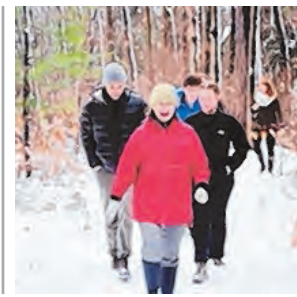


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OUR 127<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

# Andover Townsman

Issue No. 12

JANUARY 22, 2015

75 CENTS

## THE NEXT CHAPTER



AMY SWEENEY/Staff photo

Departing state Sen. Barry Finegold reflects on his last days in public office from inside his law practice on Essex Street in Andover.

### Finegold says community service won't end with 20-year political career

By BILL KIRK  
bkirk@andovertownsman.com

Growing up, Barry Finegold said he was always good at two things: arguing and playing Monopoly. For the last 20 years, Finegold has spent much of his time arguing.

At the age of 24, he argued on behalf of his constituents as a selectman in Andover from 1994 to 1996.

Elected as a Democratic state representative in 1996, he fought for the voters of the 17th Essex District, comprised of Andover, Tewksbury and Lawrence, for the next 15

years. Next, as a state senator, he went to bat for voters in the four communities of the 2nd Essex and Middlesex District for another four years.

Last year, he was ready to fight for all Massachusetts taxpayers as state treasurer, but he lost the election to a

well-funded opponent. Now, he says, it's time to focus on his other passion — monopoly.

As a successful real estate lawyer, Finegold has already put together an impressive portfolio of properties in Andover that he either owns

See FINEGOLD, Page 2

## Drug counselor hiring begins

### Delay surrounding new position questioned as heroin cases on the rise

By BILL KIRK  
bkirk@andovertownsman.com

Nearly eight months after funding was approved by Town Meeting for a new youth services counselor who would focus on drug abuse issues, the position has still not been filled.

This weekend, a help wanted ad will be posted for the job of youth services outreach worker who will, among numerous other duties, "provide assistance to, and/or refer troubled adolescents and their families to appropriate community resources and services."

The job posting comes on the heels of the suspected heroin overdose death of an 18-year-old Andover girl on New Year's Day.

The delay in the hiring of the new employee at Andover Youth Services had some people scratching their heads last week.

"We approved it and Town Meeting approved it" last year, said Alex Vispoli, a member of the Board of Selectman who was the panel's chairman at the time. "I asked (Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski) about it last week — what is the status of this hire. He said he would get back to us. We've all got the same question."

Selectman Mary O'Donoghue, who voted against funding for the position last spring

See COUNSELOR, Page 6

## School Committee stands by McGrath

### Questions on AHS principal's departure raised

By TIM LIMA  
tlima@andovertownsman.com

The School Committee last week defended Superintendent Marinel McGrath amid lingering questions surrounding the departure of former Andover High School Principal Christopher Lord.

In response to one resident's questions about how informed the School Committee was about the details of Lord's resignation last month, members stood by the superintendent in her handling of the matter.

"You're free to draw whatever conclusions you'd like about superstitious circumstances in the middle of the night if you'd wish, but I do want to just

say that I take exception to the notion that (McGrath) is stonewalling this School Committee," Gilbert told Cherrywood Road resident Bob Pokress.

Little information has been publicly released about what led Lord to depart the high school mid-semester, with about six months left on his first three-year contract with the district. In a statement released by McGrath on Dec. 5, Lord said he was leaving "to pursue another career opportunity," though no new position has been revealed.

School Committee members have said they didn't know about Lord's plans to

See SCHOOL, Page 3



PAUL BILODEAU/Staff photo

Joe and Louise Ponti, who recently traded their larger house for one half its size, reflect Andover's fast-growing senior population. He is leading a seminar on the ins and outs of downsizing as part of a BoomerVenture series for the 60-plus generation in town.

## The downsizing trend

### Residents learning less is more as they age

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
jwakefield@andovertownsman.com

Accommodating seniors in Andover as they age is a hot-button issue in town these days.

Two large-scale assisted-living projects are currently on the table — one for a former farm on Lowell Street and another for an expansive tract on Elm Street that abuts a residential neighborhood.

Both projects are

encountering opposition from neighbors, who argue the locations for the project are wrong.

Some residents are even questioning the need for more senior housing in Andover.

But Kathy Urquhart, director of The Center at Punchard, says the numbers show otherwise.

The growing discussion on

See TREND, Page 3

## Affordable housing project clears hurdle

By BILL KIRK  
bkirk@andovertownsman.com

Another huge, affordable housing project is looming on the horizon for Andover.

Four towers containing nearly 250 "garden-style" apartments are set to be

erected in the midst of an office and industrial park at 30 Shattuck Road.

The Lodge at Andover, as it's been called, was first proposed in 2011 as a Chapter 40B affordable housing project. A permit for the project was originally rejected by the Zoning Board

of Appeals in 2012.

The developer, Hanover Properties of Boston and Houston, appealed that rejection to the Mass. Housing Appeals Court, which overturned the ZBA rejection a year or so later. The ZBA, under orders from the court, then approved

the project early last year.

However, five nearby businesses, led by Eisai Pharmaceuticals, appealed that decision to Suffolk Superior Court. On Jan. 2, that appeal was dismissed.

See COMPLEX, Page 3

## Celebrating MLK's dream

Dr. Melinda Boone, superintendent of the Worcester Public School system, delivers the keynote speech during the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration Monday at Andover Baptist Church. This year's theme was "Rise Up! And Restore the Dream! Building Communities and Bridges Together." Stories, more photos, page 16.

RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo



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# FINEGOLD

Continued from Page 1

or co-owns with business partners. Most recently, he and his partners announced a multi-million-dollar upgrade of Old Andover Village, now Andover Village Square.

He owns other properties downtown, including the historic Musgrove Building on Post Office Avenue and two office buildings at 26 and 34 Essex St. He is also part-owner of a business condo at 1 Elm Square. In addition, he owns a unit in Balmoral Condos and lives with his wife, Amy, and their two daughters at 42 Stirling St.

Aside from his work on behalf of Andover voters over the years, the 43-year-old Finegold will continue to have an impact on the streetscape of the community for years to come, as restaurant tenants like Brasserie 28 provide outside dining during warm weather months and Andover Village Square opens an outdoor plaza, among other amenities.

"I'm someone who wants to improve the downtown," he said. "It's a thrill."

### Growing up Barry

Where he got the arguing or Monopoly gene is hard to figure.

Finegold was born in Norwood, spent his early years in Hyde Park, and moved to Tewksbury at the age of 2 and then Andover with his father, Michael, and mother, Sondra.

Both of his parents were educators — his mother teaching special education in the Andover school system for 33 years and his father a music teacher at Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill for three decades.

Finegold's parents raised a bevy of high-performers. His older sister, Joanie, worked as a foreign service officer at

the U.S. State Department in Washington, D.C., and taught at George Mason University.

His younger sister, Diana, was also drawn to the nation's capital, where she works at the National Institutes of Health after getting a master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University.

A proud brother, Finegold said Joanie at 22 was the youngest foreign service officer ever hired, while Diana is out "trying to make the world a healthier place."

Talking about his older sister, Joanie, who died two years ago from lung cancer, is still difficult for him, though. To this day, he said, he doesn't understand why she died.

"You don't understand. Joanie never smoked," he said. "She had lung cancer and never smoked. Why she had that, it's hard to understand and accept."

He added, "I ate all the same foods growing up. She didn't get the lucky straw and we're left trying to figure out why."

But it's also made him not take life for granted.

### Going local

Even before he had his own family, a thriving business and political successes — and even prior to earning his law degree, Finegold found his calling to elected office and public service.

"I was a year out of college," he said. "I wanted to get involved. My parents were teachers and the 'helping-people' gene is in our blood. I wanted to make a difference."

At the age of 23, he put together a campaign for the Andover Board of Selectmen with the support of five people, two of whom were his parents.

"No one gave me a chance," he said. "I took on two long-time incumbents — Gerry

Silverman and Charlie Wesson."

He ended up defeating 10-year incumbent Wesson and becoming the youngest selectman in Andover's history.

"It was hard work, knocking on doors, getting a lot of people out to the polls," he said. "I was 23 during the campaign, and I turned 24 in March. A week or two after my 24th birthday, I was a selectman."

He attributes his victory to the town's desire for something — or someone — different.

"At that point, the town was looking for a change and I represented that at that time," he said.

### State races

In 1996, a seat opened up for state legislator from the local district. Finegold went up against Jim Fox, a local man with seven sons, all of whom were out campaigning for their father.

"It was a tough race," Finegold said. "I felt like I had eight opponents. They were truly a wonderful family and it was a very competitive race, but we pulled it off."

He won Andover by just eight votes, but earned a wider margin in Lawrence.

Campaigning in Lawrence for the first time was a bit different from his experience in Andover.

"I found it challenging," he said. "There were a lot of elderly people, and me being Jewish, that was different. But once people got to know me, they liked what I had to say. And since then, I have come to love Lawrence."

Over the years, Lawrence would love him back, helping him win five more terms as a state representative and two as a senator.

### Early going

Finegold's passion for service — and his zeal for doing the right thing — sometimes got him into trouble.

Early in his tenure at the Statehouse, he took on the top boss in the House of Representatives — Tom Finneran. The Boston politician ruled with an iron fist, keeping his legislators in line by doling out the best committee assignments, and the swankiest offices, to his supporters, and relegating opponents to lesser committees and the least-comfortable accommodations.

That ended up being Finegold in 1998 when he took on Finneran because "I didn't like the way things were going."

"I paid a price," he said. "But that was the right thing to do — to take on the leadership. We tried to overthrow the speaker, but sometimes it's better to do the right thing."

"I'm still friends with Tom



AMY SWEENEY/Staff photo

As a property owner downtown, Barry Finegold says he wants to continue to play a role in shaping the community in the years to come.



FILE PHOTO

Barry Finegold thanked a large crowd of supporters at Palmers Restaurant and Tavern on Election Day in November 2010 after winning his first term as state senator. His wife, Amy, left; their daughter Ella, then 5; and his mother, Sondra, look on.

Finneran today. I have a lot of respect for him. But I felt things needed to be done differently in the state. And now, because of my effort, we have term limits on the speaker and Senate president. It was worth having that fight."

From 1998 to 2000, "my office was down in the basement and I was on terrible committees. When I was serving 15 years ago ... it was hard-ball politics. It was tough."

Undeterred, Finegold pressed on. "I've always had the philosophy, if you work hard every day and do what you think is right and treat everyone the same, you'll be OK," he said. "Besides, you are there to serve, not to be vindictive or bitter. You are there to serve the people."

Finegold said he's always been happiest when he could solve a problem.

"There was no problem too small. That's the public life. It's like golf — making that one good shot that keeps you coming back. You help one person, and you want to keep helping people," he said.

"It's never about fame, glory

or marching in parades. It's about helping people. That's always why I've wanted to serve. It's why I did what I did."

### Accomplishments

Despite his basement office near the elevator shaft and the Statehouse post office, Finegold said he was still an effective legislator.

He helped Andover through the difficulties of a "terrible trash contract" that was bleeding town coffers dry. "I got help in funding," he said.

Statewide, he was instrumental in the passage of the Safe Haven Bill, which allowed mothers to drop babies off at hospitals, police and fire stations or an emergency room for up to seven days after their birth without the mother facing criminal charges.

"It's the only bill I know that the pro-choice and pro-life community both supported," he said, adding that it has saved countless lives and led to scores of happy adoptions.

He loved helping constituents who came to him to solve seemingly intractable legal or personal problems, like the time he helped someone from

Andover get approval for free airline baggage checks for household and medical supplies destined for poor people in Guatemala.

His efforts on teen pregnancy also bore fruit, as the rates of teenage girls having babies have dropped dramatically, he said.

"There are less kids having kids than when I started," he said, noting that he worked with the Mass. Alliance for Teenage Pregnancy, the local Boys and Girls clubs and other groups to educate young people. "It's never been about abstinence and condoms. It's about making decisions, self-esteem and finding alternatives. We've had big success."

### What next?

While people constantly ask him what he's going to run for next, his answer is pretty simple:

"I enjoy being at the ice rink with my daughter, Ella, who is 9," he said. "She plays in the Andover Youth Hockey Association. She just started. I never played hockey growing up. She's pretty good. It's exciting."

He also enjoys spending time with his other children, Ava, 11, and Max, who is almost 3, and his wife, Amy, owner of the downtown women's clothing boutique dresscode at 2 Elm Square.

"There are a lot of things I want to do in the private sector," he said. "Who knows where my future may go. I'm not closing any doors."

One thing he knows for sure, however, is that Andover is "at a crossroads" both in the School Department, where a new high school principal is needed, and in the Town Offices, where selectmen are searching for the next town manager.

"There are some big challenges in this community," he said. "If I hold public office or not, I bleed blue and gold, the colors of Andover High. This town is near and dear to my heart and I'll always be active in the community."

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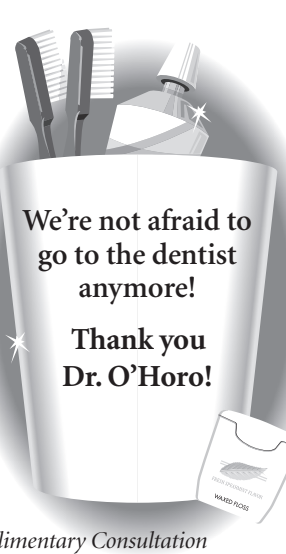
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# TREND

Continued from Page 1

senior housing mirrors the growth in the senior population nationally as people are simply living longer these days. And the increase in those over age 60 in Andover reflects the national trend.

The most recent census data for Andover shows a 27 percent increase in the town's senior population in the 10-year span from 2000 to 2010. That's higher than the statewide increase of 17 percent, said Kathy Urquhart, director of The Center at Puncard.

There were 5,045 Andover residents over 60 in 2000 and the number grew to 6,447 in 2010, Urquhart said. She added the numbers are expected to rise again when the next round of federal census data is released in five years in 2020.

Assisted living is not the right housing option for everyone. Many seniors report they just want to downsize into a smaller house and stay in town — ideally close to downtown. They

say the kids are gone and the upkeep of a big home with a big yard is costly and physically exhausting for those 60 and older.

But, staying in Andover is expensive and entering the fixed-income stage of life typically means one's purse strings are tighter as seniors enjoy a longer life expectancy.

"I hear it all of the time — they want to stay but can't afford it," Urquhart said. "What we need is affordable housing for seniors, but who wants to build that?"

The Center at Puncard is keeping the senior housing discussion on the table with two upcoming talks about downsizing geared to that 60-plus crowd.

Joe Ponti of Andover, a retired engineering manager who worked at Lucent for years, kicks off the series this Thursday night.

Ponti said it's all about having the right attitude and not being afraid to talk to loved ones about downsizing plans.

A very cheerful and eloquent man who would rather not share his age, Ponti has had double knee replacement

# LEARN MORE

## DOWNSIZING: THE AGONY AND THE ECSTASY

Thursday, Jan. 22, 6:45 p.m.: Andover resident and retiree Joe Ponti offers advice on approaching this transition with a step-by-step plan to make "the agony" manageable and "the ecstasy" worth it; \$5.

## DOWNSIZING TO RIGHTSIZING

Thursday, Jan. 29, 6:45 p.m. Julie Bernardin, of The Executor's Assistant, offers motivation and practical steps to begin the process of shedding possessions; \$5.

Both seminars take place at The Center at Puncard, 30 Whittier Court, Andover. They are open to the entire community, pending space. For more information, call 978-623-8321 or visit [www.andoverseniorcenter.org](http://www.andoverseniorcenter.org) for the complete BoomerVenture listings.

surgery, battles arthritis and has owned a second home in Maine. He and his wife, Louise, a local Realtor, raised their four children in a sizable house on Alden Road, near Phillips Academy. But when the kids moved out, they were left with a house and its accompanying tax bill that were too big.

"It was just too much ... it's a lot of work to keep a house up," he said.

For starters, the couple sold their second home in Maine and put their Andover home, where they had lived for 34 years, on the market.

We had so many memories ... We spent summers at the Maine house for years with the kids ... but we made our decision," he said. "I fought it at first, but we kept talking and eventually I realized that we had to do this."

When their house on Alden Road sold in less than two days in August 2013, the couple had nowhere to go. They had looked around, but hadn't found a small house in Andover.

"We wanted to stay in Andover. We wanted to be close to downtown, so we could walk to the library

and the shops," he said. "But there was nothing out there."

So they rented an apartment at Windsor Green on Lowell Street and put their furniture in storage. And waited.

"We asked everyone if they knew of a ranch-style house in town coming on the market," he said.

Finally, they heard from the elderly owner of a ranch on Marion Avenue who was planning to move. The home was never listed as the Ponti immediately put in an offer. This month marks the one-year anniversary of their signing the sales agreement for the ranch.

Ponti said the move cut their home expenses in half. They downsized from a 2,850-square-foot house on a 30,000-square-foot parcel to a 1,490-square-foot house on a 15,000-square-foot lot. As a result, their taxes have reduced from \$10,000 to \$5,000 and their annual heating costs have declined from \$5,000 previously paid for oil to \$2,500.

Ponti said he agreed to share his personal story about downsizing in Andover because he wants to help

others facing the same decisions as he and his wife worked through.

"I think a lot of people go through what we went through," he said, adding it took him about two years to finally decide to make the changes. "The object of the seminar is to raise questions. I've been through it and thought I could help someone by doing this."

Next week, Julie Bernardin, a career coach who runs The Executor's Assistant, keeps the discussion going. She will provide motivation and practical steps to begin the process of shedding possessions, and discuss what delaying or avoiding downsizing can mean for seniors and their families on Thursday, Jan. 22.

Both seminars are presented through The Center at Puncard's BoomerVenture series. BoomerVenture is an initiative to engage Andover's 50-plus population in a series of activities and events aimed at stimulating interests endemic to their generation and broadening their involvement not only with each other, but Andover as a whole.

# COMPLEX

Continued from Page 1

Hanover Properties spokesman David Hall said the company was happy with the decision.

"Hanover is eager to get going with the project whenever the litigation is completely resolved," Hall said, noting there is a 30-day appeal period. "We are waiting for the appeal period to expire."

Attorneys for the businesses that lost the appeal could not be reached to determine if they would be taking any further action.

Meanwhile, the same five companies have appealed the later Zoning Board decision to approve a comprehensive permit for the project, something the ZBA was required to do by the court. That case is still pending in Essex Superior Court.

## The proposal

According to documents filed with the Zoning Board of Appeals in the Town Offices, the Lodge at Andover would be similar to other Hanover projects, including one located in Foxborough.

It would have 248 one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments in four buildings, with 25 percent offered as affordable units.

Hall said the complex also would have a clubhouse building and a number of other interior amenities, including a fitness center, a movie theater room, a lounge area and a great room.

Market rate apartments will be competitive with another Chapter 40B project in Andover — Avalon Andover on River Road, where two-bedroom apartments start at just over \$1,900 a month.

At other 40B projects, similar affordable units go for around \$1,300 a month.

The site design would be "prominently oriented toward cars" with parking lots in front of each building, according to a 2012 document by the Community Opportunities Group, a Boston-based planning firm.

In addition, there would be landscaped areas, pedestrian pathways and a small tot lot.

According to the memorandum from the planning firm, the Lodge at Andover would have relatively narrow landscaped buffers between it and its industrial neighbors.

Because of its location on Shattuck Road, traffic going to and from companies on Shattuck Road will go right by the residential development.

At a meeting when the project was first proposed, a number of people raised concerns about how many children would be brought into the community, possibly putting pressure on area schools.

Hall said at the time the emphasis on the development was for smaller, one-bedroom units to limit the number of school-age children likely to live there.

"We're orienting the project toward smaller units, smaller households," Hall said. "We expect a very low generation rate in terms of school-aged children, because of that mix and because of the location."

## Neighborhood opposition

The project is located in the heart of an industrial and commercial part of town.

Shattuck Road, which is south of River Road across the intersection from Minuteman Road, is zoned industrial. The road and the area around it is filled with research and development companies like Eisai Inc., a Japanese

pharmaceutical company, and MKS Instruments, which makes advanced manufacturing products.

However, because the project carries a portion of affordable housing with it and came into town under the Chapter 40B program, local zoning laws can be bypassed to allow non-conforming uses.

The zoning board, which rules on 40B projects, initially objected to the project when it was first proposed because it was incongruous with the area and didn't meet the town's master plan, among other reasons.

Some of those local concerns ultimately stemmed from the other occupants of Shattuck Road.

After the zoning board's decision was overturned by the Housing Appeals Court last year, five local companies appealed the ruling to Suffolk Superior Court.

The companies included RREEF America REIT III Corp. Z1, which owns 1, 2 and 6 Tech Drive; Andover Five LLC, which owns 20 Shattuck Road; Philips Electronics North America, Inc., at 3000

Minuteman Road; MKS Instruments Inc., a tenant at 2 Tech Drive; and, Eisai Pharmaceutical, at 4 Corporate Drive.

Those companies claimed that the presence of an apartment complex could actually reduce their property values.

A vice president for asset management of RREEF America said the buildings it owns include numerous technology and manufacturing tenants that come and go 24 hours a day.

"We are concerned about our investment in the area," said Edward Reiss in a 2012 letter to the zoning board urging it to reject the application from Hanover.

"We believe the project would hurt the competitiveness of the entire area ... by injecting a use that may dissuade our tenants from remaining in our buildings or prospective users from coming here."

Reiss further said "a large residential project is simply not an attractive neighbor for us." He added that the area would require improvements more important to residential uses than commercial

industrial uses and that there would be "friction as a result of noise, traffic, lighting, fumes, etc."

Those objections, among others, were cited in the appeal. However, the Superior Court judge rejected their appeal, saying the Housing Appeals Court had it right by determining that the needs of affordable housing outweighed all other community needs.

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<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p>  <p><b>50 Colonial #9</b></p> <p>ANDOVER - COMPLETELY REMODELED! Move in ready! Stainless steel appliances, oak hardwood floors, tile bath, new vanity, new fixtures and glass shower door. This top floor corner unit has a balcony, 2 deeded parking spaces and spacious storage unit. Amenities include superb landscaping, pool with sundeck, tennis and basketball courts plus ample guest parking. Easy access to the 93 and downtown Andover! <b>\$175,500</b></p> <p><b>Ask for Navid Nickpour</b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p>  <p><b>26 Haverhill Street Unit B</b></p> <p>ANDOVER - Updated 3 bedroom Condo close to downtown Andover with easy access to Boston by MRTA bus, commuter rail and major highways. Main area has a living room, study, eat-in kitchen with island and pantry, large full bath, in-unit laundry and master retreat with walk-in closet and new slider to deck. Upper floor offers 2 large bedrooms. New windows and hot water heater, private yard and 2 deeded parking spaces. Great Value! <b>\$299,900</b></p> <p><b>Ask for Cathy Johnson</b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p>  <p><b>69 Hopkins Street</b></p> <p>READING - MOVE IN READY! Quick close possible in this updated 3/4 bedroom Cape with a great floor plan. Main floor has large eat-in kitchen, living room, master bedroom and home office that could be used as an additional bedroom, and hardwood floors in most rooms. Second floor has 2 bedrooms, large closets and hardwood floors. There is a finished walk-out lower level and lovely yard with outdoor shed for additional storage. <b>\$399,900</b></p> <p><b>Ask for Cathy Johnson</b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p>  <p><b>101 Prescott Street</b></p> <p>NORTH ANDOVER - CLASSIC NEW ENGLAND home with charm and character and craftsmanship! Spacious 2 story Bungalow has an inviting living room with built-in bookcase and open staircase. Kitchen is complete with cherry cabinets, granite countertops and a breakfast bar. Updates has 3 bedrooms with wood floors, plenty of storage and multiple closets. Enjoy the half acre, level fenced back yard. A truly special home! <b>\$450,000</b></p> <p><b>Ask for Erin Hill</b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p>  <p><b>412 Salem Street</b></p> <p>NORTH ANDOVER - SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE! Classic Country Cape with brand new kitchen, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances and soft close cabinets. Fireplaced living room has built-ins, wainscoting, chair rails, and crown molding. There are four spacious bedrooms and three brand new baths. Three season porch overlooks .86 acre private lot and 2 driveways. Prime location one mile to town common, old center and Sargent School. <b>\$619,900</b></p> <p><b>Ask for Maureen Heinze</b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p>  <p><b>340 Summer Street</b></p> <p>NORTH ANDOVER - LIVE NEAR THE OLD CENTER! Updated and upgraded Colonial with a "Pottery Barn" feel. Situated on a level acre - lot this home is located next to the Carlton Farms neighborhood. Bedrooms are generous. Updated gourmet kitchen opens to a fire placed family room. All baths have been redone with custom tile work. Many upgrades include newer roof, added central air, hardwood, repaired driveway and much more. <b>\$599,900</b></p> <p><b>Ask for Gretchen Papineau</b></p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p>  <p><b>13 Leah Way</b></p> <p>Enjoy the luxury of a brand new Condo that feels like a single family home with privacy and located within 1 mile (with sidewalks) to downtown Andover. Kitchen, living room and dining area (one large open area), master bedroom, luxurious master bath, laundry and guest half bath complete the first floor. Spacious fireplaced family room can accommodate all of your special gatherings. <b>\$729,900</b></p> <p><b>Ask for Carla Burns</b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p>  <p><b>362 Salem Street</b></p> <p>ANDOVER - CHARACTER, WARMTH AND PERSONALITY! 13 room home beautifully sited on "estate grounds." Central air, chef's kitchen, stainless steel appliances, cherry cabinets and granite with fireplaced breakfast room. Gorgeous wide pine floors throughout. 7 fireplaces, period moldings and custom accents. Updated baths, 4 bedrooms, home office, in-ground pool, potting shed, private terrace and 3 stall garage - a truly special property! <b>\$769,000</b></p> <p><b>Ask for Ann Marie Fogg</b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p>  <p><b>28 Willowdale Road</b></p> <p>TOPSFIELD - BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM CAPE - features over 3800 square feet with first floor master suite with walk-in closet and remodeled bathroom. There is also a second floor Master suite with walk-in closets and new bath. Flexible floor plan allows for an Au Pair/in-law set up. Entertain in the upscale eat-in kitchen or the family room with oversized stone fireplace or four season sunroom leading to a professionally landscaped backyard. <b>\$799,000</b></p> <p><b>Ask for Erin Hill</b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p>  <p><b>10 Glenore Circle</b></p> <p>NORTH ANDOVER - EXQUISITELY DESIGNED! Charlie Carroll built home in Berrington Estates, one mile to Old Center/Town Common. Meticulous 11/4/4.5 both Colonial has an eat-in kitchen with granite counters, upscale stainless steel appliances, 2 islands and French doors to magnificent landscaped 2.31 acre lot. Three season porch, Features include 9' ceilings, hardwood floors, spacious family room with fireplace and built-ins. <b>\$1,199,000</b></p> <p><b>Ask for Maureen Heinze</b></p> </div>
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# School vacancy to be filled Feb. 2

By TIM LIMA  
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

The Board of Selectmen and School Committee agreed Tuesday night to temporarily fill new state Sen. Barbara L'Italien's former school seat on Feb. 2.

A letter from the School Committee formally announcing the vacancy caused by L'Italien's departure was expected to be sent to selectmen on Wednesday. The opening then would be posted on the town's websites and in newspapers.

From there, prospective members will have seven calendar days to apply, until Jan. 28. Then, both boards will meet again on Tuesday,

Feb. 2 to jointly appoint a replacement. Preference will be given to candidates who have previously served on the School Committee.

That replacement will serve until the town election on March 24, at which time voters will elect a candidate to complete the one year remaining on L'Italien's term. The timetable works complies with strict state laws governing the filling of board vacancies.

When L'Italien vacated her School Committee seat effective Jan. 1 to assume her new role as state senator, the clock began ticking on the process to fill it.

By state law, the School Committee has 30 days after

a seat becomes vacant to send written notice to selectmen informing them of the opening.

Once the letter is submitted, a notification is published for people interested in applying for the post.

After seven days, selectmen and School Committee members would then meet in a joint session to appoint someone from the pool of candidates.

If the School Committee chose to not submit the letter, selectmen could appoint someone on their own.

At their meeting last Thursday, several School Committee members voiced reservations with filling the seat at all, given that the newest member would serve for less than two months.

They said it would be challenging to be brought up to speed in such short time.

"From a very practical standpoint, this doesn't make a lot of sense," School Committee member Joel Blumstein said last week.

"If we had the choice to not fill it, that would be my first choice."

Member David Birnbach said that if the seat does have to be filled, they should look for someone with previous School Committee experience. Selectmen concurred Tuesday night.

The two boards will reconvene on Monday, Feb. 2 at 7 p.m. in the second-floor conference room of the Town Offices Building, 36 Bartlet St., to vote on the new member.

## ■ POLICE LOG

COMPILED BY TIM LIMA  
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

### Monday, Jan. 12

#### Arrests

Aaron D. Dean-Ganek, 24, of 1 Deerfield Way, Andover, was arrested on Greenwood Road at 3:32 p.m. on warrant charges.

Alexander MacDonald, 25, of 79 Chestnut St., Andover, was arrested on North Main Street at 5:46 p.m. on warrant charges.

#### Incident

A caller from Boston Road reported that her house was egged by a white truck at 1:05 a.m.

#### Accidents

A 911 caller from Porter Road reported at 5:59 p.m. that a car slid off the road and into the trees, and then was hit by another car. No injuries were reported.

A 911 caller from Lowell Street reported a four-car crash with no injuries at 6:06 p.m.

### Tuesday, Jan. 13

#### Arrest

Shaun Thompkins, 36, of 14 Holly Road, Billerica, was arrested on Haverhill Street at 11:30 a.m. on a warrant charge.

#### Accidents

A caller from Lowell Street reported a two-car crash involving a black Jetta and silver Acura with no injuries at 7:18 a.m.

A caller from Shawsheen Road reported hitting a deer with his car at 6:43 p.m. There was no damage to the vehicle and officers were unable to locate the deer.

### Wednesday, Jan. 14

#### Incidents

A caller from Elm Street reported a package wrapped in yellow tape was on the sidewalk at 7:37 a.m. Responding officers reported it was an empty cardboard box, and not suspicious.

A caller from Colonial Drive reported at 8:41 a.m. that her

tires were slashed the night before.

A Scotland Drive resident reported at 12:18 that a squirrel was stuck in his bird feeder. Animal control freed the animal.

#### Accidents

Several callers reported a vehicle that left the roadway in Shawsheen Square. According to Commander Charles Hestline, one person was transported by the Fire Department to Lawrence General Hospital with a laceration after the individual's 2012 Honda Accord crossed the sidewalk and struck a stone wall and fencing at Wood Memorial Park.

A 911 caller from River Road reported a two-car crash with no injuries at 5:31 a.m.

A detail officer reported a two-car crash with no injuries in a Lowell Street parking lot at 7:05 a.m.

Officers reported a two-car crash with no injuries at North Main Street at 10:33 a.m.

A minor crash was reported on Main Street at 11:12 a.m.

A 911 caller from North Main Street reported a two-car crash with no injuries at 5:24 p.m.

### Thursday, Jan. 15

#### Incidents

A caller from Argilla Road reported that a house is in darkness, but that a light flashed when he drove by at 12:05 a.m. The caller said that the light did not flash until he drove by, and didn't know if someone needed help inside. Patrolman Sean O'Day said that it was a motion light, and the house is secure.

A resident of McKenney Circle called police at 2:28 p.m. to report that two white males in their 20s rang his doorbell and were selling carpet cleaner. After telling them to leave, one of the salesmen called him a terrorist. Officers checked the area, but did not find the men.

# Beefed-up Board of Registrars seeks member

By BILL KIRK  
bkirk@andovertownsmen.com

The Board of Registrars, a seemingly innocuous committee that has something to do with elections, has grown up.

The board, which assists with local elections, has been infused with new powers, thanks to a new state elections law, says Town Clerk Larry Murphy.

In the past, the board was supposedly in charge of registering voters, holding registration sessions and certifying signatures on nomination papers. In fact, much of that work was done by Murphy and his staff.

Now, however, the board has real power and real responsibility, including attending mandatory training sessions, organizing early

voting locations and possibly conducting random, state-mandated recounts.

Under the elections reform law, Murphy said, starting in 2016 the state will be allowing people to vote early — in real voting booths — at locations to be designated by cities or towns. The Board of Registrars will be responsible for identifying and setting up those locations, Murphy said.

In addition, while in the past only the town clerk was required to attend elections training sessions, now at least one member of the Board of Registrars must also attend.

Further, also starting next year, the state will be conducting mandatory audits — or recounts — of local election results in 3 percent of the state's precincts. While that

represents a small number of precincts throughout the state, if Andover is called, it will be the registrars who must conduct the recount under the watchful eyes of state elections officials.

"Under the new elections law, the responsibilities of the board have expanded greatly," Murphy said.

As a result of these expanded, potentially time-consuming tasks, one of the members of the board, Ronald Hajj, will be resigning his seat when his term expires March 31. Murphy said Hajj travels out of state a lot and knows that he won't be available to undertake the new duties of the board.

Murphy is now seeking a new registrar to take over as of April 1.

The four-member board is

comprised of Murphy as an ex-officio member, along with one Democrat, one Republican and one unenrolled member. Murphy, who is unenrolled, said he is reaching out to the town Republican and Democratic committees to nominate someone from their party. The new member can be either a Democrat or a Republican. Hajj was a Democrat.

The town committees have 45 days to respond with three nominations each. The Board of Selectmen will then choose the new member, who will serve for a three-year term. Murphy said the post carries a \$450 stipend.

The other two members are Republican William Downs, whose term expires in 2016, and Democrat Gerald Gustus, whose term expires in 2017.

# Lawyer indicted in nearly \$1M tax laundering scam

STAFF REPORTS

Andover native and attorney R. David Cohen, 63, was indicted last week on multiple federal charges after officials say he received nearly \$1 million in fraudulent tax refunds.

According to a release by U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz, Cohen and Francisco Oscar "Frank" Grullon, 48, who also lived in Andover at the time of the alleged crime, were indicted Jan. 13 on charges of conspiracy, conversion and receipt of stolen United States property, and conspiracy to commit money laundering.

While Cohen was previously arrested by complaint on Dec. 17, 2014, Grullon is currently

believed to be outside of the U.S. The charges they face carry a penalty of up to 35 years in prison.

Cohen and Grullon are alleged to have filed fraudulent tax returns with fictitious W-2 information, usually a name and social security number of a resident of Puerto Rico, whose residents are not required to file federal income tax returns.

"Once the fraudulent returns were accepted by the IRS, refund checks were sent to designated addresses in Lawrence, East Boston and New York controlled by his co-conspirators," the release reads.

Beginning in 2011, Cohen,

Grullon and another co-conspirator are alleged to have deposited 152 fraudulent tax refund checks totaling \$993,677 into various local banks to launder them through Cohen's "Interest On Lawyer's Trust Accounts" as well as through bank accounts in the name of AD Professional Association, Inc., according to the release.

The U.S. attorney's office says Cohen specialized in real estate closings in his law profession.

The charge of conspiracy provides a sentence of no greater than five years in prison, three years of supervised release, a fine of \$250,000 or twice the loss or gain from the offense. The charge of conversion and receipt of stolen U.S. property provides a sentence of no greater than 10 years in prison, three years of supervised release, a fine of \$250,000

or twice the loss or gain from the offense. The charge of money laundering provides a sentence of no greater than 20 years in prison, five years of supervised release, a fine of \$500,000 or twice the value of the property involved in the transaction.

Actual sentences for federal crimes are typically less than the maximum penalties, the release says. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Ortiz and William P. Offord, special agent in charge of the IRS' criminal investigation in Boston, made last week's announcement. The case was also investigated by the Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Secret Service. It is being prosecuted by S. Theodore Merritt of Ortiz's Public Corruption and Special Prosecutions Unit.

## ■ OBITUARIES

### Maurice L. Connors, 96

April 7, 1918 — January 15, 2015

ANDOVER — Maurice L. Connors, 96, of Andover, formerly of Wellesley and Lexington. Born in Pawcatuck, Conn., he died peacefully January 14, 2015, at home, surrounded by his family after a brief illness. He was the beloved husband of the late Agnes F. (Shanley) Connors. Born in Pawcatuck, he was the son of the late Timothy J. and Anna (Kelly) Connors, and brother of the late James Connors and Patricia M. (Connors) Curran.

He graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 1940 and was employed as a Mechanical Engineer for the U.S. Army Material Command at the Watertown Arsenal for 33 years. He was a Lieutenant in the United States Navy during WWII, serving as a Communications Officer on Admiral Chester Nimitz's staff at Pearl Harbor. He was always an avid vegetable gardener, prolific reader and letter-writer. He is survived by his son, Maurice Connors and his wife, Mary Frances of Holliston; and daughter, Anne P. Connors of Andover; and his brother, T. Joseph Connors and his wife, Betty, of Westerly, R.I. He was the proud grandfather of five: Kimberly Birch, Jennifer A.

Doherty, Alicia D. Hammond, Katherine Elderidge and Edward Connors, and the great-grandfather of six. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

**ARRANGEMENTS:** There were no calling hours, however, the family invited friends to St. Michael Church, 196 Main St., North Andover, preceding the Mass of Christian Burial, which was held on Tuesday, January 20, 2015, at 11:30 a.m. Burial immediately followed at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Lowell. In lieu of flowers, donations would be gratefully appreciated to Mr. Connors' childhood parish, St. Michael the Archangel Church, Restoration Fund, 60 Liberty St., Pawcatuck, CT 06379-1695, or to the Merrimack Valley Hospice, Home Health Foundation, Attn: External Relations, 360 Merrimack St., Building 9, Lawrence, MA 01843. The family extends their deep gratitude to the staff of Merrimack Valley Hospice for their kindness, caring, and support during the last several weeks. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the John Breen Memorial Funeral Home Inc., 35 Merrimack St., North Andover. For more information or to send an online condolence, please go to: www.breenfuneralhome.com.

### Mrs. Rosa (Toeper) Lutsch, 85 Years

February 5, 1929 — January 17, 2015

PELHAM, NH, FORMERLY OF ANDOVER, MA — Mrs. Rosa (Toeper) Lutsch, a resident of Pelham, N.H., and formerly of Andover, Mass., beloved wife of the late Mathias Lutsch, passed away at Caritas Holy Family Hospital in Methuen on Saturday evening, January 17, 2015. She was 85 years old.

Born in Romania, Rosa was the beloved daughter of the late Martin and Maria (Schneider) Toeper. She had worked as a Steam Presser and Seamstress for the House of Clean in Andover for many years. In her spare time, Rosa enjoyed crocheting, reading and spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Above all, she was a very devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She will be dearly missed.

She is survived by her loving daughter and son-in-law, Linda R. and her husband, Brian Clark of Pelham, NH.; grandchildren, Matthew Clark and his wife, Danielle, of Hudson, N.H., Kellie Burt and her husband, Scott, of Derry, N.H., Marcie Martellucci and her husband, Jarod, of Lawrence, Mass., and Keogh Lutsch of Andover, Mass.; seven great-grandchildren, Matthew Jr.,



Kennedy and Charlie Clark, Braydon and Cody Martellucci, and Olivia and Ethan Burt; two brothers, John Toeper and his wife, Maria, of Rochester, N.Y., and Martin Toeper of Zellwood, Fla. She was also the mother of the late Helmut Lutsch.

**ARRANGEMENTS:** Her funeral service will be celebrated in Burke-Maglioizzi Funeral Home, 390 North Main Street, Andover, on Wednesday, January 21st, at 11 a.m. Visitation will be held prior to the service, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Interment will be in Spring Grove Cemetery, Andover. For additional information, please visit www.burkemaglioizzi.com.

### John H. Gearin, Jr., 84

November 13, 1930 — January 18, 2015

SOUTH YARMOUTH, MA — John Harold "Jack" Gearin, Jr., 84, of Thirwood Place, South Yarmouth, Mass., formerly of Andover, Mass., and Indianapolis, Ind., passed away at his residence on January 18, 2015, surrounded by family.

He is survived by his spouse of 60 years, Mary Lou (Cheney) Gearin; three children and their spouses, John Michael Gearin and wife, Maureen O'Brien Gearin of Cincinnati, Ohio, Ellen Sebaskey and husband, Gregory Sebaskey of Andover, Mass., John Paul Gearin and wife, Mary Ann (Ogg) Gearin of Berlin, N.J. He was also a loving grandfather to Carolyn, Kristen and Megan Sebaskey, Kathleen O'Brien Deutsch, John O'Brien Gearin, Alycia Gearin, Molly O'Brien Gearin, Brendan Gearin, and great-grandson, Justin John Gearin. He is also survived by his sister, Elizabeth Finacom of Shrewsbury.

Jack was born on November 13, 1930, to John and Lillian (Callahan) Gearin of Worcester, Mass.

Jack spent his early days in Worcester, dreaming of becoming an engineer and attending Classical High where he quarterbacked the football team, ran cross country, was a top student, and met his future wife. He graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute as an Electrical Engineer. In 1954, he married, and joined the Navy, and served overseas as an Ensign on the USS Pickering. After his return, he joined Western Electric where he enjoyed a long and storied career,

retiring in 1987, finishing his career at NJIT (NJ Institute of Technology). He moved to Cape Cod in 1992, and enjoyed many years of active retired life in the place where he and "ML" most wanted to be.

Jack loved to play golf, sing (with Thirwood Singers) spend time with family, serve his community (in many roles such as mentoring students at WPI, funding the Jacob Sears Library and heading the Thirwood Scholarship Fund), and tinker with cars and electronics.

The family greatly appreciates the compassionate and professional staff at the Thirwood Place, McCarthy Pain Center, Hope Hospice, and Companion Care who provided such wonderful care and comfort to him, especially during the past few months.

**ARRANGEMENTS:** Visiting hours were held on Wednesday, January 21, 2015, from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Hallett Funeral Home, 273 Station Ave., South Yarmouth.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Thursday, January 22, at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of the Cape Parish, 468 Stony Brook Road, Brewster. The following day, a private burial will be held at St. John Cemetery in Worcester, Mass., where he will be laid to rest at the Gearin/Finacom family plot.

In lieu of flowers, donations to Jack's memory may be made to: The Thirwood Place Scholarship Fund, 237 No. Main St., South Yarmouth, MA 02660; or Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, SW Ohio Chapter, 8050 Hosbrook Road, Suite 314, Cincinnati OH 45236.

More information available at www.hallettfuneralhome.com.

## Your Dental HEALTH

by Nicholas T. Papapetros, DMD, FAGD

### EXTRA TEETH?

While peering into their youngsters' mouths, some parents may be convinced that their children are sprouting an extra set of teeth. Although the "extra row" of upper/lower teeth usually turns out to be permanent teeth erupting behind the baby teeth, there are cases in which patients will have extra ("supernumerary") teeth erupt. These unusual teeth are typically located in the middle of the upper jaw near the nasal area. Treatment is straightforward in cases where the root of the extra tooth is small. The patient can be referred to an oral surgeon, who can simply extract the extra tooth. The other place where extra teeth are typically found is in the area of the third molars.

Left untreated, extra teeth can cause potentially serious issues, including crowding.

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P.S. After maxillary incisors, maxillary and mandibular (lower arch) fourth molars are the next most common supernumerary teeth.

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# Unexpected delivery

## 88 gallons of oil mistakenly pumped into South Main Street basement

By TIM LIMA  
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

With oil prices what they are, most homeowners would welcome a free delivery.

That is, of course, if they heat their home with oil. Or have an oil tank at all.

Unfortunately, Sarah Antezak's house at 469 South Main St. did not — a fact that an employee for Haffner's Oil Company was unaware of when he showed up last week to make a delivery.

The employee mistakenly pumped 88 gallons of home heating oil into the basement of Antezak's home before an astute neighbor who was actually waiting for an oil delivery himself could signal him to stop.

"I've lived in this home my whole life, and I can't remember ever having oil," Antezak said.

Antezak's heating system was converted from oil to natural gas more than three decades ago, she said. However, while the oil tank was removed, the connecting pipe was left in place.

So when the Haffner's employee arrived on Jan. 14, he mistook Antezak's home for her neighbor's address, and simply hooked up the oil hose to her pipe. It's just that the oil had no tank to flow into.

Alfred Cavallaro of 470 South Main St. said he immediately realized something was wrong when he saw the company at Antezak's house across the street.

"I hollered across and said, 'There's no tank! There's no tank!'" Cavallaro said. "I didn't know there was a fill pipe over there still, but there was and he connected the hose and started it. But I told him he's got the wrong house. I saw the slip and said,



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photos

Absorbent towels were used in the cleanup after a delivery of 88 gallons of heating oil was mistakenly pumped into the basement of 469 South Main St. last week. The oil tank was removed three decades ago when the house was converted to natural gas, according to the owner.



Fire Chief Michael Mansfield said last week that an extensive cleanup process would be required to rid the house of the contamination from the oil spill.

"No, you're supposed to be at that one!"

Cavallaro was pointing at Jane White's home at 465 South Main St., which was listed on the slip as scheduled for the oil delivery.

After the oil flow to Antezak's house was halted, White rightfully received her delivery at 12:09 p.m. But by that time, there was a giant mess in Antezak's basement that needed to be cleaned up.

The Andover Fire Department responded, as did town health officials, representatives of the state Department of Environmental Protection, and TMC Environmental, Inc.

of Portsmouth, N.H., which Haffner's called to tackle the cleanup.

While the spill was expected to be cleaned up that day, Fire Chief Michael Mansfield said the family was likely to be displaced for a period of time.

Antezak's two children, ages 4 and 7, were staying at her father's house in Ballardvale, she said. Her grandmother also lived with her.

"This happens on occasion, but it's relatively rare," Mansfield said, "especially when you think about all of the oil gallons dispensed on a daily basis, especially in cold

weather months."

Mansfield said an extensive process would be required to bring the home back to its previous state, so it was difficult to immediately put a dollar figure on the damage.

A spokesman for TMC Environmental Inc., who declined to give his name, said that most oil trucks can deliver 20 to 30 gallons of oil per minute so the oil was likely flowing into Antezak's basement for up to three minutes.

He said TMC's crew would likely work for hours to isolate the odor to one area, remove the affected materials from the home and save what could be saved.

Mary Cavallaro said the Haffner's employee was still reeling from his mistake when he arrived to make the delivery at her house after finishing up at the White residence.

"He felt bad," she said. "You know how you get a first impression of someone? He was a nice guy. It was just an honest mistake."

## HEALTH BRIEF

### Senior Mini Health Clinics planned

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

Clinics are offered every Wednesday from 2 to 3 p.m. at The Center at Punchard (senior center), 30 Whittier Court. They also are held monthly on Monday afternoons at Andover

Commons and Frye Circle.

The schedule is:

**Andover Commons:** Feb. 9, March 9, April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14, Nov. 9, and Dec. 14, all from 2 to 3 p.m.

**Frye Circle:** Jan. 26, Feb. 23, March 23, April 27, May 18, June 22, July 27, Aug. 24, Sept. 28, Nov. 23, and Dec. 28, all from 1 to 2 p.m.

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**SCHOOL**

Continued from Page 1

resign until right before his departure was announced to parents in a district-wide letter from McGrath.

"If a School Committee doesn't care why a principal leaves so abruptly — and the superintendent is unwilling to share information behind why a high school principal who hadn't even been here for a little over two years is leaving in the middle of the school year — and the School Committee seems unconcerned about what those circumstances are, then that's a failure on the part of the School Committee," Pokress told members at their meeting last Thursday night.

The statement — made during the public comment period of the meeting — drew a quick rebuttal from the School Committee.

"Mr. Pokress, I can see that you're outraged," member Paula Colby-Clements said. "And you can speak during public comment and show your outrage. But don't project your outrage on us, please."

"I think if it shows anything, it's the faith we have in Dr. McGrath and with this administration. So, just because you're not satisfied with the answers you've been getting or not satisfied that some things are not in your purview, or even our purview, that doesn't mean we're not satisfied."

Pokress lashed back, asking if the School Committee knows why Dr. Lord left in detail, and what the circumstances were.

"No," Gilbert said. "And that's not something we ... (McGrath) manages our staff.

*"I think if it shows anything, it's the faith we have in Dr. McGrath and with this administration. So, just because you're not satisfied with the answers you've been getting or not satisfied that some things are not in your purview, or even our purview, that doesn't mean we're not satisfied."*

School Committee member Paula Colby-Clements

"I do want to just say, however, that you've made during the public comment a number of assumptions about Dr. Lord's resignation that you have no basis for making."

McGrath was present at the meeting, but did not comment.

When Lord arrived at Andover High School for the 2012-13 school year, he was its third principal in four years.

Pokress won backing for his questions from many in the audience.

"Can I ask who else here wants an answer to his questions?" one woman called out after Pokress had addressed the committee. "Maybe who aren't outraged, but who want an answer to it? I don't think he's the only one."

The woman's comments generated applause from the majority of those in attendance. The School Committee accepted Pokress' written questions and moved on to its next matter of business.

**COUNSELOR**

Continued from Page 1

because she didn't think the issue had been fully vetted, said she asked Stapezynski for an update on the hiring last fall.

"I didn't get an answer," she said, adding that it's been more than a year since a forum was held in Old Town Hall to discuss the opiate problem in town.

"Why haven't we done something over the past year? Our leaders in the community — police, schools and health — should be spearheading this."

**Big push**

Selectmen voted 4-1 last spring in favor of rearranging Stapezynski's budget to fund the \$54,000 position in the wake of a series of drug overdoses. The position was supported by a vote of Town Meeting. Even then-Sen. Barry Finegold, D-Andover, weighed in, pushing for the hiring because of a growing heroin and opiate abuse epidemic sweeping the state.

Former Gov. Deval Patrick made the prevention of opiate abuse one of his priorities last year. Gov. Charlie Baker mentioned it during his inaugural address earlier this month. New Attorney General Maura Healey has set up a task force to deal with the issue.

Locally, there is no network of drug treatment, education and outreach programs, although \$100,000 in state grant funding may soon be announced for the Lawrence-Methuen Community Coalition to conduct opiate education campaigns throughout the Merrimack Valley, including in Andover.

Since the overdose of Kelly Johnson on New Year's Day,

police and school officials have vowed to make the issue a priority.

All Andover police officers and firefighters now carry Narcan — a drug used to restore the breathing of overdose victims. A prescription drug drop-box has been installed in the public safety building lobby.

Last year, however, town officials wanted to do more — which is why they supported the hiring of what was then being called a drug counselor.

Selectman Dan Kowalski, the board's current chairman, said he thinks the position is "definitely needed. We have to think progressively when it comes to addiction and addiction around heroin."

He said he has heard recent reports from the Andover Fire Department that the agency is dealing with "multiple heroin cases a week."

He added, "It's definitely a problem in the community. We have to figure out how to educate people. People at all levels need to get involved and understand the services available. It's important for the community to understand what the community is doing to combat the problem."

**'Non-traditional approach'**

Bill Fahey, executive director of Andover Youth Services, said while there was a delay in hiring an outreach worker, he did have some-one on staff from last June

through October who was a trained social worker doing the kind of work needed to help kids who might be in trouble.

He said Sobhan Nambar, who formerly worked at Doherty Middle School, is a licensed social worker who worked closely with kids over the summer, taking them into Boston on disc jockey outings, going on hiking trips and taking them on other outdoor adventures, running cookouts and generally "promoting community spirit."

He said Nambar did the kind of work employees do every day at Andover Youth Services.

"This is a non-traditional approach," Fahey said just a week or so after news of Johnson's death became public. "For us, it was a youth worker who implements our programs."

However, Nambar left at the end of the summer to begin working on his doctorate at Northeastern University in Boston. Fahey said he has been working with Human Resources Director Candace Hall on wording for the new position, which he hopes to have filled by the end of February.

**'Change' and 'stigma'**

Fahey said the lack of a full-time counselor is not to blame for the drug overdose death of Johnson.

"That's not why this happened," he said. "One youth worker is not the solution. That's a very limited

approach."

In fact, he said, Andover Youth Services needs more resources than ever.

"We have asked for Youth Services employees from Day 1 of our organization," he said. "Someone asked me recently if I think tax dollars should go to youth development. I said, 'Absolutely.'"

He noted that during last year's Town Meeting, some people, including O'Donoghue, said the issue of whether to hire a new youth services worker needed to be studied more.

He disagreed, arguing passionately on the floor of Town Meeting in favor of funding for the new position, saying his organization takes a more holistic approach to youth development.

"People are trying to look at opiate abuse solely," he said. "We look at all the issues. There's a lot of pressure on young people."

He noted that youth sports, for example, have eaten up all the free time for children as young as 7 or 8 years old.

Meanwhile, traditional families with stay-at-home moms have become a casualty of the modern world.

"The common denominator is change," he said. "I know families, perfect families, great families with great parents, who are in trouble. It can affect anybody."

He said the stigma of heroin or opiate abuse is also a problem, forcing people underground to suffer in silence.

"Very successful people have become hooked and lost their lives," he said. "I hope we can keep the conversation going. Being silent is not the answer."

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## Town Park meeting moved to Feb. 10

By TIM LIMA  
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

The Planning Board's next discussion on changes to The Park, playstead and municipal complex has been rescheduled from Jan. 27 to Feb. 10 due to time constraints.

Senior Planner Lisa Schwarz, who is overseeing the development of a master plan for the 20.4-acre park across from the Town Offices at the intersection of Bartlet and Chestnut streets, sent out notice last week to inform people of the change in meeting date as well as venue.

The meeting will now be held Tuesday, Feb. 10, at 7:30 p.m. It

is also being moved to World War I Memorial Auditorium at Doherty Middle School to accommodate what is expected to be a large crowd.

Schwarz said because the Town Meeting warrant will be closing on Jan. 30, the Planning Board will need to devote time to discussion of multiple warrant articles at its Jan. 27 meeting, resulting in time constraints.

The topic of adding a child's play area to The Park has raised the concerns of local veterans. Many believe that The Park — with its four dedicated war memorials — is best left as is.

Schwarz has said that any changes to The Park would be mindful of its war memorials and monuments and would, in fact, attempt to make them

better understood, valued and accessed.

The Park now includes a World War I Howitzer Cannon captured by American forces, which was placed there in 1932. Several decades later, between 2004 and 2008, three more monuments were dedicated, including a World War II monument in the northeast corner, a Vietnam War monument on The Park's east side and a Korean War monument on its southeast corner.

Many veterans believe a playstead located around the back of The Park would be better suited for a new recreational spot for children if that's what the town wants.

To review the draft master plan for The Park, visit [www.Andoverma.gov/planning](http://www.Andoverma.gov/planning).

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# North Reading, Andover water talks flowing along

By BILL KIRK

bkirk@andovertownsmen.com

Andover and North Reading continue to negotiate over water rates, with officials from both towns meeting last week in an effort to hammer out a long-term pact.

Last Wednesday morning, Andover selectmen Dan Kowalski and Alex Vispoli and Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski hosted a meeting in the Town Offices with North Reading selectmen Robert Mauceri and Joseph Foti and their Town Administrator Michael Gilleberto to discuss the issue.

Mauceri said the two towns are "very close" on an agreement governing what North Reading will be charged for water purchased from Andover. "It was a productive meeting in which we heard North Reading's concerns with our proposed contract," Kowalski

said in an email. "We asked North Reading to make a proposal on how to alleviate their concerns."

North Reading will hold a full meeting of its Board of Selectmen before the subcommittee is scheduled to come together for another negotiating session on Jan. 30. North Reading is expected to present a proposal on how to solve what has become a potentially costly problem for Andover at that session.

Selectman Vispoli agreed last week's meeting was fruitful.

He said there were several main issues that need to be addressed:

■ The price Andover charges North Reading for water.

North Reading currently pays less than what Andover charges its customers for water. Last October, Andover selectmen complained that while homeowners and businesses

in town pay \$3.10 per hundred cubic feet of water (about 750 gallons), North Reading is still paying the old rate of \$3. Andover had previously sent a notice to North Reading notifying the town that it would be charged \$3.41 per 100 cubic feet.

Kowalski estimated that had North Reading been paying the full \$3.41 price, Andover would have netted an additional \$85,000 as of October. Two months later, that figure is likely much higher, although exact figures remain elusive.

Vispoli said there continues to be "no agreement" on how much North Reading owes Andover nor what the current price for water should be. He said North Reading officials agreed to come back with a proposal on Jan. 30.

Andover currently sells 300 million gallons a year to North Reading, bringing in about \$1.5 million, or 20 percent of the

total revenues for the town's water system.

North Reading purchases about half of its annual water supply from Andover. The rest comes from overburdened wells along the Ipswich River.

■ A proposal to guarantee a certain volume of water to North Reading over the next 10 years.

Vispoli said this issue revolves around North Reading's desire to hook up to the Mass. Water Resources Authority some time in the next 10 years. He said that the discussion revolves around the amount of water Andover would sell to North Reading over the next five years, with a diminishing amount being sold in years six through 10 of a 10-year agreement.

■ Lower pricing based on a reduced water volume for years six through 10 of that 10-year agreement.

Vispoli said that if North Reading does go with the MWRA, the pricing would possibly reflect a reduction in the final years of the contract.

Finally, a fourth, more tentative issue on the table would be to look at the impact of Andover providing all of North Reading's water needs in the future.

Vispoli said this would require a study by the town and would likely include a significant infrastructure expense, including new pipes and possibly a new storage tank near the North Reading line.

"They are going to get back to us on all of that," Vispoli said. "The spirit of the conversation was very positive. We all agreed to move forward and get this done in the best interest of both towns."

He added, "It was a very candid conversation. The tone of the meeting was good. Both teams are motivated to get a

solution that makes sense."

Mauceri said he believes North Reading will have a connection to the MWRA within five years, but may need to stay attached to Andover's water system.

"It's beneficial for both communities to maintain a connection," he said. "If we got an MWRA connection and kept tied to Andover, we could shut our (Ipswich River basin) wells down."

He said North Reading continues to pay the old rate of \$3 per 100 cubic feet because his town objected to the higher rate of \$3.41. That is one of the issues being worked out in the subcommittee group.

"Our position was, we'd continue to pay what we agreed to until it was resolved," he said. "The bottom line is, once we get this resolved, if we agree on \$3.10, we'll pay them the difference. That's not an issue."

## Zoning Board turnover opens up seat

By BILL KIRK

bkirk@andovertownsmen.com

If you like to study legally complicated land-use issues in your spare time, the town of Andover may have just the job for you.

The Zoning Board of Appeals, which reviews special permits and zoning bylaw variance requests, among other duties, is in need of a new member.

Phillip Boness, who has served on the board for more than five years, is stepping down because of business travel commitments, according to ZBA Chairman David Brown.

Brown said he hopes to replace Boness, a regular member, with Liz Oltman, one of the four associate members on the nine-member panel. Oltman has reportedly agreed to complete Boness' term as a regular member.

The ZBA consists of five regular members and four associate members.

In a Jan. 6 email to the Board of Selectmen, Barbara Burke, the zoning administrative secretary, said, "We fully understand (Boness') reasoning, but he will be greatly missed along with his expertise."

The Board of Selectmen is the appointing authority for the ZBA.

Brown said last week he wanted to notify selectmen of the vacancy because he knows they're going to be busy over the next few months and he doesn't want naming a replacement to linger.

"My hope is they will make the appointment (of Oltman) on Jan. 26," Brown said. "Then we'll begin the process of searching

for a new associate member. We want to get the word out that there is a vacancy and start interviewing candidates."

In addition to reviewing and deciding on special permit requests, the ZBA reviews variances from the zoning bylaw where a hardship is presented, serves as the appeals board for decisions made by the building inspector and reviews all Chapter 40B applications. Chapter 40B is the state law that allows developers to construct affordable housing in communities where less than 10 percent of its residential options qualify as affordable.

Andover recently reached that 10 percent threshold.

The ZBA is similar to the Planning Board and Conservation Commission, but does not have a professional staff like the other boards, Brown said.

In 2013, the board had three vacancies at one time, making it difficult to rule in a timely manner on big cases, Brown said.

"We got cramped in terms of being able to carry on with cases," he said.

This time around, he hopes to avoid that, even though selectmen will also be faced with hiring a new town manager and going through the budget review process, not to mention facing a town election in the coming months.

He said the board needs people with all kinds of backgrounds and expertise, including engineering and legal.

"We are a quasi-judicial body dealing with interpreting and administering zoning bylaws," he said.

## Water Department retirements bring changes

By BILL KIRK

bkirk@andovertownsmen.com

Some big changes have been happening down at the Water Department recently.

Longtime water Superintendent Maurice Gray retired from the department in November.

Chris Cronin, director of plant and facilities for the town, declined to say whether Gray's departure had anything to do with a series of recently settled lawsuits brought by James Berberian over thousands of gallons of toxic sludge that were dumped into a wetland off Bancroft Road adjacent to his property in 2010.

Cronin would simply saw that Gray, 57, a 30-year veteran of the Water Department, is no longer working for the town.

"I cannot comment on personnel issues," Cronin said. "I don't know what he's doing."

When asked specifically if the Berberian case caused Gray's departure, Cronin said, "I won't comment on that."

Attempts to locate Gray for comment were unsuccessful.

It is not known if Gray filed for retirement benefits. Retirement Board Chairman James Cuticchia did not return phone

calls from the Andover Townsman. Cronin said he didn't know if Gray has sought pension benefits.

Michael Murnane, the general foreman of the Water Department, is serving as acting superintendent. Cronin said the position has not been advertised. It pays \$102,000 a year.

The Water Department has also seen two other retirements.

Working foreman Ron Hancock retired, and was replaced by Don Eisenhour. Cedric Grabham also retired.

Cronin did say those retirements had nothing to do with the Berberian case.

The two positions left by Graham's departure and Eisenhour's promotion were filled by two new hires approved by the Board of Selectmen last week.

Michael Caulfield and Eric Hannus were both hired as water distribution maintenance specialists at an annual salary of \$48,000.

According to last year's Finance Committee report, the water and sewer budgets combined are about \$27 million. The system is run out of the water treatment plant on Osgood Street and out of the town yard downtown.

Selectman Dan Kowalski also refused to speculate on Gray's departure.

"The Board of Selectmen is not privy to any personnel matters," he said.

The Berberian case, once all expenses were totaled, cost the town nearly \$2 million, between settlement costs paid out and the legal, engineering and consulting costs to the town.

In 2010, Water Department workers were videotaped emptying the Bancroft Road underground water storage tank during what they said was a routine cleaning.

The water coming out of the tank was dark brown to almost black. It settled into a wetland fed by a culvert that went under Bancroft Road at the intersection with South Main Street. Testing later showed the sludge contained heavy metals such as lead, cadmium and arsenic.

When Berberian brought the dumping to the town's attention, officials denied culpability. Berberian sued in federal court claiming the dumping was a violation of the Clean Water Act.

He ultimately settled out of court. He has since sold his property at 2-4 Bancroft Road to Phillips Academy.

## Out & About: Andover sisters in 'Diary of Anne Frank'

Two young actresses from Andover have been taking the stage this month for a production of "The Diary of Anne Frank" in Newburyport.

Sisters Caroline Hall, 14, a student at Doherty Middle School, and Katherine Hall, 16, who attends Phillips Andover, are appearing in the drama, which is playing its final weekend at The Actors Studio in The Tannery Marketplace, 50 Water St. Caroline Hall is cast as Anne Frank while her sister is Margot Frank.

Final performances are this Friday and Sunday (Sunday's show is sold out). For more information, visit [www.newburyportacting.org/calendar-jan.html](http://www.newburyportacting.org/calendar-jan.html).

### Phillips seniors performing program of concertos

Four Phillips Academy students will share the spotlight Saturday night when they perform a program of concertos at 7:30 p.m. in Cochran Chapel on the Phillips Academy campus, 180 Main St., Andover.

The program will feature alto Michaela Barczak performing the first two movements of Mahler's "Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen." Tony Choi performing the first movement of Barber's Violin Concerto, Josh Kim performing the second movement of Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No. 2 in G minor and Vivian Liu performing the first movement of Nielsen's Flute Concerto.

The concert is presented by the Phillips Academy Music Department. Admission is free. The public is invited. Call the Music Department at 978-749-4260 or e-mail [music@andover.edu](mailto:music@andover.edu) for more information.

### Ham and beans for scholarship fund

West Parish Church at 129 Reservation Road in Andover will host a Ham and Bean Supper on Saturday, Jan. 24, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The menu will



Courtesy photo

Andover sisters Katherine Hall as Margot Frank and Caroline Hall as Anne Frank in a scene from "The Diary of Anne Frank," which is wrapping up its run at The Actors Studio in Newburyport this weekend.

feature Carando spiral ham, navy and kidney beans, macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, hot dogs, bread and dessert.

A suggested donation of \$10 for adults and \$5 for children is requested. Proceeds will support the church's scholarship fund to benefit the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence. The public is welcome. Call the church office at 978-475-3528 for more information.

### Documentary next up for Faith Lutheran movie club

An American documentary about a cyclist's personal journey after a 2007 bicycle accident is the next feature presentation in Faith Lutheran Church of Andover's movie club.

"I Am" will be shown on Friday, Jan. 30, at 6:30 p.m. at the church, 360 South Main St. (Route 28). The 2010 film written, directed and

narrated by Tom Shadyac explores his perceptions of "the nature of humanity" and "the world's ever-growing addiction to materialism."

The public is invited. For information, email Alan Thoday at [athoday@comcast.net](mailto:athoday@comcast.net).

### Classes at Immigrant & Education Center

Registration is underway for ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages), Citizenship Preparation and expanded preschool classes at the Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center (formerly the Asian Center) at 20 Ballard Road, Lawrence.

Anyone interested in signing up for morning or evening classes should call the center at 978-683-7316 for more details.

■ ■ ■

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



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# Opinion

## Seniors deserve a place to call home in Andover

We don't need census figures to tell us people are living longer these days than they did even a generation ago. We see it clearly in the number of people who continue working well past their retirement age and those who remain active, contributing members of their communities well into their 70s and 80s — and some even beyond.

Those of us who have not reached our senior years aspire to do the same. We want to continue enjoying life and living in an affordable place where we feel most at home — be it our own residence or a type of retirement or assisted-living community where some of the day-to-day responsibilities are routinely taken care of.

According to Kathy Urquhart, director of elder services for the town, the 60-plus population in Andover has continued to grow at a much greater rate than the overall population. Federal census data shows this age cohort increased by 27 percent between 2000 and 2010, while the state average was 17 percent.

Of Andover's 33,000 residents, 12,000-plus — more than one-third — are over age 50. One in six Andover residents are between the ages of 50 and 60, while another one in six are age 60-plus.

And the numbers are only expected to rise with the next round of federal census data in 2020.

Urquhart says many of these residents want to live out their twilight years in Andover, but the town simply cannot accommodate them all.

When the Council on Aging board developed its Five-Year Plan, one of its priorities was to address the need for various housing options for seniors, including 55-plus communities, affordable housing and properties near the downtown area for those looking to downsize. The Senior Housing Overlay District on River Road was developed by the Planning Board to address similar issues.

But while the need was identified, little has been brought to bear to address it. Town Meeting several years ago even defeated a zoning proposal to allow the development of 55-plus communities, according to Urquhart.

Now, two proposals for senior housing projects are encountering overwhelming opposition from abutters. One would transform the former Strawberry Hill Farm on Lowell Street into a two-phased development of 63 units of assisted-living housing for individuals in need of memory-care services in the first year and 70 units of affordable congregate, or independent-living, apartments for the 55-and-older set in year two. The other would create a 103-unit assisted-living facility on Elm Street near Merrimack College.

Abutters are worried about what will happen to their neighborhoods with the influx of those numbers of residents, plus the staff that comes with them. They are concerned about property values, traffic and more.

The residents surrounding Strawberry Hill Farm have also been quite vocal about the review process and critical of the Planning Board's role. They have argued strongly that their concerns have not been heard or addressed and that the proposal does not abide by the town's Master Plan that was approved by voters.

One resident is even asking for the discussion on the Strawberry Hill plans to be re-opened so that residents can be afforded the same opportunities to present their case that he believes is being provided the residents of the Elm Street project.

Whether the process for Strawberry Hill may have been flawed or not is certainly an issue that must be addressed. The Planning Board has certain legal procedures it must follow and a specific role to perform. But that role should take into account the interests of the town and its residents.

But the fact is Andover's senior population is growing. Those seniors are looking for a place to live in town — and will continue doing so at an increased rate in the years to come.

The town must seek to identify areas where older residents can live out their lives and provide them with viable, affordable options — be it at Strawberry Hill, on Elm Street or elsewhere in town.

## WEB QUESTION

### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Would you like to see Boston host the 2024 Summer Olympics?

**YES.** It would be exciting to have the Games in our own backyard. Plus, it would mean an economic boost for the entire state.

**NO.** Boston isn't designed to accommodate such a spectacle. Plus, the construction and crowds that it would bring would be a nightmare.

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

Following the death of Kelly Johnson, school and safety leaders will soon be meeting to discuss what can be done locally to help reverse the heroin epidemic. Do you think kids know enough about the dangers of drugs? At what age should children first be introduced to the issue?

- Ages 6 to 10 — 56 percent
- Ages 11 to 15 — 33 percent
- Earlier than age 5 — 11 percent
- Ages 16 to 20 — No votes
- Kids should not be talked to about drugs — No votes

Compiled by Susan McKelliget

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

Jan. 22, 1915

Let us look at the effect of the war on our little town of Andover. Ballardvale Mills is curtailing its production, as it requires fine wool to make its beautiful white flannels, and as the British government has put an

embargo on exporting fine wools from Australia or any of her colonies, the advantage of free wool is made nil for the moment. Germany, Russia and all the nations now fighting are using automobiles and have put an embargo on the export of rubber suitable for rubber tires, so that our rubber factory is also on short time.

Nathan Shattuck, the well-known harness maker, has opened a shop on Park Street in the room formerly occupied by the Boy Scouts. Orders for Shattuck's Express may be left there.

### 75 Years Ago

Jan. 18, 1940

An upcoming November

Club talk called "History in the Making" by a newcomer to this country, Michael Holban, will take place on Jan. 24 at 9:45, this time by a friend of Mrs. Frank Mansfield Taylor. His journey from Rumania to the United States, delayed at various points, took him through Yugoslavia and Italy and thence into France. It gave him opportunity to study at close range the situation in these countries before embarking on the actual crossing, which took 18 days.

Former police officer William R. Shaw yesterday afternoon took out nomination papers for selectman and assessor in which

race he will oppose the present selectmen, Howell F. Shepard and P. LeRoy Wilson. Last June, officer Shaw was removed from the force by the selectmen following an accident in Shawsheen Village.

The town during the past year received a total of \$12,792.12 from the commonwealth by virtue of various functions carried out by the School Department. This money goes into the town treasury directly and may not be used by the department.

■ ■ ■

*All Those Years Ago is compiled by Susan McKelliget with cooperation from the Andover Historical Society.*

## Strawberry Hill neighbors deserve due process

Editor, Townsman:

Before the Planning Board are two proposals for special permits for elderly housing — the Strawberry Hill Farm and the Elm Street developments. I am writing to express outrage and concern regarding the double standards that the Planning Board has employed for the conduct of the public hearings on these two requests.

Both proposals, although differing in details, have much in common; most importantly, the inevitable destruction of the integrity and character of the neighborhoods for which they are targeted. The double standard referred to applies to the extent to which due process is being exercised during the hearings in question. In a nutshell, during the Strawberry Hill hearings, the public was to a large extent muzzled and given very limited time to express their questions and opinions. The developer on the other hand was usually provided the lion's share of time, often dwelling on trivia to let the clock run out. By contrast, the conduct of the Elm Street hearings is, properly, highly solicitous to the audience, encouraging questions and comments and with the stated commitment to insure that all citizens' concerns are fully addressed at future meetings. The contrast between these two approaches is, as the saying goes, as different as chalk from cheese.

During last Tuesday's hearing, the Elm Street protesters were given 20 minutes to outline their concerns; a similar request from the Strawberry Hill residents was flatly denied. Last Tuesday's meeting focused on the Elm Street traffic analysis and incorporated the peer review commissioned by the board. Although promised early in the hearings, a similar peer review, if ever commissioned, was certainly never presented at the Strawberry Hill hearings, thus cutting short the discussion and denying residents the similar opportunity for discussion.

I applaud the Elm Street residents for their vigorous opposition to this elderly housing proposal for many of the same reasons

## LETTERS POLICY

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

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Email: townsman@andover-townsman.com. Please include the letter in the body of the e-mail, not as an attachment.

shared by the residents of the Strawberry Hill neighborhood, especially the paramount concern for the negative impact of these projects on the neighborhood. The Strawberry Hill residents have been denied due process and consequently have suffered serious abuse of their civil rights. I request that the board re-open the Strawberry Hill Farm hearings to address this inequity and provide the residents the due process that they have so far been denied.

JOHN BONESS  
4 Robinswood Way

## Pipeline far from foregone conclusion

Editor, Townsman:

The ex-Enron executives are back; again trying to justify and build a pipeline right through Andover's wetlands and protected green spaces. Kinder Morgan has its Tennessee-based survey crews back out trying once again to misrepresent the facts and mislead our town citizens.

The company's survey crews are trying to get homeowners to allow surveys of their land, telling homeowners that this pipeline is a federal program that will create jobs, reduce gas prices and is good for the environment.

Nothing could be farther from the truth.

The pipeline is not a federal program (Kinder Morgan is a for-profit company); it will not create any material long-term Massachusetts jobs (Kinder Morgan even uses out-of-state survey crews); and it will neither increase the availability of natural gas nor reduce its cost. The pipeline is not for the greater good; the permanent destruction of our green spaces and reduction in our property

values is solely for the profits of a Texas-based, multi-billion-dollar company; there are no material benefits for our commonwealth or the town of Andover.

The good news is despite what Kinder Morgan is saying is it far from a foregone conclusion and in fact is facing an uphill battle at all levels. Our state and federal representatives need to hear from the citizens of Andover so they can stop this nonsense.

For more details, Andover residents should visit www.massplan.org, and look for the response to their misleading letters to landowners and the facts about Kinder Morgan. The video on Co-locating Along Utilities Corridors will show the proof of what Kinder Morgan is doing and its unethical and misleading tactics.

A recent example: Kinder Morgan is required to hold an open house in Essex County, and when did they schedule it? Feb. 17, right in the middle of school vacation week (which is public information that has been available for several months) when many of our citizens will be out of town. Our town manager, along with Tewksbury's town manager, has requested a date change, but has not yet heard back from Kinder Morgan.

I urge my fellow Andover homeowners to refuse this new round of survey teams; do not allow them on to your property, and even if you have previously given them permission, you can rescind that offer.

Also, if you are interested in learning more about how this pipeline will impact both Andover and the entire commonwealth, a new group, the Andover Pipeline Awareness Committee, has formed to provide information to local citizens. Please visit the AVIS website at www.AvisAndover.org or Andover Pipeline Awareness on Facebook.

DAVID YACHNIN  
5 Ellsworth Road

## Consider all the facts surrounding Strawberry Hill

Editor, Townsman:

I have a question for Planning Board members as they prepare to make a decision that is going to alter the lives, and pocket-books, for the Strawberry Hill project neighborhood forever.

Have members ever read

the mission statement of the Planning Board? Here it is from the town website: The mission of the Planning Division is to ensure the orderly growth of the town through sound planning practices and through the implementation of the recommendations of the Master Plan.

That is stunning when you consider through all the meetings, I never once heard the Master Plan mentioned. Not once did I hear anyone say, "This project does not meet the Master Plan." Or the part of the Master Plan saying any senior living residence should be downtown where citizens can move around for shopping, etc., without having to be shuttled everywhere. We are talking about the Master Plan paid for and voted in by the Andover residents on how they want Andover to look over the years.

What else has not been brought to the Planning Board's attention? For example, when the traffic engineer gave us his report telling us "not to worry about a few additional cars," I never heard it asked, "Did you include the additional 240 rental units going in across from the IRS?" Nor did I hear anyone say, "Did you include the additional medical facility going in next to the one opening up in December?" Nor did I hear that a traffic study is being done on Lowell Street from Route 93 all the way down to Shawsheen Square. I didn't know there was a traffic problem already on Lowell Street.

Aren't these things important enough to bring to the Planning Board's attention?

None of the photos of the proposed buildings given by the developers have shown all the parking spaces and all the towering lights that will be on all night long so the ambulances and police cruisers, with their swirling lights, will be able to see where they are going during emergencies. Fortunately, there is a real-life picture showing all of it. I believe the Planning Board owes it to the residents of the neighborhood to view it before they vote. Go to the new medical center, after dark, and look at its parking lot. Magnify the parking area by three or four times and ask yourself, "Would I want this outside my windows, in my residential neighborhood, for the rest of my life?" Neither do we.

CHARLES K. ERBAN II  
249 Lowell St.

## READER ACCESS

### EDITORIAL SERVICES

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

- **Editor Sonya Vartabedian** for comments on overall editorial content and quality; 978-475-7000, ext. 8733, svartabedian@andovertownsmen.com
- **Reporter Judy Wakefield** at 978-475-7000, ext. 8726, or jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com
- **Reporter Tim Lima** at 978-691-8723, or tlima@andovertownsmen.com
- **Assistant Editor Bill Kirk** at 978-475-7000, ext. 8732, bkirk@andovertownsmen.com.
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# HEALTHY LIVING

## Resolve to get outdoors

Andover Trails Committee issues a healthy challenge to all

By TIM LIMA  
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

New year's resolutions are often a struggle, making the bitter months of January and February all the more difficult to bear for those trying to form better habits. But the Andover Trails Committee hopes its new challenge might help local residents not only keep their goals, but enjoy them.

The committee's new Andover Outdoor Challenge aims to encourage residents to make 2015 the year that they get outside and take advantage of the town's trails, rivers and lakes.

"Not only does Andover have great cultural institutions, terrific schools and youth programs, and a charming downtown, but we enjoy a wealth of high-quality outdoor recreation opportunities close to home," committee member Steve Golden said.

The challenge is all about getting outside with family and friends, and experiencing those recreational benefits of living in Andover that are available for free to all.

Golden said the trails and waterways throughout town are easily accessible and do not require large investments in equipment, or extraordinary skill level to explore.

"I have enjoyed walking, boating, biking and winter sports in town for more than 30 years and rarely see more than a handful of others," he said.

As a residual benefit, Golden said increasing use of the various attractions will ultimately help to support their various organizational sponsors.

So far, he said, more than 50 people had signed up for the challenge as of last week.

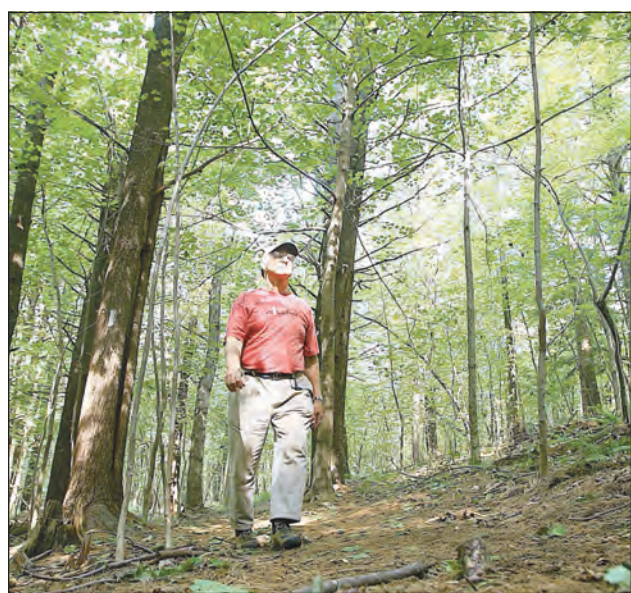
"Our goal is to provide tips, advice, support and the challenge to make the healthy choice of enjoying



A paddle across the scenic Foster's Pond would fulfill one of the requirements of the Andover Outdoor Challenge. FILE PHOTO



One of the resolutions in the Andover Outdoor Challenge involves mountain biking 5 miles of trails in Harold Parker State Forest. FILE PHOTO



Alan French hikes along the Bay Circuit trail off Prospect Road in Andover. The Andover Outdoor Challenge calls for hiking the 19 miles of the trail extending across Andover, from North Andover to Lowell. FILE PHOTO



The Andover Trails Committee has created the Andover Outdoor Challenge to encourage residents to enjoy the many recreational opportunities that exist in town. LOUISE TANSKI/Courtesy photo

the outdoors in Andover also the easiest choice," he said.

The Andover Trails Committee's website, [www.andovertrails.org](http://www.andovertrails.org), has posted the challenge and will be adding information and resources to help make people's trips easy and fun.

Participants can sign up and track their progress on the 2015 Andover Challenge Sign-up Page on the website. They will also be able to

### LEARN MORE

- Visit [www.andovertrails.org](http://www.andovertrails.org)
- Email David Bunting, committee chairman, [dbunting@andovertrails.org](mailto:dbunting@andovertrails.org)

follow those who are sharing their experiences.

Organized trips will be announced during the year as well.

### TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- You are your own judge and guide.
- Drag friends and children along with you.
- Take pictures, write poetry, paint and share impressions on the Andover Trails Committee Facebook page.
- This is no race. Take your time. Accomplish the goals over multiple days or months.
- Enjoy yourself and be careful not to get hurt.

### 2015 GAME PLAN

The Andover Outdoor Challenge is to complete the following during 2015:

- **Hike the Bay Circuit Trail** across Andover from North Andover to Lowell, approximately 19 miles; [www.baycircuit.org](http://www.baycircuit.org)
- **Paddle the navigable section of the Shawsheen River** in Andover from Tewksbury to Lawrence; [www.shawsheen.org](http://www.shawsheen.org)
- **Bike across Andover** from the North Wilmington train station to the Lawrence train station; pick your own route
- **Cross-country ski or snowshoe** to the top of Holt Hill in Andover and Boston Hill in North Andover, the highest points in Essex County; [www.thetrustees.org/places-to-visit/northeast-ma/ward-reservation.html](http://www.thetrustees.org/places-to-visit/northeast-ma/ward-reservation.html)
- **Swim, fish or paddle** in Field, Foster's and Poms ponds
- **Mountain bike 5 miles of trails** in Harold Parker State Forest; [www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-north/harold-parker-state-forest.html](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-north/harold-parker-state-forest.html)

## 5 things to watch with new dietary guidelines

By MARY CLARE JALONICK  
Associated Press

For years, the government has told Americans to eat their vegetables. A rewrite of the government's dietary guidelines could include some new advice, too, on sugar, salt, meat and caffeine.

Whether individuals listen or not, the dietary guidelines affect nutritional patterns throughout the country — from federally subsidized school lunches to labels on food packages to your doctor's advice. They also form the basis for the government's

"My Plate" icon, which replaced the food pyramid a few years ago.

A government advisory committee made up of medical and nutrition experts is set to issue preliminary recommendations this month. It indicated in draft recommendations circulated in December that it may suggest some changes in current dietary advice.

The secretaries of the Agriculture and Health and Human Services Departments will take those recommendations into account as they

craft the final 2015 guidelines, expected by the end of the year.

Five things to watch for as the government begins writing the new guidelines:

### REAL LIMITS ON SUGAR

The 2010 dietary guidelines recommended generally reducing caloric intake from sugars added during food processing or preparation. Those added sugars act the same in the body as naturally occurring sugars, but generally add

See DIET, Page 14

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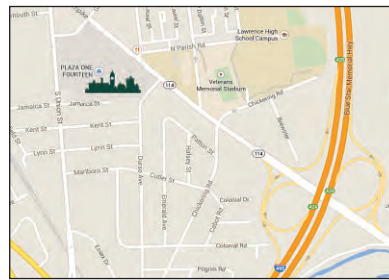
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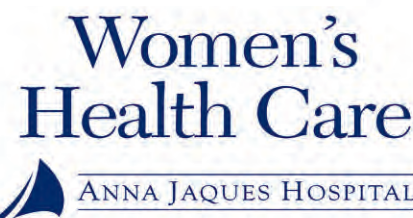


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**DIET**

Continued from Page 13

empty calories.

In its draft recommendations, this year's advisory committee is suggesting specific limits on added sugars for the first time, advising that only 10 percent of calorie intake come from added sugars.

The committee said that currently, Americans get about 13 percent of their total calories from added sugar, or 268 calories a day. Much of that is from sugary drinks. Older children, adolescents and young adults get as much as 17 percent of their calories daily from added sugars.

The Food and Drug Administration proposed last year that the amount of added sugars be included as a line on nutrition facts labels on food packages.

**TOO MUCH SALT**

Lowering sodium is important for heart health, and the 2010 dietary guidelines recommend that people eat less than 2,300 milligrams a day. That is reduced to 1,500 milligrams for people who are 51 and older, African-American or those who have hypertension, diabetes or chronic kidney disease. Those subgroups amount to about half of the population.

While the committee's draft recommendations appear similar, it is unclear if their advice on sodium will be as strong as the 2010 guidelines. A 2013 report by the Institute of Medicine said that while lowering salt intake is

important for health, there is no good evidence that eating less than 2,300 milligrams a day of sodium offers benefits.

**EAT LESS MEAT?**

Current guidelines advise that people eat lean meats as a healthy way to get protein, but the advisory panel has debated whether lean meats should be included.

In addition, the draft recommendation discussed at the panel's Dec. 15 meeting says a healthy dietary pattern includes fewer "red and processed meats" than are currently consumed.

**NEW ADVICE ON CAFFEINE**

The advisory committee indicated it may propose guidelines that would urge pregnant women to limit caffeine intake. The 2010 guidelines don't address caffeine use. The panel said it supports advice from medical organizations that pregnant women limit caffeine to less than 200 milligrams a day, or around two cups of coffee.

**ROLE OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

Over the past year, the committee has discussed the idea of including sustainability as a dietary goal. The advisory panel said in its draft recommendations that there is "compatibility and overlap" between what is good for health and what is good for the environment.

The committee has framed the issue in terms of ensuring food access for future generations, and also what foods are healthiest.

**Balancing act**  
**Tumble Fun set to begin new sessions**



AMY SWEENEY/Staff photo

Declan Sexton, 3, walks on the balance beam during a meeting of Tumble Fun this past fall at Old Town Hall. Two new sessions of the popular toddler program offered by the Andover Department of Community Services are starting up next week.

A new round of Tumble Fun for toddlers gets jumping and rolling next week at Old Town Hall, 20 Main St.

The Department of Community Services' class is designed to help children ages 3 to 5 improve their balance and coordination as well as develop self-confidence in gross motor skills. The development of social skills is also emphasized as participants become good listeners by following directions and cooperating in a group atmosphere.

Program assistant Michaela McIver, an Andover native, oversees the class. She has a background in education, dance and physical fitness, plus many years of experience with kids.

McIver offers a valuable perspective on how kids

to help kids develop their socialization as well as fine, gross motor and cognitive skills while being exposed to new activities and making new friends. Activities are designed with the needs of the specific age group in mind and focus on providing positive recreational opportunities in a sound environment that fosters education, fun and enthusiasm.

The program was so popular in the fall it filled up and DCS had a waiting list. As a result, a new Thursday morning session is being offered to the winter/spring schedule.

The five-week sessions are:  
 ■ Mondays, beginning Jan. 26, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.  
 ■ Thursdays, beginning Jan. 29, 10:45 to 11:30 a.m.

(new session)  
 ■ Fridays, beginning April 10, 10 to 10:45 a.m.  
 Each session is limited to 15 children, who must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$50.

All participants must have a signed Emergency Information Sheet on file in order to participate in DCS programs. Registration over the phone will not be permitted without an emergency sheet already completed. Online registration is available, but the Emergency Sheet is still required. Emergency Sheets are available online at the DCS website under "FORMS" or in the DCS office and can be mailed, dropped off emailed or faxed to DCS.

For more information, visit [www.AndoverDCS.com](http://www.AndoverDCS.com).

**Lace up for a spring 5K**  
**Beginner training program readying runners**

A new Beginner 5K Training Group is about to start hitting the pavement to prepare for two local races this spring.

The free, eight-week series being offered through Greater Boston Running

Co. in downtown Andover begins Monday, Feb. 16, and meets three days a week.

The progressive program will be led by Melissa Pennington, an Andover native who completed her first Boston Marathon last year. She says the fun and accountability of coached workouts in a group session is designed to get all levels to the starting line of a 5K this spring.

It will meet Mondays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. starting from the running store, 45 Main St. Participants are welcome to drop in to as many sessions as fit their schedules.

The group will be training for the annual Run for the Troops 5K on April 12 in Andover and the Ironstone Derby Race & Party 5K on May 2 in Lowell to benefit



FILE PHOTO

A Beginner 5K Training Group will get runners ready for two spring races, including April's Run for the Troops in Andover, pictured, and the Ironstone Derby Race & Party 5K

the nonprofit therapeutic equestrian program based in Andover.

To learn more or to sign up for the training group, visit <http://blog.run.com>.

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# Education

## Communication, transparency top special education concerns

By TIM LIMA

tlima@andovertownsmen.com

The Special Education Parent Advisory Council last week called attention to what it sees as five areas of concern with the town's program and offered the School Committee its recommendations for improvements.

Based on the results of a lengthy survey administered last spring, the advisory council told the School Committee that the community's concerns with the special education program included lack of transparency, communication, teacher and staff training, as well as issues with the Individualized Education Plan and Section 504 process and non-compliance issues.

Uncertainty about SEPAC's role was also found to exist, the council reported.

Of the 887 survey respondents, 19 percent said they had "low satisfaction" with Andover's special education program. That number is nearly twice that of people who have low satisfaction with the schools in general, the council reported.

The presentation of the survey results follows last month's release of the findings of a Coordinated Program Review by the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

that tagged Andover with 24 "partially implemented" marks, meaning that the requirement, in one or several important aspects, was not entirely met.

A review conducted in 2009 and 2013 known as the Walker Partnerships Reports were also referenced.

Sheena Stack, vice-chairman of SEPAC's executive council, and Jeanne Teichert, chairman of the survey subcommittee, stressed that communication between SEPAC and the school administration is critical in advancing the special education program.

School Committee Chairman Annie Gilbert said her committee would review the 43 recommendations presented by SEPAC and provide its thoughts in as early as one month's time.

While SEPAC's focus, admittedly, was on the negatives that came from different surveys and reports, Gilbert said that there were many positives that resulted as well.

"In fairness to the many, many wonderful educators in our school district, I want to acknowledge that the Coordinated Program Review, the Walker Partnerships Report and the Need Assessment Survey all had accommodations and very positive comments as well," she said.

### SEPAC RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Transparency

Sheena Stack, vice-chairman of SEPAC's executive council, who presented the Special Education Parent Advisory Report, said the council recommends that all School Committee business be conducted at evening meetings and public input be allowed at every meeting.

School Committee workshops are oftentimes held on weekday mornings, which Stack said excludes the working public. She suggested that a policy be created to define the purpose of School Committee workshops, and that daytime meetings be televised.

#### Communication

SEPAC recommends that the Special Education Department implement a 24- to 48-hour response requirement to parents, make all reports relating to special education available on the district's website, and connect the link directly to the Andover SEPAC website. All reports relating to special education, such as the Walker Partnership Reports, also should be easily accessed on the district website.

Stack pointed to a 2013 report that said, "Andover

taxpayers paid \$15,380 in FY 2013 for this District-Wide Special Education Program Evaluation commissioned by the student services department. Results not presented to the public on the school website like other school districts, such as North Andover."

#### Teacher and staff training

SEPAC recommends the creation of a district-wide procedural manual for special education and 504 learning plans for all staff and parents, with SEPAC's executive council involved in its creation.

Stack reported that one survey respondent said that the "law mandates that school personnel be trained in basic special education regulatory requirements. If staff do not know what a child is entitled to as a matter of law, critical decisions can too easily be made based on administrative convenience or budget concerns, rather than on the child's needs."

#### Special education plans and protocols

Amid concerns over special education protocols,

SEPAC recommends proactively evaluating children comprehensively for all suspected disabilities beginning in kindergarten, providing appropriate intensive services to eligible children when they are younger and first identified, and using an external, independent resource to develop ongoing internal quality control.

According to the advisory council, some survey respondents suggested that the district does not work collaboratively with parents seeking special education services for their children.

SEPAC also recommends opening the search for "the most qualified candidate" for student services director with the goal of completing the transition from the interim position in June.

#### The role of SEPAC

The group recommends that the district encourage all staff to promote SEPAC in a positive way to parents, inviting the SEPAC executive council to meet with school staff and sending all SEPAC announcements to all Andover parents using the

district-wide email system, among others.

Stack said one of her group's concerns is the way it is viewed, as well as how special education students are viewed, across the district.

She said one survey respondent wrote that they were "disappointed that it seems that enormous amounts of money are spent on children with special needs per capita. We are not developing our children who can as much as we are developing our children who can't."

But Stack said that findings show that in Massachusetts, 90 percent of children with disabilities are as intellectually capable as their non-disabled peers of achieving academic proficiency.

"So their academic achievement should be substantially similar to their non-disabled peers, as long as they receive the special education services they need in order to learn," according to the presentation.

Stack said that with help from all Andover public schools staff, the stigma surrounding special education can change.

## TOP SECRET FUN



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photos

West Elementary School students send their homemade hovercrafts into the air during a group launch in the school cafeteria.

### Hovercrafts, magnets and more

A packed cafeteria of West Elementary School students made their own hovercrafts out of Styrofoam cups, experimented with crystals and dry ice and got introduced to the principles of physics as Top Secret Science came clean on weird reactions and more last week.

The traveling team from the Woburn-based educational center brought its hands-on

science program to the school for two nights, courtesy of the Parent Teacher Organization.

The science program is proving quite popular in town. This Wednesday night, Top Secret Science returned to Andover to host another program at High Plain Elementary School, also sponsored by that school's Parent Teacher Organization.



Luke Stump, 8, reacts to a science experiment with magnets during the Top Secret Science event.



Instructor Michael Berger of Top Secret Science demonstrates a hovercraft made with Styrofoam cups during one of two Top Secret Science programs at West Elementary School last week. The Woburn-based educational center was back in town this week for a program at High Plain Elementary.



Emma Ratner and Matt Janian, both 6, smile after building their hovercrafts out of Styrofoam cups.



Addie Wiley, 8, experiments with magnets through the table in the cafeteria of West Elementary School.

### EDUCATION NOTEBOOK

#### Austin Prep holding middle school open house

Austin Preparatory School in Reading will host an open house for families with students interested in enrolling in grades six through eight next year.

The Middle School Open House is Monday, Jan. 26, at 9 a.m. at 101 Willow St., Reading. All families are asked to register so the school is prepared for the number of students attending. Register at [www.austinprep.org/msopenhouse](http://www.austinprep.org/msopenhouse).

Students will have the opportunity to meet Headmaster James Hickey, speak with middle school faculty members and take tours of the campus with current middle school students. Tours will include visits to the arts and music wings, classrooms and multi-purpose facility/gymnasium.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Flynn, admissions coordinator, at [eflynn@austinprep.org](mailto:eflynn@austinprep.org) or at 781-944-4900, ext. 834.

#### UNICO of Merrimack Valley scholarships

UNICO of Merrimack Valley will once again be awarding scholarships to five deserving, college-bound Italian-American students this spring. Scholarships will be for \$2,500 each.

UNICO Merrimack Valley has provided more than \$200,000 in scholarship awards, and more than \$800,000 to local charities since its inception in 1990.

"The intent was then, and still remains, to provide financial assistance to distinguished, higher education-bound Italian-Americans within the Merrimack Valley and to honor the success and achievement that our Italian ancestors worked so hard to foster when they immigrated to this country," Scholarship Committee Chairman Joseph DiBlasi, Esq. said in a release.

For more information or to apply, visit UNICO of Merrimack Valley at [unicomerrimackvalley.org](http://unicomerrimackvalley.org).

Have an item for the Education Notebook? Email [townsmen@andovertownsmen.com](mailto:townsmen@andovertownsmen.com).



Please recycle this newspaper.



# TownsBeat

## ‘It must be our dream’

### Call for all to pursue social justice at MLK Jr. unity celebration

By PAUL TENNANT  
Staff Writer

The community celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day with speeches, prayer, music, fellowship and perhaps most of all, expressions of the desire to make the dream of equality for all the reality in America.

Dr. Melinda Boone, superintendent of the public schools of Worcester, told at least 200 people who attended the Andover Baptist Church’s annual unity celebration and luncheon that the civil rights leader’s vision of a society without racial barriers cannot be “just Dr. King’s dream.”

“It must be our dream,” said Boone, the first African-American woman to head the Worcester school system, which serves 24,000 students.

Boone expressed sorrow for the large number of African-American men who are imprisoned. The United States has a larger prison population than any other country, she said, and she asserted that the criminal justice system discriminates against African-American men and boys.

She urged those gathered to get off the sidelines and work for the social justice that King envisioned more than 50 years ago.

“Why do we not go out and vote?” Boone asked. “We allow the dysfunction of Congress because we don’t vote.”

Describing herself as a “humble woman from the South” — she was the chief academic officer of the Norfolk, Va., public schools before she was hired in Worcester in 2009 — Boone said, “We have to get the muck on our boots.”

“What are you doing for others?” she asked, noting that King did not lead the struggle for equality “just for him.”

Echoing King’s challenge to Americans to put aside racial and other barriers, she quoted him: “We must learn to live together as brothers or perish as fools.”

Indeed, diversity reigned at Andover Baptist Church for the service and luncheon that followed, with all races and religions, men and women, and folks of all ages in attendance. The theme of this year’s event was “Rise Up! And Restore the Dream! Building Communities and Bridges Together.”

King was only 34 when he delivered his famed “I Have a Dream” speech in front of the Lincoln Memorial on Aug. 28, 1963. He was only 35 when he received the Nobel Peace Prize — and he was only 39 when he was gunned down in Memphis, Tenn., on April 4, 1968.

King was in Memphis to support a strike by sanitation workers. The night before he was slain, he gave a speech which in retrospect seems eerily like a premonition. He said he had “been to the mountaintop” and “seen the Promised Land” — but “I might not get there with you.”

Ralph Bledsoe, who teaches physics and chemistry at Andover High School, gave a stirring and riveting recitation of King’s most famous oration:

“I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

“I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

“Free at last, free at last, thank God almighty, we are free at last.”



Andover High School teacher Ralph Bledsoe delivers Martin Luther King Jr.’s famous “I Have a Dream” speech from the pulpit at Andover Baptist Church as the civil rights leader looks on in a photo.



Dr. Melinda Boone, superintendent of the Worcester Public School system, raises her arms and encourages the crowd to continue singing before giving the keynote speech during the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. unity celebration on Monday at Andover Baptist Church.



People rise to their feet to sing and clap along to a rendition of “I Feel Your Spirit” by the Andover Baptist Choir.



The crowd listens to the Andover Baptist Church choir perform “I Am” featuring soloist Perry Wynn during the church’s annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. service on Monday.



Andover Baptist Church pastor Rev. Lyndon Myers joins the church choir for a selection during Monday’s service.



The Andover Baptist Church choir is joined by the Choral Majority to sing “Alpha and Omega/Total Praise” during Monday’s service. For more photos, visit [www.andovertownsm.com](http://www.andovertownsm.com).

## Medieval treasure: Andover Choral Society to perform ‘Carmina Burana’

The Andover Choral Society, directed by Michael Driscoll, celebrates its 85th season with Carl Orff’s dramatic “Carmina Burana” on Sunday, Jan. 25, at 3 p.m. at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover.

Even if one doesn’t recognize the title, almost everyone has heard music from “Carmina Burana,” which is popular in television advertisements and movies.

The piece is based on a set of provocative, medieval texts that were discovered in a Bavarian monastery in 1803. More than a century later, German composer Carl Orff selected 24 of the poems to set to music.

The poems are at times tender, bawdy, amorous, irreverent and satirical, according to a release from the choral society. Orff’s musical setting combines

memorable melodies and colorful harmonies with heavy percussion to create music with a primal, visceral character, the release said.

“This concert promises to be a memorable experience. Twentieth-century German composer Carl Orff’s setting of the often-outlandish poems by anonymous Middle Age poets has become a modern-day pop classic,” Driscoll, who has been the chorus’ director since 2013, said in the release.

The chorus will be accompanied by two pianos and percussion. Soloists will be soprano Alecia Batson, tenor Christopher MacRae and baritone Bradford Gleim.

The performance will also spotlight a group of young singers from the Andover middle schools, under the direction of Katie Simko. The group, which includes students from Doherty, West and Wood Hill middle, is in its second year and Simko says the members

are excited to take the Rogers Center stage with the Andover Choral Society.

The Andover Choral Society is a community chorus dedicated to bringing high-quality choral music to the Merrimack Valley. The chorus performs two concerts each year at the Rogers Center featuring a repertoire that focuses on fine choral and choral-orchestral works from the Baroque era to the 21st century.

Since 1929, membership in the chorus has been open to anyone with a love of great choral music and a desire to share that love with others.

The concert is sponsored in part by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for students. Group rates are available. For tickets and information, call 978-682-4050 or visit [www.andoverchoralsociety.org](http://www.andoverchoralsociety.org).

## Out & About: Ward Winter Fun Day — with or without the snow

Get ready to explore Ward Reservation in Andover and North Andover on Sunday during The Trustees of Reservations’ annual Ward Winter Fun Day. The Trustees, in partnership with the Andover Trails Committee and Friends of North Andover Trails, will once again host the popular community event from noon to 3 p.m.

The afternoon will offer a variety of guided hikes around the property as well as refreshments by a roaring fire. The hike schedule is:

- 12:30 p.m.: Guided hike to Boston Hill, 3 miles, 1 1/2 hours
- 1 p.m.: Guided hike to Judy Trail, 3 miles, 1 1/2 hours
- Periodic guided hikes

around Holt Hill and the bog, 1 mile, half-hour

The event goes off with or without snow, but if the weather allows, there will be cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and sledding as well.

Admission to the property and for all Winter Fun Day activities is free. Parking is available at the reservation entrance on Prospect Road, east of Route 125, in Andover. Signs will direct people to the activities.

For more information on Ward Winter Fun Day, call Adam Rollfs at 978-886-5297 or email [arollfs@ttor.org](mailto:arollfs@ttor.org). For more on winter seasonal activities throughout the region, visit [www.thetrustees.org/about-us/press-room/press-releases/embrace-winter.html](http://www.thetrustees.org/about-us/press-room/press-releases/embrace-winter.html).



# A role model for life

## Andover mother selected as Boys & Girls Club's mentor of the year

Holly Jenkins of Andover was feted by the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence last week for her six years of dedicated service as a mentor.

Jenkins received the 2014 Paul Cronin Award at a ceremony last Tuesday during the club's annual dinner honoring mentors and their youth protégés, in recognition of January as National Mentoring Month.

The award is named for the late U.S. Congressman Paul Cronin and given annually to a club volunteer who goes above and beyond in using education as a tool for kids to fulfill their potential. "This award is very meaningful, and I feel honored to receive it," Jenkins said in a release.

Markus Fischer, the club's executive director, said Jenkins' involvement with the club's Mentoring Works program has been "a model of success."

"We're very appreciative to Holly for her longtime dedication to changing kids' lives," Fischer said.

Jenkins and her husband, Ted, began volunteering at the club 10 years ago when their sons, Ben and Bryce,



COURTESY PHOTO

**Holly Jenkins of Andover celebrates Meaghan Belton's 2013 graduation from Lawrence High School. Jenkins received the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence's 2014 Paul Cronin Award last week for her role mentoring Belton as well as for her other volunteer work at the club over the last 10 years.**

were 12 and 9 years old, respectively.

Four years later, Jenkins, who has also tutored in the homework room and served on numerous fundraising committees, joined the Mentoring Works program.

She was paired with Meaghan Belton, whom she initially remembers as a shy and soft-spoken eighth-grader.

"In the beginning, I was nervous about whether I'd

be able to really make a difference for Meaghan, but it has been such a fun, positive experience," Jenkins said. "All it takes is putting yourself out there."

The pair has enjoyed shopping, boating, sporting events, numerous lunches and dinners, and college visits.

Even more important to Belton, however, was the extra effort Jenkins made to cheer for her at basketball

and softball games and track meets at Lawrence High School.

"Holly has become a role model and a mother figure, and is a huge part of my life," said Belton, who is now a sophomore studying criminal justice at Fitchburg State University. "Every day, I am grateful."

Jenkins and Belton continue to keep in touch by phone, text messaging and visits whenever the college co-ed comes home on break.

"Meaghan is so beautiful, poised, and confident. I feel incredibly blessed to be her mentor," said Jenkins, whose younger son, Bryce, went on to become a mentor to two club boys when he was in high school.

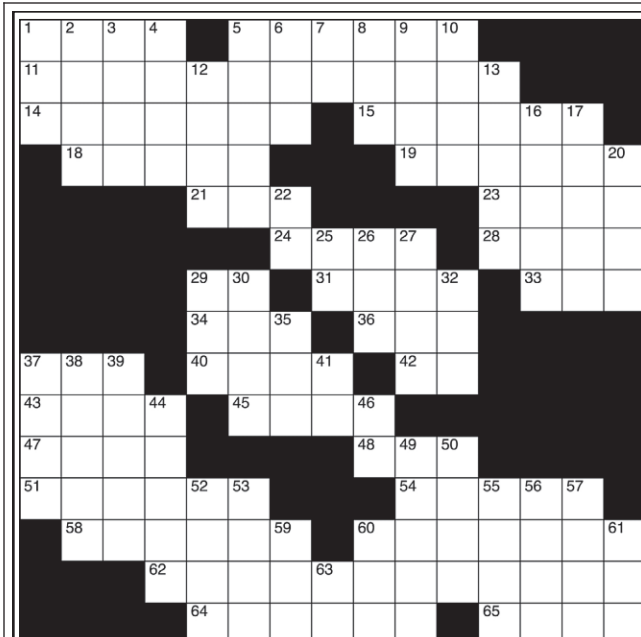
"The feeling of knowing that I can help shape her life for the better is indescribable."

For more information about the Boys & Girls Club's Mentoring Works program, contact Amanda Hinchcliffe, director of program services, at 978-683-2747, ext. 129, or ahinchcliffe@lawrencebgc.com.

The club also offers other

programs that focus on academic success, healthy lifestyles and community involvement at two locations

in Lawrence. For more information, visit [www.lawrencebgc.com](http://www.lawrencebgc.com).



Solution in Classified Section

### CLUES ACROSS

- Cut into cubes
- Food flavorings
- Longest tenured "Tonight Show" host
- One being educated
- British conservatives
- End without completion
- Boater
- Indicated horsepower (abbr.)
- Protects the chest
- Expresses pleasure
- Stiff hair, bristle
- Blood type
- Taxis
- Ribbed material
- Young female socialite
- Game cube
- Priest's liturgical vestment
- 2.1 km tributary of the river Seille
- The golden state
- Powder mineral
- Coat with plaster
- Far East housemaid
- Digital audiotape
- Merchandising
- Libreville is the capital
- Incapable of flexibility
- Language of Andorra
- Repeat in concise form
- Dark areas
- Enough (archaic)

### CLUES DOWN

- Disk jockeys
- 9th Greek letter
- Fish of the carp family
- Medical prefix for within
- Short for synthesizer
- What part of (abbr.)
- Farm state
- Thermionic vacuum tube
- Employee stock ownership plan
- A crane
- Filippo \_\_, Saint
- One below tens
- Impatiently desirous
- Inflict a heavy blow
- As fast as can be done (abbr.)
- Ma's partner
- Carrier's invention
- Possessed
- Invests in little enterprises
- Summate
- Rosary part
- A large body of water
- Woman's undergarment
- Essential oil obtained from flowers
- Cripples
- An explosion
- Of, French
- Fish of the genus *Salvelinus*
- Bahrain dinar
- Banded calcedony
- Giant armadillo
- In place of
- Electronic counter-countermeasures
- Large package of cotton
- 3564 m French Alp
- European defense organization
- Check
- Former OSS
- Not old
- Goodwill promotion

1/22/15

## Local woman named Lawrence treasurer/tax collector

By KEITH EDDINGS  
Staff Writer

Andover's Vivian Haydar has returned to her Lawrence roots as that city's new treasurer and tax collector.

The 39-year-old Lawrence High School graduate was appointed to the post last week by Lawrence Mayor Daniel Rivera.

Since graduating from Lawrence High 22 years ago, Haydar has helped oversee billion-dollar funds for Putnam Investments, managed foreign investors with State Street Corp. and, most recently, taught high school math to international students in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

She now joins the city of Lawrence's small financial team at City Hall and in Boston working on Lawrence's recovery from near bankruptcy five years ago.

"I still have family here, my church is here, I have strong ties to the city," Haydar said last Thursday, her fourth day on the job. "(Returning) was always something in the back of my mind. I saw the treasurer's position posted and I thought I'd be a perfect fit."

She takes a job that two Lawrence mayors have been unable to keep filled in the five years since Patricia Cook retired on Dec. 20, 2011. Former Mayor William Lantigua hired Deborah Nowicki a year later, but fired her after

four months. She once asked her union if she could bring a firearm to work because she said she feared some of the residents who came to her office seeking services.

The treasurer's job remained open for another 10 months, until Rivera hired John Pica in February 2014. But insurance companies balked at providing the personal bond Pica needed, citing his troubled personal financial history. Rivera moved him to the comptroller's job, then fired him in June as The Eagle-Tribune was preparing a story reporting he did not have the accounting degree he claimed.

The treasurer's job

remained vacant until Haydar reported to work on Jan. 12. She'll earn \$63,909, plus a \$3,000 stipend for serving as treasurer of the city's retirement fund.

As treasurer and tax collector, Haydar will supervise about 10 employees who manage the city's investments, reconcile its bank statements, administer its payroll, manage its debts and bond issues and collect its revenues, including \$58 million in property and personal tax revenues this year.

"I'm up for the challenge," Haydar said. "I can give back to the city I grew up in. I've always been connected to the city."

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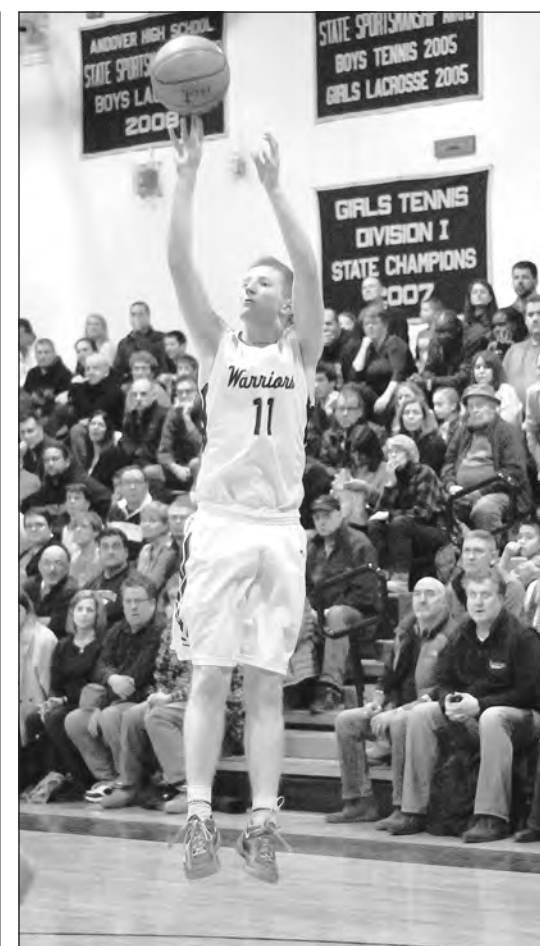
# Sports

## MASKED WOMAN



Andover High goalie Meghan Johnson, wearing her trademark American flag mask, makes a save during a win over Beverly/Danvers last season. Johnson has emerged as a star in goal for the Lady Warriors.

MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Ryan O'Connell fires up a three-pointer in front of the crowd during the Golden Warriors' comeback victory over North Andover last Friday. O'Connell had 10 points in the win.

## Shi takes four golds, boys swimming rolls to win

### BOYS SWIMMING

**Eric Shi** won the 200 IM (2:03.77) and 100 breaststroke (1:03.83) and swam on the winning 200 medley relay and 200 freestyle relay as Andover topped Lexington 98-83 last Thursday. **Adi Arifovic** won the 200 freestyle and **Tucker Blanch** won the diving for the Warriors.

### GIRLS TRACK

#### Kobelski a double-winner

**Lizzie Kobelski** won the 55 hurdles in 9.09 and took the long jump with a 15-9.7 as Andover beat North Andover 54-41 last Thursday. **Hannah Ameen** won the dash, **Michelle Gencorelli** took the 300 and **Sarah Rothmann** won the 2-mile for the Warriors.

### GIRLS SKIING

#### Faigel grabs silver

**Sara Faigel** placed second overall in 23.78 as Andover rolled past Haverhill 130.5 last Wednesday, Jan. 14. **Olivia Lawler** was sixth and **Sylvia Leung** took 13th for the Warriors.

### BOYS HOCKEY

#### Schuwert stays hot

**Steve Schuwert** scored one goal and assisted on another to lead Andover to a 4-2 victory over Westford Academy last Wednesday, Jan. 14. **Zach Walker**, **Brian Sargent** and **Matt Croston** each added single goals and **Nick Scarpa** made 22 saves for the winners.

On the verge of a huge tie against their powerhouse archrivals, the Warriors saw their hopes dashed with a goal in the final seconds to fall to Central Catholic 3-2 on Saturday. **Steve Schuwert** and **Will Sauerbrunn** each scored for Andover.

### GIRLS HOCKEY

#### Freshman answers call

Tapped to start for the first time in her career after starter **Meghan Johnson** was scratched due to illness, freshman **Kyra Morissette** stepped up with 16 saves in a shutout effort as Andover dealt Haverhill its first loss of the season, 2-0, on Saturday.

"Meghan said she wasn't feeling well and I was like, 'Oh, I'm going in,'" Morissette said, chuckling. "It was kind of nerve-racking because I kept looking through people and this is the second game I've played in this season. So I'm not totally used to the speed yet, but this is a really good opportunity for me to get used to it."

**Jojo Olson** and **Krystal Brighton** each scored a goal for the winners.

Despite 32 saves for **Meghan Johnson**, Andover fell to Austin Prep 5-0 last Wednesday, Jan. 14.

### BOYS BASKETBALL

#### Warriors rally for win

Trailing heading into the fourth quarter and facing a monster performance by North Andover star **Wabissa Bede** (33 points), **E.J. Perry IV** stepped up to spark a rally and lead Andover past the Scarlet Knights 76-61 last Friday. Perry scored 16 points while **Connor Merinder** added a team-high 17 points.

Despite 22 points for **E.J. Perry IV**, Andover suffered its second straight loss last Tuesday, Jan. 13, falling to league foe Tewksbury 63-61. **Connor Merinder** added 16 points for the Warriors.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

#### Caveney scores big

**Colleen Caveney** tallied a team-high 21 points while **Jillian Webber** continued to emerge with 14 points as

See **ROUNDUP**, Page 19

## Johnson a star in goal for Lady Warriors hockey team

By DAVID WILLIS  
dwillis@andovertownsmen.com

Meghan Johnson knew it was all on her shoulders. The then-junior knew there was no one behind her, so whether it was nerves, soreness or even pain, Johnson would have to fight through it and take the ice.

"I was the only goalie on the varsity team so what were they going to do without me," she said. "It was nerve-racking. There were games when it was tough to go out there. But I love to play and help my team."

After two seasons as a backup, Johnson emerged as the starting goalie for the Andover High girls hockey team last season, and this season she has continued to star for the Golden Warriors, who entered the week 7-2-2. "It has been awesome," said Johnson, also a member of the National Honor Society and currently enrolled in two Advanced Placement classes. "The success as a team is kind of unexpected. We have a new coach (Kevin Drew) and he has just been awesome. We are working in a new system and everything is going very good."

Johnson has been in net for all but one game for the Golden Warriors this season — she missed one appearance due to an allergic reaction — delivering a 1.7 goals-against average. That includes allowing just a single goal in a victory over powerhouse Arlington Catholic and



Courtesy photo

Meghan Johnson had an impressive 1.7 goals-against average going into this week. She is in her second season as Andover's starting goalie.

making 19 saves in a 2-1 win over power Austin Prep.

"She (Johnson) was tremendous in the (Arlington Catholic) win," Drew said. "This was definitely an upset and Meghan led us."

As a child, Johnson's motivation to play hockey was very simple.

"My older brother, Rory, played and I was very competitive with him," she said. "He was doing it, so I wanted to prove I could do it."

"At first, I was a defenseman, but then my brother switched to goalie, so I had to play goalie. I made the change to goal, much to my parents' dismay. But I loved it right away. Goalie wasn't like

anything else. Every game is different. You will never have the same challenges twice."

After playing boys hockey early in her career, including a season as a teammate of current Andover High boys goalie Nick Scarpa, she finally switched to playing girls hockey.

As a freshman at Andover High, Johnson served as backup to Mackenzie Dutton, seeing her first action in relief in a blowout victory over Bishop Guertin in Nashua, N.H. She then made her first start in the next game.

"In my first start, we lost to Chelmsford and I was terrified," she said. "I felt so bad after we lost. But after that

### PATRIOTIC PROTECTION

One of Johnson's most noticeable features on the ice is her trademark American flag mask. How it ended up in her possession is quite a tale.

"My dad's friend used to date one of the Team USA goalies," Johnson said. "She left one of her masks at his house and never came back for it, so he gave it to me."

game, I learned to shake off the bad games and learn from it."

Johnson again split time

See **HOCKEY**, Page 19

## Making a splash

### Andover native powerful closer on record-setting masters swim team

By TIM LIMA  
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

A swimmer since age 3, Liz Mancuso quite literally grew up in a pool.

Yet after besting competitors, setting records, gaining notoriety and propelling her masters swim team to being the best 400-meter freestyle relay swim time ever recorded, the 29-year-old Mancuso remains hungry for more.

It's an appetite that gets her out of her Boston home every morning and into the Boston University pool by 6 a.m., before heading to Tewksbury where she works as an elementary school psychologist.

"It's a time that's just for me," Mancuso said. "I can put the iPhone away and forget about everything that goes on around me on a daily basis to concentrate on what I need to do for just that one hour."

Mancuso grew up in Andover



Courtesy photo

Andover native Liz Mancuso, left, poses with her fellow members on the record-setting Boston University Masters Swim 400-meter freestyle relay team, from left, Kelsey Wilson, Ildiko Szekely and Kelsey Roggensack.

See **SWIMMING**, Page 19



COMMUNITY SCOREBOARD

Local man promoted as Red Sox scout

Andover native and Phillips Academy grad **Gus Quattlebaum** has a new position with the Boston Red Sox. He has been named assistant director of professional and international scouting. He previously served as Red Sox assistant director of amateur scouting for the past five seasons. Quattlebaum is entering his 10th year in the Red Sox organization. He joined the Sox in 2006 as a professional scout. He began his baseball career as a player

development intern for the Montreal Expos in 1998, then served as a scout for the New York Yankees (1999-2003) and Baltimore Orioles (2004-06).

Zavrl earns field hockey recognition

**Laura Zavrl**, who enrolled at Lawrence Academy as a sophomore this fall, received honorable mention from the Independent School League in recognition of her performance during her first season on the Spartans' field hockey team. She is the daughter of Paula and Frank Zavrl of Andover.

Austin Prep athletes win fall awards

Three Andover students at Austin Preparatory School in Reading earned recognition for their outstanding athletic contributions for the fall season.

Freshman **Andrew Kazmer** won the Sportsmanship Award for his varsity boys cross country team. Sophomore **Nicole Poirie** garnered



Nicole Poirie



Aleksey Gorman

the Most Improved Player Award for her varsity volleyball team. Sophomore **Aleksey Gorman** received the Coaches Award on the varsity boys cross country team.

To submit an item for the Community Scoreboard, email townsman@andovertownsmen.com.

SWIMMING

Continued from Page 18

and attended Andover High after enrolling in middle school at Austin Preparatory School in Reading. In 2010, her senior season as a member of Andover High's swim and dive team, she was named the Massachusetts High School Swimmer of the Year. It is just one of several honors she has earned.

From there, she led Dartmouth College as its swim captain, broke a six-year school record in the 400 individual medley, finished 10th at the Ivy Championships and was a member of the team that broke a school record in each of the 200, 400 and 800 freestyle relays. She's also in the Dartmouth All-Time Top 10 in the 50-, 100- and 200-meter freestyle races.

It's no surprise that she was also inducted into the

Wearers of the Green, Dartmouth's Athletic Hall of Fame, in 2009.

She also competes in open water races — distance competitions held in the ocean. She excels at them, too. In 2010, she won the 8-mile Boston Light Open Water Swim, the oldest open water swim marathon in the United States.

"Swimming in a pool and in open water are extremely different," she said. "I'd prefer to swim in the pool though. When you're in open water, you're dealing with the elements, but it's a nice thing to do in the summer."

For now, Mancuso is focused on bettering her Boston University Masters Swim Team — a group of four swimmers ages 19 and over who simply love swimming and competition. They call themselves the BUMS.

She's enjoying it — and the success — immensely. In fact, one of her most

impressive career accomplishments came last month as a member of the BUMS when she was part of a world record-setting moment.

At the team's Dec. 13 competition, Mancuso, the last of four swimmers on her 400-meter relay team, said she could see everyone cheering and jumping up and down as she entered her fourth and final lap in the pool, so "I picked it up."

She was amazed to learn what had happened after she climbed out of the pool.

"We were all shocked when we got the world record — that's not something we thought we could do," she said.

With a time of 4:04.38, the BUMS cut off more than a second from Great Britain's time (4:05.61) set in 2012 to snag the world record. The team also chopped nearly five seconds from the national record (4:09.19) set in 2001. Mancuso's parents,

Michael and Stanice Mancuso, were both on hand to experience the thrill with her.

"It was a mixture of excitement and disbelief. I mean, a world record — that's pretty amazing," Stanice Mancuso said.

She added that she thinks her daughter's love of swimming and competition began as a toddler, racing for 12.5 yards in a doggy paddle race.

"I think she just got hooked on it," she said. "For some people, it's running. For her, it's swimming."

Though just weeks removed from the swim of her life, Mancuso already has her sights set on her next accomplishment. She hopes to compete in the Great Chesapeake Bay Swim in Maryland this June.

A spot in that race is so sought after that participants are selected via a lottery system. Mancuso is keeping her fingers crossed.

ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 18

Andover rolled past Tewksbury 63-38 last Tuesday, Jan. 13. **Alyssa Casey** added 17 points for the winners.

While **Alyssa Casey** contributed 22 points, Andover suffered its first loss of the season, falling to North

Andover 62-56 last Friday. **Colleen Caveney** added 13 points for the Warriors.

BOYS SKIING

Buher paces Andover

**Matt Buher** was first in for Andover in 21.59 as the Golden Warriors beat Haverhill 133-2, but lost to Manchester Essex 78-57 last Tuesday, Jan. 13.



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HOCKEY

Continued from Page 18

with Dutton as a sophomore before finally stepping in as the starter last season. But with one catch; she did not have a backup on the varsity team.

"I just had to make sure I avoided situations so I didn't get hurt," she said. "Things definitely happened fast, but after a few starts, I got used to it and just started playing hockey."

Johnson was in net for every game last winter, leading the Golden Warriors to an 11-7-4 record and a trip to the Division 1 state tournament.

But she feels she is every more advanced in goal this season.

"I think I have learned the mind-set that you can be a technically perfect goalie, but if you are not pushing yourself and being creative, than what's the point?" she said. "No matter how technical

you are, you will still give up goals. You have to be able to react and be creative."

Whatever Johnson is doing, it is certainly working this winter. She cited her favorite victory as the upset over Arlington Catholic.

"That game was just amazing," she said. "If you had told me as a freshman that we would someday beat maybe the best team in the state, I would have called you a liar. That was a great, tough game. The Austin Prep game was great, too."

Johnson, who plans to play club hockey at Smith College in Northampton, hopes there are more great memories before the season is done.

"I hope we can make a great playoff run," she said. "I think we have the players to do it."

*David Willis is a sports-writer/videographer for The Andover Townsman. Reach him on Twitter at @DWillisET.*

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

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

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

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line ad publication deadlines: dailies:

The Eagle-Tribune, Gloucester Daily Times, The Salem News, Daily News of Newburyport Monday.....5pm Friday Tuesday-Saturday.....5pm day prior Sunday paper.....5pm Friday (auto only) Sunday paper.....5pm Friday

weeklies:

Carriage Towne News: 12pm Friday Andover Townsman, Derry News & Haverhill Gazette: 5pm Tuesday

Cancellation/change deadlines: same as publication deadlines



Announcements

AUCTIONS New Hampshire - Foreclosure: 2,382 + SF Duplex on Half an Acre AUCTION: Tues., Feb. 10 @ 1PM 6 Butler Avenue, Hinsdale, NH

HAPPY ADS

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

INSTRUCTIONAL

G/C BUILDER'S LICENSE COURSE Register by April 3rd, for Danvers, Lowell, Haverhill, MA

LOST & FOUND

THE FAMILY OF LIZ AND PETER COURTNEY seeking to find the person holding ART WORK OF LISA COURTNEY.

PERSONALS

PHOTO SEARCH: Looking for Photo of my grandfather's commercial fishing vessel, the "Helen D. Lane" 43ft auxiliary sloop built and launched Gloucester MA.

RESORT/TIME SHARE

KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA - Legacy Vacation Club (4 miles from Magic Kingdom). Week 8 (NH school vacation). \$2000. Call (617) 504-9530

Real Estate

HOMES 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!!!

Beverly - 2 bedroom ranch in desirable Ryal Side location. Single level living, large yard. \$187,500

Tache RE (978) 745-2004

Beverly - Grand old 3 bedroom colonial on small residential side street with good curb appeal that does not stop at the front door! \$364,900

Tache RE (978) 745-2004

First Run BYFIELD (Newbury) Spacious Colonial, 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 baths, eat-in-kitchen plus dining room, fireplace living room, super family room with sliders to deck and pool. Lower level has 2 rooms, 2 car garage. \$449,900

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

Gloucester-Oceanfront Colonial Cottage! Desirable Back Shore Neighborhood, 4 bdrm/3 baths, ocean views, close to Good Harbor Beach, tennis, golf, shopping & restaurants. \$1,099,000

Mary Ciaraldi J Barrett & Company 978-882-4048 marciaraldi@jbarrettrealty.com

Lynn - Cozy 4 room, 2 bedroom home with potential to make a walk in closet. Good condo alternative. \$99,900

Tache RE (978) 745-2004

Lynn - Young 6 room, 3 bedroom Colonial centrally located on a side street has endless possibilities. \$157,900

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.

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 fireplace Great Room, veranda, screened porch, country kitchen. Come see! \$739,000

NEWTON, NH: New Construction/5 Lot subdivision Zena Lane, 3 bed Colonials \$369,900

Peabody - 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial in Gardner Park area. Wood and ceramic flooring, finished room in basement. \$399,900

WINDHAM New Colonial w/Custom Kitchen, Lge Family room w/ gas FP Master Suite. Generous Allowances! \$599K (603) 382-0360 CLASSIC HOMES RE

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

FREMONT Like New Condo! 2 Lge bdms, open concept, bamboo floors Mostly finished basement! NEW PRICE \$210K. 603-382-0360

Gloucester-Top level garden style condo offers fully applianced eat-in kitchen opening into living room with exclusive balcony to enjoy ocean vista and breezes.

Gloucester-Upper level garden style condo offering open floor plan, two car parking, updated kitchen with s/s, w/d hook ups, hardwood floors and more.

Middleton-Lovely rare corner unit with 1765 sq ft of living space at The Tower. Beautiful panoramic views, sliders to 30 ft balcony, 2 bedroom, 2 baths and garage parking. \$314,900

Peabody-Wonderful space in this 1st floor, 3 bedroom condo in downtown area. Wood floors, modern kitchen, separate utilities and parking. \$242,000

Salem - 1st floor 2 bedroom condo in convenient location. Hardwood and good size rooms. Moments to everything! \$154,900

Salem - 2 bedroom townhouse in Victorian home. Lots of charm, stainless steel kitchen, deck, wood floors and 2 car parking, pet friendly. \$259,900

Salem - 2 luxurious units in the historic district. Beautifully remodeled with much original detail. \$269,900 and \$349,900

Gloucester - LAND Plum Cove-.52 acres, 2-Private parcels - Build your dream home at the beach. Close to Lansenville Village. Sewer betterment complete with small balance-two lots combined meet the current R-20 zoning requirement. Offered at \$275,000

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 progress. \$225,000

NYS LAND SALE ADIRONDACK TIMBERLANDS 80-2,000 acre hunting clubs. Starting at \$365/acre. Financing available Call 1-800-229-7843. Or visit www.LandandCamps.com NECAN

Gloucester-Long Term Rental. Fully furnished three room one bedroom top-level condo offers eat-in kitchen opening into living room with exclusive balcony. Features spacious rooms, air conditioning and assigned parking. Close to Magnolia Village and beach and MBTA. No Pets. First and Security required. Minimum credit score of 675 to qualify. \$1,485/mo

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REAL ESTATE WANTED

LISTINGS Wanted! Call 603-382-0360 Now's the time with inventory LOW! Contact us today for a FREE Market Analysis! CLASSIC HOMES RE

VACATION PROPERTIES/SALES

First Run Boston Marriott Custom House Timeshare for sale: Gold Season- Nov-May 7days Kitchenette and king bed Original Price \$20,000 asking \$1500 978-468-7501

Palm Coast REAL ESTATE

TIRED OF SHOVELING? COLD WEATHER? LONG WINTERS? Isn't it time you started enjoying the good life? PARADISE FOUND: Palm Coast, FL offers Golf, Beach, Trails & more!

INVESTMENT PROPERTY

TIRED OF SHOVELING? COLD WEATHER? LONG WINTERS? Isn't it time you started enjoying the good life? PARADISE FOUND: Palm Coast, FL offers Golf, Beach, Trails & more!

Palm Coast REAL ESTATE

TIRED OF SHOVELING? COLD WEATHER? LONG WINTERS? Isn't it time you started enjoying the good life? PARADISE FOUND: Palm Coast, FL offers Golf, Beach, Trails & more!

Gloucester-Winter Rental: Oceanfront Colonial Cottage in the Back Shore Neighborhood. 4 Bedrooms 3 baths with panoramic ocean views. Close to Good Harbor Beach, shopping and restaurants. \$2,750 per month.

Gloucester-Winter Rental: Oceanfront Colonial Cottage in the Back Shore Neighborhood. 4 Bedrooms 3 baths with panoramic ocean views. Close to Good Harbor Beach, shopping and restaurants. \$2,750 per month.

Rentals

Gloucester-Winter Rental: Oceanfront Colonial Cottage in the Back Shore Neighborhood. 4 Bedrooms 3 baths with panoramic ocean views. Close to Good Harbor Beach, shopping and restaurants. \$2,750 per month.

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APARTMENTS

HAVERHILL Nice 2 Bedroom \$1325 newly renovated bldg, on site parking, laundry hookups. Utilities not included. No dogs, cats will consider equal opportunity landlord 603-458-1884

METHUEN, MA - Elm Crest Estates, 2 Bedroom \$1,150/mo. 1 Bedroom - \$930 mo. All utilities included. No pets. 978-882-4891 www.fortrent.com/elmcrestestates

Rockport- Year Round Rental: Bearskin Neck! Spacious townhouse with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Year round harbor and ocean views. Close to shopping, restaurants, galleries and theater. Potential to use part of apartment for commercial space. \$2200 per month.

Mary Ciaraldi J Barrett & Company 978-882-4038 marciaraldi@jbarrettrealty.com

ROWLEY, MA Millwood Apartments

Tranquility, fresh air & plenty of parking await you at our oasis in the woods. Spacious 2 bedroom apartments from only \$1120-\$1140 including heat/hot water. Professional 24 hr. on-site management plus many other amenities.

SALEM, NH: Best Location! 2 b 3 bedrooms \$1,100 - \$1,450. Includes heat / hot water; Very clean, fully applianced. Coin-op laundry. No dogs. Call 603-458-1884

SALEM NH-Westgate Arms Carefree Living One Bedroom From \$850 Two Bedrooms From \$905 Heat/Hot Water Included No Lease Required. No pets. Subject To Credit Approval Call 603-898-9206 for info GILBERT G. CAMPBELL visit us at www.campbellapts.com

SALEM, NH - Willows Park, 2 Bedroom - \$1010/mo. 1 Bedroom - \$895/mo. Heat/hot water included. No pets. 603-894-4631 www.fortrent.com/willowparknh

METHUEN - 2 station stall. Includes sinks, cabinetry, tile floors, track lighting washer dryer hookup plus water. No NNN. 978-804-3331 or 702-400-4781

METHUEN - Pizza restaurant. Fully equipped. No NNN. Next to Days Inn off Pelham St. 978-804-3331 or 702-400-4781

NO Andover MA New Year Special \$395 Retailer Spa Rm Rt 114. Full service individual offices. 978-685-5440 www.officesites.com

NO. ANDOVER - Rte 114 Willows 1100' sf 1st floor end unit office - 4 offices 2 open areas, 2 lavs, kitchen, a/c, lots of parking \$1650/mo + elec. NO. READING / ANDOVER Line Rte. 281 High exposure attractive free standing bldgs, signage, parking prof suites 1100-3800' sq ft. H/Hot Water. \$1650-1911

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

Summerview RE Commercial/Retail & Bus www.srsre.com / WE GET RESULTS! Sm Rm. With bathroom Retail Strip Busy - \$350 Retail So NH \$1395/mo / 2k sq ft NH ..... \$1,235 4 Room Office Londondary NH ..... \$95,000 Sm 2 Rm Office, all utilities included ..... \$450 WAREHOUSE: So NH, 1500ft. 12' -14' garage door, 800 - 40,000 sq. ft. some docks. Derry and Nashua NH ..... \$1,295 Derry Food processing plant 6000 ft. .... \$5,495 \*OFFICES: Southern NH. Includes All Utilities 4 Rooms ..... \$850 also Large 20 X 24 retail office ..... \$495 Mill Space NH 100 - 400 cars 300 - 5000 ft

So. N. H. Partner Needed Restaurant Bar seats 160, sales 1 mil year, ..... \$114,900 Hardware Store Business ..... \$69,000 C-Store; 7-11 gas/c-store ..... \$109,000 Convenience Store ..... Under Agreement Pizza Shops for sale all inc. .... \$29,000 Former Grocery Store Land & Bld ..... \$55,000 Food and Bar for sale ..... coming soon! \*Join our Company and make \$\$\$ in 2015\* No Dues No Charge for leads and Ads.

Southern NH and Mass \*\*603-432-5453\*\*

MANUFACTURED HOMES DERRY, NH - Kendall Pond Community Brand new home, 3 bedroom 2 full bath. \$1400/mo. Call 603-479-3194

SALISBURY, MA: 3 bedroom mobile, \$1,000/mo plus utilities. 1st, last, \$500 security. No pets. Call 603-760-2503

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

LAWRENCE MA best rooming house 59 Tremont 978-689-8924. 362 Essex 978-682-9078 Saba RE 978-687-8706

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

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

W. NEWBURY FREE CABLE, microwave & fridge in room, laundry on same level, parking, \$520. Avail Feb. 1st. Call 978-363-1842.

MOTELS/HOTELS A-1 RENTALS Getting Divorced? Live at the Salisbury Inn. From \$200/week. 978-465-5584

VACATION RENTALS OCEANFRONT SALISBURY BEACH/SEABROOK Beautiful 3 bedroom condo, directly on the ocean with parking! June 1 & on 978-975-4001

Miscellaneous

PUZZLE SOLUTION

AT - 1/22.1/29/15

ROOMMATES

AMESBURY Private room 9 x 12, furnished, all utilities included. Full access to bath & kitchen. \$530/mo. Non smoker. Responsible person looking for same. 978-388-6148

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

ANDOVER-Professional to share immaculate 4 bedroom home in quiet area. Easy access to 495 & 93. \$900/mo + utilities. 978-808-3885.

BRADFORD, FURNISHED Room, off 495 & 125. \$550/mo. includes utilities. No pets. 1st & last month. 978-857-8775.

CLOSE TO MA/NH border, Rtes. 95/495, share large house. No pets. Heat, electric, washer/dryer included. \$545. NON-SMOKER Call 603-394-7336; or 978-807-0569

LAWRENCE MA clean, single private furnished room in quiet home. All utilities included, bus stop across street. \$150 weekly. No Pets / smoking. Call 978-686-2595

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

PLAISTOW, NH Seeking nonsmoker to share 3 bedroom rooming house. Spacious, 10.5 x 13 bedroom (including closet) with window. Private storage available. Private yard with garden. Some pets allowed. Comes with heat, water, cable, wi-fi. W/D. \$565 + 1/3 electric. Call Chis any time 603-396-0362

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

EMPLOYMENT BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES EARN \$500 A DAY: Insurance Agents Needed; Leads, No Cold Calls; Commissions Paid Daily; Lifetime Renewals; Complete Training; Health & Dental Insurance; Life License Required NECAN

NOTICE Some advertisements running in this category may require an interview

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

DRIVERS RECEPTIONIST NEEDED F/T Mon - Fri. Bilingual / Spanish a plus. Apply in person at: 1 Corporate Park Dr., Unit 7, Derry NH

\$2000 BONUS Starting pay \$25.00/hour DRIVERS Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Tank Truck work. Immediate openings for full time, part time drivers with a minimum of 3 years CDL Class A semi trailer experience. Teamsters Union. We offer paid holidays, vacation, medical/dental insurance and pension. Paid product training and orientation. Uniforms provided. Safety bonus home daily & excellent equipment. Requirements include Class A license with tank and HAZMAT endorsements, 3 years clean driving record and company drug screening. Must have in hand current DOT physical card, and DOT long form as well as social security card and RMV driving record, less than 30 days old.

TRANS GAS Lowell, MA, 978-856-2913 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Mon.-Fri. EOE

GENERAL HELP WANTED Awesome Opportunities! Securitas Security Services is looking to hire entry level security officers to work 2nd and 3rd shifts. Must be dependable, Customer Service oriented and must be comfortable operating a computer. Average starting hourly rate is \$11. Join a growing security company that offers growth to it's employees. Short hand desirable. Excellent written and oral communication skills are essential Salary commensurate with experience. Send resume with cover letter and salary requirements to: ETPC Job #750 100 Turnpike St. North Andover, MA, 01845

LEGAL SECRETARY Salem, Massachusetts law firm needs a full time Legal Secretary with at least 3-5 years of law office experience. Excellent typing and computer skills (Word, Excel and Timeslips), strong organizational skills and the ability to work independently are required. Short hand desirable. Excellent written and oral communication skills are essential Salary commensurate with experience. Send resume with cover letter and salary requirements to: ETPC Job #750 100 Turnpike St. North Andover, MA, 01845

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SALES Peabody Supply Co. Methuen is looking to hire a FULL TIME counter sales person...

TRADES/INDUSTRIAL Benevento Companies, Wilmington, Mass. Maintenance Garage Positions Available...

SKILLED TRADES: BUILDING PROF. JOBS! No Resume? No Problem! Monster Match assigns a professional to hand-match each job seeker with each employer!

CREATE YOUR PROFILE NOW BY PHONE OR WEB FREE! Call Today Sunday, or any day! Use Job Code 40!

Electrician Carpenter Plumber: Pipefitter & Steamfitter HVAC & Refrigeration Mason

Merchandise ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES ANTIQUE CERAMIC CANNISTER SET - 10pcs, in good condition. \$125.

CHRIS'S COLLECTIBLES & Consignment Shop 18 Railroad Ave., Rockport, MA Largest collection on North Shore Over 2,000 on display...

DJ MARSHALL'S ONLINE MUSEUM View 37 Valuable Artworks and Poems FREE, For Art and Poetry Lovers AT www.djmarshallgroup.net

Jobs-Professionals NORTH of BOSTON MEDIA GROUP THE EAGLE-TRIBUNE GLOUCESTER DAILY TIMES DERRY NEWS...

BUILDING MAINTENANCE/ELECTRICIAN - North of Boston Media Group, North Andover, MA Full-time. Responsibilities include maintaining building and grounds by providing basic electrical, janitorial, grounds keeping, and repair services as needed.

REPORTER - The Eagle-Tribune - NH Bureau, Derry, NH Full-time. We are looking for an energetic, enthusiastic self-starter who is comfortable working in multiple types of media; reporting and writing stories; shooting simple photos and videos to accompany their work when appropriate; and immersed in the networks of social media.

PAGE DESIGNERS - North of Boston Media Group, North Andover, MA Full-time. We are looking for versatile, creative and deadline-oriented page designers to join our centralized design desk, which designs pages for our four daily newspapers, five weekly newspapers, seven magazines and a variety of special publications.

DIGITAL SALES SPECIALISTS - North of Boston Media Group, Beverly and North Andover, MA Full-time. We are looking to add to our sales force to match its amazing growth of our digital products. You will engage and strategize with advertisers to demonstrate North of Boston's value and how we can assist them in meeting their marketing objectives through a variety of digital platforms.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES - North of Boston Media Group - North Andover, MA Answer inbound phone calls consisting of various customer inquiries. Previous customer service experience preferred. Must possess strong data entry skills, a clear telephone voice and the ability to work well with the public.

ASSISTANT THIRD SHIFT SUPERVISOR - North of Boston Media Group - North Andover, MA (The Eagle-Tribune, The Salem News, The Gloucester Daily Times, The Daily News of Newburyport) Full-time. This position assists in the management of daily operations of the packaging center. Primary job responsibilities include preparing Omnizone production reports, work assignments, ensuring proper staffing, set-up and operation of all packaging center equipment, training, performance management and preventive maintenance.

Comprehensive benefits package offered to all full-time (30+ hours) employees. For consideration, please e-mail resume and cover letter, with salary requirements, to hr@northofboston.com. Resumes received without salary requirements will not be considered.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES HESS TOY TRUCKS 1995 - 2004 22 trucks; all in excellent shape; never been used. \$295 or best. Can be bought individually or the whole lot. 978 475 8004

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

BUILDING MATERIALS SAWMILLS from only \$4397- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill-Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com

FIREARMS BRRII TONAS FIREWOOD (128 c.f.) 2 Seasoned Firewood available. Cut, split. Free local deliver. Fuel Assistance accepted. 603-679-8211

FIREWOOD FOR SALE ADS in this category If the ad shows a price it must show it by cu. ft. Half a cord is 64 cu. ft. and a cord is 128 cu. ft.

ALL HARDWOOD 16" SEASONED STILL AVAILABLE. Call For Pricing M.Kovalchuk 978-204-9483

"WOODBOY" - FIREWOOD Seasoned + green cord wood. www.wood-boy.com 603-642-3864

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# Lt. gov. vows to protect local aid

## Retiring Stapczynski praised at annual Mayors and Managers Breakfast

BY GARRIN MARCHETTI  
Staff Writer

As Gov. Charlie Baker and his team transition into their new responsibilities on Beacon Hill, issues left unsettled by the previous administration, such as gaps in the state budget, remain on the minds of many municipal officials.

Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito addressed the state budget and other topics to a crowd of Merrimack Valley politicians and business owners last Friday as the keynote speaker at the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce's annual Mayors and Managers Breakfast at Andover Country Club.

"One of the first tasks of this administration is to look at our budget," Polito said. "We are going to get this budget balanced and protect unrestricted local aid to our communities."

The audience of more than 300 people applauded as Polito talked about the administration's plans, some of which will hopefully help reduce the state deficit and help economic growth.

"The administration is just a week into their term, but where are they? Right here in the Merrimack Valley," Sal Lupoli, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, said before Polito's speech. "For Lt. Gov. Polito to be here this morning speaks volumes for how she feels about the Merrimack Valley."

Polito cited Baker's recent announcement of a state government hiring freeze, a move that she said will achieve a savings of \$6.5 million this year. She also said the administration will conduct a review

of all agencies across the state government in hopes of seeing a "fresh look" for the condition of state government.

The breakfast also served as an opportunity to celebrate the career of Andover Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski, who this month announced his plans to retire June 30.

Polito congratulated Stapczynski on his 25 years of service to the town. Other municipal leaders also offered kind words to Stapczynski, who was presented a vanilla-frosted cake by Polito, Lupoli and chamber president Joseph Bevilacqua.

"I've always enjoyed this breakfast as an opportunity to catch up with people, my colleagues, to talk a little bit about the great things going on in the valley," Stapczynski said.

Stapczynski praised the efforts of Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera and gave his input on news of the Lawrence City Council's pending decision to give a vote of no confidence in the mayor.

"You (Rivera) are a breath of fresh air, and people have given you a lot of accolades," Stapczynski said. "What's this about the City Council vote of no confidence? You have got my vote of confidence."

Earlier in the morning, Rivera spoke about the positive changes in Lawrence during his first year in office, from reducing the crime level by 4.2 percent to hiring credentialed officials to City Hall positions, to helping bring back the St. Patrick's Day parade to Lawrence after a three-year hiatus.

The mayor stressed the



Joining Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, far left, at the head table for the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Mayors and Managers Breakfast, from left, chamber president Joseph Bevilacqua, retiring Andover Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski, North Andover Town Manager Andrew Maylor and Newburyport Mayor Donna Holiday.

importance of making Lawrence, once a popular destination for residents and tourists alike, a vibrant city again.

"We have to distrust the idea that our core city is a place we don't want to go to," Rivera said. "Lawrence is a safer place than it was 11 months ago, and it's only going to get better."

In addition to Rivera, other local officials discussed the changes and improvements their cities and towns made in the past year, changes they hope to continue in 2015.

Haverhill Mayor James Fiorentini talked about the positive changes in his city's school system, where four schools achieved Level 1 status and MCAS scores rose. He also showed his pride for the city's many downtown restaurants, an area he called "the best restaurant zone north of the North End."

Methuen Mayor Stephen Zanni of Methuen and North Andover Town Manager Andrew Maylor each



Andover Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski, who will be retiring this year, spoke at the annual event at Andover Country Club.

talked about the physical changes their communities underwent in 2014. Maylor spoke of the completed and ongoing construction projects in the town's Facilities Master Plan, while Zanni discussed construction on the Methuen rotary and Nicholson Field, among other plans.

Polito, a former longtime state representative from Worcester, said she expects

to be "working a lot" with municipal leaders in her new job.

"Both Charlie and I view our role as a partner," Polito said. "A partner with our business community, partner with our city and town managers, and if we strengthen this partnership, we will really move the ball together, and that's certainly our goal."

# Lawmakers to go another year without raises

BY CHRISTIAN M. WADE  
CNHI State Reporter

Lawmakers returned to Beacon Hill last week but won't be getting any more money for the work they do there.

The state Constitution requires the governor to adjust lawmakers' pay every two years based on changes in median household income. Base pay for representatives and senators remains \$60,032, after being cut by \$1,100 in the 2013-14 session and cut \$307 for the two-session prior to that.

Former Gov. Deval Patrick could have used a different formula to calculate legislative pay — as recommended by a commission that called for raises for elected officials — but the Democrat declined to do so before stepping down this month.

The commission's alternative formula would have increased lawmakers' pay by nearly \$4,000 a year. Patrick said he didn't want to use the new formula without legislative approval.

Newly sworn in Republican Gov. Charlie Baker has ruled out pay raises for any elected officials while the state faces a projected \$500 million budget shortfall that could force painful cuts.

Pay for Beacon Hill officials has been an issue since a report in December recommended raises for top constitutional officers and lawmakers. The panel noted that elected officials' pay in Massachusetts lags that of other states and executives in the private sector.

Ira Jackson, dean of the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies at UMass Boston, who was chairman of the public compensation commission, said he was "disappointed" that Patrick and legislative leaders took no action on the recommendations.

"It's never a good time to

discuss increasing public compensation, but the longer this is delayed the more out of whack Massachusetts becomes," Jackson said. "Kicking this can down the road just makes it a bigger issue."

The seven-member commission — which included academics, nonprofit leaders and business executives — proposed bumping up the governor's pay to \$185,000 per year — a \$33,200 increase — and adding a \$65,000 housing allowance.

The commission also recommended boosting the House and Senate leaders' base salary to \$175,000 a year — a raise of \$72,721 — and increasing the salaries of the attorney general, treasurer and other top constitutional officers.

They called on lawmakers to find the money for the raises, which are estimated to cost \$934,343 — an amount the commission called "miniscule" compared to the state's \$36 billion annual spending package.

But Patrick and lawmakers failed to take up the issue before year's end.

Senate President Stanley Rosenberg said he was "extremely disappointed" that Patrick didn't heed the commission's recommendations. He said lawmakers have gone six years without a cost-of-living increase.

Jackson said if lawmakers address the issue this year or next, the state's conflict of interest laws likely will prevent raises from going into effect until the next two-year session for lawmakers, and four years for the governor and constitutional officers.

That delay could increase lawmakers' willingness to give the raises, he said.

"If the public knows they won't be immediately benefiting, that would make it more palatable," Jackson said.



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Morning flurries	Partly sunny	Snow possible	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny	Snow at times	Decreasing clouds
<b>High: 35°</b> <b>Low: 18°</b>	<b>High: 35°</b> <b>Low: 24°</b>	<b>High: 41°</b> <b>Low: 23°</b>	<b>High: 32°</b> <b>Low: 15°</b>	<b>High: 30°</b> <b>Low: 18°</b>	<b>High: 32°</b> <b>Low: 16°</b>	<b>High: 33°</b> <b>Low: 18°</b>

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**REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS**

The following real estate transfers were recorded recently in town:

- **67 Woburn St.:** 67 Woburn Street Trust and Francis W. Croteau to James B. Doyle, \$430,000
- **13 Bartlet St.:** Fall Line T. and Michael R. Harkins to 13 Bartlet Street Realty, \$1,075,000
- **21-23 Central St.:** Add 2 LLC and Olde Center Ventures Inc. to Olde Center Ventures, Inc., \$250,000
- **60 Colonial Drive, Unit 5:** Jeffrey P. Holmes to Zashary Santiago, \$144,000
- **25 Ivana Drive, Unit 25:** CA INT and Yvon Cormier to Kamran M. Dadkhah and Karen J. Challberg, \$910,000
- **29 Karlton Circle:** Alice M. Harpley to Jacob J. and Lindy R. Olds, \$670,000

**IRS budget cuts affecting tax form supplies at Memorial Hall Library**

Because of budget reductions within the Internal Revenue Service, income tax instruction booklets will no longer be available at Memorial Hall Library this filing season. The budget cuts will affect both the selection and amount of tax forms that can be found at the library, 2 North Main St. The library will have copies of the 1040, 1040A and 1040EZ tax forms. Taxpayers can also print tax forms and instructions from [www.irs.gov/Forms-&Pubs](http://www.irs.gov/Forms-&Pubs). One copy of Publication 17 will be available for use at the library. Taxpayers can also access Publication 17 in English and Spanish online from [irs.gov/Pub17](http://irs.gov/Pub17). It will also be available as a free e-Pub for downloading from [irs.gov](http://irs.gov) and viewing on most electronic and mobile devices. Publication 1132 and 4604 will also be available; taxpayers should use the web for IRS tax products and information. Individuals may call 800-829-1040 to order forms or seek instruction or live telephone assistance. Businesses can obtain assistance by calling 800-829-4933. For people with hearing impairments, call 800-829-4059. Phone assistance is available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For face-to-face assistance, visit the local tax office in Stoneham at 1 Montvale Ave. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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