boston.

Gov. Deval Patrick in August put two applications for New England Treatment Access on hold after questions surfaced over whether a senior official with the company lied on his resume about graduating from college.

A map of dispensary locations DPH released on Nov. 7 still lists New England Treatment Access' dispensaries.

Lisa C. DiLiegro, 47 Years

June 4, 1967 — November 10, 2014

LAWRENCE, FORMERLY OF ANDOVER — Lisa C. DiLiegro, a resident of Lawrence and formerly of Andover, died unexpectedly at the Lawrence General Hospital in Lawrence on Monday, November 10, 2014. She was 47-years-old.

Born in Boston on June 4, 1967, she was the beloved daughter of Thomas A. and Catherine J. (Boucher) DiLiegro. Lisa was a graduate of Andover High School, Class of 1985 and of Merrimack College. She was employed as an Information Service Assistant for Phillips Academy in Andover and was also a Certified Personal Trainer. Recently, Lisa had worked at Infinity Fitness in North Andover. She had a special love for her animals and especially her family. She will be dearly missed.

Besides her beloved parents, Thomas and Catherine, she is survived by her loving sisters, TinaMarie DiLiegro Rioux and her husband, Paul Rioux of Chester, N.H. and Michelle DiLiegro DeNaro and her husband, Salvatore DeNaro of Methuen; nephew, Paul Thomas Rioux; nieces, Lauren and Kristen Rioux, all of Chester, and Samantha, Olivia and Mikayla DeNaro, all of Methuen. Lisa is also survived by several aunts, uncles,



cousins and many friends and co-workers.

ARRANGEMENTS: Her funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Robert Bellarmine Church, 198 Haggett's Pond Road, Andover, on Saturday, November 15, 2014, at 11 a.m. Relatives and friends were welcomed. Calling hours were held in the Burke-Magliozi Funeral Home, 390 North Main Street, Andover on Friday, November 14, 2014, from 4 to 8 p.m. Interment will be held in West Parish Garden Cemetery in Andover. Donations in Lisa's memory may be made to the MSPCA at Nevins Farm, 400 Broadway, Methuen, MA 01844. For additional information, please visit, www.burkemagliozi.com.

David George Carr, 55

January 24, 1959 — November 12, 2014

ANDOVER — David George Carr, 55, died peacefully at his home on November 12, 2014, with his loving family at his side, after a courageous battle

with cancer. For 16 years, he was the beloved husband of Jeri Lynne Quirk-Carr. He was the proud father of Riley, Tegan and Logan Carr, all of Andover.

A son of George T. (Jim) Carr and the late Doris M. Carr; he was born January 24, 1959, in Melrose, where he was raised and educated.

David attended Melrose High School and went on to graduate from Westfield State College where he majored in business. He was a successful businessman and greatly admired by his colleagues.

He loved and lived life to the fullest. David particularly cherished time spent with his family, and taking them on numerous adventures and wonderful trips, especially to the national parks. He was an avid Patriot's fan.

David acquired many close friendships in his lifetime. He was a kind, fun, energetic, and caring person. His good humor will be missed by all who knew him.

In addition to his wife, Jeri,

and his children, he is survived by his brother, James Carr and his wife, Jacqueline, of Dracut; his sister, Cynthia Barton and her husband, Patrick, of Lan-

caster, Pa.; his sisters-in-law, Susan Millone and her husband, John, of Temple City, Calif., Maureen Pendergrast and her husband, Daniel, of Huntington Beach, Calif.; his brothers-in-law, Steven Quirk and his wife, Carolyn, of Costa Mesa, Calif., and Richard Quirk and his husband, Paul Ramirez of Friendly Hills, Calif.; and many nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank Kaplan House-Care Dimensions for their excellent care.

ARRANGEMENTS: Family and friends were invited to his visitation, from 3 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, November 18, at the Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover, with a funeral Mass at 10 a.m., Wednesday, at St. Augustine Church, 35 Essex St. Andover.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Carr Family Education Fund, c/o Sam Conte, 807 Turnpike St., North Andover, MA 01845.

To leave condolences, please visit www.confeterialhomes.com.

Jean Maher, 87

10282014

MARSTONS MILLS, MA — Jean (Holland) Maher, 87, of Marstons Mills, affectionately known to many as "Dutchie," passed away peacefully at home on October 28, 2014, surrounded by her family. She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Robert N. Maher, formerly of Marstons Mills; her son, Peter S. Maher, also formerly of Marstons Mills; and her grandson, Robert N. Maher II, formerly of Kenosha, Wis.

She is survived by her children, Deborah S. Maher of Norfolk, Va., Candace H.M. Ginter of Marstons Mills, and Timothy C. Maher of Marstons Mills; her grandchildren, Chelsea E. Maher of Osaka, Japan, Elizabeth A. Rice of Lake in the Hills, Ill., and Jessica L. Kudla of Naples, Italy; her sister, Gwendolyn Beelby of Marstons Mills; her brothers, William Holland of Andover and George Holland of Woburn;

three great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

In honor of Jean, and her generosity and kindness to others, her family asks that you do something unexpected and kind for someone you know or even a complete stranger and think of Jean when you do. You will love what it does for you and hopefully they will pass it on.

For online guest book and directions, please visit www.johnlawrencefuneralhome.com.

ARRANGEMENTS: A celebration of Jean's life will begin at 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 22, 2014, at John-Lawrence Funeral Home, 3778 Falmouth Road, (Route 28), Marstons Mills, Mass., and continue at Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds Golf Course, 1460 Route 149, Marstons Mills. She will be privately interred with her husband at Massachusetts National Cemetery.

■ 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:

Ask the Lawyer: Monday, Nov. 24, 1:30 p.m. Local lawyer Domenic Terranova of North Andover meets individually with seniors and answers general questions; advance sign-up required.

Card and Gift Making Workshop: Monday, Dec. 1, 10 a.m. to noon. Artist Georgia Renfro leads the group in exploring the art of personalized card making to create a small piece of art to share with a loved one or to frame as a small picture; materials supplied, \$5.

Holiday Fair: Saturday, Dec. 6, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 8, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Handmade holiday crafts, knitted items, live plants, garden club arrangements, vintage jewelry and a large baked goods table will be featured.

Healthy Eating Habits - Sugar and Salt: Friday, Dec. 12, 9:30 a.m. Learn the pitfalls and how not to fall into the sugar and salt trap.

Stress Buster Class: Monday, Dec. 15, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. This class will focus on several proven techniques for reducing unwanted stress; \$3.

The Sounds of the Season and Holiday Breakfast: Friday, Dec. 19, 8:30 a.m.

Enjoy a festive meal followed by "Sounds of the Season" performed by the Sunrise Singers; reservations required, \$4.

New Year's Celebration: Wednesday, Dec. 31, 1:30 p.m. Ring in the New Year with food, fun and entertainment by Vic & Sticks, who blend music with a mix of comedy; reservations required, \$5.

The Center is open daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For a complete listing of classes and programs, visit www.andoverseniorcenter.org or call 978-623-8321 for more information.

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by Nicholas T. Papapetros, DMD, FAGD

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Concerns surround Strawberry Hill Farm senior housing

By TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsmam.com

A 133-unit senior housing community looking to take up residence on the other side of town from Elm Street is encountering similar objections from residents who feel the facility will also damage their neighborhood's character.

National Development is seeking the Planning Board's approval to build a two-phase project on the 9.2-acre site of the former Strawberry Hill Farm at 254 Lowell St.

The first phase would consist of 63 units of

assisted-living housing set aside for individuals in need of memory-care services. Called the Bridges at Andover, the one-story building is being sponsored by National Development and Epoch Senior Housing.

The second phase, an affordable, 55-and-older community with 70 congregate, or independent, living apartments, would be built roughly one year later. Called Andover Senior Residences, the three-story complex with one-bedroom units is being sponsored by B'nai B'rith Housing, which has built similar projects across the

state, including in Sudbury and Sharon.

Anthony Zuena of 20 Windemere Drive, a professional engineer and representative for the neighborhood group fighting the development, told selectmen Monday night that because the planned three-story facility sits on a hill, it would have the appearance of a four-story building and tower over his neighborhood.

The project, he said, would be a poor use of what was one of the last two remaining farms in town. He said 100 neighbors had signed a petition against it.

The Planning Board's public hearing on the project was originally scheduled to resume this past Tuesday night, but the continuation was postponed until Dec. 9 at the request of the developer.

Selectman Paul Salafia told residents Monday night that the last thing they should want is for a delay in process, noting that the project has a certain timetable it must follow for review.

"You want to be sure that you have input," he said. "Fitting all of those meetings into a certain time, by law, is way more important than how many people can come.

You want to make sure that you're not constructively approved."

Given that news, a concerned neighbor to the project, Charles Erban of 249 Lowell St., questioned why the developer was able to postpone the discussion to a later date.

"Nobody at the Planning Board said this has to be done in 90 days, or 120 days, or anything at all," Erban said. "If there's a time period you speak of, and I'm sure there is, why are they allowing the developer to cancel a meeting and push it closer to the end period when the

people who want to speak at the meeting lose a week, two weeks or a month?"

Town Counsel Thomas Urbelis said that constructive approval is something that the Planning Board monitors closely.

"It's the world they live in," he said. "They have always been on top of that."

National Development hopes to break ground on the first phase of the project by the end of this year or early 2015, with the second phase anticipated to begin in late 2015. Each phase of construction is expected to take one year.



This senior living complex is proposed to be built at 139-143 Elm St.

COURTESY IMAGE

HOUSING

Continued from Page 1

the character of the neighborhood," said Bernardin, who has led the petition effort against the project. "It would turn it into a mixed-use neighborhood. It's a business, with traffic 24 hours a day, employees coming and going."

Residents of the neighborhood approached the Board of Selectmen this week seeking support for their concerns. They also voiced disappointment with the way they believe they have been treated by the Planning Board, which has authority over the project.

The Planning Board is scheduled to review the plans at its Tuesday, Nov. 25, meeting — two days before Thanksgiving. The project requires a special permit from the Planning Board to proceed.

David Silverstein of 26 Burton Farm Drive said the neighborhood requested to reschedule the meeting given it falls during the holiday week when many people are traveling. He said residents have also asked that the meeting be held in a larger venue to accommodate all the concerned residents who expect to attend. Neither request has been granted, he said, with the Planning Board chairman saying the meeting would remain unchanged based on the opinion of town counsel.

But Town Counsel Thomas Urbelis said Monday night that he advised the Planning Board chairman only that he had no responsibility to change a meeting location if requested.

"That was the extent of the opinion I rendered," Urbelis said of what he called a 60-second conversation.

Selectman Alex Vispoli noted that the change of venue isn't a legal question, but rather a common courtesy one. He said that selectmen have moved their meeting locations in the past to accommodate a big crowd, and that

there are several larger venues in town that would work better.

The project has raised many of the same concerns that a proposed senior housing facility has faced on Lowell Street. Neighbors of the old Strawberry Hill Farm are concerned that a two-phase assisted living and senior care project there will also diminish their neighborhood. See related story, page 6.

A question of need

Bernardin, as well as neighbors of the Lowell Street site, say the town Planning Department is essentially pushing the projects because the staff supports the creation of more senior housing in town. Neighbors, however, dispute that the need exists.

When questioned about the Elm Street project last week, senior planner Lisa Schwarz emailed documents to The Andover Townsman showing the need for more senior housing.

She said only two senior housing facilities have been built in Andover in the last 30 years — Atria Senior Living/Marland Place on Stevens Street and Andover Commons on Railroad Street. And they are both full and have waiting lists, she said.

Further, the 2012 master plan, written by the Planning Board, encourages housing for the elderly, she said.

It specifically states that the town should "promote the use of alternative residential programs such as life-care, assisted or congregate living arrangements."

Schwarz said the town's planners don't promote any one type of development, but that they try to implement the master plan whenever possible.

The developers for the Elm Street facility, Capitol Seniors Housing of Washington, D.C., said they have worked closely with the town and the neighbors to diminish the impact of the project.

Joseph McElwee, a development principal with Capitol,

said the assisted-living center will house 110 to 120 people with an average age of 85. He said he has met twice with neighbors, including immediate abutters, and the developers have already modified the project to mollify their concerns.

"We've been as proactive as we can," he said. "We want neighbors to be involved in the process. We've been receptive, we've moved parking areas away from adjacent homes. We've already taken some of their comments into play."

He said the building will be set so far back from Elm Street that most residents living in the neighborhood won't even be able to see it. The building will start more or less where the single-family home is now located on the property. But the majority of the building will be erected toward the rear of the site, near town conservation land and unoccupied property owned by Merrimack College.

He said traffic would be less than what might be generated by a housing development. Since the average age of the residents is 85, most of them won't drive. There will be delivery trucks, but residential properties also draw delivery trucks, he said.

The facility will employ a staff of about 40 during the day, with 20 in the evening hours and just a half-dozen or so overnight.

The right fit?

Current zoning of the property allows single-family homes by right on 30,000-square-foot lots. Over 10 acres, that would mean 10 to 15 homes. Also allowed by right, with no special permit required, are "religious or educational uses exempt from zoning, a municipal facility, a child-care facility, a facility operated by a private nonprofit organization for the conservation of natural resources for the preservation of historic sites or for park or recreational purposes, exempt agricultural use, and an exempt farm stand," Schwarz

said.

As proposed, the assisted-living plan would allow for 64 percent of the land to remain as open space while 36 percent would be developed, either as the building or as roads, sidewalks and other amenities, she said.

The building is proposed to contain gathering and living room spaces, libraries, coffee area, salon and a wellness room, as well as a kitchen, Schwarz said.

But Bernardin said the project does not follow the look of neighborhood. He said the "general consensus of the neighborhood was that people expected the property would be a residential development that fits" with the surrounding area.

He added that neighbors think the Planning Department "is not in tune with what the average person in Andover would say."

"We want senior housing, but not in a way that would interfere with our quality of life," he said. "The Planning Board seems to think there is a need for assisted living, which counter-balances the concerns of the neighborhood."

He also said he surveyed various assisted-living facilities in the area, including Brightside in North Andover, and found available rooms.

"They all have vacancies," he said. "They (planners) look at demographics and extrapolate theoretical demands. We say, 'If this is theoretical, put them where they make sense rather than in the middle of residential neighborhoods.'"

He said the project would ruin the aesthetic entrance to Andover.

"When you come from North Andover, you leave behind strip malls and a Burger King, you go down Elm Street, it's tree-lined, with houses on both sides," he said. "There are nothing but houses until you reach downtown. This is the entry to Andover. It's who we are and what our town is like."

RETIREES

Continued from Page 1

from the Finance and School committees.

"It needs to be better than what it is, upon reflection," she said. "It will take a little reworking, which will be done before the end of the year."

O'Donoghue said she would be reworking the plan in advance of this coming Monday's meeting of the Tri-Board, a group made up of selectmen and members of the School and Finance committees.

The OPEB report was scheduled to be presented at an Oct. 22 meeting of the Tri-Board, but a power outage in the middle of the meeting postponed deliberations. A meeting was rescheduled for the following week, and then canceled.

O'Donoghue, who became the de facto chairman and secretary of the subcommittee, said the report "needs a little more beef. We need to make more recommendations and stronger recommendations." The subcommittee met last week to begin reworking it in advance of the Nov. 24 meeting.

At a Tri-Board meeting over the summer, the alarm was sounded when a consultant gave a presentation about the increasing burden that retiree health care will place on the town budget. Currently, the town pays about \$5 million a year to cover retired town workers. That could go up to \$10 million or more over the next five years, and skyrocket even further if the town doesn't take action.

The current approach as proposed by Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski is to put money into a trust fund that would cover at least part of the OPEB liability in the future. However, critics contend that the fund will never be large enough to fund the true cost of retiree health insurance, projected to rise over the next 20 to 30 years as the baby-boom generation retires.

A draft of the OPEB subcommittee report lists a number of issues that need to be addressed and makes a few recommendations about how to bring down the high cost of retiree health insurance. If the current spending continues, some contend, retiree health care costs could lead to cuts in other town departments.

"Employees and their spouses are eligible for lifetime retiree health care, currently mandated by state law," the report said. "After 10 years of service, as early as age 55 (retirees get full coverage); a minimum of 20 hours (of employment) per week, for 10 years, earns full benefits; spouses retain lifetime coverage upon death of retiree."

Among the recommendations for mitigating the town's liability include:

■ Work with municipal unions to reduce future liability by restructuring premium contribution splits, changing

"We have more retirees than we used to have. The number of retirees versus the number paying in — we are seeing an imbalance down the road."

Selectman Mary O'Donoghue

service credit for part-time employees and "working with town and school departments to ensure that decisions to add employees include consideration of the impact on health insurance costs and OPEB liabilities."

■ Clarify the definition of "part-time" employee for health insurance purposes and establish a policy to ensure compliance. "We currently have employees working less than 20 hours per week, who are eligible for health care benefits, who will potentially qualify for lifetime health care upon retirement, after 10 years of service. The (goal) here is to reduce the cost of long-term benefits." Some communities have solved the problem by hiring part-timers at 19 hours a week, which would make them ineligible for health care.

■ Reduce the municipal share of health insurance contributions from the current 71 to 77 percent to the state-minimum of 50 percent. "Andover consistently contributes above average, when compared to 18 area communities," the report said.

■ Support state legislation that would make it easier for communities to save money by altering union contracts and retirement benefits.

O'Donoghue said the town of Athol recently took the extreme measure of disbanding its retirement board and merging it with another board because of improprieties and cost savings.

She said while Andover's OPEB committee isn't recommending that, she said pressure needs to be put on the retirement board to change some of its policies and fully fund its pension obligations, among other issues.

At O'Donoghue's request, selectmen voted this week to invite the Retirement Board to the Monday, Nov. 24, meeting. O'Donoghue said after the meeting that the Retirement Board is scheduled to vote on a new funding schedule at its Dec. 5 meeting, following a presentation by the its actuary, Siegel Consulting.

"Changing the funding schedule will reduce our liabilities in the long term while increasing our pay-as-you-go expense," she said, adding, "This is clearly a very important decision."

"We have more retirees than we used to have," she said. "The number of retirees versus the number paying in — we are seeing an imbalance down the road. Our liability is eye-popping."

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■ TOWN NOTEBOOK: PENTAGON PINS AND POWERPOINT FOLLIES

COMPILED BY BILL KIRK
bkirk@andovertownsmen.com

Anyone who thinks the job of selectman or town manager is a 9-to-5 gig should listen in every other week to the Board of Selectmen meetings on the local cable channel or on the Web.

Earlier this month, Selectman Paul Salafia updated his colleagues about how he attended the Service Club of Andover's annual gala and auction. The event this year, held at the Andover Country Club, saw the "Make A Difference" award handed to Larry Larsen, a local psychologist who has aided numerous individuals and organizations in the region over the years.

While Salafia was at the country club, selectmen Chairman Dan Kowalski attended the Andover Youth Services fundraiser and trivia night the same evening at Old

Town Hall on Main Street. Selectman Brian Major, meanwhile, was recently at the Pentagon, presumably for business, not as a selectman, where he picked up some unique lapel pins: American flags shaped like the five-sided Pentagon. He handed them out as gifts to his fellow selectmen.

Meanwhile, Town Manager Buzz Stapeczynski updated the board on his recent trip to Charlotte, N.C., where he attended the International City Managers Association annual conference. The ICMA, as it's known, was celebrating its 100th anniversary and Stapeczynski was happy to share some of his experiences. He spoke at length about the event, which included Doris Kearns Goodwin as a keynote speaker and a number of workshops.

As Stapeczynski was wrapping his comments, Kowalski joked: "I should

have limited you to three minutes." Kowalski has been trying to shorten meetings by limiting public testimony to three minutes.

Technical no-how

Speaking of Stapeczynski, there was an interesting moment in the middle of a selectmen's meeting earlier this month when the town manager couldn't figure out how to turn off a PowerPoint slide show presentation that had been displayed on the wall. He fumbled around with a remote control, but couldn't get the ceiling-mounted projector to turn off.

So, the ever-resourceful town manager stood on a chair and reached up to press a button that turned off the projector. But that didn't work, as the projector came back on. Finally, Selectman Major came to the rescue and found the correct remote that controlled the projector.

Ironically, the technical issue came on the heels of a presentation by the town's information technology director on how a \$2.5 million technology line item was being spent.

Setting the record straight

Chairman Kowalski took issue with his statements in an article in The Andover Townsman last month about the repercussions that this month's state Senate election could have on the choice of the next town manager to lead Andover for the next five years.

Kowalski is quoted as saying "it's not really up to selectmen" and that Stapeczynski "has to be the one who comes to us and says, 'I want to stay another five years.' We have to discuss that, deliberate and vote. We'll have a discussion in the

near future as to his intended direction. Then we'll schedule a discussion with the board at a public meeting."

Kowalski said his comments were not intended to convey that the decision on whether Stapeczynski remains in the job was solely up to the town manager. He said the Townsman article may have erroneously given the impression that the Board of Selectmen "has no authority" over the appointment, even though the story did not say that. Kowalski sought to stress that selectmen have "100 percent authority on who to appoint as town manager. Our strategy in the past is for the town manager to initiate these conversations and tell us what his desire is. The Board of Selectmen will consider that."

Stay tuned, as the Town Offices are likely to become a hotbed of intrigue following the recent election results.

Women in Business Group monthly meeting on Monday

Andover Women in Business, a Facebook group of women with an entrepreneurial spirit from Andover and the surrounding area, holds its monthly get-together on Monday, Nov. 24, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Salvatore's restaurant on Park Street in downtown Andover.

The group was created by Aideen Snell, MSW, a service excellence manager at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and independent consultant for Rodan & Fields, to bring back what she calls a sense of community that gets lost in the hustle and bustle of today's society. She has more than 20 years experience working as a social worker and with organizational behavior.

She says she became interested in launching the group after meeting many smart, talented stay-at-home mothers who she thought were selling themselves short when thinking about returning to the workforce after raising their kids and managing their families. She says she believes strong women can have it all, a successful career and a work schedule that works for them and their families.

Women who own their own business or dream about it someday, those who are just starting out, or anyone looking to work for a local small business owner are encouraged to join the group, which aims to pool members' strengths to ensure success.

The group meets the last Monday of each month. Each meeting includes a 20- to 30-minute lecture on a variety of topics and a chance for networking. Because it is a closed group, members must first join on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/449487028524243/> and RSVP to the event. Volunteers for upcoming trainings are encouraged to contact Snell at aideen-snell@yahoo.com.

Merrimack students brave traffic to cross busy Route 114

By GARRIN MARCHETTI
Staff Writer

Over the years, there have been many vehicle accidents alongside Route 114 in North Andover, especially at the corridor closest to Merrimack College. Students darting across the busy highway to and from their apartments create a hazardous situation to say the least.

It's a concern shared by state legislators, the college and transportation departments, and over the last year, discussions have been ongoing concerning potential improvements to the area.

"We are aware of the issues, and we are working on fixing them," said James Chiavelli, associate vice president of communication for Merrimack. "We have been in contact with highway officials and local leaders to figure out a safe solution."

With increased demand for housing, almost 90 students were assigned to live at the Royal Crest Estates apartments across Route 114 from the Merrimack campus this year. And although the college offers a shuttle bus,

many students skip it. "I'd say the majority of kids just walk across," said one male student who wished not to be identified. "I do it all the time. It's a lot easier than just waiting (for the shuttle)."

The need for more housing has led Merrimack to pursue construction of the four new dorms on Austin Field off Elm Street. *See related story.* Students sporadically running into oncoming traffic is just one concern about the state highway, which the Massachusetts Department of Transportation has ranked as one of the most dangerous in the state.

State Rep. Diana DiZoglio, D-Methuen, who represents portions of North Andover, advocated with town officials for improvements to the stretch of highway. She organized meetings with MassDOT officials, which resulted in the department conducting a Road Safety Audit on the highway in January.

According to the audit, 31 crashes took place eastbound at the Andover Bypass at Route 125 between December 2010 and January 2012 — the

area where Merrimack is located. Roughly 67 percent of those crashes were the result of rear-end collisions. One fatality was reported during the time period. In March, the House enacted a bill designed for transportation improvements across the state, with \$1.5 million earmarked for Route 114.

"Route 114 has been among the most dangerous roadways in the commonwealth, with heavy foot traffic from Merrimack College students regularly crossing the road at great risk to themselves," DiZoglio said in an email.

DiZoglio said improvements would include sidewalk construction and accommodations for cyclists and pedestrians. Chiavelli also said another traffic light may be constructed, but could not confirm that.

Such improvements could take some time, however, according to Andrea Leary, the executive director of the Merrimack Valley Transportation Management Association. Any potential plans must first go through

MassDOT's project review process to determine if the project can receive federal aid, and from there they go to a design plan, a process which could take anywhere from "six months to two years."

Once past the design process, the project is added to a list of future projects by the Metropolitan Planning Organization and depending on the priority of the project, it can be years before a shovel can hit the ground.

"This could take some time. A lot of things would need to be moved around for it to happen soon," Leary said. "But there is a lot of support for this project, and it is a significant one for sure."

In his State of the College address to students several weeks ago, Merrimack President Christopher Hopey urged them to use their better judgment when traveling to and from campus.

"We don't want people crossing the street," Chiavelli said. "We strongly encourage students to take our college shuttle when

going on campus."

The shuttle runs 24 hours a day. It leaves roughly every 20 minutes from the Royal Crest greenhouse, first from 5 a.m. to 4:20 p.m., and then 5:20 p.m. to 4:10 a.m. Yet, the shuttles often remain empty, with the temptation of crossing the highway too much to resist.

Chiavelli said this year marks the first time Merrimack leased units at Royal Crest specifically for college housing, due to an "unprecedented" number of students over the last several years. Resident assistants employed by the college live at Royal Crest as do campus police.

The new dorms should alleviate the need to house students at Royal Crest. But in the meantime, students now living across Route 114 will continue to cross the highway, even if they understand the dangers of doing so.

"They should build something, maybe another crosswalk or something," the male student said. "It's definitely not ideal."



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Four-way stop a welcome addition

Editor, Townsman:

Thank you to whomever is responsible for putting a four-way stop at the intersection of Harding, Walnut and High streets.

Hopefully this will deem the intersection safer for all drivers and pedestrians.

VERN LOSCHI
40 Lowell St.

Raising tobacco age won't curtail smoking

Editor, Townsman:

There is some discussion in Andover about the possibility of raising the tobacco-buying age from 18 years old to 21 years old. There is even some conversation about the Town of Andover being able to regulate the display of tobacco products so that they are featured side-by-side with at least two products that help to foster quitting smoking. Those who know best feel that if these measures are acted upon, teens will be dissuaded from taking up smoking in the first place and we will be able to lower the number of smokers overall.

These are bad ideas, on so many levels.

First of all, since 18-year-olds are allowed to vote and since they are considered old enough to serve in our armed forces, then they should also have the right to decide for themselves whether to buy a pack of cigarettes. Obviously, we all hope that no one takes up the smoking habit, but at some point, the nannying has to stop. Let us deliver to our children, in their childhood years, all of the precautions and dangers that are inherent with a tobacco addiction. We should teach them well, early on, but not try to delay, indefinitely, the onset of adulthood and adult decision making.

Secondly, this new ruling would not discourage anyone from smoking. When an 18-year-old goes into a convenience store to purchase

a pack of cigarettes, we can pretty much assume that he or she is already a smoker. It's silly to believe that this teenager, upon being refused the option to purchase the smokes, would think to himself, "Uh-oh, the clerk won't let me buy any cigarettes; it must be because smoking is not good for me. Yes, yes, now I see the error of my ways; I will go home and not smoke anymore."

We know that this would never happen, but these proposed regulations would surely place an undue burden on Andover business people by causing a decrease in their sales revenues. Store owners would lose all kinds of sales, not just tobacco sales. The teenagers (who are also old enough to drive) would simply go off to a non-nanny town and buy all of their convenience store items from another merchant outside of Andover and that's not fair to Andover business people.

Lastly, the Town of Andover ought not to have the right to dictate to a store owner what items must be carried and how they should be displayed. That should be both the right and the privilege of the store owner.

I would respectfully suggest that these proposed rules should be thrown in the waste bin. It doesn't matter one whit what other communities in Massachusetts are doing.

SALLY SARNI
32 Ballardvale Road

Strawberry Hill not suited for elderly housing project

Editor, Townsman:

I am writing on behalf of more than 150 Andover residents who have signed a petition expressing their opposition to a poorly conceived proposal to develop Strawberry Hill Farm. Red and white signs posted along Route 133 near the farm have begun to draw attention to this issue. The reasons why we strongly

oppose this development are summarized in our Petition to Oppose this Development that follows:

We the undersigned, while sympathetic to the needs of both Andover's senior, mentally impaired and low-income residents, strongly oppose this development and urge the members of the Planning Board to deny the developer's request for a special permit.

Our reasons are as follows:

1. The high-rise, high-density (greater than 200 occupants) development is contrary to the bylaw and common sense, both of which require "... harmony with the neighborhood."
2. The proposal is misleading, packaging two completely separate projects as one, justifying each based on the attributes of the other, the symbiotic combination providing a ruse to thwart the bylaw.
3. There is no need for additional market-rate housing for the mentally impaired in town. Andover Hospice & Palliative Care expert, Dr. Suetta Tenney, has provided the Planning Board data demonstrating a surplus of these facilities in the surrounding communities.
4. Andover is already above the state-mandated standard for affordable housing (10 percent) based upon approved construction.
5. The location would inadequately serve the needs of the elderly persons, being remote from required services and amenities, thus exacerbating the sense of isolation engendered by the high-rise, outlying accommodation.
6. The site is poorly located on Andover's busiest and highly congested gateway highway, Route 133, in close proximity to high-density affordable housing at Hamilton Green, an expanded IRS, a new urgent-care facility (soon to be expanded) and the busy Mobil gas station and convenience store.
7. The elderly housing

component has no financing and may never be built, invalidating compliance of the mentally impaired facility with the bylaw.

8. Neither facility meets the affordable housing requirements of the bylaw.

9. Common sense says that abutting and nearby property values will be adversely affected.

10. The proposed development falls entirely within the town's Water Resources Protection Overlay District, which exists to provide additional protection of the town's Haggetts Pond/Fish Brook water supply. The developer has not complied with design requirements stipulated in this zoning bylaw.

JOHN BONESS
4 Robinswood Way

Need lacking for Elm Street senior housing project

Editor, Townsman:

According to the 2012 Andover Master Plan, the town has a goal of promoting more senior living options, but does not provide a quantitative target as to how much is enough or the ideal geographic dispersion throughout the town. A careful look at census data, senior living trends and existing facilities shows that Andover residents will have more than enough senior living options without adding another facility near downtown Andover on Elm Street.

Data from Census.gov for 2012 indicates there are about 2,200 residents of Andover over age 75. Studies have shown that most seniors prefer to remain living independently, often in their own homes with appropriate services, as long as possible. A typical age for entering assisted living facilities is in one's early 80s. Excluding the Elm Street assisted living proposal, which is just a half-mile from the North Andover line, there are at least 1,800 dedicated senior living units in Andover and North Andover,

including the Strawberry Hill Farm proposal on Route 133, which is six months into the planning process, as well as the 200 units proposed by Pulte Homes for 69 acres of the Franciscan property on River Road, a site that was explicitly OK'd for this use by Town Meeting's approval of the Senior Housing Overlay District bylaw.

As an indication of demand, there are no long waiting lists at existing local facilities. In fact, 15 months after opening and despite heavy marketing of its attractive, new facility on Route 114 at the Andover town line, Brightview remains 25 percent unoccupied. According to a Brightview representative, 50 percent of the current residents come from Andover or North Andover, with the rest coming from farther away. As a representative of Ashland Farms in North Andover put it, "The Merrimack Valley is saturated for assisted-living and memory-care units, so now we are all competing for the same individuals."

In my financial planning practice in town, I hear many empty-nesters talk about possibly moving out of Andover. The reasons given typically include moving someplace warmer for year-round tennis and golf, or downsizing to the city for culture and a shorter commute now that schools aren't a factor, or turning a family vacation home near the beach or lake into a primary residence, or relocating to where their children and grandchildren settled. While Andover should (and does) provide options for its residents who want to spend their retired years in Andover, increasing the total number of assisted-living units in town will do nothing to make the community more attractive to these residents planning to spend their active retirement years elsewhere. For many people, Andover is a good place to raise a family for 20 or 30 years during

their working years and then move on with good memories. There is nothing wrong with that resident profile for a suburban community, just as there is nothing wrong with a resident profile of someone who grew up in town, raised their family here and plans to remain here. But, it does mean that there is a limit to how many assisted-living units are needed to serve Andover's residents. A project could be commercially profitable by filling assisted-living units with residents from other towns, but at what cost to current Andover taxpayers and neighborhoods?

When I was on the early phase of the Senior Overlay District task force for the Franciscan property, it was emphasized that special permit zoning just gives the town the option of considering an otherwise unpermitted use, if it is in the overall best interest of the town. Downtown Andover already has Marland Place and Academy Manor as options for elderly needing facility care. Andover has other senior housing projects that are likely to be built throughout town. I would urge town officials to deny the special permit application for the Elm Street assisted-living proposal that would place a large, institutional building in the middle of more than a mile of purely residential housing stretching from the North Andover border toward downtown Andover.

I would further urge the strengthening of the assisted-living special permit bylaw to quantify our senior housing goals, as well as to shift the bias toward denying a special permit unless a compelling need that serves Andover residents is demonstrated in a design density that is attractive. Otherwise, we are at serious risk of damaging our town's character and neighborhoods with little benefit to Andover's residents.

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Education

Arts for Literacy initiative gains \$2M boost

By TIM LIMA

tlima@andovertownsmam.com

Andover schools will soon be devoting more attention to connecting literacy and the arts as part of a consortium awarded a \$2 million grant this fall from the U.S. Department of Education.

The grant, to be funded over four years, supports a collaboration among the Andover and Salem public schools and the Quabog Regional Innovation District, in partnership with the Addison Gallery of American Art at Phillips Academy in Andover and Peabody

Essex Museum in Salem.

The group, known as the New England Arts for Literacy, will receive \$448,000 in the first year of the grant.

The money will be used to train a team of arts education professionals to expand, document, evaluate and disseminate what's called a research-based Performance Cycle model, which focuses on connecting the arts with other content areas, as well as integrating a high-quality arts curricula into the schools.

Beth Delforge, the visual and performing arts program coordinator for the

Andover public schools, said that by combining genres such as theater, visual art, writing, dancing and singing with literary text, students will better understand what they're learning.

Through the grant, 120 kindergarten through grade eight teachers in all subject matters from the three school districts will have the opportunity to attend summer institutes to learn the model and grow as educators with each other, Delforge said.

Andover Assistant Superintendent Nancy Duclos believes that the model will

help spark student engagement and bolster the learning process.

"Arts integration has been shown to improve student engagement, academic self-concept and school climate, and the Performance Cycle model was one of a few arts integration models found to create powerful contexts and conditions for learning," Duclos said in a release.

As part of the grant, students will have the opportunity to utilize museums and see them as a partner in the curriculum. Delforge said that the partner arts

organizations have a great deal to offer classrooms, and will be a large part of the grant. Andover educators and students will be paired with the Addison Gallery for the project.

Funds from the grant must be used to further the development of programs designed to improve or expand the integration of arts into school curricula, develop materials designed to help replicate or adapt arts programs, document and assess the results and benefits of arts programs and develop products and services that can be used

to replicate arts programs in other settings, according to the Department of Education website.

The hope is the trained teachers will create a New England network of arts integration experts and partners to carry on the work after the grant program ends.

Delforge and Duclos teamed with Lisa Glickstein, the district's grants coordinator, to secure the funding. Delforge said Glickstein was "instrumental in submitting this grant and we are very fortunate to have her on board."

EDUCATION NOTEBOOK

Slice of Plimoth travels to Andover

A group of second-graders at South Elementary School last week enjoyed a visit from a Wampanoag Native American from Plimoth Plantation.

The youngsters learned about the daily life of the Wampanoag in the 17th century, as well as their current lives and communities. The one-hour program aimed to help students see the connection the Wampanoag and other Native Americans have to Mother Earth, their seasonal way of life and their respect for all living beings.

The program included a PowerPoint presentation filled with colorful photographs from Plimoth Plantation's Wampanoag home site and a chance to hold reproduction artifacts such as wooden bowls and spoons, animal furs and tools. To learn more about the visit and continue the discussion at home, visit www.plimoth.org/what-see-do/wampanoag-homesite.

Making buddies around the table

The Bulldog Buddy Table at Sanborn Elementary School that was highlighted in last week's Andover Townsman is proving quite popular.

The table, intended to help some kids fit in at recess, has already reached, if not exceeded, the expectations of parents and school administrators, who said they have sensed a change in the play-time habits of students.

While once wandering along the perimeter, oftentimes alone, kids are now joining together at the table to play board games, meet new friends and get away from the stress of school for a few minutes, school leaders reported.

A few days into the table's unveiling, school social worker Susan Hunter-Jones said the new addition to the Sanborn playground was "exactly as I had envisioned."

"I went out for the fourth- and fifth-grade recess and one of my students with Asperger's marched to the table with his own chess game in hand," she said. "He sat down and another student I have with serious social skills deficits and a mental health diagnosis came over and asked if he could play. They played while I facilitated their conversation."

At the same time, Hunter-Jones said, a "shy, little girl stopped by and they played a game together."

Expressing her appreciation for the table, Hunter-Jones said she thinks it could go a long way toward helping Sanborn's vulnerable kids.

ON CAMPUS

Amy Tanner has landed a principal role in Dean College Theatre Department's production of "Urinetown" this weekend. The college production is running this Wednesday through Sunday on the Main Stage at the Campus Center at the school in Franklin. Visit www.dean.edu/urinetown for more information.

Stephanie Simon and Christine Zhou both graduated this spring from Rochester Institute of Technology in New York. Simon received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in three-dimensional digital design from RIT's College of Imaging Arts and Sciences and Zhou received a Bachelor of Science in biomedical sciences from RIT's College of Health Sciences and Technology.

Caroline O'Sullivan graduated from Bates College in Maine this spring. A psychology major, she is a 2010 graduate of Phillips Academy in Andover. She graduated as a member of the College Key, an honor reserved for Bates students who have exhibited outstanding character, academic excellence, campus and community service, leadership and future promise.

Molly Van Doren graduated this spring from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore,

Md. She was also named to the spring 2014 dean's list. Van Doren majored in civil engineering.

Heather Youngman was named to the spring 2014 dean's list at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md. Youngman, who is majoring in psychology, is scheduled to graduate in May 2017. She attended Brooks School in North Andover.

Daniel Scherwatzky graduated magna cum laude, with a double major in English and history, from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J. During the spring 2014 semester, he was awarded a highly competitive Japan Exchange Teaching Fellowship to teach English in Tokyo. Scherwatzky will be an assistant language teacher in a Tokyo high school for the 2014-2015 school year.

Lauren Gibson, Bess Muggia, Victoria Quinlan and Catherine Wadman were named to the dean's list for the 2013-14 academic year at Union College in Schenectady, N.Y.

Brianna Jessie Rockwell was named to the spring 2014 dean's list at the University of Rochester in New York. Rockwell is majoring in environmental sciences.

FIRING UP MEXICAN CULTURE



Courtesy photo

Gabriela Mena and Gerardo Ortega of Santa Cruz del las Huertas, Mexico, demonstrated their unique form of clay art and offered a glimpse of their culture during their recent day-long visit to St. Augustine School.

Visiting artisans share clay creations at St. Augustine School

The students at St. Augustine School students practiced their Spanish language skills while learning more about the Mexican culture earlier this month thanks to a visit by husband-and-wife folk artisans from Santa Cruz del las Huertas.

Gerardo Ortega and Gabriela Mena shared their distinct technique for decorating low-fire clay known as "barro betus" in a series of demonstrations and lectures on Nov. 6.

Through a translator, they explained the processes involved in the production of their works of art and how Ortega obtains clay for his creations from the same area as his Toltec ancestors. They also shared videos of life in their village.

The artisans came to Andover courtesy of Pat Picciano, education outreach coordinator for Margaritas Management Group (Margaritas Mexican Restaurants), who has traveled

around numerous villages in Mexico since the 1980s in an effort to promote the diversity and wonder of Mexican culture to students. Picciano served as interpreter for the day.

According to a release, St. Augustine School's Cultural Enrichment Committee seeks out unique academic programming to enhance what is being learned in the classroom via language arts, social studies and world cultures. The visit by the

Mexican cultural ambassadors sought to provide students with access to individuals from another culture while also broadening their knowledge of the world.

Before they left, the couple presented a finished sculpture designed specifically for St. Augustine School to the community to commemorate their visit. The piece is being placed on display at the school.

Longtime Phillips dean tapped to lead Wyoming school

Nancy Lang, associate dean of faculty at Phillips Academy where she herself graduated from in 1983, has been appointed head of school at Journeys School in Jackson, Wyo.



Nancy Lang

1967, Journeys is just 14 years old. Lang will be charged with helping the young school grow its 200-student population and maximize its programming and resources. Phillips Head of School John Palfrey congratulated Lang on her appointment, adding that her gifts and inspiration as an educator and mentor to both students and adults will be deeply missed on Andover Hill.

"A terrific teacher, coach, adviser and friend to many on campus, Nancy has served Phillips Academy with great distinction," he said in a release. "I am so very pleased for her that she

will have this extraordinary leadership opportunity." A longtime Andover resident, Lang joined Phillips' Department of Mathematics in 1993 and since that time has continued to teach while taking on numerous other roles. After spending two years as assistant dean of faculty from 2010 to 2012, she was named associate dean of faculty and has been instrumental in the hiring and professional development of dozens of Andover teachers, from newly minted faculty to mid-career and veteran educators.

Outside of her teaching and administrative duties, Lang has been a house counselor for 14 years and girls cross-country coach for 16 years, during which time her team won six championships and she claimed coach of the year honors.

Journeys School will officially welcome Lang; her husband, Corbin, a math instructor at Phillips; and their three children on July 1, 2015.

"We wish Nancy, Corbin and their children all the best in this new professional adventure in one of our country's most picturesque settings," Palfrey said. "We look forward to a long and enduring connection with the Langs and, through them, to the extraordinary young school she will be leading in Wyoming."

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Opinion

South Lawrence Registry location convenient for all

Some 5,000 people sent a clear message recently to Gov.-elect Charlie Baker: They want the Registry of Motor Vehicles office to remain where it is — in a South Lawrence shopping strip.

It's a message that's also directed at Lawrence Mayor Daniel Rivera, whose idea it is to move the Registry office downtown. We hope the mayor hears their message.

In July, Rivera and state officials announced their plan to relocate the RMV office from the Plaza 114 strip mall to a new location in downtown Lawrence. The state has solicited bids for an appropriate downtown location.

Now, opponents of the move have collected more than 5,000 signatures on a petition to keep the Registry in South Lawrence. District F City Councilor Marc Laplante said he hopes the thousands of signatures on the petition trigger a review by Baker's incoming administration.

The Registry move makes little sense. Not only would it be enormously inconvenient for customers, but it also makes little sense from an economic development perspective. How does hurting the South Lawrence businesses now benefitting from the Registry in favor of those in the downtown boost Lawrence overall?

"My hope is that they will put this on pause and let the new administration review it and see if a move is really best for the city. If we have a fresh set of eyes looking at this again, we might have a different perspective," Laplante told a reporter for The Townsman's sister paper.

"I don't want the (RMV) experience more painful that it already is," he added.

Mayor Rivera has said the goal is to promote downtown development in Lawrence. Rivera believes locating the Registry office some-

where in the Essex Street-Broadway business district will attract new businesses eager to serve the RMV's workers and customers. Rivera's plan has the support of state Transportation Secretary Richard Davey and Celia Blue, the registrar of the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

"For many decades, our downtown has been held together by large efforts of small and family businesses, while the commonwealth, national, regional and local store chains and even the city of Lawrence itself abandoned Essex Street and Broadway for the outskirts of our community," Rivera said in July. "So today we are sending a message to all those businesses that stuck it out and to those that invested in downtown Lawrence when others wouldn't."

While we fully support Mayor Rivera's goal of promoting downtown development in Lawrence, moving the Registry from one part of Lawrence to another is not the way to do it.

First, this is not solely Lawrence's Registry office. People from across the region use the office to register their cars and to earn and renew their driver's licenses. The Winthrop Avenue location offers easy access from Interstate 495 via either Route 114 or Route 28. There is plenty of free parking at the shopping plaza, making a trip to the Lawrence office as close to an in-and-out experience as a visit to the Registry can ever be.

And more than 5,000 petitioners share that view. The Registry move makes little sense. Not only would it be enormously inconvenient for customers, but it also makes little sense from an economic development perspective. How does hurting the South Lawrence businesses now benefitting from the Registry in favor of those in the downtown boost Lawrence overall? It's a classic case of "robbing Peter to pay Paul."

We add our voice to those of the petitioners asking for Gov.-elect Baker to revise this decision — if Mayor Rivera does not first have the good sense to withdraw it altogether.

WEB QUESTION

Editor's Note: Our web question did not properly post online last week so we are extending this week's poll for an additional week given the timeliness of the topic. Go to our website at www.andovertownsmen.com to register your vote. Voting ends Monday, Nov. 24, at noon.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Two senior housing communities proposed in town are encountering opposition from neighbors for their location and scale. Do you think the town should be actively encouraging residential developments for older residents?

YES. Helping seniors stay in the community that they enjoy with the creation of supportive environments should be a priority in town.

NO. There are enough residential options for seniors in Andover and the town should support the success of the facilities that already exist in the area.



Postcards from Home

The Townsman this week begins a new Postcards from Home feature taking readers into the historically crafted lives of Andover residents through the years.

Susan McKelliget, first vice president of the Andover Historical Society, will be using postcards to help paint a picture of the community at different times in its past. With each postcard, she will call on a real person to pen a fictional message by imagining what

the writer might have sent to a recipient in highlighting the scene on the front of the post.

Her first delivery takes us to Andover square in the late 1930s. Look for her to continue her posts periodically.

Burns Co. at 13 Main St.? Well, before you leave town, be sure to take a look at their window display this week, which they are calling "In peace, as in war, we serve." The flags, the uniforms and especially the trophy won by the Legion Post this year are in honor of this Saturday's Poppy Day.

Safe travels my friend!

Do you have a postcard to share. Email us at townsman@andovertownsmen.com.

Nov. 2, 1939

Dear George Putnam,

I hear you are visiting your parents on Lowell Street this week. Remember buying that sweater and trousers at

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Speaking up for experience

Editor, Townsman:

The debate about the improvements made to Old Town Hall fail to take into account the value of experience our town manager brings to the community.

Isn't it a good thing to have a skilled administrator who is able to cobble together a variety of funding sources from previously approved projects in order to utilize unobligated bonded and authorized funding and grants? Doesn't it save the community when work that is required to alleviate a safety hazard is done in a way that improves our town's front yard without requiring a new capital outlay?

The selectmen are elected to provide the town with overall guidance on policy and to help build and protect the character of the community — not to serve as either a design board or to micromanage where funding for projects comes from. The town loses when the selectmen and the town manager cannot work together. It is time to stop the bickering about every project and to begin to work together. We have a foundation of good government and leadership of which to be proud.

STEVE GOLDEN
13 Robandy Road

Trivia Night a winner for local youths

Editor, Townsman:

The Andover Youth Foundation/Andover Youth Services and Andover Vocal Music Association were thrilled with the success of its Trivia Night on Saturday, Nov. 1, at Old Town Hall. The game was fun, the atmosphere was electric and the competition was

fierce. Congratulations to the Yang's Fitness Center group who took home the grand prize. They are the team to beat next year.

The event was extremely profitable and will go to help both the youth center and the vocal music programs at the high school. Thanks to the community who attended, who donated and who sponsored the event, especially our newest "neighbor," Schneider Electric.

**ANDOVER YOUTH FOUNDATION
ANDOVER YOUTH SERVICES
ANDOVER VOCAL MUSIC
ASSOCIATION**

SEPAC deserves more cooperation from school district

Editor, Townsman:

We are writing regarding the Nov. 6 School Committee meeting to clarify some remarks which referenced us.

During the meeting, Sheena Stack, vice chairman of the Andover Special Education Parent Advisory Council, asked for the School Committee's help regarding communication concerns. The school had agreed to send out SEPAC communications to all parents district-wide, including parents of children on Individualized Education Programs and on 504 Plans, using the district's Connect 5 email list. But many parents in Andover, including some parents of children on IEPs, were not receiving the emails, which included SEPAC's annual newsletter and notices about upcoming workshops that are free and open to the public.

Sheena had not received any response from two follow-up emails she sent to Interim Director of Student Services Amy Reesel; Dr. Marinel McGrath, superintendent; and all School Committee members.

As SEPAC members, we were frustrated by the

overall lack of support shown at this meeting for SEPAC by the School Committee, and, in particular, by the chairwoman, Annie Gilbert, who is the School Committee liaison to SEPAC.

We were appreciative that Dr. McGrath did respond to some concerns regarding the emails. We noted, however, some misinformation in her reference to agreements made with us during an April 14 meeting involving us, Dr. McGrath and former Student Services Director Joyce Laundre. We had requested to use the Connect 5 email list to send out our SEPAC workshop emails. Parent-to-Parent workshop announcements go out to the entire district and therefore we believed SEPAC should have the same opportunity to inform the entire school community about its workshops. The April 2014 SEPAC needs assessment survey was also sent out using this email list to the entire district. McGrath agreed to our request. Minutes of our April 14 meeting can be found on SEPAC's website, www.andoversepac.org.

We want to clarify that we never agreed to send out SEPAC communications only to parents of children on IEPs, as Dr. McGrath stated at the Nov. 6 meeting. We were told by Ms. Laundre that the school did not keep such an email list. Our goal was to reach all families in Andover, including, but not limited to, parents of children with IEPs and 504 plans. As Sheena stated, many parents in Andover have children struggling in school who are not on IEPs and these families could benefit from the resources that SEPAC offers.

We were unaware until the Nov. 6 meeting that the school had recently set up a SEPAC Web page link on the www.aps1.net school website. On Nov. 10, Dr. McGrath informed Sheena Stack that we as the former SEPAC chairwomen

agreed to use this Web page to disseminate SEPAC news to the community. To clarify, we never discussed the Web page with Dr. McGrath, nor were we aware of its existence. The current SEPAC executive board was also not aware of the Web page's existence prior to Nov. 6. The reason this is concerning is that Andover SEPAC already has an official website, www.andoversepac.org, and Massachusetts law and the Massachusetts Department of Education mandate that SEPAC control its own publications. We found that the school's SEPAC Web page has the appearance of being written by SEPAC, but contains incorrect information about the council.

Why does the school district resist helping to promote awareness of SEPAC's activities to the entire Andover school community? Why did the district not collaborate with SEPAC in creating a new SEPAC Web page? Why has the district not allowed SEPAC members to be involved in hiring committees for special education leadership staff, yet it allows other parents to be involved? Why won't the school district respond to SEPAC's requests to learn who the parents on these committees were?

Our hope is that in the future, the School Department and the School Committee will work together with Andover SEPAC members in a more open and collaborative way to benefit the entire school community. We also hope that many more parents will get involved with SEPAC this year to strengthen its effectiveness in helping to improve the education of children with disabilities in Andover.

JEANNE TEICHERT AND CINDY CROMER
Former co-presidents
Andover Special Education
Parent Advisory Council

READER ACCESS

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

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Andover Townsman
Established 1887

Regional Publisher
Karen Andreas

Editor
Sonya Vartabedian

Published Thursdays by
North of Boston Media Group
33 Chestnut St., Andover, MA 01810
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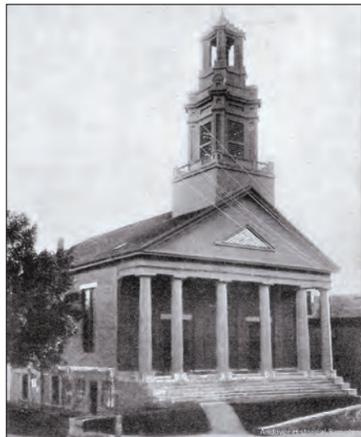
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TownsBeat

A Happy 180th Andover Baptist Church

Town's second oldest spiritual home stands devoted to original mission



Courtesy photo
 Andover Baptist Church in its early days.



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo
 Andover Baptist Church is celebrating its 180th anniversary this year.

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
 jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

Original church buildings in towns across the country rarely celebrate big birthday milestones.

Often constructed of wood, many didn't survive, instead succumbing to fire.

But that's not the story at Andover Baptist Church at the corner of Central and Essex streets.

The brick, multi-columned church is celebrating 180 years at its original location, where it was first dedicated on Aug. 28, 1834, according to Andover Historical Society records.

"It's just a beautiful original church and a town treasure ... with its Greek revival style, located near

our library, it's just a beautiful corner downtown," said Karen Herman, who leads the Andover Preservation Committee.

Andover Baptist Church stands second to West Parish Church on Reservation Road, which holds the honor of being the town's oldest religious institution, having opened in 1826.

Eight years later, Andover Baptist took up residence in town.

When it was first constructed, the basement rooms of the Baptist church were rented out to local businesses, most notably T.A. Holt & Co., a grocery firm.

T.A. Holt sold biscuits, cigars and Sunshine crackers, among other items,

from the church's sub-basement. Back then, there was plenty of parking on Central Street for horses and wagons.

Having tenants was a way for the church to earn money.

Not until 1924 did the Andover Baptist congregation vote to use its entire building for church purposes. Renovations were made on the edifice at that time, according to town historical records.

In the 1970s, congregation members took pickaxes and shovels to the former store's dirt floor and prepared the space to house Sunday School classes.

Longtime church member Carol Stocks of Gould

Road remembers it well. She said about 35 to 40 church members carried out the task.

"The women cooked supper while the men worked," she said. "We just put our trust in God and I think that's why we are still here."

Stocks recalls when the church membership dipped to its lowest numbers — with about 20 people on the rolls — and all those prayers that focused on surviving in spite of the low enrollment.

The prayers worked and the church has not only survived, but is now thriving with 180 members from the Merrimack Valley and



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photos
 Rev. Lyndon Myers speaks to his congregation from the pulpit at Andover Baptist Church.

See CHURCH, Page 14



Andover Baptist Church minister of music Michael Belcher plays the opening hymn during Sunday service.



Guest Rev. Dr. Hector Newman, left, sings with his daughter, Marisa, during Andover Baptist Church's Sunday morning service.



Parishioners sing along with the opening hymn during Sunday service at Andover Baptist Church, which is celebrating its 180th anniversary.

Historical holidays: House Tour, Tree Time unveiling this weekend

Travel back in time from the 18th century through to today during Andover Historical Society's Holiday House Tour on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The tour will feature seven stops displaying a colorful array of architectural, collecting and decorating styles.

The oldest homestead on this year's tour is estimated to have been built in 1748 and is located not far from the center of

Andover. Today, most of the original building is still at the very heart of the 16-room, six-bedroom house that features summer beams and gunstock posts in the corner.

There are two original rooms on the first floor, the sitting room and the library each with its own fireplace. On the second floor, there are two original bedrooms, both with fireplaces that have since been closed off. The third

floor has one bedroom with access to a lookout hatch. Sometime later in the 1800s, the roof was raised and replaced and several additions were built, including the grand stairway and an all-season sun porch.

The tour also stops at a warm and cozy West Andover haven built in 1985 by Yvon Cormier that benefits from numerous special touches courtesy of its owner, a professional

interior designer. All five bedrooms in the three-floor house are unique, with a true 37-by-24-foot great room that somehow succeeds in creating an inviting intimacy.

The historical society's own Federalist-style house, the 1820 Amos Blanchard House at 97 Main St., has been decorated for the season. It will welcome visitors for the unveiling of the seventh annual Tree Time display featuring almost

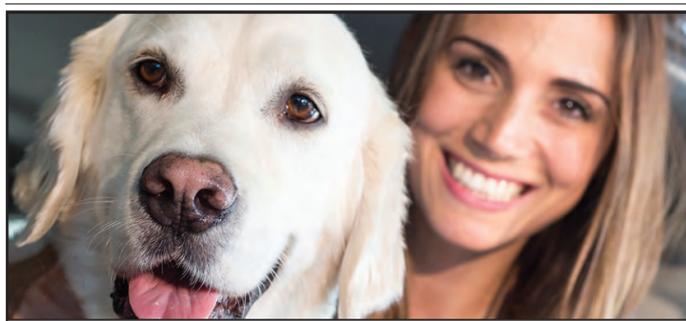
40 trees bedecked by various community groups and volunteers and inspired by toys and games from the society's collection.

Tickets for the Holiday House Tour are \$20 in advance for historical society members and \$25 for nonmembers. All tickets purchased the day of the tour are \$30. The admission price includes a viewing of the Tree Time exhibit. Tickets and maps are available for pickup

starting at 9:45 a.m. on Saturday at the historical society.

Tree Time is on display through Dec. 27. It is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$8, with discounts for children, students and members.

For more information on the house tour or Tree Time or to order tour tickets, call 978-475-2236 or visit www.andoverhistorical.org.



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Out & About: Holly Ball to twirl out father-daughter memories

The annual Father-Daughter Holly Ball takes to the dance floor on Friday, Nov. 21, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Old Town Hall at 20 Main St. in downtown Andover.

Fathers and their favorite girls are encouraged to dress in their holiday finest as they dance, play games, win prizes, and enjoy refreshments in the grand room upstairs in the event hall. There will be a photo booth to capture the occasion as guests enjoy a memorable evening presented by the Andover Department of Community Services.

The evening is divided into two age groups. Girls 5 and under and the top men in their lives are invited from 5 to 6 p.m., while young ladies ages 6 to 10 and their dads should register for the later installment from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Fathers with children in both age groups can choose which one to attend or stay for both.

The cost is \$35 per family for one session or \$50 for both. Registration is required. Visit www.andoverdc.com, call 978-623-8274 or stop by the DCS offices at 36 Bartlett St. for tickets or more information.

High Plain/Wood Hill Craft Fair

The annual High Plain/Wood Hill Craft Fair takes place this Thursday, Nov. 20, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. in Wood Hill gymnasium on Cross Street. Many High Plain and Wood Hill staff members and students will be presenting their handcrafted work. There will also be a free craft for children to create.

Anyone with questions may email Jill Sergeant at jillsergeant@comcast.net or call 978-685-6248.

A rocking Thanksgiving at Old Town Hall

Plymouth Rock rocks its first Thanksgiving Dance Party & Show as #RageBoston kickstarts the holiday season next Friday, Nov. 28, from 8 to 11:30 p.m. at Old Town Hall at 20 Main St. in downtown Andover.

Though #RageBoston is the new production company of Ari Goldstein and James Minahan of Andover, the pair aren't strangers to hosting successful events. They have been involved with private and corporate

event productions at venues such as Fenway Park in Boston and New York's Barclays Center and Madison Square Garden, and now want to share their entertaining skills with their hometown.

They are inviting high school students in Andover to the professional, rocking show with DJs, music, lasers and other surprises and effects. Antonio Guanci stops by as the opening act and Boston's own DJ 2Shea headlines the event. Andover police and professional security have been hired for the safety of guests.

Next week's event is also being called a party with a purpose. A portion of the proceeds will go to Lazarus House in Lawrence to help feed the hungry. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door; those who donate five canned goods will get \$5 off the price of admission.

Tickets may be purchased at www.rageboston.eventbrite.com or at Andover High School.

Symphony Sunday at Reading High

Newly hired music director George Ogata will lead



George Ogata

the Reading Symphony Orchestra in concert on Sunday, Nov. 23, at 3:30 p.m. in the William E. End-slow Performing Arts Center at Reading Memorial High School, 62 Oakdale Road, Reading.

The program will include Mendelssohn's Hebrides Overture, Carmen Suite #1 by Georges Bizet, and Dvorak's Symphony #8 in G Major. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for seniors and students, with children 12 and under welcome for free. For more information, visit www.readingsymphonyorchestra.org.

■ ■ ■
Got an item for Out & About? Email townsmen@andovertownsmen.com.

Andover Day & Night

Compiled by Betsy Curry

978-623-8400, www.mhl.org.

LECTURES

PARENTING SPEAKER SERIES, "Raising Able: How Chores Cultivate Capable Confident Young People" presented by author and parenting expert Susan Tordella, Tuesday, Dec. 2, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St., Andover; presented by Parent to Parent of Andover; free; www.andoverp2p.com.

CLASSICAL HOLIDAY, Handel's Messiah, Part 1, with the "Hallelujah" chorus, Jan Zalenka's newly discovered "Dixit Dominus," and a cappella favorites, Saturday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover; pre-concert talk at 6:30 p.m., and post-concert carol sing and reception; \$25 adults, \$18 Seniors, \$15 groups of 10 or more, free for children and students with IDs; www.newenglandclassical.org, 978-474-6090.

PALMERS RESTAURANT, Live music, Fridays and Saturdays, 9 p.m. to midnight; Friday, Nov. 21, 12:01 Blues Band; Saturday, Nov. 22, Marybeth Maes; Friday, Nov. 28, Hal 'n the No Tones; Saturday, Nov. 29, Jah Spirit Reggae; no cover charge; 18 Elm St., Andover; 978-470-1606, www.palmers-restaurant.com.

"VIVA VIVALDI!" CONCERT, MISTRAL performs concertos by Antonio Vivaldi and more, Sunday, Dec. 7, 3 p.m., South Church, 41 Central St., Andover; \$30 adults, \$25 seniors, free for students with ID; www.mistralmusic.org, sales@mistralmusic.org, 978-474-6222.

ETC.

HOLIDAY BOOK SALE, presented by Friends of Memorial Hall Library, Saturday, Dec. 6, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St., Andover; 978-623-8400, www.mhl.org.

■ ■ ■
For the complete entertainment calendar, visit www.andovertownsmen.com. To submit a listing, email townsmen@andovertownsmen.com.

CHURCH

Continued from Page 13

southern New Hampshire, according to Denise Wynn, who handles church publicity.

"We even have someone who moved to Worcester and still comes here," Wynn said.

Current pastor, the Rev. Lyndon Myers, has been faithfully serving the church for 11 years. The much-loved retired military officer who also has 10 years of experience working in corporate America is credited with the church's revival.

"It's the quality of people ... and it's the Lord," he said of the increase in enrollment from 20 to 180 members.

The African-American pastor acknowledges the church is referred to as



Courtesy photo

Andover Baptist Church would rent out its basement to tenants, including T.A. Holt & Co. grocery, in its early years as a way to earn money to cover its costs.

"the Black church," he said. "But it's not."

His congregation is very diversified, and everyone

is welcome and invited to worship, said the married father of four.

When he suffered a

heart attack in 2006, the outpouring of support for the dynamic preacher was incredible, Wynn said.

"Everyone prayed for him, not just church members — the whole community," she said.

Now healthy and still very humble, Myers holds a steady love for his church and leans on the Lord for direction and strength. He would love to see that 180 enrollment number rise.

Music is an important part of worship at Andover Baptist. Rev. Myers said it's a great way to focus on the Lord. He sings with the choir at the start of the weekly 10 a.m. Sunday service.

"Music is needed as it gets people to look up to the Lord and focus. We hug and invite each other to worship, to be joyful ... and, it's wonderful," he said.

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Turkey Brigade ready to lift spirits

The Rotary Club of Andover and Yang's Fitness Center in Dundee Park are once again joining forces with Whole Foods Market in town to provide Thanksgiving dinners to the Lazarus House in Lawrence and residents of the Andover Housing Authority through its annual Thanksgiving Brigade effort.

Since 2001, the Rotary Club and Yang's have helped deliver more than 2,200 turkeys to local residents during the Thanksgiving holiday.

The group's goal this year is to supply 100 complete Thanksgiving dinners to families supported by the Lazarus House and 60-plus turkeys to residents of the Andover Housing Authority.

"The number of needy families this year continues to be alarmingly high," Diana Kiesel, co-owner of Yang's, said.

The public is encouraged



Courtesy photo

From left, Marty Glenn and Diandra Lamas of Whole Foods, Mark Spencer of the Rotary Club of Andover and Alex and Diana Kiesel of Yang's Fitness Center pose at the food pickup for last year's Turkey Brigade. The three organizations are uniting once again to help provide Thanksgiving meals to the needy this year.

to assist in the Turkey Brigade in a number of ways.

First, Yang's is collecting donations to help cover the cost of purchasing frozen turkeys. The center is also accepting contributions

of nonperishable Thanksgiving fixings. Those who donate at least four nonperishable items will receive a complimentary Yang's pass for themselves, a family member or friend. For

more information, contact Kiesel at Yang's, 5 Dundee Park Drive, at 978-475-2020 or YangsAndover@aol.com.

Shoppers at Whole Foods Market in Andover, meanwhile, may donate at the register. Whole Foods' "Feed Four More" donations will be given to Lazarus House in the form of food for its pantry. To learn more, contact Eileen Webster, marketing team leader at Whole Foods Andover, at 978-749-6664 or Eileen.Webster@WholeFoods.com

Volunteers are also needed to help sort, combine and deliver meals directly to the families of Lazarus House. Contact Dino Sarantos at DSarantos@verizon.net to lend a hand.

For more information about the Turkey Brigade, visit www.YangsFitness.com, www.RotaryAndover.org or www.wholefoods.com/events?store=6467.

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

Compiled by
Susan McKelliget

Andover Historical Society

Here's a look back at what was happening in town this same week at key points over the last 100 years, exactly as reported in the pages of the Andover Townsman:

100 Years Ago Nov. 20, 1914

Remember that A. Basso keeps a full line of fruit in its season; also, new nuts, confectionary and ribbon candy for Thanksgiving at reasonable prices. Imported pure olive oil from Genoa is sold there, too.

The surviving children or the Rev. Dr. Samuel Francis Smith, author of "America," have presented to the Harvard College library the original manuscript of the song. Dr. Smith was a graduate of Harvard in the class of 1829, the class that had in it many distinguished men. "America" was written in 1832, when its author was a student at Andover Theological Seminary in Andover.

While employed on Abbott Farm, J. Geddey of Brechin Terrace was thrown from his wagon and had his collarbone broken. He was severely shaken up.

75 Years Ago Nov. 16, 1939

Andover's getting to be the most shooting town, with gunmen becoming run men after local police give chase. Tuesday evening, officer Winthrop K. White had noticed a suspicious-looking car speeding on the Hill, and he gave chase, picking up officer Deyermond in the square. At the railroad station, the men left the car, and White commanded them at gunpoint to stop. They didn't stop, and the two officers gave chase. Had they known that the car was a stolen one, that in it were burglar's tools, a stick of dynamite and an electric drill whose serial number

told Amesbury's chief that it was the one stolen and used on a safe in his town a couple of nights before, the two officers would have fired, but you don't fire at just speeders.

Mrs. Lillian West of 21 Pine St. was this week awarded a prize of \$1 in the third Brer Rabbit Recipe Contest. The recipe must use molasses and a Brer Rabbit label must accompany them. The winning recipe: Suet Pudding.

50 Years Ago Nov. 19, 1964

George Heseltine, manager for Dana's Sport Shop, will head the committee for the town's Christmas Lighting Program, according to an announcement from Archie D. Maclaren, president of the Andover Chamber of Commerce.

Twenty-six cases of vandalism were reported in Andover during October and 12 house breaks, more than two per week. During the same period, the Police Department investigated 11 personal injury and 12 property damage accidents, three cases of delinquency and reported 19 cases of motor vehicle violations to the Registry. Among other items acted upon: six cases of drunkenness, one of indecent assault and one of vagrancy.

25 Years Ago Nov. 16, 1989

The Berlin Wall may still be guarding the division between East and West Berlin, but lifted travel restrictions for East Germans have led to lifted spirits even in Andover. Simone Tavenrath and Tobias Arnold are two exchange students from West Germany at Andover High School who are watching their neighboring country's changes closely. Even though the wall was erected before the two were born, its concrete sides still evoke strong emotions and images in the visiting teenagers. "Just to look at it is very depressing," Tobias said. It is a big concrete wall with barbed wire. It's scary and inhuman."

Getting Creative at the Feaster Five

Creative Living, an Andover-based nonprofit organization located on South Main Street, has organized a team of runners and walkers for the first time to participate in the 27th annual Feaster Five on Thanksgiving Day in town. The group, developed with the help of the online fundraising tool Crowdrise, hopes to raise \$25,000 to support the various recreational and social skills programs offered by Creative Living to local teenagers and

adults with developmental disabilities.

The 14-person Creative Living team includes Andover residents Lucille Giannone, Creative Living board president; board members Luan Giannone and Kim Thomson, Danielle Benson, Abigail Johnson and Elizabeth Koontz. Other members are Chuck and Debbie Papaia, Heidi O'Mara and Jeana Paolino, all of North Andover; board member Jacquelyn and John Santini of Wilmington,

Jessica Shattuck of Brighton and Margaret Linnell of Berwick, Maine.

New team members, including those who have already registered for the Feaster Five, are welcome to join the group. Visit www.crowdrise.com/RunforCreativeLiving and select "The Team" tab and then click "Join the Team" to create a personal fundraising page. Donations are also welcome through the Crowdrise fundraising page or may be mailed to Creative Living, P.O.

Box 3177, Andover 01810

Founded in 1986, Creative Living accepts no state or federal funding. Its mission is to support individuals with developmental disabilities and their families so that they can live fulfilling lives in their communities. They offer after-school programs and transitional overnight opportunities. To learn more, call 978-470-3165, email info@creativelivingandover.org or visit www.creativelivingandover.org.

YMCA scores with Family Game Night

The Andover/North Andover YMCA After-school Program at Faith Lutheran Church in town recently played host to a fun-filled YMCA Family Game Night to welcome families to the 2014-2015 school year.

The event included pizza

prepared by the kids, "Minute-to-Win-it" challenges, and classic games including Jenga and Family Feud.

The YMCA at Faith Lutheran is planning more events with the hope of getting to know the families of the Andover community.



Courtesy photo

The Trahan family of Andover – including parents Michael and Lauren and their children, Hannah and Mikie Trahan – get into the spirit of the YMCA's Family Game Night.



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Photos by Reba Saldanha

Michelle Jackson of Boston's Houston Bernard Band teaches guests the two-step during the Challenge Unlimited fundraiser.

Texas-sized fun for Ironstone Farm gala

More than 400 guests donned their Texas best — from cowboy hats and boots to Dallas bling — for this past Saturday's Spirit of Giving Gala at Andover Country Club to benefit Challenge Unlimited at Ironstone Farm.

The event fully embraced the theme with a mechanical bull, chuck wagons with high-end Texas food, rock and country music from the Houston Bernard Band and a Texas hold 'em table and other games of chance.

TV sportsman Bob Lobel kept the crowd entertained during the live auction, which raised a generous amount for the therapeutic horse-riding farm on Route 133 in Andover.

The event honored benefactors Doug and Diana Berthiaume of Andover, benefactors to numerous organizations, including UMass Amherst, Children's Hospital in Boston and Ironstone. The couple are members of the Ironstone Farm Leadership Committee, and offered a match donation to launch the farm's five-year capital campaign to further improve its nonprofit programs and facilities.



Event co-chairwomen Nancy Greeley, left, and Polly Craig embrace the western theme at Saturday's Challenge Unlimited gala fundraiser at Andover Country Club.

Normand Deschene, CEO of Circle Health and Lowell General Hospital, was also honored. He led the transformation and growth of Lowell General Hospital during his three decades of service. In 2012, he introduced Circle Health, a collaboration of physicians, hospitals, other health providers and

organizations with a shared vision for empowering people and communities to be healthier.

The Andover Townsman and its parent paper, The Eagle-Tribune, were among the evening's sponsors.

Proceeds from the evening will support therapeutic horseback riding and other

programs offered through Challenge Unlimited at Ironstone Farm on Route 133. The farm provides therapy for children and adults with special needs, cancer survivors, combat veterans returning with stress, teens at risk, elders with memory issues and others. For more information, visit www.ironstonefarm.org.

Sweeping respect

Kiwanis, AHS Key Club help keep local hero's bridge in order

The Greater Lawrence Andover for 30 years, and was the town's most decorated naval officer.

A longtime Kiwanian, Street served in the Navy for 29 years. He was awarded the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military honor, while commanding the submarine USS Tirante during World War II. He received the Navy Cross, two Silver Stars and a Presidential Unit Citation recognizing the entire crew of the Tirante.

"What better way to honor veterans than to honor one of our own," said Kiwanis Past President Al DeLuca, who served eight years in the Coast Guard. "To leave the bridge in disrepair is to be disrespectful to him."

Kiwanis member Michael DeLuca developed the idea for the event seven years ago after seeing the littered bridge each day while driving his kids to school. Since then, he has organized the cleanup effort to coincide with Veterans Day. George Street lived in



Courtesy photo

Participating in the Capt. George L. Street Memorial Bridge cleanup were, front row, from left, Martha Wilson of Andover and Andover High School Key Club members Michael Briggs and Travis Traub; and, back row, from left, Mike DeLuca of Andover, Dave Wilson of Andover, Brother Rene Roy of Lawrence, Ed Kelly of Andover, Key Club member Sarah Wilson, Jeff Shank of Derry, N.H.; and Dave Louis of North Andover.



Courtesy photo

Tyler Davis, 13, a member of Boy Scout Troop 76 of Andover, led the construction of this 10-by-10-foot shed and emergency animal shelter at the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' Nevins Farm in Methuen for his Eagle Scout service project.

Eagle Scout project hits close to home

Son follows in father's footsteps with Troop 76

By TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

Becoming an Eagle Scout often takes years of dedication and hard work. But to reach the rank at just 13 years old takes some special mentoring.

Tyler Davis, a member of Andover's Boy Scout Troop 76, is following in his father's footsteps on the path to his Eagle Scout.

When it came time for Davis to advance in Scouting on the road to his Eagle, the Methuen resident changed towns, joining Troop 76 in Andover.

It was only fitting since years earlier, his father, Matthew Davis, had also achieved his Eagle Scout as a member of Andover's Troop 76.

What's more is Troop 76's current Scoutmaster Don Milligan and Assistant Scoutmaster Craig Milligan have had a hand in leading both father and son to their Eagle goals.

"Scouting is such an influential part of my life," Matthew Davis said. "It, along with the teachings of my parents, gave me a true sense of responsibility and leadership in myself and others. Tyler has taken

the same goals and objectives to be a great leader."

For his Eagle Scout service project, Tyler Davis organized the construction of a 10-foot-by-10-foot shed at the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' Nevins Farm in Methuen. The shed will be used to both store equipment and serve as an emergency shelter for animals.

He began by raising \$1,250, primarily from local companies, and signed on about 40 people, including Brad Jones, a professional carpenter, to help build the shed.

"We were very, very lucky," he said. "I had raised the money through fundraising from local companies, and we had purchased all the building material from Doyle Lumber on River Road in Andover. Its owner, Greg Doyle, gave us most of the materials as a donation and the rest of the materials were purchased at a huge discounted price."

After a weekend of work this fall, the shed was finished and the MSPCA was thrilled with the result.

"Tyler and his amazing, high-spirited crew erected

a much-needed, beautiful new structure that the barn can use for all sorts of storage," reads a post on the MSPCA's Facebook page. "We are incredibly grateful that Tyler chose Nevins Farm to do his project."

Matthew Davis, who remembers cleaning areas of debris and installing park benches for a sitting area at the Andover Village Improvement Society properties across from the Ballardvale Fire Station for his Eagle Scout service project, was able to provide some direction for his son. But, he credits his son's planning and dedication for the project's success.

"I am very proud of my son," he said. "It's so important that he has the same training I have had through incredible leadership from Scoutmaster Don Milligan and Assistant Scoutmaster Craig Milligan, and the amazing leaders and adults who have dedicated their lives to educating and teaching young men skills and knowledge that will point the way to a successful, fulfilling life."

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Sports

Breakthrough to finals

Volleyball vies for 2nd-ever state title, but falls just shy

BY DAVID WILLIS AND BILL BURT
Staff Writers

There was no dream finish for the Andover High volleyball team. The Golden Warriors finished just one set from their ultimate goal, falling 3-2 in the Division 1 state title game to Newton North over the weekend. But the Blue and Gold still delivered a banner season on the court. The Golden Warriors advanced to just their second state championship match in program history, in the process winning their third straight North title, the

Merrimack Valley Conference title and finishing with a sparkling 22-2 record. “Boy, did we ever play scrappy,” first-year Warriors coach Jane Bergin said. “They covered one another and played as a team. All year, we have worked toward goals, and everything came to fruition (in the tournament). It was tremendous. There weren’t any superstars. Everyone just stepped up.”

Breaking through to the finals

For two seasons, the state semifinals proved the end for Andover: Back-to-back North crowns resulted in heartbreak one round later.

But the Warriors were determined to end that run this season. “After making the state semifinals so many times, it felt like it was our time to win,” co-captain Mackenzie Kennedy said. “It hurt to come so close and fall short, so we went into this game ready to take the prize.” Andover not only snapped that skid, the Warriors did so in dramatic fashion, rolling over Central/West champion Natick 25-17, 25-9, 25-17 in the semis last Thursday, Nov. 13.

See VOLLEYBALL, Page 25



Andover volleyball co-captain Mackenzie Kennedy celebrates the Golden Warriors’ victory in the Division 1 state semifinals against Natick last week. Kennedy and the Golden Warriors advanced to the Division 1 state championships before falling to Newton North in five sets over the weekend.
RYAN HUTTON/Staff Photo

A Feaster journey — in more ways than one

Sonya Vartabedian

Seven weeks ago, I would have been happy to know I could crawl across the finish line of the Feaster Five 5K. It’s hard for me to imagine that now — one week to race day — I’m actually thinking about how fast I can complete the 3.1-mile route. Let me be honest here. I’m not looking to break any records. But I think I have a real shot at running from start to finish and still be standing at the end, which is all I really hoped for. I’ve surprised myself a lot the last several weeks. I would have never imagined running in 30-degree temperatures and drenching rain. You couldn’t have convinced me that I, the queen of the impractical wardrobe, would be scouring store racks for warm — i.e., sensible — clothing. I’ve always been afraid to fail, and would often avoid a risk for that very reason. But I really had my doubts if I could conquer the 5K when I set on this course in early October. It’s nice to know how many people I have encountered on this journey who say my experience has given them the confidence to consider trying to run their own race someday. I’m also amazed by the sheer number of people who will be joining me on the route Thanksgiving morning. I’ve run into people in church, at work, in the grocery store, even at Marshalls as I was buying a warm pair of socks, who like I will be lacing up their sneakers for the Feaster. There are a lot of people to thank for getting me to the starting line. I can’t say enough about my highly motivating and super kind trainer, Melissa Pennington, who has made running in every kind of weather fun. My fellow running group comrades have become a supportive network of allies over the last several weeks. And my family, friends and coworkers have all given me the reinforcement — and occasional kick in the rear — that I needed. But I’m getting a little ahead of myself. While they say confidence is a good thing, I’m not ready to cross running a 5K off my bucket list just yet. I still have seven days to go before race day, time for a couple more training sessions on “the hill” and to find something cute to wear for my inaugural race. It just needs to have pockets to carry my four rocks (thanks Bill). See you (fingers crossed) at the finish line.

■ ■ ■
Andover Townsman editor Sonya Vartabedian is chronicling her journey to the her first Feaster Five.

‘WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS’ ... AGAIN!



MARY ANN ALWAN/Courtesy photo

Emily McDowell, center, is overjoyed as she embraces her teammates in celebration of Andover High swimming’s Division 1 state title victory over the weekend. It was the 14th title in coach Marilyn Fitzgerald’s tenure.

Swimming wins amazing 14th Division 1 state title

BY DAVID WILLIS
dwillis@andovertownsmann.com

Andover swimming’s reign of dominance is nearly incomparable in Massachusetts high school sports. So when the Golden Warrior set goals, they have to be lofty. “My No. 1 goal was to be the state champ in the 500 freestyle,” senior Alison Murtagh said. “And I wanted to lead my team to a state title.” Over the weekend, both of those dreams became a reality. Murtagh won the title in the 500 freestyle, the lone first-place finish for Andover, but the Golden Warriors delivered another spectacular display of depth and skill, surging to the Division 1 state title on Sunday at Harvard University. It marked the 14th title for the Golden Warriors under legendary coach Marilyn Fitzgerald, whose squad finished with 367 points, outdistancing archrival No. 2 Acton-Boxboro (314). “Every one of these championships is different and special in their own way,” Fitzgerald said. “But we have never won a title that involved so many girls stepping up and having amazing



MARY ANN ALWAN/Courtesy photo

The Andover Golden Warriors team gives the No. 1 sign after locking down its 14th Division 1 state title. The Warriors took just one first place in the meet, but won the title with their terrific depth.

races. There were so many fifths and sixths all the way to eighths that really helped us. “Everyone knows you can’t win a state title just with firsts. You need depth and our girls did a fantastic job.”

It was an especially emotional victory for the Warriors, who dedicated the title to “Coach Fitz,” who has continued to coach the season through her battle with cancer. “Seeing what Ms. Fitz went

through and being on deck every day (coaching) after coming in from radiation and always having a smile on her face, that’s what got me through the

See SWIMMING, Page 25

Offense red hot, but Andover football falls to Lexington

BY DAVID WILLIS
dwillis@andovertownsmann.com

With its final Thanksgiving matchup with Central Catholic one game away, Andover was knocking on the door of a classic comeback. But the clock ran out on the Blue and Gold. “The offense was playing great,” Golden Warriors coach E.J. Perry said. “We just ran out of time.” Trailing by three

touchdowns heading into the fourth quarter last Saturday, Andover was able to cut the deficit to just one score with time left on the clock. But the rally fell short and the Warriors lost to Lexington 47-39 in the Division 1 North tournament consolation game. “It was a real shoot-out,” Perry said. “We showed a lot of good things, especially offensively, but there just wasn’t enough time.”

The breakout star of the game for the Warriors was junior Anthony Christopher. A former receiver who began playing running back for the varsity team after the injuries to 1,000-yard rusher Kevin Chen and Andrew Soucy, Christopher rushed for 103 yards on 19 carries and three touchdowns, the first scores of his varsity career. “Christopher played an excellent game,” Perry said. “He

really stepped up and showed some good things.” Sophomore quarterback E.J. Perry IV added another big day, passing for 174 yards and three touchdowns, giving him 25 scores for the season. A pair of Christopher TDs sent Andover to an early 13-6 lead before Lexington responded with four touchdowns to take control. Perry IV then hit Zach Walker for a 5-yard score to make it 33-19

heading into halftime. A Perry touchdown pass to Alex Marshall made the score 47-25 going into the fourth quarter, but the Warriors could not complete the rally despite a Perry touchdown strike to Christopher Nicholas and Anthony Christopher’s third TD. Of the four losses the Warriors (6-4) have suffered this season, three have been by one touchdown or less, and the

other was two scores because of a TD by Central Catholic in the final minute. The Golden Warriors close out the year on Thanksgiving Day with their third consecutive year with their Thanksgiving Day game against Central. It will be the final installment of the holiday rivalry, as Andover is poised to take on North Andover in a new Thanksgiving showdown starting next year.



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Beautiful 4Bdrm with Open Concept Flr Plan, Perfect For Entertaining, 2 Story Foyer, Hdwd Flrs, Formal Dining Rm, Office w/Crown Molding Spacious Kitchen, Breakfast Area, Private Deck, Lg Family Rm w/Gas Fireplace, Master Suite w/Sitting Area & More! **\$510,000**



HIGH PLAIN ROAD - ANDOVER (978) 374-8484
This Unique Home is a Masterpiece! Luxury Renovation for Those with Discerning Taste. This Barn has been Carefully Crafted & Masterfully Restored into an Urban Luxury Home with Over 6,000sf, 4Bdrms, 5Bths, 3 Car Garage and the Finest Finishes. **\$1,399,900**



UNDERSTATED ELEGANCE - WINDHAM (603) 893-3433
6 Bedroom, 7 Bath, Custom Built Home! The Grand Foyer Sets the Tone for the Entire Home. Almost 6,000sf, Accommodating Full Scale Entertaining & Casual Family Living, Professional Grade Stainless & Granite Kitchen & So Much More! **\$849,900**

NEW CONSTRUCTION - OPEN HOUSES - FEATURED HOMES

HALES LANDING
NEW LOTS!
Haverhill
Announcing New Lots!
Welcome to Phase 2!
Offering "The Eagle" Model on Lot 11, Picturesque Lots, Still Time to Choose Your Colors!
978-374-8484

RESERVE AT SNOW'S BROOK A CONDOMINIUM
\$329,900+
25 Augusta Drive Plaistow, NH
Open Every Sunday 12-2
55+ Community, 34 Single Family Homes
2 Car Garages, Optional Floor Plans!
Dir: Newton Rd. (Rte 108) to Hillcrest.
978-374-8484

NEW CONSTRUCTION
\$349,900+
Kingston, NH
55+ Abuts Golf! Detached Condos w/Garage, 2Bdrms, 2.5Bths, Loft!
Choose Floor Plan & Lot!
Non binding reservations pending All General Approval
603-382-2100

NEW CONSTRUCTION
\$439,900
Methuen
New Construction! 4Bdrms 2.5Bths,
2 Car Garage, CGS School District!
978-687-8484

STONE CASTLE ESTATES
\$418,900+
Methuen
Open Sat & Sundays 12-2
Maintenance Free Living, 55+ Gated Community! 1 or 2 Level Homes, 1st Flr Masters, Choose Lot and Floor Plans!
Dir: Tyler St. to Stone Castle
978-687-8484

NEW TO MARKET
\$343,900
Methuen
Well Maintained 3Bdrm, 2 Bath,
Master w/Jacuzzi, Hdwd Flrs, SS!
978-687-8484

Coco, Early Associates
The Real Estate Professionals

A Gift from Our Family to Your Family this Holiday Season!

FREE Admission to The Penguins of Madagascar Movie!

PENGUINS - MADAGASCAR

Popcorn, Soda & Candy!
Special Visit from Santa!

Saturday, December 6th - 2 Shows! - Lowe's Theater at the Loop - Methuen, MA
Shows start at 9:30am (check-in begins at 8:30am) & 1:00pm (check-in begins at 12:00pm)

For ages 1-10 (must be accompanied by an adult)

Visit **CocoEarly.com** & click on "Special Events" to reserve your seats!
Seating is Limited. Must pre-register online to receive tickets in advance. Tickets will NOT be given at the door.

NEW TO MARKET
\$205,000
Haverhill
Great Value! 4Bdrm Colonial w/Many Recent Updates, New Granite Kit w/SS!
978-374-8484

NEW TO MARKET
\$750,000
Seabrook Beach
Move Right in! Well Maintained 4Bdrm,
3 Bath, Hdwd Flrs, Walk to Beach!
603-432-0100

NEW TO MARKET
\$409,000
Windham, NH
Wow! 6 Acre Estate! 4Bdrms, Wrap Porch, Granite Kit, Mudroom & More!
603-893-3433

NEW PRICE
\$282,000
Dracut
Great Layout, Open Concept,
3Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, River Views!
978-687-8484

EASY CONDO LIVING
\$269,900
Hampstead
No Age Restrictions! 2000sf, 2Bdrms,
2 Car Garage, Nice Floor Plan!
603-893-3433

REMODELED
\$349,900
Amesbury
Completely Remodeled 3Bdrm Ranch,
Granite Kit w/Island & SS, Deck off Master!
978-475-1009

NEW PRICE
\$309,000
Methuen
So Much Possibility! Lg 4Bdrm,
Great Lot w/Grg, Centrally Located!
978-475-1009

NEW TO MARKET
\$459,000
Windham, NH
Beautifully Updated! 4Bdrm, 4 Bath,
Granite Kit w/New SS, Great Location!
603-893-3433

HERITAGE HILL
\$929,000
Windham
Prestigious Heritage Hill! 5200sf,
4Bdrms, 3.19 Acres, 3 Car Garage!
603-893-3433

NEW PRICE
\$359,900
North Andover
Tastefully Renovated 2 Family! 2Bdrms
in Each Unit, Easy Access to 93 & 495!
978-687-8484

NEW PRICE
\$389,957
Dracut
Wow! 8Rms, 3Bdrms & Study!
2.5Bths, Master Suite, FP, Hdwd Flrs!
978-687-8484

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
\$5,500 MONTH
Methuen
Well Established Bar & Restaurant,
Updated w/Vintage Charm, Call for Info!
978-475-1009

COMMERCIAL
\$1,000 MONTH
North Andover
2nd Flr Unit, Lg Open Space
w/Bath, Walk to Downtown!
978-475-1009

Lawrence - Long established pizza and sub shop includes business equipment and real estate. High exposure location on heavily traveled road. Excellent opportunity for growth. Pre qualified buyers. **\$399,900 - Call 978-687-8484**

Haverhill: Recently Renovated Condo! Lg rooms, 2Bdrms, many closets, 2 decks, 2 baths, updated granite kit w/SS & laundry room w/washer & dryer included. Small pets allowed w/approval!
\$1,400 Month - Call 978-687-8484

Methuen Condo for Rent
Pleasant Hill Condos - Bright eat-in kitchen with new flooring, spacious living room with hardwood floors & fireplace!
2Bdrms & updated bathroom!
\$1,150 - Call 978-687-8484

METHUEN: (978) 687-8484 / ANDOVER: (978) 475-1009 / BRADFORD: (978) 374-8484
DRACUT: (978) 957-8282 / LAWRENCE: (978) 687-8600 / SALEM, NH: (603) 890-3226 / EPPING, NH: (603) 679-2300
PLAISTOW, NH : (603) 382-2100 / HAMPSTEAD, NH : (603) 382-2121 / WINDHAM, NH: (603) 893-3433
ATKINSON, NH: (603) 362-4100 / DERRY, NH: (603) 432-0100



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Sunday paper.....5pm Friday

weeklies:
Carriage Towne News: 12pm Friday
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Announcements

AUCTIONS

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Place a happy ad in this section to wish a special someone a Happy Birthday, Anniversary, Retirement, Thinking of You, Love You or Just Wish Them a Nice Day. Only \$5.00 for 3 lines (\$1.00 each additional line. Call today The Classified Connection 800-927-9200

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DRUM & GUITAR LESSONS at your home. Degree from Berklee. 20 yrs teaching experience 603-438-3819 www.johnmedeirosjr.net

G/C BUILDER'S LICENSE COURSE Register by Jan. 2nd, for Danvers, Lowell, Haverhill, MA 1-888-833-5207 www.StateCertification.com

LOST & FOUND

DOG STILL MISSING - 10/10. "Clarissa" Yellow Lab Mix, female, one floppy ear, 4-5 years/65 lbs. Bright blue collar. She is timid do not call her or chase! Call 781-534-9424.

LOST & FOUND

FOUND: black and white cat on Lyndale Ave. in Gloucester. To claim call Cape Ann Animal Aid at 978-283-6055.

FOUND: Female tiger cat young around Herrick Ct. Gloucester Please call Cape Ann Animal Aid 978-283-6055 ex10

FOUND - Nov. 1st. Halloween costumes. Kids clothing, football helmet. Federal St. near Tannery. Call 978-465-7856

FOUND RING - Woman's ring, at Assisted Living facility in Andover MA. Trying to locate owner. Serious inquires only, it's identifiable by the inscription. Email: LEVES119@aol.com

FOUND WHITE and Grey cat in Gloucester. To claim call Cape Ann Animal Aid at 978-283-6055.

LOST DOG: Tan Boxer mix, 50 lbs, 6 yrs old. Dalton was lost in the Salem Woods near the Salem Municipal Golf Course on 9/18. He has been spotted in the Salem State and Forest River Park area during the last couple of days. If found PLEASE do NOT chase or call him, he is likely skittish. Lure him with treats and call me immediately. Thank you. Call Leslie 978-836-6303 or 617-448-3022

\$500 REWARD

MOUNTAIN BIKE - Santa Cruz Tall Boy, gray/black. Missing from So. Lawrence, on Nov. 9th. Call 978-335-0384

PRIVATE TUTORING

ONE ON ONE TUTORING Substitute in Andover Schools (K-5) since 2007 - Reteach - Relearn - Reinforce. Organization, planning and study skills my specialty. Refs. Call Nancy, 617-538-7086 leave msg.

Real Estate

HOMES

Andover MA - Wonderful Colonial offers 4 bedrooms 2.5 baths, large sun filled eat in kitchen. Formal dining & living room. Family room, private office-den all on the first floor. Master with full bath. Fenced in yard. \$449,900. KSRJ Signature Realty 603-819-4844

HOMES

Plaistow NH Large 3 bedroom 2.5bath colonial home kitchen w/center island, formal dining room. Fireplaced living room, French doors to family room- hot tub room with HW flooring. Fireplaced master bedroom w/ full tiled Jacuzzi bath double shower, walk in closet, bonus loft with skylights with balcony. \$299,900.00. KSRJ Signature Realty 603-819-4844

HOMES

Plaistow NH: Large 3 bedroom 2.5bath colonial home kitchen w/center island, formal dining room. Fireplaced living room, French doors to family room- hot tub room with HW flooring. Fireplaced master bedroom w/ full tiled Jacuzzi bath double shower, walk in closet, bonus loft with skylights with balcony. \$289,900. KSRJ Signature Realty 603-819-4844

HOMES

ATKINSON Spectacular Stately Colonial in an Estate Setting, 5 Bedroom, Gourmet Kitchen, Spacious Family Room w/ wet bar and stone fireplace! Gunite Pool w/ built in Hot Tub! Must See! \$799,000. 603-382-0360 CLASSIC HOMES RE

BARGAIN BANK OWNED HOMES

Most of these homes are in move in condition, some with granite counters and stainless steel appliances. You'll save thousands!! The banks see them as surplus and don't care about getting the highest price (equals GREAT DEALS). Homes from \$126,000 to \$285,000 located all over the North Shore. These aren't available to investors and can only be sold to people looking for a home to live in (it's a special government program). Buy with as little as \$3000 dollars down. (If your credit isn't perfect - no problem - late, short sales, bankruptcy - OK). Close in 21 to 120 days (smooth transactions). For all the information including addresses and pictures TEXT 978-393-1123 and type "BargainBankSM" (List available 24 hours a day 7 days a week - automated system - Updated Hourly). This exclusive service (Not available to Realtors) is a courtesy of Patrick Lydon - Lydon R.E. If you want to talk to a bank owned rep, call 978-235-1707.

HOMES

Gloucester - Updated 5 bedroom colonial. Updated kitchen, open living area, newer heating, central AC, 2-1/2 baths, finished basement, deck, generator, newer roof, windows and siding. Convenient to town, highway and Good Harbor Beach. \$405,000. Rick Petralia J. Barrett & Company 978-239-6207

HOMES

Hampstead, NH - Well maintained and cared for Ranch designed for wheel chair mobility. Hardwood and Tile floors, master bedroom with 3/4 bath. New front porch, large deck with gazebo, great back yard. 3 Bedroom septic. Broker related to Seller \$259,900.00 KSRJ Signature Realty 603-819-4844

HOMES

LAWRENCE: NEW TO MARKET: Fantastic opportunity to own your own new construction home at a great price. This YouthBuild Home offers almost 2000 sq feet of living space with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, high efficiency heating and hot water, hardwood floors, beautiful cabinetry, and so much more. A treat to show!! Certain income restrictions apply, call to find out if you qualify. \$194,900 First Choice Realty Group (978) 689-8006

HOMES

Lynn -3 bedroom ranch with designer touches such as stainless steel kitchen, recessed lighting, hardwood floors and fireplaced living room. Private yard with 26 foot deck. \$249,000 Tache RE (978) 745-2004

HOMES

Lynn - Young 6 room 3 bedroom colonial on centrally located side street. Endless possibilities. \$169,900 Tache RE (978) 745-2004

HOMES

MANCHESTER BY THE SEA - Ideal in-town setting for this lovely 1775 lovely home. 3-4 bedrooms, 7 fireplaces, the best pine floors, garage, tall ceilings, rare curved staircase, third floor office/studio. This is an amazing total restoration which has preserved the best original features of this impressive home. \$825,000. Call Joanie Purinton 978 462 6898 or 800 773 9990 RIVER VALLEY RE

HOMES

METHUEN: NEW PRICE!! FIRST FLOOR IN-LAW POTENTIAL can be found in this very spacious layout that includes large eat in kitchen, formal dining and living rooms, front to back family room plus 21X22 great room all on the first level. The second floor consists of 4 large bedrooms with the 2nd bedroom just as large as the master. This young home also includes an acre lot, central vac., new windows, irrigation system, fresh exterior paint, newer high efficiency heating system, several finished rooms in the lower level and a workshop for hobby plus above ground pool with surrounding deck for the kids. Imagine all this plus wonderful location set on a child safe cul-de-sac. This is the one you have waited for and priced to sell at \$439,900. First Choice Realty Group (978) 689-8006

HOMES

WINDHAM - EXTRAORDINARY IN-LAW, VIEWS & COMMUTABLE TO BOSTON! One of NH's most creatively designed and unique luxury homes. This estate quality home enjoys long, jaw dropping views over a pristine apple orchard's rolling hills. Eat-in kitchen with breathtaking views, 6 FP, private baths for all bedrooms with walk-in closets, the most incredible game room, sauna and hot tub spa. \$1,295,000

HOMES

WINDHAM - YOUR DREAM HOME? First floor master with a brand new master bathroom and spectacular walk-in closet. One level living at its finest. And my wraparound deck ... priceless!!!! I have a beautiful view of sunsets on the lake as I sit perched on the hillside. My backside is equally appealing! Level and lush with mature landscaping. \$739,000

HOMES

WINDHAM - THIS SPECTACULAR HOME IS THE BEST VALUE IN TOWN! Large, spacious and open rooms allow the sun to splash through the kitchen and family room. with a beautiful morning glow. The backyard has adds serenity with The interior surprises start with an amazing atrium overlooking a spa like pool area in a beautiful yard. The master suite w/dressing room, huge custom walk-in closet, spa tub, gym w/5 person sauna, and game room are a few amenities. The in-law apartment has a full bath, kitchen, bedroom & living rm w/slider to deck. Beautiful landscaping with custom stone walls, irrigation & 4 car garage! PVRM \$699,000- \$748,870

Call for an appointment TODAY!

HOMES

Contemporary Colonial Danville, NH Builders Home! Unique open-concept floorplan with 2680 sq located on priv. wooded 2 acre lot. Features 3 lg bedrooms, 3.5 baths, spacious living room & kitchen/dining area, oversized contemporary windows & a daylight/walkout LL perfect for in-law or repair potential. Great country setting convenient to Rte 111 & commuting routes. Offered at \$287,700. Webber Associates 603-432-5148

HOMES

Danvers - 3 bedroom colonial with deck, enclosed porch and 1 car garage. Fenced lot on dead end street. Minutes to 128 and Danvers square. \$289,900 Tache RE (978) 745-2004

HOMES

DANVILLE Custom contemporary with new hardwood flooring and beautifully updated kitchen, stone fireplace, inground pool! \$369k CLASSIC HOMES RE 603-382-0360

HOMES

Gloucester - Updated 5 bedroom colonial. Updated kitchen, open living area, newer heating, central AC, 2-1/2 baths, finished basement, deck, generator, newer roof, windows and siding. Convenient to town, highway and Good Harbor Beach. \$405,000. Rick Petralia J. Barrett & Company 978-239-6207

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HOMES

WINDHAM, NH 3 bedroom, hardwood floors, garage, generator, CA close to 93 & school, Reduced \$225,900 Pizio RE (603) 898-3400

MANUFACTURED HOMES

Salem NH: 1996 12 x 66, central air, awning over deck, shed, good condition, great location only \$42,500. Other homes available. Salem Manufactured Homes 603-898-2144

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

BOURNE: Bank Owned 3 bedroom townhouse on the Cape Cod Canal built in 2007. This 3 level unit is in very good condition with main level featuring Granite and stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors and fireplace living room. 2 bedrooms up with full bath and the 3rd level features a full level master suite with full bathroom. Great opportunity! Property is bank owned. Property sold in "as is" condition with no implied warranties. \$249,900 First Choice Realty Group (978) 689-8006

HOMES

Haverhill MA - Condo, no condo Fee! 4 bedroom 2 full bath, Granite kitchen w/ Stainless Steel appliances, hardwood flooring, gas fireplace, Master with large walk in closet. One car garage, Fully fenced in yard. \$274,900. KSRJ Signature Realty 603-819-4844

HOMES

Marblehead - Uniquely designed spacious custom ranch with an open concept. 8 rooms, 3 bedrooms, large kitchen, deck, yard, 2 car garage. \$539,000 Tache RE (978) 745-2004

HOMES

NEWBURY - Beautifully restored 1790 Farmhouse on 7 acres of protected land. 9 rms, 8 fireplaces, w/views across the historic Lower Green. Classic pine floors, Indian shutters, curly maple kitchen, updated systems, double staircases. Williamsburg worthy, 30 X 40' barn + outbuildings. Plenty of sun and fresh paint! \$599,000 Call Joanie Purinton 978 462 6898 or 800 773 9990 RIVER VALLEY RE

HOMES

NEWBURY - Gorgeous, impressive Mansard roof Victorian, a lovely home in an idyllic 1.4 A setting of flower gardens, sweeping lawns, stone pond, major barn. Four bedrooms, lovely fireplaced Great Room, veranda, screened porch, country kitchen. Come see! \$739,000 Call Joanie Purinton 978 462 6898 or 800 773 9990 RIVER VALLEY RE

HOMES

NEWBURY - Plum Island SOLD!!!! - Basin front - 3 bedroom, 2 car garage, grand deck with 200 degree views, plus views back over the marshes to Newburyport, much new work, extremely sunny and bright! \$529,000. Call Joanie Purinton 978 462 6898 or office 800 773 9990 RIVER VALLEY RE

HOMES

NEWTON, NH: New Construction/5 Lot subdivision Zena Lane, 3 bed Colonial \$369,900 Todd 603-382-1669; 603-234-1458

HOMES

Peabody - Legal three family in convenient location for commuter. Separate utilities, vinyl siding and replacement windows are a plus. Ample parking for 6+ vehicles. \$435,000 Tache RE (978) 745-2004

HOMES

PLAISTOW One owner Raised Ranch in Very convenient location! Fabulous sunroom overlooking pool and deck! Stone Fireplace in LL Hot Tub and Pool Table included! \$305,000 CLASSIC HOMES RE (603) 382-0360

HOMES

Rockport - New England farmhouse style colonial with great curb appeal and views of Stratham Cove, Gap Head and the ocean. Sun lit front-to-rear living room with large fireplace, covered patio, wainscoting, exposed beam ceilings, ample closets, walk up attic and ocean vistas from front rooms. Adjacent 6,700 sq ft lot with right of way. Close to beaches, downtown and train. \$975,000 Rick Petralia J. Barrett & Company 978-239-6207

HOMES

Salem - Custom built home in desirable Witchcraft area with 1 car garage. Great open floor plan. 3 bedrooms including master bedroom with full bath and balcony. \$399,900 Tache RE (978) 745-2004

HOMES

SALEM NH New to Market! Charming 6 room 3 bedroom single family. Garage, appliances kitchen, beach rights to Millville Lake \$239,900. Pizio Realty 603-898-3400 x101

HOMES

WINDHAM, NH 3 bedroom, hardwood floors, garage, generator, CA close to 93 & school, Reduced \$225,900 Pizio RE (603) 898-3400

MANUFACTURED HOMES

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TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

BOURNE: Bank Owned 3 bedroom townhouse on the Cape Cod Canal built in 2007. This 3 level unit is in very good condition with main level featuring Granite and stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors and fireplace living room. 2 bedrooms up with full bath and the 3rd level features a full level master suite with full bathroom. Great opportunity! Property is bank owned. Property sold in "as is" condition with no implied warranties. \$249,900 First Choice Realty Group (978) 689-8006

HOMES

Haverhill MA - Condo, no condo Fee! 4 bedroom 2 full bath, Granite kitchen w/ Stainless Steel appliances, hardwood flooring, gas fireplace, Master with large walk in closet. One car garage, Fully fenced in yard. \$274,900. KSRJ Signature Realty 603-819-4844

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

FREMONT New Construction 3 bedroom Colonial with 2 car attached and farmers porch, stone fireplace in family room with cathedral ceiling!Only \$279,900 CLASSIC HOMES RE 603-382-0360

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

HAVERHILL NEW TO MARKET: Desirable West Meadow townhome. If you need space and a home that is move in ready, this is the place for you. Beautifully updated kitchen, dining room with newer hardwood flooring, large windows throughout. The 22'x15' family room has cathedral ceilings, a wet bar, a beautiful fireplace and sliders. The master bedroom has an abundance of closet space, cathedral ceilings and a cozy loft perfect for a home office or den. The second bedroom is 15'x15' and also has an abundance of closet space including a walk in. The carpet is newer and neutral. One car garage with opener will come in handy this winter. \$224,900 First Choice Realty Group (978) 689-8006

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

Haverhill - Very spacious 2 bedroom townhome boasts family room in finished lower level, patio, parking, professionally managed in county setting. \$174,900 Tache RE (978) 745-2004

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

MANCHESTER North End Beauty! Large Colonial with updated kitchen and refinished HW Flooring, see through fireplace! ONLY \$299,000 CLASSIC HOMES RE 603-382-0360

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

Middleton - Corner unit with beautiful panoramic views. Sliders to 30+ foot balcony, garage parking, 2 full baths, great closet space. Many amenities. \$319,900 Tache RE (978) 745-2004

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

NEWBURYPORT - BRAND NEW HIGH EFFICIENCY GAS HEATING SYSTEM! Three level, two bedroom, two bath, half house condo on a beautiful street, and on the "sunny side"! Private gardens, parking, wood floors, deck, lots of character and features, views to distant hills, very nice. Call Pat Skibbee 978 465 8851 RIVER VALLEY RE

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

NORTH ANDOVER: Freshly painted inside and out, pumpkin pine hardwood floors, high ceilings and beautiful natural woodwork throughout this spacious townhome. The large dining room comes with a charming built in hutch. Newly remodeled bath and kitchen. Laundry is located on the first floor. Two staircases front & back of the house lead to the 3 plus bedrooms on the 2nd level. Walk up attic for future expansion or storage. The heating and central air conditioning unit are newer. The covered side porch overlooks a beautiful yard and off street parking. All this within walking distance to charming downtown North Andover. \$239,900 First Choice Realty Group (978) 689-8006

First Run

ORLANDO FLORIDA Direct Waterfront Condo Liquidation. Priced from the high \$190's, at below builder cost! Only a handful remain. Call today for details. 888-999-3041 extension 2491. NECAN

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

Salem - 2 bedroom condo in Castle Hill area of Salem. Nice neighborhood, well maintained, professional managed. \$154,900 Tache RE (978) 745-2004

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

Salem - 2 bedroom townhouse near Salem Commons. Open concept 5 years young. Glass front lighted cabinetry, granite and stainless, French doors to balcony in master, hardwood floors, this one has it all! \$275,000 Tache RE (978) 745-2004

LAND/ACREAGE

Gloucester - Three Spacious Buildable Lots surveyed with 285 ft of road frontage. Satisfactory percs for up to 4 bedroom septic systems on each. Wooded 3.65 acre wooded lot with Southern exposure. Great potential for green home development. Not a developer, build your own home and sell the other lots. Orders of Conditions in process. \$225,000 Rick Petralia J. Barrett & Company 978-239-6207

Come and see what Windham and Southern NH have to offer.



WINDHAM - PARK-LIKE GROUNDS IN A FANTASTIC LOCATION! This beautifully done Tudor home sits proudly on a 3-acre, flat lot at the end of a 4 home cul-de-sac. Privacy abounds! Each of the 5 bedrooms has access to its own bath. One bedroom is on the first floor. It has an impressive loft area and rumpus room in addition to its open, airy family room! All this plus location, location, location! \$600,000



WINDHAM - EXTRAORDINARY IN-LAW, VIEWS & COMMUTABLE TO BOSTON! One of NH's most creatively designed and unique luxury homes. This estate quality home enjoys long, jaw dropping views over a pristine apple orchard's rolling hills. Eat-in kitchen with breathtaking views, 6 FP, private baths for all bedrooms with walk-in closets, the most incredible game room, sauna and hot tub spa. \$1,295,000



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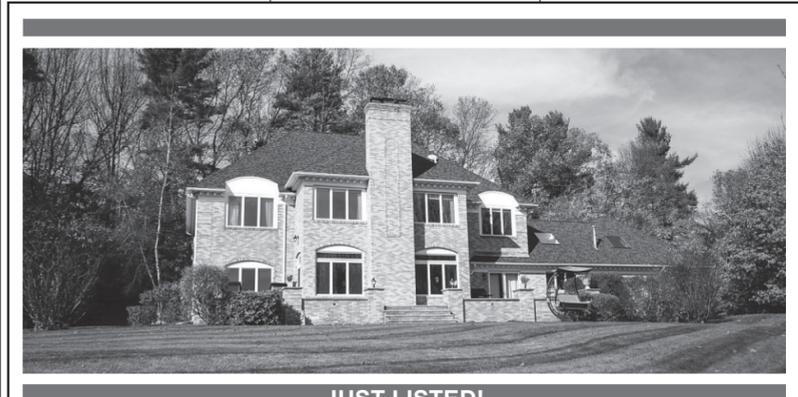
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Gracious 4,324+ SF 5BR, 3 Full BA, 2 Half BA French Country Colonial on executive estate. 10 Beautiful rooms combining luxury finishes, hardwood floors, high ceilings and graceful curves. Expansive terraces, grand reception foyer, C/A/C, large rolling lawn, and commanding views from atop the hill. 28 min to Boston.

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Gloucester-Winter/Short-term furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath House. Avail. Oct.1 to 2 months 2015. This waterfront parcel in Bay View area has an open concept with panoramic coastal views. Home boasts office space, fireplace, washer-dryer, decks, parking, trails, private beaches, tennis courts and easy access to Rte. 128. One pet considered. \$2,150/mo

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Country setting at its finest!
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Ipswich Bay Glass Co. Inc. is the largest commercial glazing contractor in New England. We are located in a 4 building complex in Rowley, MA approximately thirty minutes from Boston. Ipswich Bay Glass Co., Inc. currently has an immediate opening for a Class I truck driver. This position requires full DOT compliance with drug and alcohol testing, former employer background checks and a driving record that is clear of all moving violations for a maximum period of five years. The position will require driving within the 6 New England states only, knowledge of Boston and the surrounding suburbs would be preferable. A 2A/1C MA hoisting license, experience with operating a knuckle boom as well as experience with making basic big truck and trailer repairs when required at our facility would be preferred. Benefits included are paid health insurance, pension, holidays and vacation. Hourly wage is based on experience of the candidate. Please forward all inquiries via e-mail to cjanvin@ibglass.com or via fax at 978-948-2903.

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Safely drive or assist drivers in transporting Guests to and from American Training or assigned destination, while making the trip a FUN and Entertaining WOW! Experience. Good verbal skills and be able to communicate clearly both in person and over the radio. Must be able to lift 40-60 lbs. Must pass a driving record check, CORI check, drug screen and physical. Drivers must have three (3) years driving experience and clean and safe driving record with an active license. Positions are part-time, 20 hrs/wk. For more information or to apply, contact Carina Pappalardo at 978-685-2151 x6856 or carinapappalardo@americantraininginc.com.

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Ipswich Bay Glass Co. Inc. is the largest commercial glazing contractor in New England. Located within a 4 building complex in Rowley, MA thirty minutes north of Boston. Ipswich Bay Glass Co. Inc. currently has an immediate opening in their shipping and receiving dept. This position requires forklift experience. A current 2A-1C Mass Hoisting License is desirable but not required. Applicant must have good organizational skills and the ability to work well with others. Dependability and willingness to do whatever it takes to get the job done are a must. This Union position includes paid health insurance, retirement benefits, holidays and vacation. Hourly wage is based on experience. We have very strict policies on safety and attendance. Extended hours required are 7-5 Monday through Thursday, 7-3:30 on Friday, and 7-12 on Saturday, with more overtime currently available. Only serious inquiries need apply. Please forward all inquiries via e-mail to cjanvin@ibglass.com or via fax at 978-948-2903.

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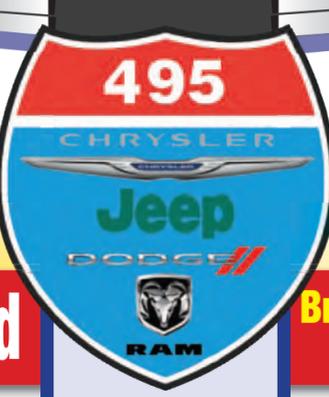
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NEW 2015 BMW 328i xDrive Sedan



\$349*

Lease for 39 months.

*Lease financing available on 2015 BMW 328i xDrive Sedan vehicles, only at participating BMW centers on leases assigned to BMW Financial Services NA, LLC/Financial Services Vehicle Trust through November 2014. Lease/APR Credit, is a \$1000 Holiday Credit against the MSRP of the loan or lease on a 328i xDrive Sedan through November, 2014. Monthly Lease payments of \$349.00 for 39 months based on MSRP of \$42,550.00. \$3,000.00 down payment. Due at Signing: \$4074.00 10,000 mi /yr lease. Registration fees, taxes, Doc. Fee not included. Programs available to Qualified customers.

NEW 2015 BMW X1 xDrive28i



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Lease for 39 months.

*Lease financing available on 2015 X1 xDrive28i vehicles, only at participating BMW centers on leases assigned to BMW Financial Services NA, LLC/Financial Services Vehicle Trust through November, 2014. Lease/APR \$1000 Holiday Credit against the MSRP of a loan or lease on a 2015 X1 xDrive28i through November 2014 Monthly lease payments of \$299.00 for 39 months based on a MSRP of \$37,050.00. \$2,750.00 down payment. Due at Signing: \$3774.00 10,000 mi /yr lease. Registration fees, taxes, Doc. Fee not included. Programs available to Qualified customers.

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*Lease financing available on 2015 528i xDrive vehicles, only at participating BMW centers on leases assigned to BMW Financial Services NA, LLC/Financial Services Vehicle Trust through November 2014. Lease/APR \$2,000 Holiday Credit against the MSRP of a loan or lease on a 2015 528i xDrive through November 2014 Monthly lease payments of \$479.00 for 39 months based on a MSRP of \$55,200.00. \$3,000.00 down payment. Due at Signing: \$4,204.00 10,000 mi /yr lease. Registration fees, taxes, Doc. Fee not included. Programs available to Qualified customers.



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AQUARIUM TANK, 120 GALLONS; 1 year old, Black Wood cabinet. Glass hood, lights, Multi-filters, heater etc. Complete set up! Paid \$1500, \$500 FIRM! Call (978) 851-4467

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

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

BABY LOVE BIRD -

2 months old. Blue. \$50. Call Linda 978-764-1090

BLACK LAB PUPS - ready now, 1st shots health certificates \$650. Call (603) 642-8525; 603-583-9359

BLUE PERSIAN CAT - female, 4 yrs old. Retired CFA show kitty! Good home, needs spaying. \$300. Call (978) 851-4467

COCKER SPANIEL PUPPIES - 3 male, 2 female. Blue eyed Chocolate. All vet checked. Ready to go Nov 17th! \$800 each. (978) 204-0523

GERMAN SHEPARD PUPS Quality Large boned. Parents on premises very friendly, shots, vet checked. \$700 & up. Call 603-435-9344

GOLDEN DOODLE/GOLDEN BERNESE Beautiful Puppies w/wonderful temperaments. Gold \$500 or Black \$400, all w/ white markings, i.e. blaze. Parents are our pets. Ready 12/1. 603-560-4990

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



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SHIH-TZU PUPPIES - Beautiful males, black/white. Heath certificate & shots \$500. 603-923-5660. seashore1946@aol.com

SHIT-TZU/Japanese Chin Female 14 wks, tri-color. Hypo allergenic, sweet disposition. Shots/worming \$700. 207-858-5697/978-297-4776

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POOL - 21-foot round 5-feet deep, excellent condition. Needs liner. New cover and filter motor. Many supplies included. \$500. In Danvers. Call Mike (978) 375-7220

Legals

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF HEARING

A public hearing will be held at Conference Room A, 3rd floor, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., Andover, MA on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. on the petition of Michael Beirne, 14 Bartlet St., Andover, MA for a special permit pursuant to Art. VIII, §3.3.5 &/or for a variance from the requirements of Art. VIII, §4.1.2 construct a rear deck that will not meet the minimum rear or side yard depth requirements.

Premises affected are located at 14 Bartlet St., Andover, MA in an SRA District and are shown on Assessor Map 39 as Lot 106. The application may be viewed at the Board of Appeals office between 8:00 a.m., and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

DAVID W. BROWN, CHAIR BOARD OF APPEALS AT - 11/20, 11/27/14

Public Notice

In accordance with Massachusetts Special Education Regulations, the Andover Public School District is making every effort to identify children who may be entitled to an evaluation and specialized educational services. Children are eligible for such services until they receive a high school diploma or turn 22. Students who have received a GED or who have dropped out of school are also eligible to participate in a publicly funded special education evaluation. The child's town of residence (Andover) is responsible for conducting evaluations.

Should parents or children themselves (age 18 or above) have concerns about a child's ability to learn and suspect that a disability is interfering with the child's learning process, please contact the Student Services Office, 36 Bartlet Street, Andover, MA 01810, or call the office (978-623-8540). AT - 11/20/14

Public Notice

Merrimack Valley Reliability Project
LOCATION: Existing Transmission ROW in Towns of Tewksbury, Andover, and Dracut
PROPOSER: New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid
The undersigned is submitting an Environmental Notification Form ("ENF") to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs on or before November 17, 2014.
This will initiate review of the above project pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act ("MEPA", M.G.L. c. 30, s.s. 61-62). Copies of the ENF may be obtained from:
 Kate McEneaney, Vanessa Hangen Brustlin, Inc.
 101 Walnut Street, Watertown, MA 02472
 617-924-1770
Copies of the ENF are also being sent to the Conservation Commission and Planning Board of Tewksbury, Andover, Dracut where they may be inspected.
 The Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs will publish notice of the ENF in the Environmental Monitor, will receive public comments on the project for 20 days, and will then decide, within ten days, if an environmental Impact Report is needed. A site visit and consultation session on the project may also be scheduled. All persons wishing to comment on the project, or to be notified of a site visit or consultation session, should write to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office, referencing the above project.
 By New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid AT - 11/20/14

Services

ADULT CARE

AMESBURY - PCA for 41 yr. old high functioning special needs woman. Must be kind, patient, non smoker, have car. Mon 4 to 8 pm possible additional hrs. 978-388-7138

Visiting Angels

LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES

ATTENTION: CNA's, LNA's, HHA's

Visiting Angels - Newburyport is looking for qualified caregivers to join our team. Come work for the most recognized and respected name in Senior Homecare. Competitive Salary, weekend differential, benefits paid mileage 978-462-6161

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First Run

PCA NEEDED: Lawrence MA area. Temp-Perm. Heavy lifting involved. Must be available every other weekend & fill-ins during the week, and have drivers license. Call 978-683-7437 Between Tues - Fri. 9am-2pm

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Doing homecare in our Andover home for an amazing individual, our son!
 10 hr. shift 7am to 5pm 3 days a week Tues., Wed. & Thurs. Excellent salary. Must have M.H. provider number, or be willing to acquire from MA Health. We prefer experience in homecare, reliable. This is a long term P/T position. Only qualified inquiries please. Phone days, 617-287-5264

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SOCIAL WORKER, Physical Therapist, Home Health Aide, CNA's & Case Manager wanted. (781) 968-5502. www.twinhomecare.com

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Legals

Notice of Public Sale

Notice is hereby given by Elm Street Automotive of 9 Lupine Road, Andover, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass General Laws, Chapter 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after November 28, 2014 by private sale to satisfy their garage keeper's lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

- 2005 Toyota Avalon VIN# 4T1BK36BXU024315
- 2004 Honda Accord VIN# 1HGCM816X4A004819

Vehicles are being stored at Elm Street Automotive and may be inspected by appointment only. Signed, Ron Abraham, Owner Elm Street Automotive AT - 11/13, 11/20, 11/27/14

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Legals

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF HEARING

A public hearing will be held at Conference Room A, 3rd floor, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., Andover, MA on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. on the petition of Brian Blondin, 408 Lowell St., Andover, MA for a special permit pursuant to Art. VIII, §3.3.5 &/or for a variance from the requirements of Art. VIII, §4.1.2 remove & reconstruct an attached garage that will not meet the minimum front yard depth requirement.

Premises affected are located at 408 Lowell St., Andover, MA in an SRC District and are shown on Assessor Map 198 as Lot 18A. The application may be viewed at the Board of Appeals office between 8:00 a.m., and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

DAVID W. BROWN, CHAIR BOARD OF APPEALS AT - 11/20, 11/27/14

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 100 Morton Street, Andover, MA 01810
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Jobs-General

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TSR Misfits, Valley Patriots win co-ed softball titles

The Department of Community Services crowned its Adult Co-ed Fall Softball League champions last month with the TSR Misfits and Valley Patriots earning bragging rights for the 2014 season.

In the American Division final, the TSR Misfits faced the defending champion Cladagh Shockers in game three after pulling out a one-run win the previous game.

The game was tied 5 to 5 after five innings, when the Misfits scored three runs with a big two-out rally at the top of the sixth to take the lead. The Shockers put on a final charge, scoring two runs in the bottom of the seventh to make it 8-7. But the Shockers failed to tally the tying run, and the TSR Misfits claimed the title, becoming the first team to knock off the Shockers in the finals since the start of fall softball in town.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Adult Co-ed Fall Softball League 2014 American League champions the TSR Misfits included, back row, from left, Phil Smith and Jim Landry; middle row, from left, Brian Landry, Angela "Jelly" Rotsart, Scott Bernard, Nicki (Hines) Peluso, Dan Evans, Shelly Tetreault, Pat Harrington and Angela Andrews; and front row, from left, Mike Russo, Angel Rodriguez, Jeff Marshall and Brenden McCarthy.

In the National Division finals, the Valley Patriots took the opening game against the Park Street Fugitives, 7-6.

In game two, the Patriots got out to a large early lead, but the Fugitives kept chipping away to come within one

run, 16 to 15, after six innings. The Fugitives then scored twice in the top of the seventh to take a 17 to 16 lead. The

Patriots then answered with the tying run in the bottom of the seventh, sending the game into extra innings.

After holding the Fugitives in the top of the eighth, the Patriots got runners on first and second with one out. On a ground ball to deep short, the ball went to second base for the force out. But the runner from second never stopped running and the throw home was not in time, giving the Valley Patriots the win and securing them the National Division championship.

For more information on the Department of Community Services' Adult Co-ed Softball League, call 978-623-8385 or visit http://andoverdc.com/adult/softball/info_page.

—Recap submitted by Bill Letourneau

COMMUNITY SCOREBOARD

Cooke nets Star of Game honors

Andover's Kelly Cooke received Star of the Game honors as the Boston Blades defeated the Montreal Stars 2-0 in their Canadian Women's Hockey League opener last month at Desmarreau Arena in Montreal.

Cooke, a 5-foot-1 forward, attended Noble and Greenough School in Dedham and played for Assabet Valley prior to going on to Princeton University in New Jersey, where she was a member of the class of 2013.

Cooke scored at 14:34 of the first period, assisted by Ashley Cottrell (Providence College) and Blake Bolden (Boston College).

Dempsey named Player of Week

Andover native Thomas Dempsey, quarterback for the Ithaca College football team in New York, was named Empire 8 Offensive Player of the Week for the week of Oct. 25 after leading his team to a 32-7 win over Salisbury University in Maryland.

Dempsey passed for 320

yards and three touchdowns, completing 26 of 37 passes with no interceptions. He connected with seven different receivers, and six of them had multiple receptions. His touchdown passes covered 37, 30 and 15 yards.

With the performance, Dempsey moved up to sixth in Ithaca College's record book in career passing yards. As of Oct. 25, he had 3,579 passing yards and became the first quarterback in Ithaca program history to pass for 300 or more yards in three consecutive games.



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo

Andover's Azita Bakhtyari and her teammate celebrate their North title win and second trip to the state title championship in program history after their win over Natick

VOLLEYBALL

Continued from Page 18

"It was just amazing," co-captain Azita Bakhtyari said. "We lost in the Division 1 semi-finals each of the last two years and in the North finals when I was a freshman, so I feel like we broke the curse. I can't even describe how amazing it is. It's a burden off of our shoulders. It's just out of this world!"

The victory earned the Golden Warriors their first trip to the state championship game since the 2005 season, when they fell to perennial powerhouse Barnstable. That was Andover's first trip to the finals in program history, according to 27-year head coach George Sullivan, who now works as a volunteer assistant.

"I was crying I was so happy," said emotional star Maddy Reppucci, who led the team with four blocks and tied for the lead with seven kills. "This is the best moment of my life. To finally make this last step is incredible. We weren't overconfident, but we were excited and we felt like we were ready. Everyone just stepped up and was amazing."

Wyllie Boughton gave the Warriors the momentum in the first set, Bakhtyari scored a point with an acrobatic over-the-head hit, and Amy Stankiewicz closed out the first 25-17.

"I think we just needed to shake off the nerves," said Bakhtyari, who had team-highs in assists (24) and digs (12). "Once the points started falling, we started to feel very confident and very relaxed."

Now in the groove, Andover flexed its muscle in a big way in the second set. With Boughton serving, the Warriors scored 11 straight points to take a dominant advantage and finished off a 25-9 win.

"We were so ready to go in the second set," Kennedy said. "We just needed a little while to calm down and get over that it was the state semi-finals. Once we did that, we weren't going to let anything happen to allow this to get away."

Natick showed a little life in the third set, taking a 6-2 advantage. But Reppucci scored kills in three straight volleys, and from there, the Warriors never looked back.

"It was like having an out-of-body experience," Bergin said. "It really was."

Just short in the finals

The title, however, would prove just outside of Andover's grasp, as the Warriors fell to Newton North 12-25, 25-21, 20-25, 25-12, 15-10 this past Saturday.

"We fell apart a little bit," said Bergin, who was head coach for 25 years at Lexington High. "To lead like we did in the fourth game and then to break down the way we did, that hurts. I feel for the girls. They played so good early on."

"Maybe Newton North thought they were going to have an easier time. But it got away from us in the fourth and fifth game and we never got it back."

Bakhtyari and Kennedy continued their dominant seasons, while Boughton and Reppucci each also starred at the net.

"My two captains are two special players," Bergin said. "Azita gave us so many opportunities to put the ball away and Mackenzie made a few incredible digs. I can't say enough about them. They were great leaders for our program. We are going to miss them."

SWIMMING

Continued from Page 18

last lap of my 500," Murtagh said. "Just knowing she really wants us to win and all she's been through."

Murtagh certainly delivered, winning the 500 freestyle in 5:07.88.

"Being a team player, she would have done anything I asked," Fitzgerald said. "But that is her premier event. I wanted her to have the opportunity as a senior to win it."

But Murtagh was just one of the many stars for the Warriors on the night.

In the same event, Shannon Fitzsimmons placed fourth despite swimming the 500 freestyle just once all season, while Murtagh's sister, Caroline Murtagh, was right behind in fifth and Jenna Bukowski took eighth place.

"They just did such great work, especially in that 500," Fitzgerald said. "In one of our events, we had a freshman, sophomore, junior and senior. To me, that said everything about the depth of the team that we had it spread out like that. One of our backstrokers came from the first heat and ended up scoring top eight. So it just was an emotional day for me."

Other top finishers included Fitzsimmons with a fourth in the 100 breaststroke, Rachel Landry with a fourth in the 200 IM, Sophie Ju fourth in the 50 freestyle and Anna Carroll fourth in the 100 butterfly.

The relay teams also starred, with the 200 freestyle relay (Morgan Starkweather, Melissa Zhang, Ju, Landry) also finishing fourth and the 200 medley relay (Jenna Manning, Shannon Fitzsimmons, Nikole Rudis, Nara Norgil) taking fifth.

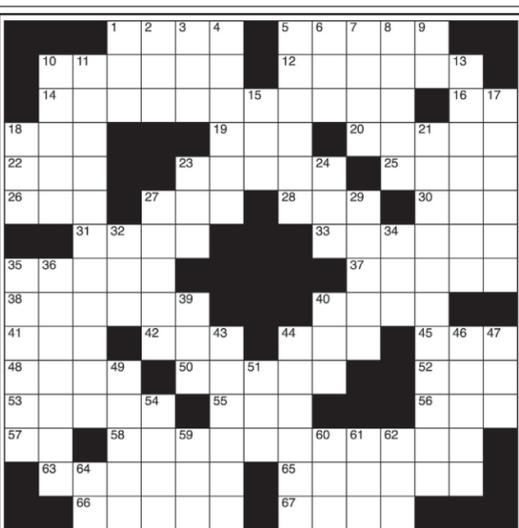
"So many kids stepped up," Fitzgerald said. "The relays were terrific. So many kids posted career-best times. I didn't know if they could do better than they did a week ago (at North Sectionals), but

they were amazing. They came back and swam even faster."

When the Golden Warriors returned to Andover after the meet, they were met by their traditional celebration that packed the town square in Andover, complete with a DJ playing Queen's "We are the Champions."

"I honestly believe that is the biggest crowd we have ever had," Fitzgerald said. "The feeling is just amazing. Once I posted the news on Facebook, almost every single former athlete had liked it."

"The DJ was playing music and the kids were dancing in the town center. It was a great night."



CLUES ACROSS

1. A sleeveless garment
5. Cold vegetable dish
10. Believed to bring good luck
12. Shittah tree
14. Hotel heiress
16. Of I
18. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
19. ___ King Cole, musician
20. Passover ceremony
22. ___ ft. space genre
23. Yearned
25. Desperate
26. Corded fabric
27. London radio station
28. Digital audiotape
30. Licenses TV stations
31. Employs
33. Food bar
35. Bigeye shad genus

Solution in Classified Section

37. Hog fats
38. Spoke
40. Moss capsule stalk
41. Openwork fabric
42. Chit
44. Holds for use
45. Ed Murrow's home
48. Egyptian god of life
50. Shaped into a sphere
52. Golfing stand
53. Red Sea straits
55. Swiss river
56. Hostelry
57. Indicates position
58. Inoculation
63. Slip by
65. Apple smartphone
66. Sheep cries
67. Affirmatives

CLUES DOWN

1. An inferior dog
2. 4th Caliph of Islam
3. Foot (Latin)
4. Relating to a people
5. Added sodium chloride
6. Perform something
7. Vientiane is the capital
8. Blemished
9. Roman 501
10. Keep up
11. Operator
13. Arbitrarily punished
15. 007's creator
17. Gets up
18. Used to be United ___
21. Optical phenomenon of light waves
23. People supported broadcasting
24. Tap gently
27. With no brim or bill
29. Bulrushes

32. Educational test
34. Overweight
35. Musical composition
36. A religious recluse
39. Alt. of Tao
40. Heavenly hearted
43. Brit. suspenders
44. Bodily structure protrusion
46. Sesame
47. 1/100 yen
49. About navy
51. Dali language
54. Celery cabbage
59. Winter time in Chicago
60. Annual percentage yield
61. Definite article
62. Operating system for 65 across
64. Pound (abbr.)

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly sunny	Sunny and colder	Sunshine and cold	Cloudy and milder	Warmer	Clouds and sun	A little rain
High: 42° Low: 24°	High: 36° Low: 22°	High: 37° Low: 29°	High: 50° Low: 41°	High: 60° Low: 46°	High: 54° Low: 31°	High: 42° Low: 25°

A new pediatric specialty center has landed in Lawrence.

TogetherForHealthyKids.com

Lawrence General Hospital
Florence Hospital for Children
Tufts University

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

The following real estate transfers were recorded recently in town:

- **16 Balmoral St., Unit 116:** Todd S. Collins to R.S. Parrish and Kristina Grothaus-Parrish, \$181,000
- **9 Belknap Drive:** Richard C. and Sandra M. Christopher to Kun Qian and Jing Wang, \$848,000
- **5 Cameron Road:** Sergey and

- Olga Dolinsky to Glenn and Mayrose Ouyang, \$642,500
- **35 Dascomb Road:** Jorge A. and Susan C. Schwarz to John M. and Sarah Ham, \$525,000
- **4 Hillcrest Road:** Frances Y. Wheeler to Shereen Escovitz, \$240,500
- **81 Laconia Circle:** Robert G. and Christine M. King to Tamara Chase, \$563,500
- **48 Prospect Road:** David

- L. and Joanne M. Shorey to Justin and Christina Baker, \$492,500
- **1 Reservation Road, Unit 3:** Michael C. Gillis to Dorothy M. MacLeod, \$355,000
- **13 Samos Lane:** American Real Estate Dev. LLC to Todd S. and Michelle Collins, \$530,000
- **20 Sherbourne St.:** Union Park Investments LLC to

- Michael J. Jordan and Katie E. Halas, \$440,000
- **38 Sunset Rock Road:** Corville RT and Yvon Cormier to Richard C. and Sandra M. Christopher, \$1,220,000
- **2 Sutton Way:** Qing Wang and Wenjun Chen to Danny and Yin F. Siu, \$655,000
- **6 Wescott Road:** Tamara C. Sciascia to Andrea T. and John A. Cote, \$959,900

Town census ready for January mailing

The annual town census will be mailed to residents at the beginning of January. Anyone who is leaving town for an extended period of time and at risk for not receiving the census in January should contact the town clerk's office at 978-623-8255 so that they will not be dropped from the voter or census rolls.

All registered voters must return the census each year to remain on the voter rolls, per state law. Non-registered voters are also required to return the annual census. The information is commonly used to verify a person's residency for public school admittance, military benefits and in-state tuition reductions.

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<p>NORTH ANDOVER</p> <p>Paul Annaloro 548 Forest Street 978-204-7899 paulannaloro@remax.net \$529,900</p>	<p>NORTH ANDOVER</p> <p>Rick Coco 40 Belmont Street 978-482-3905 rcoco@remax.net \$399,900</p>	<p>ANDOVER</p> <p>Sharon Coskren 2 Shandel Circle 978-835-7804 sharonc@andoverhomesales.com \$1,590,000</p>	<p>NORTH ANDOVER</p> <p>Nancy Dowling 70 Farrwood Dr. #8 978-314-4003 nancydowling@remax.net \$107,900</p>	<p>HAVERHILL</p> <p>Marilyn Ellis 27 Hartwood Drive 978-618-8277 marilynellis@remax.net \$309,900</p>
<p>Todd Finn Free over-the-net home evaluation at 978-836-9106 Todd@ToddFinn.com ToddFinn.com</p>	<p>NORTH ANDOVER</p> <p>Cheryl Foster 160 Hickory Hill Road 617-335-4369 cherylfofoster@remax.net \$589,900</p>	<p>ANDOVER</p> <p>Heather Moody Holman 28 Kathleen Drive 978-500-0626 Heather@HeatherHolman.com \$649,999</p>	<p>SOLD / MIDDLETON</p> <p>Catherine Hubbard 26 Maytum Way 978-500-3276 Catherine@hubbardhomes.biz</p>	<p>Whether buying or selling, call me for all your real estate needs.</p> <p>Terry McQuade 978-771-0972 tmcquade@andoverhomesales.com</p>
<p>If you are looking to buy or sell, choose the expert with the knowledge, experience and insight that you will need to reach your goal. Call me today!</p> <p>Jackie Morgan 978-490-4394 jmorgan1@remax.net</p>	<p>THE KEY TO FINDING YOUR NEW HOME...</p> <p>AndoverResidential.com Tony Salerno 978-828-7642 Helping Buyers & Sellers Move On</p>	<p>SOLD / ANDOVER</p> <p>Christopher Sciacca 13 Samos Lane 978-314-6934 Sciacca1@comcast.net</p>	<p>ANDOVER</p> <p>Krystal Solimine 24 Stoneybrook Circle 978-482-3673 krystal_solimine@verizon.net \$869,900</p>	<p>PENDING / ANDOVER</p> <p>Paulette Zuena 20 Windemere Dr. 978-697-1097 paulette@yourpaulette.com \$750,000</p>

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