



GARDEN CLUBS PLANTING NEW SEASON
INSIDE



GOLDEN WARRIORS' HERNANDEZ COMING UP BIG AT SHORTSTOP

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OUR 127TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 24

APRIL 23, 2015

75 CENTS

ANDOVER'S GOLDEN GLOVE



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover's Tanner O'Sullivan shows off the two baseballs he's caught at Major League ballgames – last week's David Ortiz home run over the Green Monster at Fenway Park and a 2012 foul ball at a Yankees game. The 12-year-old is the nephew of the Red Sox's new starting catcher – Andover native Ryan Hanigan.

Sox catcher Hanigan's nephew lands Ortiz homer at Fenway opener

By BILL BURT
bburt@andovertownsman.com

Like a hole-in-one, people spend years, even a lifetime, going to Major League Baseball games dreaming of snatching that ultimate "souvenir," a baseball hit into the stands.

Well, for those still dreaming, you might ask Andover

CHECK IT OUT

If you haven't seen Tanner O'Sullivan's first catch of a foul ball off the bat of Cincinnati Reds' Joey Votto back in 2012 at Yankee Stadium, view it at www.youtube.com/watch?v=UpflBoVQMIU.

12-year-old Tanner O'Sullivan for some pointers.

Tanner has now caught two balls, one a foul shot hit by

Cincinnati Reds star Joey Votto, and more recently, on Opening Day at Fenway Park last week, a home run smacked by David

Ortiz.

There could be some pedigree involved here. Tanner is the nephew of newly signed Red Sox catcher Ryan Hanigan, an Andover native.

The foul ball landed in Tanner's hands back in July 2012 at Yankee Stadium when the Cincinnati Reds, who Hanigan was playing for at the time, See **TANNER**, Page 6

Town report draws dissent

Finance Committee member opts out of letter to voters

By BILL KIRK
bkirk@andovertownsman.com

In an unprecedented move, a member of the town's Finance Committee has refused to sign the cover letter at the beginning of the annual report to Town Meeting, prompting a harsh backlash from his colleagues on the committee.

Max Arai, appointed to the committee last year by Moderator Sheila Doherty, said he asked to have his name removed from the letter because he finds fault with the process of creating the document and because as a Chartered Financial Analyst, he can't put his name on a document that he hasn't fully vetted.

"While the Finance Committee has carefully and publicly deliberated the transmittal letter and recommendations which accompany the warrant articles, in my opinion, a substantial portion of the text in the book was neither reviewed nor approved by the Finance Committee prior to printing and mailing," he wrote in a letter to The Townsman published on this week's Opinion page.

The report, which contains the proposed fiscal 2016 budget, warrant articles going before the May Town Meeting and other town information, was mailed to all households in town early this week and is also posted on the town website.

Arai said "reservations" about the 2014 Finance Committee report led him to seek appointment to the committee last year. Those See **DISSENT**, Page 6

Delays beset double-tracking rail project

By BILL KIRK
bkirk@andovertownsman.com

Every day, Nick Stellakis of Cindy Lane takes the train to Boston, where he works as an attorney.

He lives within walking distance of the downtown train station, and can hear it go by his neighborhood.

So it seems odd that every weekday morning he has to wake up early, climb into his car and drive to Woburn, where he hops on the commuter rail's Lowell line for the train ride into the city.

That's because the rail

line that services thousands of commuters from Andover, as well as the rest of the Merrimack Valley, is unreliable due to the fact that most of it is a single-tracked, instead of a double-tracked line.

"When the trains break down on the single track, you are stuck," Stellakis said. "You can't get around them or past them. It would take me an extra hour or two to get home every night."

"A double-track would be helpful, even if it doesn't

See **TRAIN**, Page 2

A legend in crayons



COURTESY PHOTO

Andover artist Rob Surette guides students as they place their crayons into the portrait that will eventually show a likeness of New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady.

Students lend a hand in record-setting portrait of Patriots QB

By TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsman.com

To create an image of the best quarterback to ever live out of crayons takes time, effort and a whole lot of manpower.

Luckily, Andover speed painter Rob Surette, who is the founder of Amazing Hero Art, had nearly 700 students from West Elementary School to call on for help.

Over a three-day period, 679 West Elementary students each strategically placed about a handful or more crayons, standing

upright in a multitude of colors, into a form resembling a giant crayon box set against a black canvas backdrop.

When they were done, the bottom one-third of the canvas was filled with crayons. But the students had no clue what, or who, the design-in-the-making — once completed — would be.

Surette took it from there, finishing the project himself before solidifying the crayons with glue.

Some 20,724 crayons

See **BRADY**, Page 2

150 years of reflection

Civil War scholar to lecture on anniversary of slavery's end

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsman.com

Much has been learned in the 150 years since the Civil War drew to a close. But there's still much to learn.

One of the foremost scholars on the Civil War will discuss where America has come as a country since 1865 and the inroads its people still need to make as Phillips Academy marks the 150th anniversary of the events marking the end of slavery next week.

Dr. Edward Ayers, president of the University of Richmond in Virginia and the author of

10 books on American history, will speak at Phillips Academy on Wednesday, April 29, at 7:15 p.m. The free event will be held in Cochran Chapel on Chapel Avenue on the academy's campus and is open to the public.

"People want to understand more ... you say war and the usual pictures of a war come to mind but emancipation is involved and people want to hear about how that impacted the war," Ayers said in an interview last week from the airport in Atlanta, where he had traveled to speak.

See **SCHOLAR**, Page 6



COURTESY PHOTO

Civil War scholar and author Dr. Edward Ayers, president of the University of Richmond in Virginia, travels to Phillips Academy next week to discuss the 150th anniversary of the end of slavery. The April 29 talk is open to the public.

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TRAIN

Continued from Page 1

change the schedule. If the train gets to where it's supposed to be on time, that would be a plus."

Project delayed

Five years ago, in May 2010, state elected and appointed officials converged on a barren construction site off Lupine Road where a ceremonial stretch of railroad tracks — parallel to the existing tracks — were placed on the ground. State officials, wearing hard hats and toting silver shovels, scooped some symbolic soil to commence what was to have been an 8-mile stretch of double-track from Lawrence to Wilmington.

Politicians touted their hard work over the years to get the double-track in place, saying it would improve the commute for thousands of Merrimack Valley workers for years to come. When the Amtrak Downeaster was coming through, they said, that train would peel off onto the extra, parallel track, getting out of the way of the commuter rail and avoiding any delays.

When a PanAm freight train was making its way north or south, it could avoid the commuter train by getting onto the adjacent, double-track.

Or, as Stellakis had hoped, when a commuter train breaks down, then another one could use the double-track to take care of stranded passengers, or at least continue to provide needed service.

To date, however, that has not happened.

What started out as a \$17.4 million project funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to put in an extra set of tracks over the 8-mile stretch from Lawrence to Wilmington has ballooned into a nearly \$55 million project run and

funded by different agencies, with multiple, smaller projects tacked onto the original, double-tracking project.

So far, just 2 miles of the double-tracking have been completed and put into service, according to Michael Verseckes, a spokesman for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

Verseckes said the original project called for the double-track to start in Lawrence and end just short of the Ballardvale station in Andover, covering about 5 miles. Then, another, second stretch of double-track was supposed to start just south of the Ballardvale station, running 2 miles before ending in Wilmington. In all, 7 miles of the 8-mile stretch was supposed to allow for double-tracking.

However, he said, "just under 2 miles of this new double-track is in service today."

It remains unclear exactly why so little of the project has been completed, leaving commuters like Stellakis to scratch their heads during the morning commute.

"Why is it taking so long?" he asked. "It was supposed to be done years ago. I'm wondering when I can take the train from Andover again, and it doesn't seem like ever."

Project 1

Verseckes said the original project, funded by ARRA, started in 2010. At first, it was supposed to be for \$17.4 million. However, The Townsman has learned that in fact the project is closer to \$55 million and may have more than one funding source.

Verseckes said the Haverhill Double-Track Project is being paid for using three grants: a \$20 million ARRA grant, a \$6 million Federal Transportation Administration grant, and \$2.6 million in MBTA funds. The total comes to about \$28.2 million. Verseckes said



FILE PHOTO

Back in 2010, workers waved as a train passed on a second set of rail tracks off Lupine Road in Andover. The double-tracking and rail improvement project on the Haverhill-to-Boston commuter rail line was part of an original \$17.4 million upgrade, but has been delayed.

while some of the project is done, there is still much to do.

Grade crossings and other mechanical work is needed. In addition, a total of 14,900 feet, or about 3 miles, of new track needs to be constructed, including 6,600 feet from Essex and Pearson streets to the Route 133 bridge, another 1,700 feet from the Andover station to the Harding Street bridge, about 600 feet of track at the so-called Frye Interlocking, and 6,000 feet of track from Vale to Ballardvale.

Also, work is needed to modify track and signal infrastructure to accommodate the second track.

"The addition of the second track and associated improvements will create operational flexibility and reliability on the heavily used line," he said, adding that the work is scheduled to be done by the end of this year.

Project 2

Another project along the

track was being managed by the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority, which operates the Downeaster train that runs from Portland, Maine to Boston. That project, according to Verseckes, is being funded by a High-Speed Passenger Rail grant through the Federal Railroad Administration for \$20.8 million, with an MBTA match of \$5.2 million, for a total of \$26 million.

But Mike England, a public affairs specialist with the Federal Railroad Administration, said the funding source for the project is the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the same source as the original Haverhill grant.

No matter where the money comes from, it is a significant amount — and it also appears to be suffering from some delays.

England said the money for the project is also being used on grade crossings and to pay for double-track work on 4.7 miles between Wilmington and Ballardvale

on the MBTA-owned Wildcat Branch and Haverhill line. The replacement of the existing rail line will occur on about 5 miles of track between Lawrence and Bradford.

Replacement of the existing track and regrading the crossings has been completed, he said, while the double-tracking work is expected to be done some time next year.

In what appears to be another contradiction, an update this past January to the bottom of the original 2010 press release about the double-tracking project states that "Phase II of the Haverhill Double Track Project will complete the installation of track, signal and drainage improvements on the Haverhill Line from Ballardvale Station to Lawrence. Keolis Commuter Services has begun work in December 2014 and is anticipated to be completed by December 2015."

A call to a Keolis spokesman was not returned.

Relief uncertain for commuters

The double-tracking project may be slated to be "substantially completed" by the end of the year, but that doesn't necessarily mean an end to local commuter service woes.

Two weeks ago, Town Manager Reginald "Buzz" Stapeczynski emailed Dan Fielding, public liaison for the state Department of Transportation, asking him "when the double-tracking project" would be completed and when service to Andover could be expected to improve.

Fielding responded that the double-tracking "is not designed to decrease run times or increase commuter rail capacity because even though there will be two tracks through Andover, only one will have access to the station. Therefore all trains are still on the same infrastructure they were on before the project was started."

He went on to say the double-tracking will increase capacity for the Downeaster and freight trains, "thus creating the ability to segregate train traffic and reduce conflicts ... currently a significant source of delays."

He said after the project is done, "we don't anticipate any schedule changes. Our schedules are locked in for the next two years due to the ongoing Merrimack Bridge Rehabilitation project and required single-track over the bridge through the end of 2016."

Stapeczynski said he had been hoping for improved service in Andover and recently spoke with the secretary of the state transportation department, Stephanie Pollack, who said the schedule would be changed and would improve in Andover, "which is not in agreement with what (Fielding) said."

Fielding did not respond to a question regarding the apparent inconsistency.

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ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Advertising copy must be in the office by Monday at 5 p.m. Camera-ready advertising copy is due by Tuesday at noon. No cancellations honored after these deadlines.

BRADY

Continued from Page 1

later, the piece was ready for its big reveal at two separate school assemblies last Friday.

"Who is it?" West Elementary Principal Liz Roos asked the hundreds of students crowded into the school's auditorium for one of the assemblies. "Tom Brady!" they shouted back.

"One day, all of the classrooms came in and each kid put four or five crayons onto it," said Max Murray, 10. "It turned into this! It's really cool. A lot of people were talking about what they think it's going to be

and nobody thought Tom Brady."

Surette, who was at a school show in West Brookfield and couldn't attend the unveiling, said later that the piece will set a Guinness World Record for the largest portrait ever made of crayons.

He said that Guinness hasn't kept a world record for such a piece of artwork, but he was told that if the mural was 20-by-30 feet, it would qualify as a record.

"They want it to be difficult for someone else to beat," Surette said.

Surette said that involving the kids is all about sending a message that even the smallest of acts can lead to something wonderful.

"You might think that your small, little contribution is insignificant," he had told the students. "But wait 'til you see the final result. You'll be so proud of yourself, because your 'little bit,' combined with everyone else's 'little bit,' will become a



COURTESY PHOTO

The Tom Brady crayon portrait nears completion.

masterpiece."

In a written, signed statement read aloud to the students during the assemblies, Tom Brady and his team thanked them, saying, "Your work is an incredible illustration of the importance of working together when trying to achieve ambitious goals, and a great example of thinking 'outside of the box' about how to use traditional tools and methods."

"We're all incredibly impressed with the

creativity and dedication that each of you showed while working with Rob on the portrait, and inspired by the fact that this world record would not have been possible without contributions from everyone."

A video of the unveiling was posted on the New England Patriots Twitter page, and was later retweeted by the NFL.

The Tom Brady crayon mural will be placed on permanent display at West Elementary School.

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All Those Years Ago

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 April 23, 1915

The annual meeting of the Andover Canoe Club will be held tomorrow night at the Clubhouse on Lupine Road. An evening of enjoyment is planned, including election of officers, setting plans for the coming season and a social.

The essay in favor of women's suffrage published anonymously in the Townsman of April 16 was written by Miss Jennie Burt and was awarded the first prize offered by the Equal Suffrage League of Andover.

The local night officers had a peculiar experience with an insane woman early Tuesday morning. The woman was a resident of Saratoga Street in Lawrence and she was placed in custody on the Reading Road near Carter's Corner. She

had in her possession a baby carriage, which was filled with loam and fertilizer with which she intended to plant a garden. About midnight, Officer Napier learned of the strange spectacle passing through Andover and with Officer Stack he started an investigation. They found the woman going toward Reading about half past 1 and brought her back to Andover. She was examined for her sanity and later returned to her home in Lawrence.

75 Years Ago April 18, 1940

The Punchard High baseball team will open its season tomorrow morning at 10 at the Ballardvale playstead against the alumni. It will be the first game under the tutelage of William McDonald, who was last week appointed coach to succeed Gene Lovely, who retired because of pressure of scholastic business.

A large group of members and guests of the Andover League of Women Voters met on Tuesday at the Log Cabin of Phillips Academy to hear a program discussion by Mrs. LaRue Brown, president of the

Massachusetts League. Members found on the program such continuing interests of the League as maintenance of constitutional rights, the municipal manager plan of city government, better personnel in government service, child labor legislation, slum clearance and public housing, downward revision of public tariff by a scientific method, and progressive social legislation for dealing with women offenders.

50 Years Ago April 22, 1965

Andover Citizens for Equal Opportunity has arranged for a bus to carry local people interested in the civil rights movement to Boston for the march to the Common on Friday. Rev. Frederick Pease of Cochran Chapel said Tuesday that ACEO's action was not directly related to the current hot issue of bussing students from one neighborhood to another to eliminate school racial imbalance.

Three Andover young people and a fourth person were injured in a Sunday automobile collision at the

intersection of Woodland Road and Salem Street. The car, driven by Michelle Franz, 18, of 2 Harding St., was damaged on its sides by the impact with the second vehicle and a tree. Riding with her were her brothers, Robert, 16, and James, 15. All three were treated for lacerations at Lawrence General Hospital and released later the same day. The second car was driven by Albert Taylor, 112 Salem St. He was treated for nose lacerations.

The Atomic Energy Commission will present a program at Andover High School on May 27 to acquaint students and teachers with the basic principle and peaceful application of atomic energy.

25 Years Ago April 19, 1990

Bruce Coppock, a cellist, music educator and administrator, has been appointed managing director of the J. Everett Collins Center for the Performing Arts on Shawsheen Road. He will begin July 1. Mr. Coppock has great plans for the Collins Center, according to a press release from the Andover

Endowment for the Arts.

With \$37,000 in the coffers, Penguin Park is ready for construction. Designed for children of all ages, yet particularly safe for preschoolers, Penguin Park will become a reality Saturday and Sunday, May 5 and 6. This family playground will be located on Iceland Road off Route 133 near Shawsheen Square.

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

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Richard Bernardin, 90

1924 - 2015

SOUTH HADLEY, MA — Richard A. Bernardin, 90, of South Hadley, MA died peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, April 12 surrounded by his loving family.

He leaves his wife of 64 years, Doris Bernardin (nee Letourneau), his twin sister, Helen Fielding, his nine children, 16 grandchildren and one great grandchild: Rick Bernardin of South Daytona, Fla., his daughter Melissa and granddaughter, Chloe; Michael Bernardin of Compton, Canada, and his children, Gabrielle and Jeremie; Lisa Bernardin of Middlebury, Vt., her partner, Bill Eichhorn and children, Gretchen and Dominique; Anne Collieran of Belchertown, Mass., and children, Nicole, James and Brendan; Mimi Bernardin of Newton, Mass., her husband, Micky Tripathi and children, Jaya, Jesse and Avery; Andrew Bernardin of Orange City, Fla., and his wife, Wendy Bernardin; Eric Bernardin of Belchertown, his wife, Kathy Bernardin and children, Savannah and Fiona; Jamie Bernardin of New York City, his wife, Julie Chang and children, Jetta and Bowen; and Matthew Healy of Amesbury, Mass., his wife, Ashley Healy and son, Parker.

Richard was a veteran of WWII, who participated in the invasion of Normandy and received several awards, including the Purple Heart, Victors Award and the French Legion of Honor. He was a 1951 graduate of Boston College. He en-



joyed languages, spoke French and Spanish fluently, and a smidgeon of German.

He was founder and president of Gourmet Food Service, a company he built and sustained for 35 years. He was an avid golfer, skier and tennis player, who enjoyed every facet of life.

Richard touched many with his gentle manner, warmth, and personable demeanor. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

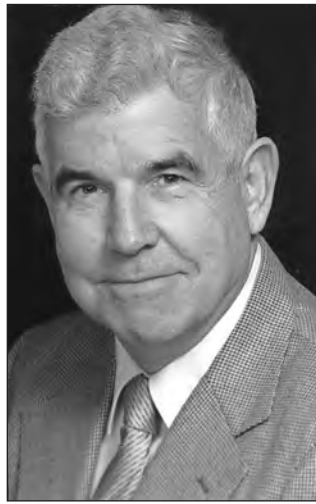
Donations in his memory may be made to Wounded Warrior Project at woundedwarriorproject.org. Please visit www.beersandstory.com to sign his guest book.

ARRANGEMENTS: A Funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, April 18th, at 11 a.m., at St. Robert Bellarmine Church in Andover, Mass. Burial with military honors will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Andover. There are no calling hours.

Collin R. Campbell, 89

ANDOVER, MA — Collin R. Campbell passed away on April 15, 2015. He was the beloved husband of the late Ann C. (Campbell) and devoted father of Kathleen C. Sanford and her husband, Paul of Barrington, R.I., Mary C. Dunbar and her husband, Bruce of Andover, Robert Collin Campbell of Plaistow, N.H., John C. Campbell and his wife, Peg of Andover, Jane C. Gianetti and her husband, Stephen of North Andover. Collin was the brother of Christine Jasminski and her late husband, Gus, Joan Summers and her husband, John, all of Connecticut. He was predeceased by brothers, John Gordon and his wife, Betty, Donald and his wife, Barbara, and Andrew Clare and his wife, Betty.

Collin loved his family, including his nine grandchildren, Patrick, Jonathan, Timothy, Collin, Connor, Clay, Izzy, Erin and Kile. They made his day — every day. Mr. Campbell was a US Navy Veteran, and a member of the Greatest Generation who served his country proudly during WWII, on a PT Boat in the South Pacific. He received the WWII Victory Medal, The American Area Medal, The Asiatic Pacific Theater Medal and the Philippine Liberation Medal. Collin earned a BA in Business from University of Connecticut and enjoyed watching Huskie Basketball, the Boston Red Sox and the New England Patriots. In addition to his passion for sports, he loved the outdoors



and taught all his children to snow ski, water ski, hike, and camp. When he retired from the Federal Government he and Ann moved to Cape Cod and Florida, where he enjoyed boating, playing golf and cards with friends; and played shortstop on The Cape Cod Senior Softball League. The players called themselves recycled teenagers. Collin will be proudly remembered as someone who instilled great adventure, humor and thoughtfulness in those who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in his name to Run For Our Troops, 5 Williams Street, Andover MA 01810. For more information visit www.dohertyfuneralservice.com.

ARRANGEMENTS: Relatives and friends attended a Funeral Service on Monday, April 20, 2015, at the Chapel of West Parish in Andover followed by Military Honors.

Ellen Anne Crowley, 60

June 23, 1954 — April 18, 2015

ANDOVER — Ellen Anne Crowley, 60, of Andover died on Saturday, April 18, at home. Ellen was raised in Andover and was the daughter of the late J. Woodrow and Elizabeth A. Crowley. She was educated in Andover and attended Northern Essex Community College. Ellen worked for many years at Raytheon and was also employed at Wyeth Biotech.

Ellen enjoyed summers in New Hampshire with her family and was completely devoted to her nieces and nephews.

Ellen is survived by her siblings, Joan Mailhot of North Andover, Rebecca and her husband, Peter Brucato of Kensington, N.H., J. Woodrow and his wife, Carrie Crowley of West Newbury, Sheila Crowley and her husband, Randy Mitton of Andover, Sarah and her husband, Bernard Rastello of Methuen, Rachel and her husband, Mark Healy of Marshfield; her brother-in-law, Russell Serbagi of Andover; and her beloved nieces and nephews, Jamie, Chris, Ryan, Brendan, Casey, Morgan, Kate and Dolan. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her siblings, Liza J. Crowley, William C. Crowley; and her brother-in-law, Roger A.



Mailhot.

ARRANGEMENTS: Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated in St. Augustine Church, 43 Essex Street, on Saturday, April 25, 2015, at 9:30 a.m. Relatives and friends are most welcome to attend. Calling hours will be held in the Burke-Magliozi Funeral Home, 390 North Main Street, Andover, on Friday, April 24, 2015, from 4 to 8 p.m. Interment will be privately held.

Memorial contributions in Ellen's name may be made payable to the Psychological Center to benefit the Daybreak Shelter, 11 Union Street, Lawrence, MA 01840. For additional information, please visit www.burkemagliozi.com.

Roy E. Coombs, Jr., 89

09/11/1925 — 04/13/2015

MECHANICSBURG, PA — Roy Edward Coombs, Jr. of Mechanicsburg, Pa., formerly of Andover, died April 13, 2015. He was born September 11, 1925, in Cambridge, Mass., to Roy and Isabel Coombs, and grew up in Belmont, Mass. He graduated from Governor Dummer Academy and went on to earn undergraduate and graduate degrees from Harvard. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Navy. In 1950, he married Frances Tenney Coombs to whom he was married for 58 years.

For the majority of his career he worked as a civil engineer and project manager for Western Electric and AT&T. He began his career with the Bell System in North Andover, Mass., and was later transferred to New York City.

While living in Andover, he was active in South Church. He was a 32nd Degree Mason and a past master of St. Matthew's Lodge. After moving to New Jersey, he served as an elder in the Presbyterian Church and was on the Board of Directors of The Reeves-Reed Arboretum and Camp Spears -Eljabar, a YMCA Camp in Pennsylvania. He enjoyed spending winters in Venice, Fla., and making trips to New England. Rockport, Mass.,



was a favorite place to gather with his extended family. As a transplanted New Englander, he maintained a lifelong devotion to the Boston Red Sox. In 1997, he moved to Pennsylvania where he nurtured two new fans, his granddaughters, who were the lights of his life.

He is survived by his daughters, Martha C. Parvis and her husband, Paul, of Newtown, Conn., and Cynthia C. Harbert of Mechanicsburg, Pa.; two beloved granddaughters, Megan E. Harbert and Rebecca A. Harbert, also of Hampden Township. His wife and his son-in-law, Thomas M. Harbert, preceded him in death.

Gordon E. Hultstrom, 78

July 18, 1936 — April 11, 2015

YORK, MAINE — Gordon E. Hultstrom, 78, formerly of Andover, Mass., died Saturday, April 11, 2015, after a courageous battle with cancer. He had moved to Sentry Hill at York Harbor in March with his wife, Carla, to be near family. He was born July 18, 1936, in Norwood, Mass., and was a son of the late D. Harold and Agnes M. (Hoel) Hultstrom.

He served in the U. S. Army from 1955 to 1957 as a Radio Operator, and graduated from UMass Amherst in 1961 with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. Following graduation, he managed Agway stores in New York and Massachusetts, until he bought Bruckmann's Lawn & Garden store in Lawrence, Mass., in 1978. He and Carla continued to work there through the fall of 2014.

He leaves his beloved wife of 56 years, his constant companion, Carla F. (Lewin) Hultstrom; a son, Kurt E. Hultstrom and his wife, Kimberly (Schoff) of York; a daughter, Nita A. Hultstrom of Waterbury, Vt.; two brothers, Ken Hultstrom and his wife, Phyl-

lis, of Hampden, Mass., and Neal Hultstrom and his wife, Judy, of Woodstock, Ga.; six grandchildren, Kristen, Evan, Leah, Eli, Seth, and Karianna.

Gordon enjoyed many things, including working with his family at Bruckmann's, visiting with his loyal customers, spending time with his grandchildren, working outdoors and in his workshop at their home in Andover, and helping his daughter with all sorts of projects in Vermont. He also loved to watch the Celtics, Red Sox and Patriots on TV.

Gordon was a true gentleman who will be remembered for his kind and generous spirit.

ARRANGEMENTS: A funeral service will take place at 6 p.m., on Friday, April 24th, in the Lucas & Eaton Funeral Home, 91 Long Sands Rd., York, with a period of visitation from 5 to 6 p.m. Burial will be private in First Parish Cemetery in York. Memorial contributions may be made to Sentry Hill Memorial Fund, Two Victoria Court, York, ME 03909. Visit www.lucaseatonfuneralhome.com.

Antoinette Rizzo, 99 Years

March 29, 2015

ANDOVER — Antoinette Rizzo, a longtime resident of Andover, passed away at Mary Immaculate Nursing Center in Lawrence on Sunday morning, March 29, 2015. She was 99 years old.

Born in Lawrence, Mass., she was the beloved daughter of the late Salvatore and Maria (Patti) Rizzo.

Antoinette was a registered nurse and had worked in Obstetrics at Lawrence General Hospital for more than 40 years. In her spare time, Ms. Rizzo enjoyed gardening. She will be dearly missed.

She is survived by her lov-

ing nephew, Wendell G. Rizzo; great-nephew, Stephen J. Rizzo; great-niece, Christine L. Rizzo; and sister-in-law, Mary H. Rizzo, all of New Hampshire. She was also the loving sister of the late Frank J. Rizzo, Anne M. Rizzo and Alfred Rizzo, and aunt of the late Lisa D. Rizzo.

ARRANGEMENTS: Her funeral services will be privately held. Donations in Antoinette's memory may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 480 Pleasant St., Woburn, MA 02472.

For additional information, please visit www.burkemagliozi.com.

Mrs. Evelyn Lorraine (Ward) Johnson, 79 Years

May 8, 1935 — April 19, 2015

ANDOVER — Evelyn Lorraine Johnson of Andover, Mass., born on May 8, 1935, peacefully passed away surrounded by many loved ones on April 19, 2015, at Lawrence General Hospital. She was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., later relocating to New Hampshire. Evelyn was a dedicated wife, mother, Nana, Big Nana, sister, and aunt. She was predeceased by her husband, William M. Johnson. There was no greater joy in her life other than their large family, consisting of three sons, one daughter, sister, several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Her fun-loving, sassy personality coupled with her kind heart ensures that Evelyn will be forever missed.

ARRANGEMENTS: Calling hours will be held today, Tuesday, April 21, from 4 to 8 p.m., at Burke-Magliozi Funeral Home, 390 North



Main St., Andover. Her funeral service will be held on Wednesday, April 22, at 11 a.m., in the funeral home. Burial will be at the Spring Grove Cemetery, Andover, following funeral services. For additional information, please visit www.burkemagliozi.com.

Richard Artenstein, 83

CAMBRIDGE, MA — Richard D. Artenstein, 83, formerly of Lowell, Andover and North Andover, entered into rest in hospice in Cambridge April 18, 2015.

Born in Lowell, a son of the late Maurice and Irene (Greenberg) Artenstein, he was also predeceased by his sister, Shirley Boches of Lowell, and his brother, Dr. Malcolm Artenstein of Maryland.

After graduating from Bryant College (now Bryant University) in Rhode Island, he served with the U. S. Army in Korea during the Korean Conflict.

He returned to join the family business, Phyllis Shoe Company, later to be known as Lowell Shoe Company.

Throughout his life, he was an avid sports enthusiast, enjoying bowling, tennis, golf and following all the Boston

professional teams.

He is survived by his wife, Charlotte (Kremer) Artenstein of Reading; his son, Alan Artenstein and his partner, Mike Luyet of Boston; and his daughter, Margo McNair of Concord, N.H.; and three grandsons, Jeremy, Eli, and Dylan. He also leaves several nieces and nephews, and cousins, including Jack Artenstein of Florida who was like a younger brother to him. And of course, his dear cat Harry.

ARRANGEMENTS: His Funeral Service was held at the Morse-Bayliss Funeral Home, 122 Princeton Blvd., Lowell, on April 20, 2015. Interment in Temple Beth El Cemetery, Chelmsford. Friends who wish may make memorial donations to the charity of one's choice. Funeral Directors, Frederick W. Healy and Walter F. Bayliss. For condolences, please visit www.morsebaylissfuneralhome.com.

■ POLICE LOG

COMPILED BY TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

Tuesday, April 14

Arrest

Alex Steeves, 25, of 5 Clinton Court, Andover, was arrested on Main Street at 9:44 p.m. on a warrant charge.

Incidents

A caller from North Main Street reported at 6:45 p.m. that there was a "turkey on the roof of the liquor store and it appears to be in distress." The responding officer found that "the turkey appears to be fine and is just sitting there."

A caller from Prospect Road reported at 10:15 p.m. that someone threw an orange traffic cone through her front window.

A caller from Old River Road reported at 10:38 p.m. that someone "thought she heard some type of muffled scream coming from the dark path." The responding officer reported that it sounded like a baby fisher cat.

Wednesday, April 15

Arrests

Carlos Manuel Diaz, 52, of 89 Newbury St.,

Lawrence, was arrested on North Main Street at 7:47 a.m. and charged with operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended registration.

Scott Christie, 33, of 35 Bernier St., Lowell, was arrested on River Road at 5:28 p.m. and charged with possession of a Class A substance and resisting arrest. At the same time, Bryan Christie, 23, also of 35 Bernier St., Apt. 5, Lowell, was arrested on warrant charges.

Incident

A caller from Lowell Street reported at 8:56 p.m. that "a male in a gray Volvo looks like he may be overdosing on drugs." Police reported that medical professionals checked on the man, who was sleeping after a long day at work and there were no issues.

Thursday, April 16

Arrest

Harold Lucas, 60, of 6 Bower St., Lowell, was arrested on River Road at 6:34 p.m. and charged with operating a motor vehicle with a revoked license.

■ TOWN BRIEFS

Curtailing invasive plants focus of talk

The Andover Conservation Commission's annual Overseer Meeting will be held Thursday, April 23, from 6:45 to 9 p.m. in Memorial Hall of the town library, 2 North Main St.

Featured speaker Chris Polatin of Polatin Ecological Services will discuss "Restoring Ecological Health to Your Land: Management Strategies to Curtail Invasive Plants." Over the last 10 years, his company has focused its efforts on invasive species management and revegetation due to concerns regarding the deleterious effects that invasive plants have on natural communities and biodiversity.

Call commissioner Kevin Porter at 978-470-0671 with questions.

Shawsheen River cleanup on Saturday

The Friends of North Andover Trails in partnership with the Shawsheen River Watershed Association will host a Land and River Cleanup on Earth Day, Saturday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to noon starting at Hawthorne Place north of Waverly Road in North Andover.

Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own boat to clean up the Shawsheen River or join others for the land cleanup. The event will be canceled in the event of heavy rain.

Other Shawsheen River Watershed Association events this spring include a Pre-Mother's Day Celebration canoe and paddle on the Shawsheen on Saturday, June 13 (rain date on Saturday, June 13) and a canoe and paddle at Foster's Pond in Andover on Sunday, June 21.

For more information on Saturday's cleanup, email Jim Petty at jpsr1951@GMAIL.COM.

Elm Street assisted living hearing

The Planning Board's first hearing on a preliminary subdivision plan for a 103-unit senior housing facility proposed for 139-143 Elm St. has been rescheduled to Tuesday, April 28.

The meeting was originally scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, but had to be postponed because two members were unable to attend, leaving the board without a quorum present.

The April 28 meeting will start at 8:30 p.m. at World War I Memorial Auditorium at Doherty Middle School.

The proposed 88,126-square-foot, assisted-living residence is being eyed for the hill at 139-143 Elm St., which is currently occupied by a single-family home surrounded by about 10 acres.

Neighbors to the project have said that the planned 35-foot-tall building would alter the character of the residential neighborhood.

Clown Town seeks student volunteers

The Andona Society is seeking teen volunteers for its Clown Town event next month at The Park at Chestnut and Bartlet streets. Clown Town hours are Friday, May 15, from 6 to 10 p.m. and Saturday, May 16, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Rain date is Sunday, May 17, from noon to 6 p.m.

Students in grades six and up are needed to help staff the Andona Face Painting Booth on Saturday. Two-hour shifts are available from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

In addition, high school students are needed on Friday from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. to load and unload the group's truck and also on Saturday to help with field set-up at The Park from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. and for field breakdown from 4 to 5 p.m.

The event raises money to support youth programs in Andover. To learn more, visit www.andona.org or contact Lisa Kole at liskole@me.com.

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*Lease financing available on 2015 BMW 320i xDrive Sedan vehicles, only at participating BMW centers on leases assigned to BMW Financial Services NA, LLC/Financial Services Vehicle Trust through April 2015. Monthly Lease payments of \$339.00 for 36 months based on MSRP of \$37,133.00. \$2,750.00 down payment. Due at Signing: \$3,884.00 10,000 mi /yr lease. Registration fees taxes, Doc. Fee not included. Programs available to qualified customers. Stock # 40667

New 2015 BMW
328i xDrive Sedan



\$359* Lease for 36 months.

*Lease financing available on 2015 328i xDrive vehicles, only at participating BMW centers on leases assigned to BMW Financial Services NA, LLC/Financial Services Vehicle Trust through April 2015. Monthly lease payments of \$359.00 36 months based on a MSRP of \$41,900.00 \$3,000.00 down payment. Due at Signing: \$4,154.00 10,000 mi /yr lease. Registration fees, taxes, Doc. Fee not included. Programs available to qualified customers. Stock #40014

New 2015 BMW
528i xDrive



\$539* Lease for 36 months.

*Lease financing available on 2015 528i xDrive vehicles, only at participating BMW centers on leases assigned to BMW Financial Services NA, LLC/Financial Services Vehicle Trust through April 2015. Monthly lease payments of \$539.00 for 36 months based on a MSRP of \$54,850.00 \$3,000.00 downpayment. Due at Signing: \$4,534.00 10,000 mi /yr lease. Registration fees, taxes, Doc. Fee not included. Programs available to Qualified customers. Stock # 40642



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TANNER

Continued from Page 1

were in New York for an away game. It became a viral video as then 9-year-old Tanner, wearing a Red Sox jersey, of course, for his uncle, was lifted in the air by his dad, Mark, before snaring it. The announcers called the father-son catch one of the best of the year.

Last week's catch at Fenway occurred over the Green Monster, when Ortiz smashed his opposite field shot for a home run.

What made the recent catch special was that Tanner had an ice cream cone in one hand and his glove on the other hand.

"When (Ortiz) hit it, I thought it was going to be short of the wall and I took a bite of my ice cream," Tanner said. "Then the ball kept going higher and I realized it was coming

my way ... And I just put my glove up and caught it."

After the game, while down in the family area outside of the clubhouse, Tanner's uncle stopped Ortiz as he was leaving to tell him about the catch. Ortiz ended up signing the ball for Tanner and posing for a photo.

"I had never met him before," Tanner said. "He was great. (Ortiz) said he hadn't hit one (over the Green Monster) in a long time."

Tanner was at Fenway with his family to watch his uncle, Hanigan, in his Red Sox debut at home. His mother, Hayley, is Hanigan's sister.

The O'Sullivan's, including Tanner's sisters, 15-year-old Anna and 10-year-old Eliza, have traveled around the country to see Hanigan play, making stops in Cincinnati, Tampa, San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco and both stadiums in New York over the years.

And now Fenway Park. "It's pretty cool meeting (MLB) players," Tanner said. "My friends would always ask me who I'm going to root for when my uncle was playing against the Red Sox. Now I can say, 'The Red Sox.'"

After the game, Hanigan was informed about his nephew's catch and he told reporters about the Votto catch three years earlier.

"He's lucky I didn't get him tickets (to the Fenway opener) because he would have sat behind home plate," Hanigan said. "Opening Day was a great day and Tanner's catch makes it even greater."

Like his two sisters, Tanner is a multiple sport athlete. Anna currently plays softball at Andover High. Tanner switches off between hockey and baseball, currently playing for the Royals in town and The Show Baseball AAU program.



Red Sox slugger David Ortiz poses with Andover's Tanner O'Sullivan, who caught Big Papi's home run over the Green Monster on Opening Day at Fenway Park last week. After the game, Ortiz signed the ball for O'Sullivan, who just happens to be the nephew of the Red Sox's new starting catcher Andover native Ryan Hanigan.

COURTESY PHOTO

SCHOLAR

Continued from Page 1

"I find people today want healthy answers to tough questions. That's what I offer."

Ayers, who earned his doctorate in American studies at Yale University in Connecticut, is chairman of the board of the new American Civil War Museum in Richmond. In 2013, he received a National Humanities Medal awarded by President Barack Obama.

His books have been finalists for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. "In the Presence of Mine Enemies, Civil War in the Heart of America" won the Bancroft Prize for distinguished writing in American history, and holds particular meaning to him.

He guest-lectures frequently on the Civil War and has attracted huge crowds, including an audience of 5,000 in Richmond one time. He also co-hosts a National Public Radio show on history.

But Ayers, who will step down as college president come June and return to the classroom as a lecturing professor, said his speaking style is all about engaging audiences, in part to bring people together.

"I really enjoy teaching and I'm writing another book ... it's been 12 years and it's time for another," Ayers said.

Christopher Jones, chairman of the history and social science department at Phillips Academy, said in an email that Ayers' talk will address

"why the memory of the war and the legacy of slavery remain so entangled and so significant 150 years later."

He said Ayers will ultimately encourage people to reflect, which he said is always good for society.

"The Civil War has been remembered in many different ways over time," Jones wrote. "The 50th anniversary of the war's end was the same year 'Birth of a Nation' was made, a corrupted, deeply racist, and highly popular narrative of the

Civil War and its aftermath. The 100th anniversary of the war's end saw the nation in the midst of the civil rights movement: the year of the voting rights drive in Selma, the passage of the Voting Rights Act, and the assassination of Malcolm X.

"Now we are 150 years removed from the end of the war. If (President Abraham) Lincoln was right at Gettysburg that the war brought about a 'new birth of freedom,' then on its sesquicentennial,

IF YOU GO

What: "The End of the Civil War and the End of Slavery," presented by visiting scholar Dr. Edward Ayers to mark the 150th anniversary of the events

When: Wednesday, April 29, 7:15 p.m.

Where: Cochran Chapel, Phillips Academy, Chapel Avenue, Andover

How: Free; public invited

we should take stock of where we are as a society."

DISSENT

Continued from Page 1

concerns remain a year later, he said.

"That report does not explain that the average taxpayer may be facing future tax payments of tens of thousands of dollars to pay for past services and benefits," he wrote.

"Unfortunately, even after a year as a member of the committee, I cannot be certain what the 2015 report contains. To date, I have only seen incomplete draft material, a problem created in part by the use of outdated technology for assembling the book."

He also criticized the book because it didn't have a clear explanation of how the cost of retiree health insurance and pension payouts will affect taxpayers in the future.

Old technology

In an interview last Thursday, Arai said that one of his main beefs with the document is that it is compiled on paper, meaning Finance Committee members can't view an electronic version of it until after it has been published and put online.

"I'm a technology person, and I am stunned we don't have a full electronic draft of the report for the whole committee to review before it's sent out," he said. "I asked for this stuff. People working on assembly of the book sent me a bunch of drafts, but those were not print-ready copies. They had edits in them. There's a lot of room for improvement in the process here."

As a result, he said, he didn't know what was in the book.

"To my complete mystification and disappointment, as a

member of the Finance Committee, you have no idea what's in there," he said. "There's a stultifying constance of numbers and figures that lull you into complacency. But these numbers mask really important issues."

Arai pointed in particular to the first 10 or 20 pages of the annual book, which starts with a cover letter signed by Finance Committee members.

Last year, as in past years, the cover letter, signed by all nine members of the Finance Committee, discussed some of the main issues with the budget and how tax dollars were spent.

Following the letter and a table of contents are a series of pie charts showing sources of funds and how those funds are used. The book goes on to detail the history of taxes and projections for future tax hikes.

There is a primer on Proposition 2 1/2 and how it affects taxpayers, as well as other information about retiree health insurance costs, known as OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits).

Arai said the pie charts contain no mention of the long-term liability of OPEB or pensions.

"The increase in OPEB and pension liability is about \$8.8 million," he said. "That's 5 percent of total expenses. They don't even show up on the pie chart. There was discussion about putting it in a footnote. But I want to make it part of the pie. Now, there is no way for me to know that the footnote was even included in the book until I get it in my mailbox."

He said many of the numbers lack the correct context or other information residents need to make informed decisions.

"As a taxpayer, it's impossible to make heads or tails of this book," he said. "It's impossible to know how the pieces fit together."

Actions are 'unfortunate'

Joanne Marden, a member of the Finance Committee for more than 30 years, said it was the first time she can remember that a member of the committee declined to sign the

opening letter.

She took umbrage with Arai's comments, saying she and other members of the committee work tirelessly every year to provide an accurate accounting of how tax dollars are being spent in Andover.

"We work very hard to get good information out to the voters and we are very careful to make sure what we are putting out can be documented," she said. "To have somebody just take shots at us is unfortunate."

She went on to say that Arai's concerns about long-term liability have been incorporated into the budget and into the Finance Committee report and said that he, "to an extent," was being unreasonable.

"He's looking at it as though he wants the information in, and the committee didn't want it in," she said. "We have a two-page thing on OPEB and pensions."

She added, "I understand what Max is getting at. It's not like he doesn't have a valid issue. But he wants to show them in a way that doesn't make sense to average taxpayers. He's mixing up long-term liabilities with decisions we have to make currently about the budget."

Marden said the Finance Committee report itself is pulled together from numerous sources so that there isn't a single, electronic document that contains the entire report until it is ready for the publisher.

The numbers in the document, however, have been reviewed and approved by the committee. Even the cover letter was reviewed and approved by Arai, she said.

"Every member of the committee is involved in writing the letter," she said. "That was done in a public meeting.

Most of the other information was reviewed by the committee, although the final pages weren't."

She added that Arai doesn't necessarily get along well with everyone on the committee.

"Sometimes he's really helpful, but if you insult your fellow committee members enough times, no matter how good your idea is, the rest of the committee won't listen," she said.

Unfunded liabilities

Finance Committee Chairman Jon Stumpf said that all the numbers in the book, if not all the pages, have been reviewed carefully by the committee.

"The revenue and expenses pie chart, one could make the statement that the committee did not review those two pages," he said. "But we reviewed every single number that went into those numbers on that page. To make a statement we neither reviewed nor approved it is not true."

He added that Town Manager Buzz Stapeczynski, along with the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen and Retirement Board, have been more aggressive in recent years about the unfunded liabilities.

"We set up a trust fund for OPEB five years ago," he said. "Each year we tried to address it. The town manager's policy is to increase that line item by \$100,000 a year while also taking 25 percent of free cash and putting that toward the unfunded OPEB obligation. The FinCom recommends that this year and we did it last year."

He said the committee also supports the Retirement Board's proposal to put an extra \$1 million toward the pension liability this year.

"One could argue we need to take more aggressive steps, but if you to take \$10 million out of the operating budget and put it into OPEB and pensions, that would bankrupt the rest of the budget," he said.

Selectman Bob Landry said it's not so much a problem of spending as transparency.

"Max and I share the belief that the town's true fiscal condition is not reflected in the budget and the FinCom book," Landry said. "This has been a consistent message of mine, that we are only reflecting in the budget what we can afford as opposed to what the true cost is."

"The annual required contribution for retiree health insurance is about \$5 million in the budget this year. When you look at how much we should be setting aside, it's closer to \$12 million or \$13 million. We are ignoring that cost in the budget."

Arai, for his part, will not be able to defend his comments at Town Meeting as he will be on an archaeological vacation in Crete.

Town Moderator Doherty said she would have hoped that everyone would sign the letter.

"I don't know why it would happen, but I know there's frustration on his part and the board's part," she said.

Historically, the Finance Committee has tried, in its comments, to put forth a consensus, she added.

"They have always all signed it," she said. "I think it's a huge thing they all sign the letter."

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MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo

Wilhelm Dichter shares photos of his family as he discusses the horrors of the Holocaust as a Jewish boy living in Poland during a program last week at The Center at Punchard. See www.andovertownsmen.com for more photos of his talk for Holocaust Remembrance Day.

A victory of survival

Holocaust couple recalls the darkness that united them 65 years ago

By TIM LIMA

tlima@andovertownsmen.com

The period leading up to the roughly 65-year love story of Wilhelm and Ola Dichter was unspeakable hell.

He was a Jewish boy clinging to life in attics and underground wells in Poland during World War II. A so-called Hidden Child, he managed to escape captivity and the almost guaranteed death that followed.

She was a Polish girl who spent six years living under German control. She recalled her father picking her up to look out a window to see ash smoke and flames pouring from a chimney.

Both now 79 years old, the couple, who live in Tewksbury, spoke to a crowded room at The Center at Punchard last Wednesday, April 15, about their experiences as children surviving World War II in Poland. The program marked the observance of Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Ola Dichter said she'll never forget her father back then telling her the importance of remembering what she was seeing, and knowing, even as a child, that it would most certainly have an impact on her life.

(Holocaust Remembrance Day) is a solemn occasion, because it commemorates

a crime against humanity," she said. "We are profoundly sad, but there is also something uplifting because (her husband) lived through hell. It's the ultimate victory of survival."

A best-selling writer, Wilhelm Dichter went on to chronicle his experiences. His autobiographical novel, "God's Horse and The Atheists' School," published in 2012, delves into his father's suicide to his own ever-changing views on death to his still tumultuous life as a Jew in the years after the war's conclusion.

Before his son, Bronck Dichter, 57, and 16-year-old granddaughter, Bel Barrett, read aloud chapters of his latest book to the dozens in attendance, his wife, a life-long Catholic, introduced her husband.

The two met while attending school together. She was 13 and found herself drawn to Jewish children, the few who remained, empathetic to what they had endured.

Wilhelm Dichter was 14, and he said she likely saved his life. "She surely is the most important person in my life," he said. "I think that sooner or later, if I didn't meet her, I would have committed suicide. I don't think that I could have gone back to real life alone. I was selected, by fate, to be a

witness — but I didn't want to be a witness. I wanted to run away from it."

The couple were just into their 20s when they married. In 1968, during the anti-Semitic campaign, they left Poland with clothes, books and \$200 in cash — foregoing their native citizenship, belongings and friends for a life in America.

The couple joked that upon reaching the U.S., the only member of their family still a citizen of Poland was their cocker spaniel, Ida.

Wilhelm Dichter said that he didn't speak of what he had endured for decades. Then, a heart attack in the late 1980s left him feeling that his days were numbered and his recollections were precious.

"He returned to his dead memories," Ola Dichter said.

Though fluent in his native and adopted languages, Wilhelm Dichter writes in Polish and has his works translated to English.

The couple's daughter, Elizabeth Barrett, along with her three children, Cora, 13; Tess, 12; and Roman, 8; also attended the presentation.

"It means a lot to hear my parents share their experiences in a place where others are warm, accepting, understanding and really want to learn about them," Elizabeth Barrett said.



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UMASS AMHERST FALL 2014 DEAN'S LIST

The following local students were named to the fall 2014 dean's list at UMass Amherst:

Adam Robert Ladd, Alexa Grace Rockwell, Alexandra Leigh Perry, Allison Elizabeth McLeod, Andrew James Schwartz, Arielle Patricia Gillette, Ava Bakhtyari, Benjamin Edward Harris, Bridget Marie Aumais, Brynn Woods Stevens, Camille Julia Harris, Christine Ann Aumais, Christine Rose Gencorelli, Christopher James Lundgren, Danielle Marie Jacobsen, Emily Marie Byrne, Emma Katherine Hodges, Eric Spinale, Eugenie Pauline Moffitt, Helen Kay Root, Jeffrey Dreyfus, Jennifer Marie Konjoian, Jillian Leigh Wybenga, John Francis Hoar, John Michael Mazzuchi, Jordan Ashley Levine, Jordan Mikala Janeiro, Joseph Michael Danisch, Joseph Thomas Solimini, Kate Mary Froburg, Kevin Norman Yang.

Also, Kristen Amelia Wil-Stevens, Leila Margaret Aruri, Liang Ting Lin, Mariela Nicole Siegel, Marielle Elizabeth Waters, Marika Anna Cerbone, Matthew Derek Levine, Matthew Ryan Crush, Maxwell Wehmeyer Galat, Meaghan Anne Molloy,

Melissa Yvonne Shattuck, Michael Emmanuel Brandon, Michaela Nicole McMullen, Michelle Molly Gordon, Monika Sudol, Nadja Arifovic, Nathaniel Jaehyun Oh, Owen Henry Focke, Pauline Gillette, Peter Jeffrey Scapicchio, Robert Scott Hillson II, Ryan McPartlin Beaumont, Sam Alexander Kefferstan, Samantha Lillie Edgecombe Stettiner, Sarah Catherine Brown, Shaila Abbott, Stephen Thomas Beaumont, Tara Nicole Benson, Timothy Robert Yaghmoorian, Tyler Scott Verrette, William Frederick Rand IV and Zach Jacob Perry.

NECC FALL 2014 DEAN'S LIST

The following local students were named to the fall 2014 dean's list at Northern Essex Community College:

Kristen Aleksa, Allison Andrukaitis, Martha Asare, Makayla Banton, Jacob Barry, Eric Bootman, Alicia Bursley, Sarah Carroll, Joshua Chapman, Madeleine Curley, Noemi DeLaCruz, Deanna Denmark, Ethan Denmark, Andy DiFut, Nichole Downey, Nancy Earley, Suzette Feliz, Lisa Hernandez, Freddie Jackson, Graeme Johnson, Reda Jovellas, Rithna Julia, Alex Kalinowski, Matthew Kostandin, Stephen Longo, Jack McKelliget, Humphrey Muchiri, Maryann O'Connell, Lisa Pasho, Kasey Pelletier, Demetrios Photis, Haley Sayre, Christopher Schwartz, Andrew Scola, Sarah Smith, Susan Stott, Alexandra Strock, Abel Tavarez, Austin Thiele, and Dean Voyer.

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Education

The pros of argument writing West Middle students look to local news to make their case

By TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

Look out, courtrooms. A group of sixth-graders at West Middle School have been fine-tuning their arguing skills.

As part of Common Core mandates, Andover sixth-graders are required to develop their argument writing, formerly known as persuasive writing.

Shannon Witman, a sixth-grade teacher at West Middle School, decided to approach the assignment in a way that she thought students might better connect with.

"I thought if the students could choose

the topic they were most passionate about, it would make for better writing," she said.

To do that, she had all 95 sixth-graders in her team first review the Opinion pages of The Andover Townsman for real-world examples of argument writing. Then, she told them to pick an issue making local news that interested them.

While some chose to write on a topic that was relevant to West Middle School, others were drawn to events affecting the entire school district or the community in general.

Witman said plans for a play area for The Park and the debate over a proposed

senior housing development on the former Strawberry Hill Farm drew a lot of interest. Others focused in on PARCC testing and discussions over a longer school day.

From there, students were tasked with choosing the audience to whom they would address their pieces.

Witman said that she was surprised by how motivated her students became, and how well they expressed opinion in writing.

Starting today, The Townsman will be highlighting some of the students' argument pieces on our Education page over the course of the coming weeks.

PARCC: Virtual testing should be reconsidered

Tyler Yundt



Tyler Yundt

WHY I CHOSE THE TOPIC

"I enjoy working with technology, and PARCC testing is something that really needs more thought put into it."

- Tyler Yundt

Dear Andover School Committee,

PARCC, being the new standard for organized testing here in Massachusetts, is a step up from MCAS, as it is all virtual; so we don't have to pay for paper or people to correct it. But if you go into the details, PARCC may be a lot worse than MCAS.

As we all know, computers are slow. They always have been, and probably will stay that way, at least for a while. This is where the first issue comes up. What if it is too slow to finish the questions in the time given to take the test? One of the new rules for PARCC is that you must complete the test in a certain amount of time. Knowing companies, they will choose the cheapest parts for their laptops, tablets, etc., which would obviously make them

slower. Plus, Macs are slow in general compared to other operating systems. There are work-arounds for this, such as using a more lightweight and faster operating system, like Linux, which is free, by the way.

Another problem is battery life. The computers will need to be plugged in, most likely, just to be safe from losing all progress. This would help, as long as you have enough outlets,

which I doubt any school has enough of in any room, besides a computer lab.

Since the test is entirely online, you would require a stable Internet connection at all times to do the testing. This sounds like it would be easy to do, but it has to be 100 percent stable. I'm not sure about you, but my Internet will go down at random times, usually for around a minute. If it goes down, the entire test for every student goes down. Also, what if the progress is

not saved until the test is complete? Then everyone would just have to start over again.

Most students are not good with computers. A lot of students cannot type very fast. This would make typing the answers to some of the questions quite difficult for them. Also, the structure of the website, from what I've seen, is not exactly the easiest to navigate. This would probably cause large amounts of confusion in all the schools.

I do realize why you think this is a good idea though. Yes, it will save paper, and it would be more expensive to have a physical copy of the test, like MCAS does, so it's a lot cheaper. But please take what I have said into consideration. Finding something better or even switching back to MCAS would almost certainly be worth it.

EDUCATION NOTEBOOK

COMPILED BY TIM LIMA

The votes are in: Cue the Bancroft Bobcat

With a new Bancroft Elementary School comes the appointment of a new mascot.

Roughly 500 students voted last week to make the Bobcat the school's new mascot. He beat out both the badger and the bumblebee for the honor of being the face of the new school.

Every student had a hand in the decision, receiving an official ballot listing the three finalists that had been selected by the fourth- and fifth-grade members of Bancroft's Student Council.

After filling out their ballots in their homerooms earlier in the week, the students then cast them in a ballot box in the school lobby. Then, the votes were tabulated and the winner was announced.

The Bobcat will be used on spirit wear and other items and also be incorporated into school events as a way to promote excitement and positivity throughout the Bancroft community, school leaders say.

AHS Parent Advisory Council meeting

School Committee Chairman Annie Gilbert will present an overview of the proposed 2015-16 school budget, as well as highlight several Town Meeting warrant articles pertaining to the high school, at the next Andover High School Parent Advisory Council meeting on Tuesday, April 28, at 7 p.m. in the Andover High School Media Center on Shawsheen Road.

The discussion comes one week prior to the start of Town Meeting on Monday, May 4. Parents are urged to become educated on the issues involving the town prior to them coming up for a vote.

AHS Marching Band Bottle Drive

Andover High School's Golden Warrior Marching Band will hold its Spring Redeemable Bottle and Can Drive on Saturday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to noon, rain or shine, at West Middle School, 70 Shawsheen Road, Andover.

Only redeemable bottles and cans will be accepted. All proceeds support the AHS Golden Warriors Marching Band.

South Elementary School Math-a-thon

More than half of the 277-member student body at South Elementary School

participated in this year's Math-a-thon event, raising more than \$5,300 for the school's Parent Teacher Organization.

Teacher Patty Lovely's third-grade class raised the most money, winning a cafeteria pizza lunch for its fundraising efforts. All Math-a-thon participants received a homework pass.

STEM College for Kids at NECC

Registration is now open for Northern Essex Community College's STEM College for Kids summer program — a four-week series of workshops for children ages 9 to 14. The program, which will run from July 6 through July 31 on the Haverhill campus, 100 Elliott St., will feature a variety of science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) and arts courses.

New, this year, are several STEM-music hybrid courses that combine the artistry of songwriting with technical elements. Music Technology will teach students how to make songs from the elements of music through the use of modern music technology software tools. Students will learn about the fundamentals of chords and progressions on their instruments of choice and be introduced to basic and intermediate music notation.

LEGO MindStorms, meanwhile, will test students' power of logic, creativity and problem-solving skills to construct and program robot models. Students will work in small groups to build real robots using a mix of LEGO parts, motors and sensors. Other courses include 3D Modeling for the Aspiring Engineer, Bridge Building, Cartooning, Crazy Chemistry, Green Engineering, Spa Chemistry and more.

The courses run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Each five-day morning and mid-day session costs \$75 and each five-day afternoon session is \$70. The cost for full-time enrollment, which is three sessions daily for five days, is \$220. Registration includes a non-refundable \$40 fee that is waived if payment is received before May 1. For more information, visit www.necc.mass.edu/community-engagement/college-for-kids.

To submit an item for the Education Notebook, email tlima@andovertownsmen.com.



Bancroft Elementary School students stand in line to cast their votes for their new mascot last week. The Bobcat came out on top, beating the Badger and the Bumblebee for the honor.

COURTESY PHOTO

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Student services director finalists passed over

Search for post to start anew in the fall

By TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

The hiring of a director of student services for the Andover Public Schools has reached a dead end.

The School Department has opted against choosing either of its two finalists and will instead re-open the search in the fall, according to a memo that Superintendent Marinel McGrath sent out to the school community last week.

"... This is a very complex position requiring significant experience in several areas including special needs programming, exceptional interpersonal skills and legal knowledge and experience," McGrath wrote to parents and staff on Friday, April 17.

"While each of our finalists had elements of what we were looking for, neither had the depth and breadth of experience required to lead a school system of Andover's size and complexity."

Beverly Shea, director of pupil personnel services in Hanover who previously worked in Andover as head of the middle school special education program, and Maureen Ryan, coordinator of secondary special education in North Reading, were vying for the position said to carry a salary of between \$117,000 and \$125,000.

McGrath said the search will re-open this fall, when a more diverse candidate pool might be available. At that time, the process will be led by a different, interim superintendent. McGrath retires from her post this July.

"Several school districts have recently opened and closed searches due to a low number of available candidates," McGrath wrote.

In the meantime, McGrath said she will appoint an interim director, "likely from an external field of experienced candidates who seek interim

positions, to work with our special educators and our parents next year."

The director of student services oversees the delivery of educational services to students that augment and supplement regular classroom education, including special education, school nursing services, home tutoring and oversight of the education of homeless children, the job posting says.

The position is currently filled by Amy Reese, who has served as interim director since the retirement of Joyce Laundry last June.

Sheena Stack, co-chairwoman of the Special Education Parent Advisory Council, said the news that the current search would close without a new director was disappointing.

"We are disappointed and concerned with how the Andover Public Schools did this search," she said. "They didn't involve SEPAC executive council in the hiring committee for the director of student services position, where there has historically always been leadership from SEPAC on the hiring committees."

Stack also said SEPAC had requested that an outside firm lead the search, saying that it's a "very important, complex position, especially when the town isn't doing well in special education." That request was denied, she said.

She said that parent focus groups from SEPAC met with both finalists, and favored Ryan, saying she would have been "what this town needed."

"We need someone to come in and overhaul the whole special education system," Stack said.

McGrath had been expected to announce her decision on the new hire at the April 2 School Committee meeting. But she instead reported that she needed more time to research the finalists.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

School Committee must bail itself out

Editor, Townsman:
Having attended last week's selectmen's meeting where three members of the School Committee argued for increasing next year's School Department budget by an additional \$280,000 on top of the \$2 million budget increase they have already baked into their spending plans,

I am reminded of the story of the 17-year-old who murders his wealthy parents in order to inherit the family fortune and then begs the court for leniency claiming he's an orphan.

Because that is exactly the situation we see with our School Committee and its recent contract with the teachers union where the School Committee is giving members of the teachers union a 5.5 percent salary increase on top of the

numerous big-dollar step increases and longevity increases to the salaries teachers already get and then pleading, "we're orphans!"

As the chairman of our Finance Committee, who was at this selectmen's meeting, reminded everyone after the chairwoman of the School Committee asked the selectmen to bless a bigger School Department budget, Andover's teachers, even

without this 5.5 percent cost of living adjustment handed out to them by the School Committee during the current period of essentially zero inflation in the economy, would have still continued to get their numerous annual step increases and longevity pay raises.

And very sizable automatic step increases they are ... for as the contract shows (www.aps1.net/documentcenter/view/380), the step increases alone, like a plane on auto-pilot, add more than \$30,000 to the salary of a teacher who has just a bachelor's degree merely for showing up. And if a teacher has a master's degree, these automatic step increases add more than \$40,000 to the annual salary just for showing up. And the longevity pay raises are on top of the automatic step increases.

The bottom line for the town is that this hastily negotiated contract is putting approximately \$1 million more into the pockets of the faculty starting July 1, this great giveaway being the culprit behind the threatened teacher layoffs. I suggest that the School Committee sit down with the teachers union and negotiate a revised salary schedule for the remainder of this contract so that the desired compliment of teachers can be realized without asking the taxpayers to bail out the School Committee, once again,

from the consequences of a poorly thought-through contract with the teachers union that the School Committee stampeded themselves into signing off on a year ago.

It's time that the School Committee take responsibility for the self-inflicted wounds it creates and find within the currently budgeted \$73 million the less than half of one percent needed to avoid teacher layoffs without reaching into everyone's pockets for even more money. If the School Committee says it can't find less than half of one percent in a \$73 million budget to avoid teacher layoffs, its members are really saying to us that they consider every one of the other items in their spending plan for next year as being far more important than teachers.

BOB POKRESS
3 Cherrywood Circle

Thankful for help with dead elm tree

Editor, Townsman:
A 60-foot-high, dead elm tree on an adjacent, foreclosed property posed a serious risk to my house and utility wires.

After no response from the banks owning the property, I contacted my town and state representatives asking for help. Sen. Barbara L'Italien's office was the only one to respond and through much effort by her aide, Joseph Thibodeau, the tree was recently removed.

I wish to thank both the senator and Mr. Thibodeau for their help.

BOB COMSTOCK
8 Random Lane

New dog park fetching plenty of activity

Editor, Townsman:
Monday, March 30, about 8:45 a.m., I drove by the new Dog Park on High Plain Road in West Andover. There was no one there: no person, no dog.

Why is this noteworthy? Since its inauguration, I've driven by the dog park many times, at all daylight hours, in blizzards, in freezing cold, in rain, as well as in good weather. Always there are dogs and people enjoying the park. The dogs are happily playing with one another; the people obviously have something in common to talk about.

I want to congratulate those who pushed for the park and those who implemented it.

FRANK HOPKINS
4 Brady Loop

Proposed pipeline oversized, unnecessary

Editor, Townsman:
I am a current resident of Andover and wanted to express strong opposition with Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company's pipeline expansion project through New England, particularly in the region in and around Andover.

The bottom line is that this proposed pipeline expansion project is oversized and unnecessary. The need for further energy can be rectified by repairing the existing leaks in the aging natural gas pipeline infrastructure. Currently, these leaks release methane, a potent greenhouse gas that can contribute to global warming, air and water pollution, and human health concerns. Now is the time to look toward renewable energy resources, such as wind and solar energy. Now is the time to work together to make for a better tomorrow.

KATE WALLACE
5 Mercury Circle

Community's support allows children a future

Editor, Townsman:
I'm writing to thank the community for its generous support of the Spring in Paris Auction on April 11 benefiting the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence. The event was a success, thanks to numerous individuals and local businesses committed to making a difference for the youth of Lawrence.

On any given day, you'll find nearly 500 kids at the club, involved in activities ranging from basketball to swimming, dance to karate, computer games to filmmaking, and more. These programs cost more than \$2.8 million each year - with almost no government funding. The annual cost for one child is \$850, while our membership fee is only \$30.

Because demand exceeds our ability to serve, each and every club supporter is critical in providing a safe haven and second home to more than 3,800 youth members who depend on us for hot meals, homework help, fitness and nutrition programs, college and career planning, and lasting personal relationships with caring adults who respect, listen and encourage them to reach for a future beyond the streets.

One child at a time, we're helping pave a path to a better future by demonstrating that our kids are part of a larger community that cares and believes in them. Together, we can help them envision a great future and do the hard work it takes to achieve their dreams.

To join our mission of changing kids' lives, please call me at 978-683-2747, ext. 111 to schedule a tour.

With gratitude,
MARKUS FISCHER
Executive director
Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence

MORE LETTERS ON PAGE 11



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Primer on May Town Meeting

The annual Town Meeting will be held on Monday and Tuesday, May 4 and 5, starting at 7 p.m. in the J. Everett Collins Center Auditorium at Andover High School on Shawsheen Road.

It will continue Monday and Tuesday, May 11 and 12, if more nights are needed.

A shuttle bus will be available to take voters from the parking lots to the auditorium on the first two nights of Town Meeting.

Shuttle service will start at 6:15 p.m.

Entry is through the lobby of the auditorium. Voters must check in at their precinct table. To avoid delays at check-in, it is recommended that voters know their precincts before arriving at Town Meeting. Residents may visit the town website at www.andoverma.gov and search for their precincts under the "E-Services" tab, then click "Precinct Search."

The Finance Committee Report was mailed to each household early this week and can also be found on the home page of the town website.

Questions may be directed to the Town Clerk's office at 978-623-8255 or via e-mail at townclerk@andoverma.gov.

Follow us on:



@andovertownsmen

Opinion

A reason to run — and then some

Runners as a rule don't need a reason to run. Most lace up their sneakers because they feel there's nothing better than taking to the open road, enjoying the exhilaration that comes with testing the capabilities of one's self or simply embracing the outdoors.

They love the fact there's no requisite gear involved, no schedule to adhere to, no course or rules to follow. Just two legs taking them wherever they decide to go — as far, and as fast, as they choose.

For many, that's reason enough. But come spring, those who desire a little extra incentive can find plenty in and around Andover.

None are larger than this week's granddaddy test of endurance — the historic Boston Marathon. Among the thousands who joined the elite competitors in covering the 26.2 miles from Hopkinton to Boylston Street on Monday were no less than 50 or so runners with Andover ties.

They included Andover mother Danielle Ciaccio, running her first marathon in honor of her son, Jackson, who at 17 months suffered a massive stroke that resulted in a rare brain disease. She was driven to raise money for research into Moyamoya disease at Boston Children's Hospital, which cared for her now-thriving, 3-year-old boy.

Sean Hyland, a New York transplant whose wife, Rachel, teaches at Phillips Academy, was also among the pack in Boston. Hyland returned to the route two years after making his inaugural appearance when he crossed the finish line minutes before the bombings occurred. From that point on, the New Yorker made Boston Marathon "his race."

Boston Mayor Martin Walsh's Chief of Staff Daniel Koh, who grew up in Andover and whose parents still live in town, finished his third Boston Marathon, this time in memory of 8-year-old Martin Richards, the youngest victim of the 2013 bombings. But perhaps what he'll remember most about the day is what happened after he crossed the finish line. Koh dropped to the ground, not from exhaustion, but out of love, proposing to his girlfriend, Amy Sennett, who had just run the 26.2 miles alongside him. She said "yes."

Indeed, everyone representing Andover at the Boston Marathon had a story behind why they were there, raising money for such causes as Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston and the New England Patriots Charitable Foundation.

But most runners in Andover are never going to be tackling Heartbreak Hill. Instead, they spend their springs running — and in many cases walking — in a series of 5Ks in town for a myriad of often emotion-filled causes.

The local race circuit got off to a powerful start April 12 with the annual Run for the Troops from The Park. With longtime Boston Marathon father-son favorites Rick and Dick Hoyt leading the way, more than 4,500 took part in raising money to support specially adapted houses for veterans injured in action.

In two weeks, on Sunday, May 3, at The Park, even more are expected to turn out for the second annual 5K to remember 24-year-old high school math teacher Colleen Ritzer of Andover, who was robbed of her future while pursuing her passion for educating young minds. Family, friends, fellow teachers and her students will all Step Up for Colleen in raising money for scholarships to high school graduates who aim to continue Ritzer's legacy in the classroom.

On Sunday, June 7, the seventh annual Krit Classic at Andover High School will honor Kristin Lee Kearins, a 2000 AHS graduate who lost her life in 2008 at the age of 26 from injuries sustained in a bicycle accident in Boston. Kearins was working as a clinical nurse's assistant while pursuing a nursing degree when the accident occurred.

Ironstone Farm in Andover will be holding its own Kentucky Derby Day 5K, too, on Saturday, May 2, from LeLachere Park in Lowell. The race benefits the nonprofit work of Challenge Unlimited at Ironstone, which provides therapeutic programs and services for children and adults with special needs, combat veterans, cancer patients, the elderly and more.

Many in town already support one or more of these fundraisers. But for those who go about running "just because," why not consider adding one of these great "causes" to the equation this spring?

WEB QUESTION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Many communities envy Andover for having two MBTA commuter rail stops in town. But do you take advantage of it?

YES. I work in Boston and use the train to commute into the city every weekday. It beats sitting in traffic.

YES. I opt for the train whenever I'm heading to Boston for a ballgame, appointment or to spend the day.

YES. I occasionally take the train, depending on the reason I'm venturing into the city.

NO. I commute to Boston, but never take the train from Andover. It's unreliable.

NO. I'm not a fan of the train: It's too much of a hassle, there's not enough parking at the station, the fare is too expensive.

NO. I always prefer to drive. I like being on my own schedule.

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

With Andover native Ryan Hanigan behind the home plate as catcher, there is even more reason to watch the Boston Red Sox this year. As the season gets underway, Hanigan is says the 2015 team has "the makings of something special." What do you think of the home team's prospects this year?

CONFIDENT. We're heading back to the World Series. Cue up the duck boats. You can take that to the bank. **50 percent.**

HOPEFUL. With some strong hitting and solid relief out of the bullpen, the Red Sox should be a strong playoff contender. **25 percent.**

NOT OUR YEAR. This will be a year of learning and rebuilding. A world championship just isn't in the cards. **25 percent.**

REMEMBERING THE HOLOCAUST



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo

Wilhelm Dichter, a Jewish Holocaust survivor who lived in Poland during World War II, shares a hug with a friend in the audience before the start of a presentation at The Center at Punchard last week in observance of Holocaust Remembrance Day.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cannot support incomplete review of finance report

Editor, Townsman:

Would you put your name on a document you hadn't read? I won't.

When Andover's Finance Committee Report arrives in voters' mailboxes this season, my name will not be on the transmittal letter. As a Chartered Financial Analyst, I have a duty to the investing public to insure the accuracy and completeness of all financial opinions that I submit to the public. I have asked to have my name removed from the letter.

While the Finance Committee has carefully and publicly deliberated the transmittal letter and recommendations that accompany the warrant articles, in my opinion, a substantial portion of the text in the book was neither reviewed nor approved by the Finance Committee prior to printing and mailing. The unreviewed content corresponds to pages eight to 22 in last year's report.

I wanted to serve on the Finance Committee because I had substantial reservations regarding the content of the 2014 Finance Committee Report. That report does not explain that the average taxpayer may be facing future tax payments of tens of thousands of dollars to pay for past services and benefits.

Unfortunately, even after a year as a member of the committee, I cannot be certain what the 2015 report contains. To date, I have only seen incomplete draft material, a problem created in part by the use of outdated technology for assembling the book.

Taxpayers deserve a clear explanation of how off-balance sheet liabilities will affect them in the future. I hope the process of producing the Finance Committee report can be improved for the 2016 meeting.

Best of luck to Andover,
MAX ARAI, CFA
Andover Finance Committee

Teacher crying tears down the wrong river

Editor, Townsman:

It's funny how Andover

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.
Mail to:
33 Chestnut St.,
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E-mail: townsmen@andover-townsmen.com. Please include the letter in the body of the e-mail, not as an attachment.

High School English teacher Jennifer Meagher is stating that she has post-traumatic stress and has suffered emotional injury due to the "drama" that she created by making that moral choice to pit teachers and administrators against one another during the 2012 negotiations and reaccreditation process, when she told teachers not to cooperate with the reaccreditation process in the mass mailing that she sent to her fellow coworkers.

What type of an elected official (vice president of teachers union) creates that choice for the teachers she represents? Someone who acts radical, in my opinion. I, for one, as a resident of Andover, take true offense to someone trying to deny the state accreditation to my Andover schools and my kids, especially when I pay the taxes on my home. The state accreditation for our schools keeps our home values up and helps our children further their education, plain and simple.

It's funny for someone so traumatized by her emotional injury, she never missed a beat in the classroom. My child had her for ninth-grade English right after she returned to school after her leave of absence. My child never saw a breakdown nor an emotional outburst during her English class. "Psychological torture," according to Meagher and her attorney, I don't buy it. Money grab at the taxpayers' expense, that I can buy.

KELLE SUTLIFF
Carter Lane

Historic Mill Overlay District a step forward

Editor, Townsman:

As a 40-year resident of Andover and a former selectman, I think that Town Meeting articles 49 and 50 are important steps into the future for the town. These articles will create an overlay district that will allow the area now known as the Historic Mill District to realize its potential to evolve into a more vital part of Andover's downtown.

During Andover's past, the Shawsheen River was the focus of our activities and our development because of the ability to generate power for our mills and commercial properties. We should harness that "power" again by creating opportunities for economic development in this area.

In addition to the economic development that will be encouraged, our community and its visitors will be able to once again find recreation along the river in the form of walking trails that will encourage us all to keep moving and to enjoy the beauty of this great natural resource in our midst.

Now is the time to approve this step forward for Andover. Please support articles 49 and 50 at this year's Town Meeting.

JOHN HESS
145 Chestnut St.

Electronic voting, Mill District deserve support

Editor, Townsman:

After meeting and arriving at consensus, the League of Women Voters of Andover/North Andover supports the following articles at the upcoming Town Meeting:

Article 16, Town Meeting Electronic Voting, would appropriate up to \$35,000 to implement an electronic voting system to allow individuals to vote using wireless handheld devices at the 2016 Town Meeting. This system would help preserve voter privacy and could also improve the efficiency of Town Meeting, which could increase attendance. Articles 49, 50, and 51

would establish a Historic Mill District covering 100 acres adjacent to downtown Andover, and amend the zoning bylaw to establish an overlay district called the Historic Mill District. These articles open up a myriad of opportunities for that section of Andover without disturbing the zoning that already exists. These articles address issues of architectural design and scale, historic character, traffic and public river access, among others. The district represents an opportunity for new growth, which directly contributes to tax revenue, while increasing the vibrancy of Andover's downtown.

Many additional worthy articles are being considered at this year's Town Meeting, and the League encourages all voters to attend and help shape Andover's future.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ANDOVER/NORTH ANDOVER
STEERING COMMITTEE
MAUREEN SUNDBERG
Oak Street
STEFANI TRAINA
Roulston Circle

Johnson family thankful for kindness, sympathy

Editor, Townsman:

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to the Andover community following the death of our beloved Kelly.

Your many acts of kindness, prayers, messages of sympathy and donations to the KJ Fund and the Addiction Recovery Management Service program continue to be a great comfort to us in our time of sorrow.

We especially wish to thank Bill Fahey, Andover Youth Services, Fr. Peter Gori, Katie LeBlanc and the St. Augustine Youth Ministry.

Much love,
THE JOHNSON FAMILY
Reading

MORE LETTERS
PAGE 10

READER ACCESS

EDITORIAL SERVICES

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

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

■ **Assistant Editor Bill Kirk** at 978-475-7000, ext. 8732, bkirk@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

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

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TownsBeat

Modernism's pioneer



Alfred Maurer's "Le Bal Bullier," c. 1900-1901, oil on canvas, from Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton.

COURTESY IMAGE

Addison Gallery to unveil first comprehensive Maurer exhibition

The Addison Gallery of American Art celebrates Alfred Maurer's singular accomplishments and contributions to American painting in the early decades of the 20th century in its spring exhibit opening this weekend on the campus of Andover's Phillips Academy.

"Alfred Maurer: At the Vanguard of Modernism" is a comprehensive exhibition of more than 70 master works highlighting the progressive painter's success in expanding the potential for artistic expression in American art and the development of Modernism in America.

After securing a place as one of the most accomplished late 19th century American figurative artists, Maurer (1868-1932) went on to join the ranks of the avant-garde. The traveling exhibit organized by Addison traces themes and subjects that run throughout the full scope of his work, culminating in his late Cubist still lifes.

"All phases of Maurer's artistic career are covered in this groundbreaking exhibition, which features his fin-de-siècle figure paintings, scenes of contemporary leisure, Fauvist works, landscapes and florals, heads and figures, still lifes, and late abstractions, including the Addison's own 'Still Life with Pears,'" Susan Faxon, Addison's associate director and curator of art before 1950, said.

While Maurer is often characterized as a painter of divergent, seemingly contradictory aesthetics, Addison's curators say this careful study of his oeuvre reveals steady interest

in thematic ideas, as well as formal experimentation with color, form and abstraction."

With an intimate knowledge of the most current French art and friendships with key vanguard American art figures, Maurer was positioned at the nexus of new ideas about art. He left New York for Paris to study in 1897 and remained there until the outbreak of World War I, becoming one of the first Americans to experience the work of Henri Matisse, as well as Paul Cézanne, Paul Gauguin and Pablo Picasso, among others. He in turn played a key role in introducing fellow Americans to their artistic salon, which was brimming with progressive art and ideas.

Following his return from Paris, Maurer moved in the most current art sets in New York, developing close friendships with individuals who were committed to changing the direction of American painting. In his quest to forge new paths, critics say Maurer produced some of the most advanced and adventurous work by an American in the first half of the 20th century.

"The pioneering spirit of American Modernism is crystallized in Maurer's late Cubist paintings, a body of work rich with pictorial possibilities. This is a virtual treasure trove of American art that turns a lens on the art of innovation and expression in the modern age," Dr. Stacey B. Epstein, the exhibition's curator, added.

"Alfred Maurer: At the Vanguard of Modernism" is accompanied by a fully illustrated exhibition catalogue that



Alfred Maurer's "Model with a Japanese Fan (Jeanne)," c. 1902-1904, oil on canvas, from the Karen and Kevin Kennedy Collection.

COURTESY IMAGE

documents many of Maurer's most accomplished works. It is the first catalogue since 1973 to focus solely on Maurer's work.

In celebration of this weekend's opening, Addison will host a reception on Friday, April 24, from 6 to 8 p.m. A lecture and gallery conversation featuring curators Epstein and Faxon as well as collector Tommy LiPuma will take place on Saturday, April 25, at 2 p.m.

The exhibit remains on

display through July 31. From Andover, it will travel to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Ark., for a show later this year.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. The gallery is closed on Mondays. Admission to all exhibits and events is free.

For more information, call Addison Gallery at 978-749-4015 or visit www.addisongallery.org.

In musical memory

Chamber music benefit concert honors Joni Finegold

The Essex Chamber Music Players cues up its second benefit concert for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in memory of Joni Alicia Finegold on Sunday, April 26, at 2 p.m. in the chapel at Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road in Andover.

Proceeds from the performance will support lung cancer research and patient care at the Boston cancer institute.

Finegold, the daughter of Essex Chamber Music Players founder Michael Finegold and his wife, Sondra, of Andover, passed away from non-smoking lung cancer in July 2012. The married mother of young children was just 42.

Sunday's concert program will showcase a range of chamber music composed in the 17th through 21st centuries by the likes of Danzi, Ravel, Copland and Rorem as well as some newly created works by William Thomas McKinley.

Joining flutist Michael Finegold as featured performers are soprano Adriana Repetto, violinist Andrew Kohji Taylor, cellist Patrick Owen and pianist Sarah Bob.

The concert will open with an introduction by Dr. David Barbie, the thoracic oncologist who treated Joni Finegold at Dana-Farber.

"The doctors and staff at Dana-Farber showed us what care and concern they have for all their patients," Sondra Finegold said in a release.

"We want to continue fundraising for this splendid institution and in remembrance to a terrible time in our lives that was made bearable by the Dana-Farber community."

Under the artistic direction of Michael Finegold, the Essex Chamber Music Players performs throughout the Merrimack Valley, Essex County and New England while in residence at Northern Essex. Its motto is, "Music for the 21st Century: Treasures of the Past, New Music Premieres."

General admission tickets for Sunday's concert are \$25, \$15 for students. The concert is partially underwritten by the Dorothy G. Philips Charitable Trust.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.ecmp.org. Donations to support Dana-Farber may also be made at www.myjimmymfundpage.org/give/jonifinegold or by sending a check payable to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute to Essex Chamber Music Players, in care of Michael Finegold, 11 Lavender Hill Lane, Andover 01810.



Joni Finegold

Out & About: Spotlight on Christ Church's 2,002-pipe organ

Organist Reiko Okamoto, organ scholar at The Parish of Christ Church, Andover, for the past two years, will perform a recital Saturday, April 25, at 7 p.m. at the church at 33 Central St.

Her program will include works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Franz Tunder, Dieterich Buxtehude, Hina Sakamoto, Jehan Alain and Maurice Duruflé performed on Christ Church's new two-manual, mechanical-action pipe organ with 2,002 pipes, built by C. B. Fisk, Inc. of Gloucester.

A native of Yamanashi, Japan, Okamoto holds a Master of Music degree in organ performance from Musashino Academy of Music in Tokyo and a Diploma in Organ Performance from Ferris University in Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan. She has served as an intern at the Minato Mirai Concert Hall in Yokohama, which houses a C.B. Fisk organ, and was part of a group of young organists who toured the U.S. in 2013 giving recitals.

In addition to her role at Christ Church, she is also interim organist at Old West Church in Boston until June when she and her husband, who is



COURTESY PHOTO

Organist Reiko Okamoto will perform a recital on the Parish of Christ Church's new C.B. Fisk, Inc., two-manual organ with 2,002 pipes on Saturday night.

pursuing his Master of Business Administration at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, return to Japan.

Admission to the recital is \$15, \$10 for students and seniors. A reception will follow in Christ Church Parish Hall.

Free movie night rolling at Faith Lutheran Church

Faith Lutheran Church, 360 South Main St. (Route 28), Andover, is hosting its next free family movie night on Thursday, April 23, at 6:30 p.m.

Kids can watch Disney's "Planes" about Dusty, who works at a cornfield and practices aerobatic maneuvers, dreaming of becoming a racer in his spare time.

In a nearby room, adults will take in "The Notebook," a story that begins in 1940 in Seabrook Island, S.C., when a local boy is smitten with an heiress. She moves away, but the couple eventually reconnects.

Dessert and coffee will be served at intermission.

In celebration of World Tai Chi Day

Climb to the top of Holt Hill at Ward Reservation in Andover on Saturday, April 25, for an observance of World Tai Chi & Qigong (Chi Kung) Day.

Meg Holmes, a professional martial arts tai chi instructor at Yang's Fitness, Wellness & Martial Arts Center in Andover, and the Friends of the Ward Reservation will lead the program of tai chi and qigong in the picturesque grounds at the reservation off Prospect Street.

The free educational event begins at 9 a.m. from the Ward Reservation parking lot. At 9:15 a.m., staff

See ABOUT, Page 14

Relive the magic of The Crystal Ballroom

Big band and ballroom dance returning to Town House

Those who grew up "way back when" in Andover will likely remember the original Crystal Ballroom on Haverhill Street.

In the 1940s, when the jitterbug, the lindy hop and the big bands reigned, young people from Andover would spend Saturday nights dancing and listening to the popular music of the era performed live by some of the top bands.

Times changed. Pop and rock groups replaced big bands. The Crystal Ballroom closed. Now the space is used for other purposes and dancing isn't what it used to be.

But the bands and dances that once filled The Crystal Ballroom live on in many memories and are even experiencing a resurgence in movies like "Strictly Ballroom" and popular TV shows like "Dancing With the Stars."

On Sunday, April 26, the bygone era will come alive again in town when the Andover Senior Community Friends group recreates the nostalgia surrounding The Crystal Ballroom at The Town House, aka Old Town Hall, for its Welcome

Spring! dance.

Organizers say there will be "no platter spinning here" as D.B.'s Orchestra will provide live music for guests' listening and dancing pleasure.

For those unfamiliar with the dance steps of yesterday or who just want a refresher, Tom Webster of Dance New England will lead instruction from 6 to 7 p.m. Then the dance floor will be open for all until 10 p.m.

Brenda Afshin is adding her award-winning touch to the decorations for the evening and there will be complimentary refreshments.

The event is enjoying financial support from Atria Marland Place in Andover, Ashland Farm and Bright View of North Andover and Heatherwood in Tewksbury.

Tickets purchased in advance are \$15 each or \$25 per couple. They are available in town at The Center at Punchard, 30 Whittier Court, 978-623-8321, and Andover Bookstore, 89 Main St., 978-475-0143. All tickets sold at the door will be \$15 apiece.

Andover Day & Night

Compiled by Betsy Curry
AUTHORS

ANDOVER BOOKSTORE, 89R Main St., Andover: Author Events, Laura Van Den Berg, author of "Find Me," Thursday, April 23; evening of poetry with local authors Moira Linehan and Mary Pinard, Thursday, May 14; all events begin at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted; free; 978-475-0143; <http://hugobookstores.com/andover>.

BENEFITS

GREATER LAWRENCE COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL, Making A Difference Gala celebrating the organization's 50 years fighting poverty and creating opportunities for local individuals, featuring cocktail reception, dinner, silent auction and entertainment, Saturday, May 9, 6 to 11 p.m., Andover Country Club, 60 Canterbury St.; 978-620-4706, tchalifour@glcac.org.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED, Soup's On fundraiser featuring food selections from area restaurants, live and silent

auctions and more, Saturday, May 9, 6 p.m., Relief's In, Lawrence Firefighter's Hall, 1 Market St., Lawrence; tickets \$60, www.needfood.org, email NeighborsInNeed@verizon.net, 978-685-8321.

PROFESSIONAL CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT, Inspiration Gala recognizing Sandy Levine and featuring buffet dinner, live and silent auctions, raffles and dancing, Friday, May 1, 6 p.m., Andover Country Club, 60 Canterbury St.; proceeds support center's programs and services that help all children achieve full potential; www.theprofessionalcenter.org.

TASTE OF THAI NIGHT, One Thong Thai Cafe of Andover hosts dinner and entertainment benefit for homeless children in Thailand, Sunday, May 17, 5 to 8:30 p.m., Andover Town House, 20 Main St.; tickets \$79 in advance, \$100 at door; 978-204-1641, email appletom2005@yahoo.com.

FAMILY

FAIRY TALE PLAYERS, Educational Theater for Children presents "Three



STEVE ISENBERG/Courtesy photo

Michael Driscoll will lead the Andover Choral Society in its spring concert on Sunday at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College.

Little Pigs and One Snappy Wolf, Thursday, April 23, two shows at 9:30 and 11 a.m., Meeting Hall at Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6 Locke St., Andover; tickets \$5, limited general admission seating available; reservations requested at info@fairytaleplayers.org; www.fairytaleplayers.org.

FILM

JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL, presented by Merrimack Valley Jewish Federation featuring screening of family film "An American Tail" and sundae party, Sunday, May 3, 2 p.m., \$10 adults, \$5 children, free kids under 2; double feature of "Deli Man" and "Above and Beyond," Sunday, May 31, 2 p.m., with donations to benefit federation programs;

Osgood Landing, 1580 Osgood St., North Andover; 978-688-0466, www.mvjf.org.

MUSIC

ANDOVER CHORAL SOCIETY, Haydn's "Missa in tempore belli" ("Mass in the Time of War") and Ralph Vaughan Williams' "Five Mystical Songs" performed under direction of Michael Driscoll, Sunday, April 26, 3 p.m., Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover; tickets \$20 adults in advance, \$25 at the door; \$5 students; www.andoverchoralsociety.org, 978-682-4050.

CROSSROADS MUSIC SERIES, Sarah Borges and Jason Spooner Band, Saturday, May 9; Los Sugar Kings, Friday, June 12; North Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, 190 Academy Road, North Andover; shows at 8 p.m., doors open 7:30 p.m.; \$15; www.crossroadsmusicseries.org.

MERRIMACK VALLEY PHILHARMONIC, in concert featuring violinist Zina Schiff and conductor Avlana Eisenberg, Sunday, May 3, 2:30 p.m.,

Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St. (Route 114), North Andover; \$25 adults, \$20 seniors and students, \$5 children ages 4 to 12; at the door or www.MKtix.com/mvpo, www.mvpomusic.org.
PALMERS RESTAURANT, Live music, Fridays and Saturdays, 9 p.m. to midnight; no cover charge; Friday, April 24, Common Crossing; Saturday, April 25, Random Act Band; Friday, May 1, Louis Lane; Saturday, May 2, Shuffle Mode; Friday, May 8, Soul Income; Saturday, May 9, Section 42 Band; 18 Elm St., Andover; 978-470-1606, www.palmers-restaurant.com.

ETC.

SPRING BOOK SALE, hosted by Friends of Memorial Hall Library, Friday, May 1, and Saturday, May 2, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, May 3, 1 to 4:30 p.m.; free admission; Preview Night, with \$20 admission, Thursday, April 30, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.; 978-623-8400, www.mhl.org.

To submit an item for the entertainment calendar, email townsman@andovertownsmen.com.

ABOUT

Continued from Page 13

members from the Trustees of Reservations, which owns Ward Reservation, will deliver a brief presentation about the property before leading the group to the top of Holt Hill, which is the highest point in Essex County.

At 9:45 a.m., Holmes, of Andover, will lead a series of tai chi warm-up exercises, qigong breathing exercises and a demonstration of the Yang-style tai chi sequence. The presentation will end at 11 a.m., followed by a short walk around Ward

Reservation for those who are interested.

No prior experience is required; comfortable dress is suggested. Participation in the various exercises and movements is encouraged, although observers and the curious are welcome as well. The event will be canceled in the event of rain. For more information, visit www.YangsAndover.com or call 978-475-2020.

NECC's Stillpoint dances into Lawrence High

Northern Essex Community College's Stillpoint Dancers present their

annual spring performance on Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25, at 8 p.m. at Lawrence High School, 70-71 North Parish Road.

A piece by Stillpoint alumna Amanda Westcott will be one of the centerpieces of the program. Titled "Joe," the dance is about finding closure after the loss of a loved one. It was originally choreographed for the NECC dancers who attended the American College Dance Association conference this past March at Rhode Island College.

Another piece, "Finish Fast," was choreographed by Dance Program coordinator Michelle Deane for

the modern dance techniques class.

Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, and \$4 for children under 12, and will be sold at the door. For more information, contact Deane at mdeane@necc.mass.edu or 978-556-3597.

Kiwanis Club serving up annual Fabulous Feast

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Lawrence hosts its 17th annual Fabulous Feast fundraiser on Wednesday, April 29, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Wyndham Andover Hotel, 123 Old River Road. More than 20 Merrimack Valley restaurants and caterers will be serving their specialties.

This year, the Kiwanis Club will also honor Andover High School girls varsity swim and dive coach Marilyn Fitzgerald with its Tony and Gladys Sakowich Lifetime Achievement Award and Methuen police Sgt. James Gunter with the Humanitarian of the Year Award. Eagle-Tribune Executive

Sports Editor Bill Burt will serve as the master of ceremonies. Tickets are \$50. Proceeds support local programs that help children. Visit www.lawrencekiwanisclub.com for details.

Sentimental 'Songs and Stories from the War Years'

Recall the World War II era in Richard Kruppa's "Songs and Stories from the War Years" presented Thursday, April 30, at 1:30 p.m. at The Center at Punchard, 30 Whittier Court, Andover.

The program will focus on some of the most beloved songs from the 1939 to 1945 era, including "Bluebirds over the White Cliffs of Dover," "Sentimental Journey," "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition," and "Harbor Lights."

Known musically as "Ramblin' Richard," Kruppa not only sings the songs, accompanying himself on guitar, five-string banjo and baritone ukulele, but he



COURTESY PHOTO

Richard Kruppa, aka "Ramblin' Richard," performs "Songs and Stories from the War Years" on Thursday, April 30, at The Center at Punchard in Andover.

shares the fascinating and sometimes unfamiliar stories behind the songs, their significance and how they came to be.

A retired professor at Bowling Green State University in Ohio who studied gospel and American music, Kruppa is a member of the New England Foundation for the Arts.

His performance is open to the community, pending space. Admission is \$5 and includes refreshments. To register, visit www.myactivecenter.com or call 978-623-8321 for information.

'Hair of the Dog' toast for MSPCA's Nevins Farm

The 11th annual "Hair of the Dog" Wine Tasting & Art Show benefiting the animals of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals at Nevins Farm in Methuen will be held Friday, May 1, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Essex Art Center, 56 Island St., Lawrence.

Guests will sample a variety of wines while enjoying an array of artwork by local artists. A buffet, which will include vegetarian and vegan options, is being supplied by Whole Foods of Andover.

Tickets are \$40 in advance, \$50 at the door. They are available online at www.mspsca.org/hairoft-hedog, at Shawshen Village Liquors in Andover or at the Noble Family Animal Care & Adoption Center at Nevins Farm.

For more information, contact Julia Pesek at jpesek@mspsca.org or 978-687-7453, ext. 6161.

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Solution in Classified Section

CLUES ACROSS

- Limited period
- PC graphics file format
- Coarse file
- Smooth and lustrous
- Equal, prefix
- Waxplant genus
- One who puts up with
- H. Potter's BFF
- Strays
- Night flight
- Over the counter (abbr.)
- Salt Lake state
- DWTS's oldest judge
- A way to cut off
- Hunted beings
- Sacred tobacco pipe
- Electronic data processing
- # of nativity kings
- Nebraska's largest city
- School spirit rally
- 20th Greek letter
- Belonging to Greek Mother Earth
- Daisy tanacetum
- Skilled in many areas
- Mures river city
- Brew
- Extreme fear
- Ethiopian monetary unit
- Cardboard box (abbr.)
- Esoteric
- Sword similar to a foil
- ___, you!
- Grass tree
- Queen of Sparta
- Major division of geological time
- Supply with nourishment

CLUES DOWN

- Czech
- Czech River
- Nev. Senator since 1987
- Person of ancient Media
- Russian meat pie
- Atom with the same atomic #
- Harmony
- Watery discharge from the eyes or nose
- Arteries
- "Breaking the Silence" author Katrina
- Crushing blow
- Florida state dessert
- Della __, singer
- Meshlike fishing device
- Storage warehouse
- Play a role
- Humburg
- Single Lens Reflex
- Billiards stick
- Parts of an hour (abbr.)
- A.K.A. opt key
- Tool to work the soil
- Not or
- Pain in the middle or inner ear
- Collection of Psalms for liturgical use
- Int'l. news organization
- High Ottoman official
- Equipped with gears
- ___ Doria, ship
- Informal complaint
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- At some prior time
- Make sense of language

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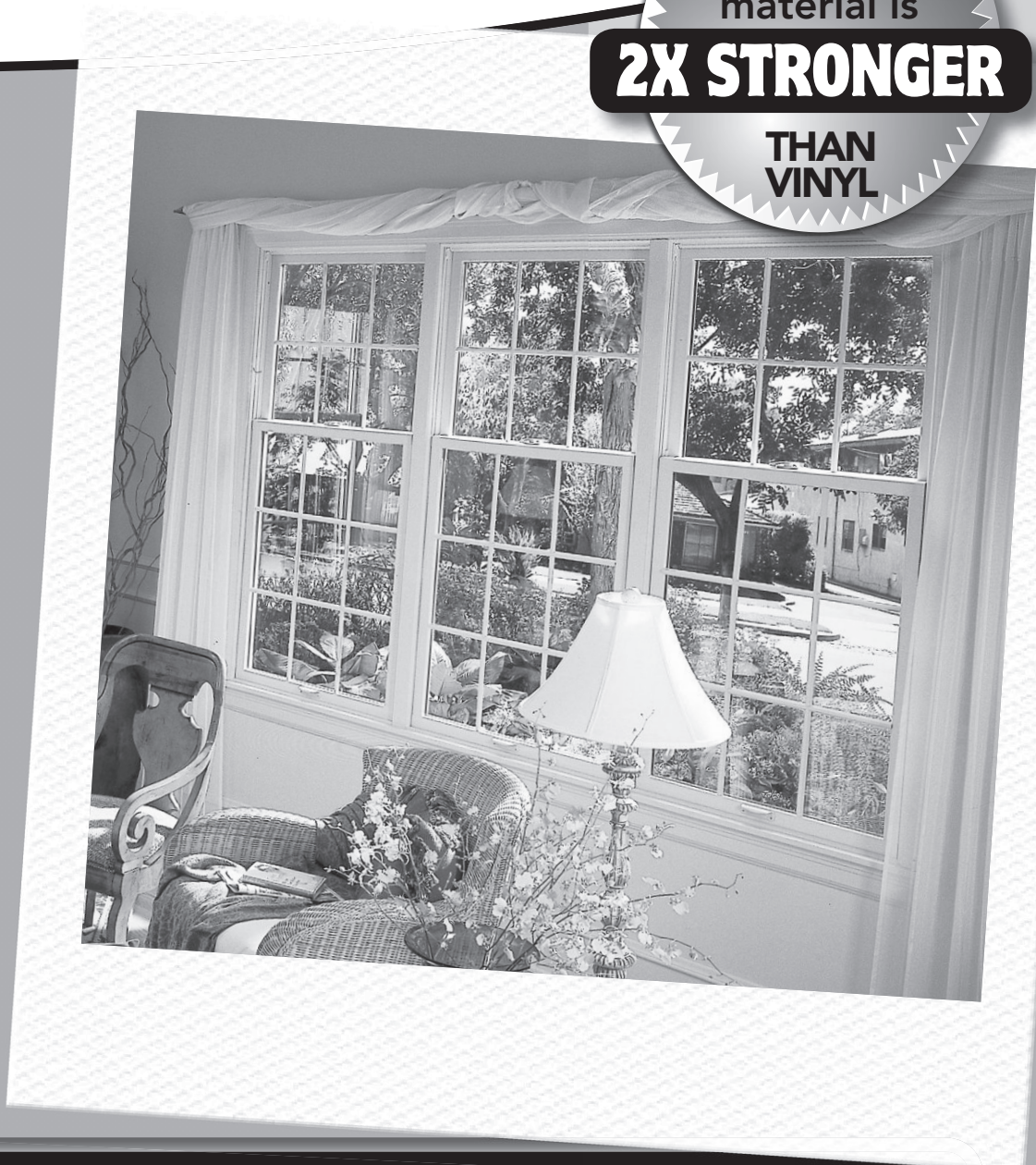
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Why I Will #StepUpforColleen

Former students, fellow teachers and friends share their love for Ritzer

Organizers of the second annual Step up for Colleen 5K in memory of Colleen Ritzer — set for Sunday, May 3, in Andover — are asking everyone who registers to share why they are stepping up for the young teacher.

A social wall has been created to provide a public forum so people can honor Ritzer's legacy and inspire others to do the same.

Individuals have been sharing their thoughts on social media using the hashtag #StepUpforColleen. Here are some of the responses.

Ms. Ritzer was a huge inspiration to me and I would like to keep her legacy alive.

To honor a caring generous soul.

I want to Step Up for Colleen, because I want to honor my teacher who not only helped me love math, but who taught me what being good and kind to people is all about.

I'm stepping up for Ms. Ritzer because I've learned that teachers don't just teach, they change lives. She changed all of our lives and it's time to give back to her.

Colleen's positive outlook on life inspires me.

To remember the beauty she brought to the world.

I was a student during her first year of teaching and absolutely adored her. She was more than just a teacher; she was a friend.

Colleen left behind an incredible legacy. I'm Stepping Up for Colleen so that we never forget her infectious smile, her passion for kindness and her dedication to her family, friends and students.

I am inspired by her love of life and her family's commitment to keeping her memory alive.

To help continue the amazing work Colleen had started.

I miss her every day.

Colleen was an amazing friend who would always step up for those in her life.

She was my math teacher and my best friend.

She was one of the kindest and caring teachers I've ever had and she made math fun!

I remember exactly what class I was in and who I was sitting next to when my teacher said "close your books, we're done with work for the day." I will do anything to support the Ritzers whose three kids are the correlating ages of me and my two siblings.

Ms. Ritzer has left her mark on my life. I want to always find the good for her.

Colleen was a wonderful

person and it is important to keep finding the good in every day to carry on her legacy.

Teachers supporting teachers.

We need to step up for those who no longer can.

Colleen was my teacher her first year of teaching at Danvers High School. I miss her very much.

The loss of Colleen was a hard hit to our Danvers community. We continue to wrap our arms around each other in support and to keep her spirit with us.

I am very grateful for Colleen's impact as my child's teacher.

Colleen is an inspiration. She lived her life by "finding good in every day." As a Girl Scout troop leader, it's important to me that my girls grow up having positive role models in their lives. Colleen is this to them.

Thinking of Colleen reminds me every day to live my life to its fullest while being the best person I can be. This event helps keep Colleen's spirit alive.

I'm Stepping Up For Colleen because she taught me to find the good in every day.

It is a great way to celebrate such a special life. Everyone coming together striving toward a personal achievement as well as a group achievement.

Ms. Ritzer was an engaging and dynamic teacher. She made every student feel special. Her memory should be remembered and celebrated.

Because she is an inspiration. Our Girl Scout troop is trying to get many more Girl Scouts to walk with us this year.

We are Stepping Up for Colleen to support the family, friends and communities Colleen had such a tremendous impact on.

I am stepping up for Colleen to honor the amazing life of my teacher.

Colleen was one of the most beautiful souls. I am lucky to have been a part of her family, even though our time was too short. Fly high Colleen. We love and miss you every day.

To spread Colleen's goodness and inspire our youth to continue her legacy. My son is a junior at Essex Tech and wants to be a math teacher at the high school level.

I am Stepping Up for Colleen because she walked the same path my children walk now, the same schools, same teachers, same community of parents. The people and places that shaped her cradle my children today.

Colleen was my daughter Marisa's freshman math teacher and was my daughter's favorite teacher.



Colleen Ritzer

COURTESY PHOTO

WHO WAS COLLEEN?

A lifelong resident of Andover, Colleen Ritzer knew from a young age that she wanted to be a teacher and worked diligently to achieve her goal.

A 2007 graduate of Andover High School, she pursued her degree in education from Assumption College in Worcester, graduating in 2011. She continued her education, working toward a graduate degree at Salem State College.

Ritzer began her teaching career at Hale Middle School in Stow. One year later, she earned a job as a math teacher at Danvers High School.

Even though teaching was her profession, it was also one of her favorite hobbies and her passion. She spent countless hours finding unique and creative ways to inspire and teach her students.

She also adored spending time with her parents, Tom and Peggie; younger siblings Daniel and Laura; and the rest of her extended family and friends. She passed away Oct. 22, 2013, at the age of 24, leaving a lasting impression on everyone she met.



RYAN HUTTON/File photo

From left, Emily Suleski, Maddy Keough, Linda Gothie and Amy Leough hold signs at last year's Step Up for Colleen 5K that showed their affection for Colleen Ritzer, who taught at their school in Stow for a year before she joined the teaching staff at Danvers High School.

We need to honor an inspiring teacher who tried to impart wonderful values to her students.

Colleen emulated what is positive in our view as a community to the future. We need to hold her vision high.

Such a sad tragedy, to see such great support and sea of everyone in her favorite color was inspiring. It felt good to be a part of it.

We love all of the Ritzers and would do anything to support them and remember Colleen.

Want everyone to remember COLLEEN!

Because she was smart, she was kind and she is important!

#teacherstrong

I went to middle school at Hale

in Stow, where she taught my brother and many others I knew. She was always friendly toward me and everybody else who crossed her path.

Colleen was the perfect embodiment of grace, beauty and intelligence. I am Stepping Up for Colleen to make sure her legacy of love and kindness never ends.

Colleen Ritzer was inspirational to her family, her students, her coworkers and the town she worked in. I want to promote the goodness that she shared so freely.

I think keeping her name alive in a positive light is exactly what she would have wanted.

I was a Danvers High student and participated last year. It's an amazing way to remember Ms. Ritzer.

I was one of the recipients from Danvers for the scholarship last year. I am even more committed to becoming the best teacher I can be and representing the memory of Ms. Ritzer.

Colleen was a wonderful friend to our family and we want to celebrate her life and all the wonderful values she lived by.

I am a teacher and I think the Ritzer family is really turning a horrible tragedy into a wonderful tribute to Colleen. I am proud to be part of it.

Colleen's friends and family have created this event to honor her and her commitment to help and inspire others. We are hoping to enhance a sense of community and overall goodwill as we come together to commemorate Colleen and the values she lived by.

A 5K of goodwill; Second annual memorial race set for May 3

With a little more than two weeks to go until race day, organizers of the second annual Step Up for Colleen 5K are expecting upwards of 5,000 runners and walkers to turn out Sunday, May 3, to honor the young teacher and her commitment to help and inspire others.

The hope, they say, is to build on the sense of community and overall goodwill surrounding Ritzer as thousands come together to commemorate the values she lived by.

Proceeds from the event will once again support the Step Up for Colleen Fund at Essex County Community Foundation.

The foundation supports the Colleen E. Ritzer Scholarship Fund that provides college scholarships to high school graduates from Andover and Danvers High, where Ritzer taught, who intend to pursue education as a major and who reflect her values.

Ritzer's family, in a statement, said they are looking forward to a sea of pink once again ascending Bartlet Street on race day. The

IF YOU GO

■ **When:** Sunday, May 3; 9 a.m. race start

■ **Where:** The Park, Chestnut and Bartlet streets, off downtown Andover

■ **Cost:** \$35; proceeds benefit the Step Up for Colleen Fund and Colleen Ritzer Memorial Scholarship

■ **Information:** www.stepupforcolleen.com

5K steps off at 9 a.m. from The Park at Chestnut and Bartlet streets.

"Last year's Step Up for Colleen not only provided an opportunity for thousands in the community to come together to remember Colleen, but also raised resources to provide scholarships for future caring and compassionate teachers graduating from Andover and Danvers," the Ritzer family said in a release.

"As Colleen's parents, brother and sister, we cannot begin to express our sincere gratitude to those who participated in last year's race. It was a reminder of the many lives Colleen



RYAN HUTTON/File photo

Organizers are expecting as many as 5,000 participants to join together for this year's Step Up for Colleen 5K on May 3.

touched or changed."

Race director and Ritzer family friend Nina Caron of North Andover said last year's event, which drew a turnout of about 4,000,

exceeded all expectations. Several enhancements have been added this year, she said, with efforts being made to have the course become USA Track & Field

certified. Youth-sized shirts are now being provided, and numerous sponsorship opportunities are available.

A new website has also been introduced that

features information about Ritzer, an online volunteer sign-up page and a video of the race course.

Organizers stress the Step Up for Colleen 5K is intended to be a family event, and runners and walkers of all ages, including kids in joggers, are encouraged to participate.

Online registration continues until Wednesday, April 29, at 7 p.m. The first 3,000 registrants will receive a race T-shirt. Number and pre-packet pickup will take place Friday, May 1, from 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Andover Spine Center, 63 Park St., (second floor), Andover.

Registration on Sunday, May 3, goes from 7 to 8:45 a.m. Checks made out to ECCF/Step Up for Colleen or cash are preferred, although credit cards will be accepted.

The race will follow a pulse start format. There will be awards for the first-, second- and third-place male and female finishers, who must be present to receive them.





The 5K course, which is pending USA Track and Field certification, starts on Bartlet Street at the entrance to the parking lot for the Town Offices. It travels up to the Phillips Academy campus, where it enters the school's scenic bird sanctuary. It then winds through several Andover neighborhoods before ending back at the Whittier Terrace side of The Park.

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Sports

CAPTAIN CLUTCH

Golden Warrior shortstop Hernandez has knack for stepping up on the field

By DAVID WILLIS
dwillis@andovertownsmen.com

It seemed the most obvious of decisions. With the tying runs in scoring position, and one out from victory, North Andover made the seemingly clear choice, intentionally walking Andover All-Scholastic candidate E.J. Perry IV to face the diminutive shortstop that stood in the on-deck circle.

Slam dunk, right? Not when it's Gabe Hernandez stepping to the plate.

"Ever since I was young, I always seem to be put on the spot in the clutch," Hernandez said. "Ever since Little League, so I've learned to stay calm and do my job."

The speedy infielder with the flair for the clutch came through again, smoking a two-run single to left field to tie the game and set up the Warriors for the extra-inning victory.

"I just went up there swinging against North Andover. I was aggressive, got a good swing and I was lucky to bring in the tying runs."

But after three years as Andover's starting shortstop and four years on the varsity team, along with starring as the sixth man for the powerhouse basketball team, the Golden Warriors expect nothing less.

"Gabe is the heart and soul of this team," Warriors head coach Dan Grams said. "He is our shortstop, our closer and our cleanup hitter. He's terrific in the field, he can hit and he has really emerged as quite a leader."

In the Warriors' first three games this spring, tri-captain Hernandez had already recorded five hits, scored twice and earned saves in both of his squad's victories.

"It feels amazing," said the Endicott College baseball recruit. "I love this team. They are great guys. I feel like we can accomplish what we did last year (advance to the state semifinals) and maybe even go further."

Life wasn't always so smooth for Hernandez at the varsity level. In fact, his debut performance was nothing short of a disaster.

"As a freshman, I was called up for the tournament," Hernandez remembered. "The first time I pinch ran, I took too big of a lead and got picked off at second base. I guess I wasn't ready for the varsity level. Coach Grams wasn't too happy, but I just gave him a big smile and it was good."

After beginning his sophomore year as a role player, Hernandez took hold of the shortstop position as the year progressed. His breakout game was a victory against archrival Central Catholic, going 3-for-4 with two RBIs and two runs scored.

"We really didn't know a lot about Gabe as a freshman," Grams said. "He was an outfielder at first. But he made the big jump as a sophomore, and once he took hold of the position, he hasn't left the field."

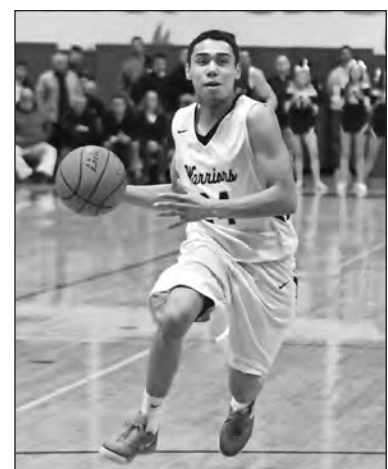
Last spring, Hernandez continued to emerge as a key member of the Golden Warriors, both with his rock-solid glove and his bat (.254 average, 13 runs, 14 RBIs), helping lead the Warriors to their first North sectional title since 2005.

And it was in the North title game against Chelmsford at Lynn's Fraser Field that those overlooking Hernandez saw what he could do.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Shortstop Gabe Hernandez shows his skills with the glove. The slick fielder with a flair for the clutch has become the heart of the Golden Warriors baseball team.



CARL RUSSO/Staff file photo

Star infielder Gabe Hernandez is coming off a solid winter with Andover High's powerhouse basketball team.

With the game tied 3-3 in the bottom of the sixth, Hernandez lashed a triple to plate Perry with the go-ahead run, then scored an insurance run.

"Coming through when the guys need me is great," he said. "The team loves it, and it seems like it happens every year. That game against Chelmsford when I got the hit to bring E.J. in was so exciting."

In the winter, Hernandez played a major role as the sixth man for the

Golden Warriors hoop team that won the Merrimack Valley Conference title and advanced to the Division 1 North semifinals.

"I didn't play much as a junior (Division 1 North finalist)," he said. "So to be in the games this season was crazy. The crowds, it was really nerve-racking. But it was awesome and coach Paz (David Fazio) was great. Basketball made me stronger and more athletic."

In addition to his other duties, Hernandez has also taken on a crucial role on the mound as a relief pitcher. But he still sees himself as a shortstop first.

"Defense is the most important part of the game," he said. "We know we can hit as a team. I focus on reading the ball, getting a good jump and making the smart play. And at the plate, I try to be as aggressive as possible."

Hernandez now hopes to lead his Golden Warriors to another memorable run.

"We have had some injuries, but a lot of guys are really stepping up," he said. "We feel like we can accomplish something this season."

David Willis is a sportswriter/videographer for The Andover Townsman. Reach him on twitter at @DWillisET.

ANDOVER HIGH ROUNDUP

Boys, girls track sweep Ottaviani Invitational

By DAVID WILLIS
dwillis@andovertownsmen.com

for the Warriors
SOFTBALL

GIRLS TRACK

It had been a few rough days for Andover senior Sarah Rothmann leading up to Saturday's 38th annual Ottaviani Invitational.

"I had a really bad cold," she said. "I got it on Thursday and Friday night was pretty rough. I was feeling really sick. I didn't know how I was going to run, but I woke up (Saturday) and was feeling a little better."

Rothmann looked just fine on her way to winning the mile (5:21.50). She also ran on the 4x800 team that placed second to help Andover take a tough team victory at the annual spring invitational.

Also adding victories for the Golden Warriors were Erin Logee (javelin) and Hannah Chapman (triple jump), who was also second in the 100 hurdles.

Hannah Chapman won the triple jump (36-4.5) and 100 hurdles (17.0) and Andover beat Haverhill 103-42 last Wednesday, April 15. Caroline Walcome won the 2-mile and Erin Logee took the javelin for the winners.

BOYS TRACK

Almost exactly one month removed from winning a title at the New Balance Indoor Nationals, Andover senior Sebastian Silveira was craving some competition not wearing Blue and Gold.

"I was really looking forward to this meet," he said. "I love the pressure of meets like this. I was a little nervous because the last time we ran here, the wind was really in our faces, but this was a great day."

Silveira took home the award for boys outstanding performer, winning the 110 hurdles in 14.58 and placing second in the triple jump with a 41-4 as Andover rolled to the team victory at the Ottaviani Invitational on Saturday.

Andover dominated the hurdles competition. Silveira, Andrew Matteucci (15.35) and Justin Mantrana (15.74) took the top three spots in the 110 hurdles. Meanwhile, teammate Sean Caveney placed first in the 400 hurdles (55.44).

Joe Vetere added Andover's other victory, taking the pole vault.

Joe Aranov won the pole vault (10-0) and Jonathan Rodriguez won the high jump (5-10) to help Andover best Haverhill 90-55 last Wednesday. Sean Roselle won the 100, Peter Banta took the long jump and Sean Caveney won the 400 hurdles

Andover goes deep

Tori Roche, Amy Bordigna and Abby Day each hit home runs as Andover downed Lawrence 13-1 last Wednesday. Megan Hartnett allowed just two hits and struck out six for the Warriors. Bordigna had a team-high three hits.

Amy Bordigna had two hits, but Andover lost to Methuen 7-0 this past Friday. Tori Roche and Megan Hartnett each added two hits for the Warriors.

Amy Stankiewicz had a hit and drove in a run but Andover fell to Chelmsford 6-2 last Monday, April 13.

GIRLS TENNIS

Ferry, Warriors stay perfect on court

Sydney Ferry and Julia Spagnuolo rallied for a 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 win at No. 2 doubles and Andover stayed unbeaten by downing Chelmsford 5-0 this past Friday. Courtney Nash continued to star with a win at first singles.

The doubles team of Laurie-Maude Chenard and Paige Webster grabbed first doubles to help lead Andover to a 5-0 victory over North Andover last Wednesday. Courtney Nash won first singles and Karen Yan took second single.

Courtney Nash earned a 6-2, 6-2 victory at No. 1 singles as Andover opened its season with a 5-0 victory over Notre Dame last Monday, April 13. Karina Yan (6-2, 6-0) and Pooja Mukund (6-2, 6-2) added singles victories for the Warriors.

Kathleen Buck and Olivia Burns swept No. 2 doubles and Sydney Ferry and Julia Spagnuolo won No. 1 doubles as Andover downed Billerica 5-0 last Tuesday, April 14. Lynn Wang took No. 3 singles for the winners.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Dean, Hunt star Thomas Dalimonte scored seven blocks to help Andover beat Lowell 25-14, 25-14, 25-18 on Friday. Jeff Hunt notched 23 assists for the winners.

Devin Deane had a team-high nine service points and tied Connor Merinder with a team-best 14 kills as Andover bested Billerica 25-20, 25-11, 25-18 last Monday, April 13. Bruce Waters added 11 digs for the winners.

Despite 21 assists for Adam Yee, Andover fell to Lawrence

See **ROUNDUP**, Page 20



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Sarah Rothmann runs to victory in the mile at the Ottaviani Invitational last Saturday. The Andover boys and girls swept the team competition.

Spring fishing workshop set for Poms Pond

Andover's Department of Community Services is signing up anglers for its annual Fishing Workshop on Poms Pond on Friday, May 8, which is an early release day for the Andover schools.

Jim Lagacy of Mass Wildlife Angler Education will lead the workshop from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the pond off Abbot Street.

While Poms Pond doesn't officially open for the season until June, the workshop offers kids ages 7 to 14 a jump on the season. Youngsters will learn basic fishing skills and practice their baiting and casting.

The cost is \$15. Fishing rods will be provided for anyone who does not have one.



JANICE COPPOLINO/Courtesy photo

The sun goes down on a young angler at last year's Department of Community Services Fishing Workshop at Poms Pond.

Enrollment is limited to 30. Parents are encouraged to attend and help bait the lines if they choose.

For more information or to register, visit www.AndoverDCS.com or call 978-623-8274.

Sportsmen's Club casts annual Fishing Derby on Saturday

The Andover Sportsmen's Club will hold its 66th annual Fishing Derby on Saturday, April 25, from 6 a.m. to noon at Sudden Pond in Harold Parker State Forest.

Registration starts at 6 a.m.; no advance sign-up is required.

The free event is open to ages 1 to 15. Kids should bring their own fishing poles or borrow one there. The Andover Sportsmen's Club will provide bait as well as doughnuts and hot chocolate in the morning and hot dogs and hamburgers for lunch.

Trophies will be

awarded. The event goes off rain or shine.

To get to Sudden Pond, take Middleton Road past the Sportsmen's Club for about 1.5 miles. Middleton Road becomes Salem Street when it crosses into North Reading. Turn into Gate 7 (Sudden Pond Road) on the left to get to Sudden Pond. If using a GPS, the closest street address to Gate 7 is the Forest Riding Academy, 33 Salem St., North Reading. Follow the road to the pond and parking.

For more information, call Bob Dalton at 978-886-5347 or email mddrmd@hotmail.com.

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ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 18

25-19, 25-23, 25-20 last Wednesday. **Bruce Waters** added six digs and **Devin Dean** had eight service points for the Warriors.

BOYS LACROSSE

Andover spreads the wealth with scores

Jake Lakos, **George Cardillo** and **John Cronson** each netted a pair of goals and **Michael Biddle** added a score as Andover downed Masconomet 7-2 on Saturday.

John Croston and **Matt Croston** each scored two goals as Andover crushed Lowell 15-1 last Thursday, April 16. **George Cardillo** scored a game-high three goals and **Griffin Clark** had a goal and an assist.

Michael Biddle and **Jake Lakos** each notched a team-high three goals to help Andover beat Central Catholic 13-10 last Tuesday, April 14. **George Cardillo**, **Griffin Clark** and **Chris Carver** each scored two goals and **Andy Soucy** added the final tally for the winners.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Nikki Christopoulos, **Courtney Grygiel**, **Jess Leone** and **Brooke**

Lynus each scored twice and Andover topped Central Catholic 13-9 last Tuesday, April 14. Freshman **Jordan Torres** scored three times and **Veronica Alois** and **Carissa Reming** each scored once.

BOYS TENNIS

Doubles fights for win

Armond Rafiee and **Owen Meech** won No. 2 and 3 singles to help Andover best Chelmsford 5-0 on Friday. **Mike Rosen** and **David Frykenberg** won top singles and **Liam Alden** and **Jeremia Thomas** won the second doubles spot.

Owen Plourde and **Dillon Clancy** fought for a 7-5, 6-4 win at No. 1 doubles and **Drew Rooks** took a 6-3, 6-3 victory at No. 3 singles to help Andover over Westford Academy 5-0 last Thursday, April 16.

Drew Rooks won No. 3 singles 6-0, 6-1 and **Armond Rafiee** and **Owen Meech** took No. 2 doubles by the same score as Andover downed North Andover 5-0 last Wednesday, April 15. **Ryan Fu** swept first doubles.

Ryan Fu and **Andrew Imrie** swept the top two singles spots and Andover rolled past Billerica 5-0 last Tuesday, April 14. **Dillon Clancy** and **Owen Plourde** teamed to take a 6-0, 6-0 win at No. 1 doubles.

BASEBALL

Walsh leads Warriors

Dan Walsh was 3-for-4 with an RBI and **Sean Kucharski** drove home a run as Andover bested Lawrence 5-3 last Wednesday, April 15. **Dan Amidon** starred on the hill to earn the victory.

Gabe Hernandez' RBI single with two outs in the seventh sent the season opener on Monday, April 13 into extra innings before the Golden Warriors closed out an 8-5 victory over North Andover. **E.J. Perry IV** had three hits and **Christopher Nicholas** added two hits and two RBIs for the winners.

E.J. Perry scored two runs and drove in two more but Andover lost to Chelmsford 6-5 last Friday. **Christopher Nicholas** had two hits for the Warriors.

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Rick Harrison's dedication and service to Andover and Lowell merits this recognition. Rick covered youth & high school sports for the Andover Townsman and Lowell Sun for 40 years. Rick also coached youth basketball in Andover for 25 years and youth baseball for 28 years.

Over \$100,000 has been raised, and over \$100,000 in labor and materials has been contributed. Work is well under way, but we need the community's help to complete our renovation work. Hoops For Hope is the 501(c)3 handling the fundraising effort and your donation is 100% tax deductible. Please consider participating in our May 4th Golf Tourney at Andover Country Club. If an afternoon of golf is not an option, please join us for cocktails at 5 pm and diner at 6 pm. At the dinner we will acknowledge several wonderful folks who are making this possible, including project coordinator and Andover athletic legend Glenn Verrette. There will be terrific raffle prizes.

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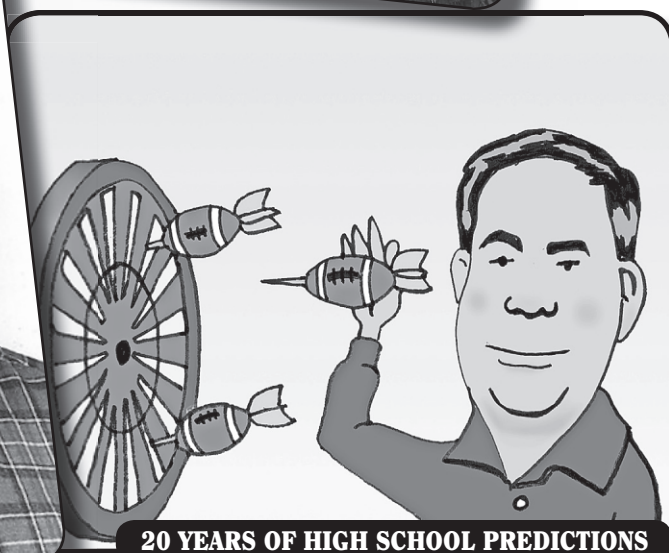
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COMMERCIAL/BUSINESS First Run IPSWICH INDUSTRIAL SPACE FOR LEASE Unit Size 3500 & 3800 Sq. Ft. with 16' Ceiling

NO Andover MA SPRING SPECIAL \$295 Jefferson Park Rt 114. Full service individual offices. 978-685-5440 www.officesuites.com

SALISBURY MA - Storefront 1,600 sq ft. 2 bath, High visibility, parking, Exit 60 off Rte. 95. \$1500/mo. No utilities. 603-760-2503

Summerville RE COMMERCIAL/RETAIL & BUSINESS www.srsre.com / WE GET RESULTS! RETAIL: 5m Rm. with bathrm Retail Strip - \$200

NO Andover MA SPRING SPECIAL \$295 Jefferson Park Rt 114. Full service individual offices. 978-685-5440 www.officesuites.com

SEABROOK 2 bedroom, Half duplex. \$950/mo. + utilities. First and Security. No Pets. Call 603-760-2503

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

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

ROOM FOR RENT METHUEN - Quincy St. 2 family 2 bedroom, parking, hardwood floors. Outstanding! \$1600 no utilities. 978-683-6882

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

VACATION RENTALS OCEANFRONT SALISBURY BEACH NEAR SEABROOK Beautiful 3 bedroom condo, directly on the ocean with parking! Weekly in June, July, or August. 978-975-4001

SALISBURY BEACH OCEANFRONT - 2,3 & 4 bedroom cottages & condos. Many choices, prices vary. Tom Saab RE 978-683-6699

ROOMMATES BRADFORD, FURNISHED Room, of 495 & 125. \$600/mo. includes utilities. No pets. 1st & last month. 978-857-8775

Kingston, NH: Must See! UNIQUE HOME - furnished bedroom in quiet neighborhood, \$150 per week, includes utilities. Call 603-793-2650, after 5pm.

LAWRENCE, MA: Ferry St., share house. Private room, on bus line, all utilities included. \$125/wk. Call 978-601-8051.

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

METHUEN, MA: Roommate wanted. Large bedroom private, on bus line, all utilities included. no pets, \$150/wk. (978) 601-8051.

ROOMMATES wanted to share mobile home 617-480-2378

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.

SEABROOK BEACH! Friendly household. Private entrance, new carpet, use of house \$650/all utilities 1st/last Good references. Absolutely no pets / no smoking. 781-475-2923

SEABROOK NH: Share House, cable, internet, heat, washer/dryer all included \$160 a week. No pets. (978) 360-0477 between 5 & 6 pm..

W. PEABODY 1 bedroom share house with 25+ Christian. \$650/mo 1st/last. Includes use of house & outside, appliances, washer/dryer, Wifi & cable. Mike 978 609-2132; 978-839-3171

GENERAL HELP WANTED Exp. Property Manager RE License a plus. Call Joe 978-479-8669

MAINTENANCE TECH Full Time- Looking for motivated self starter to perform outdoor & apartment maintenance for our complex. Some experience required. Must have valid drivers license.

Newspaper Home Delivery PCF Inc. is seeking Delivery Service Providers (DSPs) for newspaper home delivery routes. DSPs are independently contracted. Most routes are 7 days, 2-3 hours daily, starting around 3AM. \$360-\$500/bi-weekly. Routes in: Buxford, Danvers, Georgetown, Gloucester, Merrimack, Newburyport, North Andover, Peabody, Atkinson & Windham NH

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Shipping/Receiving Full time for small growing instrumentation company in Plaistow, NH. Duties include final prep, domestic & international shipping, receiving, managing inventory and kitting orders. Able to follow fast-paced production schedule, organized, self-motivated and detail oriented.

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

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

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

Medical Business Office Clerk A behavioral health organization seeks an individual who is self-starter with a thorough knowledge of behavioral health insurance billing (both outpatient and inpatient), authorization requests, billing and collections of private pay, and report preparation. A minimum of 2-3 years experience in a behavioral health setting with patient accounts is required.

RNs & LPNs 14 yr/old in Burlington w/GT; days & eves 14 yr/old in Chelmsford w/trach; days 13 yr/old in N. Billerica w/GT; Sun night 6 yr/old in Newburyport w/GT; eves 19 yr/old in Methuen w/GT; days & eves 66 yr/old in Methuen w/vent; days & eves 19 yr/old in Lynn w/vent; eves & night 8 yr/old in N. Andover w/vent; days & eves 35 yr/old in Reading w/vent; all shifts 14 yr/old in Methuen w/vent, w/kids 62 yr/old in Lawrence w/vent; days

PROFESSIONAL First Run HILL VIEW MONTESSORI Director of Development Part-time (20 hrs/wk) Bachelor's degree required, Master's preferred. Submit resume with cover letter to: Kim Stephens, 75 Foundation Ave. Haverhill, MA 01835 or email: kstephens@hvmcops.org

TOWN MANAGER Town of Plaistow, NH The Town of Plaistow has reopened its search for an experienced, collaborative, and engaging town manager for this historic town (pop. 7,600), with its rich tradition of culture, education, and civic engagement.

TRADES/INDUSTRIAL CONCRETE FORM WORKERS Experienced, License & Transportation required. Call 603-455-6622, SALEM, NH

DIAGNOSTIC DIESEL SERVICE TECHNICIAN NEEDED Seeking an experienced lead technician. Applicant will possess quality diagnostic & repair skills for DURAMAX or CUMMINS motors. Pay commensurate with experience & ability with base salary & monthly incentives up to \$100,000 annually.

CEMETERY LOTS CEMETERY LOT - 6 person lot in West Parish Garden Cemetery Andover. \$7500. Call (727) 330-6311

CEMETERY LOTS PURITAN LAWN, 3 lots for Sale. F560 double lot, \$3600, G286 single lot \$1800 all 3 \$5000 - oldest section of cemetery 781-665-5354

CONSTRUCTION O/C Seeking entry level concrete and soils technicians to work on commercial construction sites. Need to be licensed w/train. Concise report writing skills preferred.

YARD HELP Full time positions. Duties include boat hauling, forklift truck operations, painting and cleaning and other related duties.

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CEMETERY LOTS PURITAN LAWN CEMETERY, PEABODY, MA (1) Lot for 2 urns \$1350 (\$300 savings) Nice established lot on hill email cj@cwtdesign.net

CEMETERY LOTS PURITAN LAWN Peabody - Oldest memorial park on the East coast, no headstones or ornate tombs, beauty of natural landscape. Double lot, 2 vaults. Value \$5,880. Section G, lot 1006 Asking \$4700. Florence, 843-715-0008

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FIREARMS BRRR! TONAS FIREWOOD (128 c.f.) 2 Seasoned Firewood available. Cut, split. Free local delivery. 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.

FREE METAL - Cabinets & frames, work bench. Call Joe 603-339-0062 or 603-681-20897

FUEL ATTENTION FUEL CONSUMERS: All ads in this classification run in our 10 paper "Classified Connection" that covers the North Shore, Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire.

FURNITURE DINING ROOM CHAIRS 4 solid ladderback dining room chairs with wicker seats. \$150 King size HEADBOARD, poster style with rails, wood swirl headboard \$150. 978-463-2007

FREE SOFA, Ralph Lauren floral fabric slip covered, down filled large sofa- good condition (978) 346-7426

MOVING SALE - Lots of furniture, couches, tables, bedroom set, dining room, buffet, lamps, etc. Will be shown 4/21 to 4/24. Call to set appointment. Beverly 617-697-4443

DRACUT, 403 Parker Road Yard Sale - Saja Farm, 403 Parker Road (off Rt. 113), Sat/Sun 4/25-4/26. Antiques, Tools, Furniture, Vintage Tractors, Electronics, Books, Collectibles.

HAVERHILL-HUGE MULTI FAMILY SALE Sat. 4/25 from 9 to 11. RAIN OR SHINE (inside if it rains). Sacred Heart School, 31 South Chestnut St

HAVERHILL MA - Estate Sale 3 Delvine Terrace Sat April 25, 9am-3pm Antiques, Collectibles, including Anna Lee Thomas Kirkade, Dept. 56, Snowbabbies, Xmas Villages, furniture, household items, Contractor tools+hand & power tools. Complete train set & vinyl. Pool table 60" TV w/soundbar and more!

LAWRENCE -YARD SALE Sat. 4/25 from 8 am to 12 noon. 41 Greenfield St. Shop tools, housewares, furniture & furnishings. Rain date Sun. 4/26, 8 to 12

NORTH ANDOVER, MA - 12 Hamilton Rd MULTI-FAMILIES! Sat. April 25, 9am-3pm. Some antiques, clothing, books, toys, jewelry, furniture and more

NORTH ANDOVER, MA: DOWNSIZING! 26 CHAPIN RD Sat. APRIL, 9-1pm furniture, clothes (mostly adult), housewares, pictures, mirrors, costume jewelry ETC..

NORTH ANDOVER, Beechwood Office Park, Beechwood Ave. (Rt. 125/Osgood Street) - SATURDAY (APRIL 25) ONLY! MULTIGENERATIONAL MULTIFAMILY MEGA YARD SALE. loads of great stuff, mostly newer. Clothes, books, tools, homegoods, toys, etc. There isn't usually a giant ferris wheel across the street, but this weekend, there will be. We have nothing to do with that, but it certainly makes for a great landmark! Something for Everyone. 10 AM til everthing's gone.

NORTH ANDOVER, MA, 615 Buxford St. Sat. Apr. 25, 9AM - 1PM Pre-K/Toddler/Baby toys, ride-ons, puzzles, games, clothes, etc.

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MISC ITEMS WANTED First Run CASH FOR DIABETIC TEST STRIPS Up to \$35/Box! Sealed & Unexpired. Payment Made SAME DAY. Highest Prices Paid!

Military Items Wanted NAME YOUR PRICE - Most Countries, Rev War through Vietnam. Call Peter (781) 631-1718

ATTENTION! Beware of anyone replying to your ad offering to send you a check for shipping and you sending them back the difference.

LOOK FURNITURE Wicker Bedroom Set - \$1400 Broyhill Dining Set - \$850 Wine Bottle table - \$65 Excellent condition Call 978-979-3073

GIRLS 20 INCH BICYCLES Three bicycles available in very good condition, two pink and one purple. \$15 each. Call (978) 398-1778.

HAND TOOLS WANTED Planes-chisels-ades- clamps-calipers. Machinist and Mechanics. Useful tools, All Trades. Estate Lots. 1-888-405-2007.

MOVING SALE - Antiques, furniture, glassware, mirrors, pictures lamps & lots more! So. Lawrence. Call for appointment 978-794-5305

PRIDE Jazzzy power chair, showroom condition, new \$2000 asking \$1000. HOVERNUD power chair, showroom condition, needs batteries new \$7000 asking \$1000 978-927-6323

PRIDE MOBILITY POWER CHAIR TSS300 New Condition. Wheels have no wear. Body is shiny red no scratches. Seat is like new, no wear. Batteries new. \$600 Bradford 603-447-8308

Private Black Lab pups. 1st shots, wormed, health papers. Parents on site. \$600.00. Call Donna at 207-998-1132

AKC FRENCH BULLDOG Puppy male, fawn/black mask. First shots, health certificate. \$2000 with papers. \$2200 with papers. 603-760-9490

AKC LAB PUPPIES - Black, 1st shots & health certificates. Parents on premises \$700 603-456-2739 or newhamphshireslabs.com

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! Beware of anyone replying to your ad offering to send you a check for shipping and you sending them back the difference.

CANARIES: Male/Females available, colors vary \$45 each (603) 475-7461

CAVACHON, Labrador, Shih-chons, Wheaten Shih-tzu, Bichon, Maltese, Puggle, Chihuahua, Schnauzer, Havachon, etc. \$895 & 603-942-9970

CHIHAUUA / MINI PIN Mix Pups, 1 female, 1 male, beautiful colors. Ready Now Call 978-601-3998 or 978-601-3956

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES TRAINED AKC/OFA. Health Guarantee, Great Pedigree. Vaccinated, Wormed, Socialized. With an EXTENDED TRAINING, without treats! No Jumping, No Biting, & House Trained. 29 Years Experience. We train ANY breed! Heidi 978-504-1582 www.justbehaving.com



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NEW CONSTRUCTION - OPEN HOUSES - FEATURED HOMES



New To Market!

THE GRANITE ROSE HAMPSTEAD, NH (603) 890-3226
An Opportunity Like No Other! 10 Acre Property is Improved with a First Class Building Consisting of Over 36,000 sq ft. No Expense Spared. The Lush Gardens Make Way to a Magnificent Building of Majestic Proportions. C-2 Zoning Allows for Many Uses. \$3,900,000



FOR SALE
Coco, Early
Associates
The Real Estate Professionals
cocoeearly.com



On Merrimack Valley Golf!

CALL FOR PRIVATE SHOWING - METHUEN (978) 687-8484
Handsomeness and Elegant Brick Front w/3Bdrms, 2.5Bths, Beautiful Windows Throughout and High Ceilings, Gourmet Kitchen with High End SS, Granite, Breakfast Bar, Dining Area with Vaulted Ceiling, Formal Dining Rm & Huge First Floor Master Suite w/Views of Golf! \$629,900



RESERVE AT SNOW'S BROOK A CONDOMINIUM

\$339,900+

25 Augusta Drive Plaistow
Open Every Sunday 12-2
55+ Community, 34 Single Family Homes
2 Car Garages, Optional Floor Plans!
978-374-8484

OPEN SUNDAY 12-2

\$359,900+

15 Bent Grass Circle Kingston
Rt 125 to Granite Fields Golf
55+ Abuts Golf! Detached Condos
w/Garage, 2Bdrms, 2.5Bths, Loft!
603-382-2100

HALES LANDING

NEW LOTS!

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

NEW CONSTRUCTION

\$839,900

Andover
Stunning Newly Built Home w/4Bdrms,
2.5 Baths, Beautiful Master Suite,
Finished 3rd Flr w/Rec Rm & Office!
978-687-8484

GOLF COMMUNITY

\$564,900

Methuen
Merrimack Valley Golf Views! Beautiful
3Bdrm, 2.5Bth, Beautiful Granite Kitchen,
Hardwood Flrs, 1st Flr Master Suite!
978-687-8484

NEW TO MARKET

\$325,000

Lowell
Riverviews! 4Bdrms, 2 Full Baths & 2 Half
Baths, Lg Rooms, Stone Fireplace!
978-475-1009

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Associates
The Real Estate Professionals
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SOLD

\$500-\$1,000
Gift Card*

We SOLD Over 4.7 Homes a Day in 2014!

*Ask for details. Restrictions apply.

NEW TO MARKET

\$69,900

Methuen
Seasonal 2Bdrm Cottage, Lakefront
Some Updates, New Deck & Dock!
978-475-1009

NEW TO MARKET

\$199,000

Lowell
2Bdrm, 2 Bath, Corner Unit Victorian
Townhouse, 3 Levels, Built in 2005!
978-957-8282

NEW TO MARKET

\$499,900

Andover
Wow Almost 2 Acres! 4Bdrms, 2Bths,
2nd Flr Separate Entrance, 2 Car Grg!
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NEW TO MARKET

\$469,900

North Andover
Well Kept! 4Bdrm, 2Bth, Hdwd Flrs,
Lg Kitchen, Freshly Painted, Private Yard!
978-374-8484

NEW TO MARKET

\$135,000

Lawrence
5 Room Condo! NO Fees! 2Bdrms,
1.5 Baths, Finished Lower Level!
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NEW TO MARKET

\$349,900

Haverhill
Well Maintained 4 Family! Fully Occupied,
8+ Parking, New Siding & Windows!
978-374-8484

3 Reasons You Should Sell NOW!

- 1.) Prices have jumped!
- 2.) Major shortage in supply of available homes to buy.
- 3.) There are 5 buyers to every 1 home on the market.

Why Choose Us?

With 250 agents, 11 office locations & worldwide connections, we are the leading real estate company in your neighborhood!

PRISTINE RANCH

\$459,900

Methuen
Exceptional & Pristine 10+ Rm Ranch,
5+Bdrms, 2 Kitchens, 2.5Bths & More!
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NEW TO MARKET

\$399,000

Atkinson, NH
Pride of Ownership! 2Bdrm, 2.5Bth
Townhouse, Fin LL w/Gas Fireplace!
978-475-1009

NEW TO MARKET

\$699,000

Haverhill-Commercial
GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!!
Mixed-Use 5-Family & 2 Businesses
978-475-1009

NEW PRICE

\$329,000

Amesbury
Immaculate Home with Amazing
Upgrades, 3Bdrms, 2Bths, Hdwd Flrs!
978-475-1009

NEW TO MARKET

\$399,900

Atkinson, NH
Cogswell Farms Luxury Townhouse
w/Over 3500SF, 11Rms, 5 Baths!
978-475-1009

NEW PRICE

\$249,900

Salem, NH
The Club at Meadowbrook! 55+,
2Bdrm, 2 Bath, Cherry Kit, W&D!
978-475-1009

NEW TO MARKET

\$249,900

Lawrence
4Bdrm, 2 Bath Cape w/Attached
Garage, Updated in 2006, Nice Yard!
978-475-1009

NEW TO MARKET

\$359,000

Groveland
Wonderful 4Bdrm, 2 Bath, Hdwd
& Tile Flrs, Garage & Fenced Yard!
978-475-1009

NEW PRICE

\$175,000

Lowell
2 Family w/(1)2Bdrm & (1)3Bdrm,
Garage, Fenced Yard, Needs Work!
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CUSTOM BUILT

\$1,299,900

Andover
Historic Boutwell Farm! Luxurious
4Bdrm, 5Bth, 3 Car Garage, Well Crafted!
978-374-8484

COMMERCIAL

\$345,999

North Andover
Commercial! Ground Flr Unit, Profes-
sional Building, Kit, Bath, Office & More!
603-890-3226

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



Townspeople

Citizen input: Town manager search gets under way

Townspeople turned out for three forums last week to weigh in on what qualities they want to see in Andover's next town manager.

The feedback will assist Mark Morse of MMA Consulting Group in reviewing applicants to replace Reginald "Buzz" Stapczynski, who is set to retire June 30.

The search to find Stapczynski's replacement has kicked into gear.

The application deadline for residents interested in serving on a five-member Search Committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen is this Thursday, April 23, at 4 p.m. The search panel will select the finalists to send on to the selectmen for their consideration. Letters of interest from prospective committee members may be emailed to the selectmen, Attention Wendy Adams, at atwadams@andoverma.gov.

Applications for town manager, meanwhile, are due in by early May.



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photos

Selectman Paul Salafia, right, listens to the comments of resident Lolli Sumberg at Memorial Hall Library last week during one of three forums held to garner input from the community as part of the search to replace retiring Town Manager Reginald "Buzz" Stapczynski.



Former Superintendent of Schools and town resident Claudia Bach shares her views on what she envisions in the next town manager.

WHAT'S HAPPENING: MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY CHILDREN'S ROOM

Several children's activities are on tap to close out school vacation week at Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St., Andover. Here's a look at what's planned:

Building Confidence and Social Skills, Friday, April 24, 10 a.m. This one-hour session offered by East Coast School of Protocol for students in grades one through five will review basic etiquette such as how to greet people, key dining protocols and the importance of showing both self-respect and respect for others. There will be a drawing for a prize of free tuition to a full East Coast School of Protocol's Building Confidence & Social Skills class.

Literacy Story Time, Friday, April 24, 10 a.m. Massachusetts Coordinated Family and Community Engagement conducts the preschool literacy story time for ages 3 to 5 with an adult.

Find-Out Friday, Friday, April 24, 3:45 p.m. Children ages 5 to 8 will investigate science topics through stories, experiments and activities.

Dads and Doughnuts, Saturday, April 25, 10 a.m. This story time targets dads and children ages 2 to 5, although all are welcome. After stories, songs, rhymes and a craft, participants will share coffee, juice and doughnuts. Pick up a token in the Children's Room.

Also coming up:

Around the World in 30 Minutes, Tuesday, April 28, 11 a.m. Explore different languages through songs, rhymes, stories and games in this program for native speakers and those who want to expose their child to different languages and cultures at an early age. Pick up a token in the Children's Room.

Pajama Party, Tuesday, April 28, 6:30 p.m. The 45-minute session for ages 3 to 5 with an adult includes bedtime stories, quiet songs and games, and a short film. Pick up a token in the Children's Room.

Registration is requested for all events. Visit www.mhl.org/eventcalendar or call 978-623-8401, ext. 31, to sign up or for more information.

TOWNSPEOPLE

Welbourn named to nonprofit board

David M. Welbourn of Andover, who recently retired as president and CEO of the Essex County Community Foundation, has been appointed to the board of trustees of The Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation.

In his career in higher education and medicine, Welbourn served in senior leadership roles at Bates College in Maine, Tufts University in Medford, the University at Buffalo Foundation and the University of Vermont, and more recently as senior vice president of the Lahey Clinic. He also volunteers with several educational and environmental nonprofit groups in New England.



David Welbourn

Welbourn brings his expertise in board development, strategic planning, advocacy and funding to The Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation.

Founded in 1990, the foundation seeks to support community programming that will allow children, adolescents and young adults affected by substance abuse, learning disabilities, mental illness and intellectual disabilities to achieve their full potential. It funds organizations throughout Massachusetts and New York.

Miss India New England finalists perform

Miss India New England Pageant 2014 finalists participated in the annual VT Seva BLOOM Cancer Awareness and Prevention Event earlier this month at Chinmaya Maruti Center in Andover.

Amritha Mangalat, Miss India New England; Sonali Lappin, Miss India Massachusetts; Mounica Donepudi, Miss Viewer's Choice; and Anita Ganesan, Miss Talented, performed a fusion Indian dance piece to raise money and support for cancer awareness and prevention.

The event served as a way to engage members of the Indian American and South Asian American community in efforts to prevent cancer and invest in cancer research, including understudied and underrepresented populations.

VT Seva is a nonprofit organization dedicated to seeing that all children and adults of the impoverished communities of India and other countries have access and opportunities to quality education and health care as well as enabling them to live with dignity and pride. For more information, visit www.vtsworld.org/chapters/Boston/index.aspx.

To submit an item for the Townspeople column, email townsman@andovertownsm.com.



COURTESY PHOTO

Joanne Heim, left, administrative assistant for religious education at St. Augustine Church, and Bridget Rao, director of religious education, sort through some of the many spring dresses collected as part of the Easter clothing drive conducted by the students at the church.

Spiffing up Easter for those in need

The students in St. Augustine Church in Andover's religious education program made Easter brighter for several young people in the area through an Easter Sunday Clothing Drive benefiting some local organizations.

The Lenten project, which ran from Feb. 23 through the end of March, saw the religious education students, together with their parents, collecting and donating new or nearly new clothing to approximately 60 children in Andover as well as 100-plus children who are clients of Lazarus House ministries. The group also collected several large bags of clothing for clients of the Pregnancy Care Center in Haverhill.

Working with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, a separate ministry of St. Augustine Church, the students culled through the festive spring dresses and shoes donated for the girls and shirts, dress pants, blazers and ties for the boys to hand-select individual outfits based on size, gender and style. Then they carefully packaged the outfits into gift bags for distribution to the Andover children in time for Easter Sunday. The remaining 100 outfits went to Lazarus House staff.

Bridget Rao, director of religious education, and Cynthia Hollenbeck of St. Vincent de Paul Society helped direct the successful drive.

'Transitions' highlight Northeast Independent Living forum

More than 150 people attended Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc.'s 30th annual Legislative Forum held recently at Massachusetts School of Law in Andover. This year's theme was "Nursing Home Transitions to Community Living."

Area state senators and representatives as well as local officials and others had the opportunity to meet with constituents to discuss important health care issues affecting the lives of local people with disabilities and their families.

Sen. Barbara L'Italien, D-Andover, delivered the keynote address. Kerri Zanchi, assistant commissioner of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission; Diane Sullivan, dean of Massachusetts School of Law; and Kevin Hatch, president of the Northeast Independent Living Program's board of directors, also spoke.

Also in attendance were Sen.

Joan Lovely, D-Salem; Ariel Vega Jr., regional director for U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren's office; Rep. Frank Moran, D-Lawrence; Kate Machet, regional director for U.S. Sen. Ed Markey's office; and Rep. James Lyons, R-Andover.

The program also included "Voices in Transition" presentations by individuals who shared their personal stories of successfully transitioning into the community.

Northeast Independent Living Program assists people with disabilities to live independently in the community. It serves 52 communities in northeast Massachusetts. Staff members help people find available resources that support wellness, independence and recovery goals, and assist with personal care plans that support health, safety, independence and/or recovery. To learn more, call 978-687-4288 or visit www.nilp.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Sen. Barbara L'Italien, D-Andover, gives the keynote address at Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc.'s 30th annual Legislative Forum.



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photos

Mary Jane Bausemer smells a lemon herb during the presentation by The Herb FARMacy's Rita Wollmering to the Andover Garden Club.

Hands-on home decor, gardening workshops on tap

Adults interested in learning some do-it-yourself home decor and gardening skills are encouraged to check out two hands-on workshops on tap this spring at High Plain Elementary School.

In the first workshop set for Monday, May 11, participants will learn how to piece together a centerpiece out of wine bottles, paint and burlap. The centerpiece is great for hosting parties and can be displayed throughout any season. In addition, a wine rack that holds a favorite bottle along with a wine glass will also be made. Enrollment is limited to 10 people.

Both workshops are offered by the town's Department of Community Services and run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the teachers room at High Plain Elementary. The cost for each is \$55, which includes all supplies. Registration is required by visiting www.AndoverDCS.com or by calling 978-623-8274.

In praise of herbs

Andover Garden Club gets spring growing lesson

Andover Garden Club members got a primer on their spring herb planting earlier this month thanks to a visit from Rita Wollmering, founder of The Herb FARMacy in Salisbury.

Wollmering covered all aspects of herbs at the club's April meeting at South Church in Andover, from organic growing and harvesting techniques to preserving the resulting herbal bounty in vinegars, oils, honeys and cleaning products.

Members said the presentation provided the perfect lead-in to the upcoming growing season.



Ann Bride, left, and Sandra Clevesy enjoy a chat, tea and biscuits before the start of this month's Andover Garden Club meeting.



Rita Wollmering, founder of The Herb FARMacy in Salisbury, talks to the Andover Garden Club about the cultivation and harvesting of herbs. Wollmering was the club's featured speaker this month.

Art in Bloom



COURTESY PHOTO

A floral arrangement created by Melanie Muggia and Paulette Grunden of Andover's Spade and Trowel Garden Club goes on display at Boston's Museum of Fine Arts this weekend for its 39th annual "Art in Bloom" event. More than 50 art-inspired arrangements by New England garden club members and professional designers will accent works found throughout the museum, including objects in the Ancient Greek galleries, the Arts of the Pacific Gallery and the highly anticipated exhibition, "Hokusai." The display runs from Saturday through next Monday. Visit www.mfa.org/programs/series/art-bloom for details.

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Smart Start Tutoring is currently scheduling SAT prep courses for both individual and group instruction.

Smart Start Tutoring is located at 21 Central St., Andover, a convenient downtown location within walking distance of most schools. Their hours of operation are Monday through Friday 2:00 pm to 8:00 p.m. Contact **Smart Start Tutoring** by telephone at 978-470-4920, e-mail at smartstarttutoring@hotmail.com or on the web at www.smart-start-tutoring.com.

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