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ANDOVERS

PAGE 10



SALUTE TO
TOWN'S
DEDICATED
VOLUNTEERS

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TAI CHI
MORNING ATOP
HOLT HILL

PAGE 13

OUR 127TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 25

APRIL 30, 2015

75 CENTS

OPENING DAY



ABOVE: Members of the Twins and the White Sox baseball teams enjoy Saturday's Andover Little League Opening Day Parade with their coaches and fathers. AT LEFT: Two young members trade smiles along the parade route. For additional photos of the Opening Day Parade, see page 18.

TIM JEAN/Staff photos

Budget battle heads to voters

Officials to present differing views at Town Meeting

By BILL KIRK AND TIM LIMA
Staff Writers

The stage is set for a Town Meeting budget showdown between the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee.

Twenty-four hours after the pleas of parents and school officials to add \$280,000 to the school budget to save classroom teaching positions fell flat with selectmen, the School Committee voted 4-1 Tuesday night to bring its original budget of \$73.3 million — a boost of \$423,062 over the town manager's recommended budget — to next week's Town Meeting.

The school board's newest members, Ted Teichert and Susan McCready, were split in their voting.

Teichert was the lone vote for the lesser budget favored by selectmen, saying he was concerned with how seeking the larger budget would be perceived. He said that in the wake of not receiving flexibility from the selectmen for increased funding, backing an even larger increase for the schools might look bad to voters.

McCready — after initially saying she

See BUDGET, Page 6

Rep. Lyons, family awarded \$4.8M over harassment

Jury orders damages in lengthy feud with neighbors
By TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsman.com

State Rep. Jim Lyons and his family were awarded close to \$5 million in civil damages last week, payable by former neighbors who were convicted in 2011 of criminally harassing them.

A 12-person jury last Wednesday ordered William and Gail Johnson to pay the Andover state legislator and his family \$4.8 million in emotional and economic damages caused as part of a case that extends back to 2008.

Lyons, R-Andover, said that the result of the civil case, heard in Lawrence Superior Court, showed that a jury found "that myself, my wife and my children had suffered significant emotional and economic damages as a result of the intentional conduct of the Johnsons."

See LYONS, Page 2

Perennial favorite

Crafts in the Park to celebrate 40th year next weekend

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsman.com

For the past 40 years, shoppers have flocked to Andover on the Saturday before Mother's Day to find a unique gift for the special women in their lives. Luckily for mothers, this year promises to be the same.

Crafts in the Park — Andover's oldest juried crafts fair — will once again fill the public green at Chestnut and Bartlett streets next Saturday, May 9.

Christ Church, which sponsors the event, is expecting 170 vendors selling an array of high-quality, handmade original craft and artwork to set up booths for the day. Offerings will include finely crafted jewelry, pottery, candles, fine art, prepared foods, clothing and home accessories, photography and needlecraft.

"We are really excited about this year's crafters," organizer Karen Van Welden-Herman from Christ Church said. "The fair is always the Saturday before



Vendors will be returning to their booths next Saturday, May 9, for the 40th annual Crafts in the Park.

Mother's Day — rain or shine. fine handcrafts and maybe buy People come out for beautiful spring weather to enjoy really

See CRAFTS, Page 6



COURTESY PHOTO

Three generations of Ernest Perrys, from left, Andover High star and grandson E.J. Perry IV; patriarch Ernie Perry Jr. who died last week; and Andover three-sport coach and son E.J. Perry III.

Above all, family

Perry leaves legacy that extends far beyond the game

By MICHAEL MULDOON
Staff Writer

Ernie Perry Jr. was a big guy with a big heart.

He was the son of Hall of Fame Lawrence High track coach Ernie Perry Sr. and grew up infatuated with sports and coaching.

He immersed himself in sports and lived for summers at the family cottage at Hampton Beach.

It was an idyllic life. Except for one thing.

An only child, he envied the hustle and bustle of his

friends' large families.

He met the love of his life, pretty and vivacious Barbara Driscoll of North Andover, who was one of seven children.

He immediately knew she was the one. How right he was. The Perrys raised seven athletic children and were inseparable for 51 years until Ernie, 79, died last Wednesday after a brief illness.

If I know Coach Perry the way I know Coach Perry, he certainly realized his wife-to-be had three brothers

See LEGACY, Page 2

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LEGACY

Continued from Page 1

who were star athletes at Johnson High.

Perry loved the horses, and as any horseman knows, never overlook genetics.

Always a numbers man, shortly before his death, Perry meticulously calculated that he and his wife had attended 10,120 of his children's and grandchildren's games.

That was the hustle and bustle Perry longed for.

Non-stop activity

The seven Perry kids from Andover provided enough hustle and bustle, buzzer-beating 3-pointers, game-winning touchdown passes and catches, blown-out knees, on-court fist fights and improbable upsets to fill a book.

Perry, who was a gym teacher in Methuen for 35 years, had cheated death more than a few times. He had received his last rites 10 years ago and again two years ago. Typical Perry, they hate to lose whether it is to Central Catholic, Yale or Father Time.

Surprisingly soft-spoken away from the athletic fields, Perry was a fiery fan.

The "get his hands off him!" screams still ring in the ears of more than a few area basketball referees. He always figured sons Tim or E.J. would

have averaged 35 points instead of their ho-hum 25 if those damn refs would cut out all the hand-checking.

The confidence and competitiveness that he and his wife instilled in their kids is what made the Perrys the Perrys.

Should John, at just 5-10 with limited speed, have become one of the greatest receivers in University of New Hampshire history? Should E.J., as a 5-7, 135-pound sophomore bench-warmer, have become one of the great heroes in Greater Lawrence Christmas Basketball Tourney history?

Should Tim have been able to beat future NBA star Rex Chapman in the 1-on-1 finals at the famed 5-star basketball camp in Pennsylvania? Or be named MVP of the Harvard-Yale game? Should James have become the most prolific QB in Ivy League history?

Of course not. But competitiveness, confidence and a little Perry magic can go a long, long way.

Backyard court

Perry always wanted to win. It could be a victory by one of those 10,120 games by the kids or grandkids or his own teams. It could be any of the meets in his 50 years as a Hall of Fame local track coach. It could be the weekend poker games with Bill Blood, Jerry Valley, Joe Golec, Mayor Steve Zanni and the guys.



COURTESY PHOTO

Ernie Perry, back row, second from left, poses with his family.

You could add a couple zeroes to the 10,120 Perry games if you included the games played in the family's backyard court in Andover. He always said that was the best thing he ever did and that Fran Reilly was the greatest neighbor ever for installing the court.

Hours upon hours of ferocious competition there honed the Perrys' impressive shooting and ball-handling skills. The court once was even highlighted as one of the country's best in the best-selling "In-Your-Face Basketball Book."

For years, Perry was a breakfast cook during the summers at Mama Leone's on Hampton Beach.

He'd cringe if his friend Charlie from the restaurant down the boardwalk informed him his place did more breakfasts than Mama Leone's that morning.

When Charlie left, Perry would always quietly add, "You know their eggs aren't real."

The idea man

Lawrence of that era seemed to breed coaches like Hall of Famers John Kelleher, Larry Klimas and Perry, "idea men" who sadly are all gone now. All those theories were part genius and part off the wall.

Track was Perry's love, something he inherited from his dad, after whom Lawrence Stadium's Perry-Kent track is named.

Much to the chagrin of Andover High baseball coaches Bill Vickers and Dave Bettencourt, the Perry boys were tracksters. While the Perrys excelled in track, Bettencourt, to this day, will tell you Tim or John might have had pro potential in baseball.

He loved sports like few others and fully realized he was blessed beyond words to see his children's and now grandchildren's success. John as an NFL coach with the Houston Texans. E.J. as coach of the Andover High girls basketball team, which includes his own daughter, reserve guard Julia, and that this past winter played at the Boston Garden. James to lead one of the country's most innovative offenses at Princeton.

And now grandson and Andover High sophomore E.J. Perry IV quickly surpassing his famous father and uncles as a gifted three-sport athlete.

Last week, E.J. IV gave his grandfather, who he adored, an autographed baseball from his first varsity home run. It was an emotional moment for grandfather and namesake grandson.

Andover Townsman

Established 1887
ISSN 1524-1432
USPS 025-440
Published Thursdays by North of Boston Media Group
33 Chestnut St.
Andover, MA
978-475-7000
Ad fax 978-475-5731
News fax 978-470-2819
E-mail: townsman@andovertownsmam.com
Web: andovertownsmam.com



Periodical postage paid at Andover, MA, and additional mailing office.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Andover Townsman, 100 Turnpike St., North Andover, MA 01845
In-town subscription — One year, \$40; two years, \$68
Subscription outside Greater Lawrence — One year, \$45; two years, \$75
College subscription — One college year, \$30.

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.

LYONS

Continued from Page 1

"The last nine years have been an extremely trying time for our family," Lyons said last Thursday. Lyons said last Thursday. Lyons together with his wife, Bernadette, and family filed the civil suit in March 2009.

According to the civil complaint filed with the court, the Johnsons "falsely advertised on the Craigslist.org website that the plaintiff, James Lyons, was selling a Harley Davidson

motorcycle owned by his deceased son. The plaintiffs, James Lyons and Bernadette Lyons, do not have a deceased child."

It continued that the Johnsons "caused emails and letters to be sent to the plaintiff, James Lyons, falsely alleging that the plaintiff, James Lyons, had molested a fictitious, underage, former employee of ... Dandi-Lyons," the family's retail flower and ice cream shop.

Further, the complaint said that "the defendants ... caused a letter to be sent from a company in California thanking the plaintiff, James Lyons, for donating his body parts to science."

Lyons is also said in the complaint to have been signed up by the Johnsons for membership in a number of organizations,

including the American Association of Nude Recreation, National Abortion Federation and BeyondExGay.Com, among others.

The case stems from a years-long property feud between the two families over the Johnsons' plans to build a 4,500-square-foot home on a site on Reynolds Street in Andover that backs up to the Lyons home at 12 High Vale Lane. Lyons opposed the plans.

The feud led to William and Gail Johnson, who formerly lived at 36 High Vale Lane, Andover, being charged with criminal harassment and making false accusations.

In 2011, the Johnsons were both convicted of criminally harassing the Lyons family. William Johnson was sentenced to 2 1/2 years, with 18 months to be

served. He was also found guilty and fined for filing a false report with the state Department of Children and Families accusing Lyons of child abuse.

Gail Johnson was sentenced to two years for criminal harassment, with six months to be served concurrently with her husband.

The Johnsons' criminal convictions were upheld on appeal by the Supreme Judicial Court in December 2014.

"We are relieved to have this stressful and traumatizing ordeal over with," Gail Johnson said in an emailed statement last week, speaking for her family. "We hope and pray that the Lyons family finally feels that they have received the justice they deserve."

She continued that her family is "understandably shocked and perplexed by the judgment received for a first-time, non-violent misdemeanor. The sentence and judgment will undeniably go down in the record books."

William Johnson said he and his wife will be appealing the court's decision.

The Johnsons' lawyer, David Stein of Salem, Mass., declined to comment, only saying that there is no limit to what a jury can award in civil damages.

"They can do whatever they want to do," he said. The Lyons family's lawyer, Michael Gillis of Gillis & Bikofsky in Newton, was traveling and could not be reached for comment.

According to Mass. Gov. a civil ruling can be appealed only if the final decision of a trial court or state administrative agency is believed to be legally wrong. During this process, the appellate court looks solely at the record that was before the court, considering only if a legal mistake was made in the trial court and whether this mistake changed the final decision in the case.

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■ TOWN BRIEFS

Gearing up for Saturday's annual Zero Waste Day

Andover's 11th annual Zero Waste Day 2015 is set for this Saturday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot past Brickstone Square at the end of York Street.

Residents are encouraged to bring both their reusable and non-reusable items to Brickstone for donation to local charities. Twelve charities from around the Merrimack Valley are participating in the event.

Items to be collected include used but reusable baby equipment, toys, clothes, shoes, bikes, appliances, furniture, books, CDs, DVDs, kitchen ware and building materials. All goods will go to local charities for resale and reuse.

Broken electronics and appliances are also being collected for proper disposal. Old, non-reusable textiles as well as Styrofoam will be taken to be used in making new products. Bulky, rigid plastics will also be accepted for recycling.

Charities have the right to refuse certain donations.

There will not be a Dumpster on-site so people should be prepared to bring some items home. For more information on exactly what will be collected, procedures for disposal and other details, visit www.andoverma.gov/dpw/zerowasteday.pdf or email Heather Arvidson at haarvidson@gmail.com.

Invasive species patrol at Deer Jump Reservation

Andover Village Improvement Society is seeking volunteers for two work parties the next two Saturdays aimed at helping to eliminate invasive plants from Deer Jump Reservation.

The group will be hand-pulling such invasive plants as garlic mustard and narrowleaf bittercress and cutting Oriental bittersweet from the property.

Amy Janovsky and Susan Hegarty lead this Saturday's work party from 1 to 4 p.m. Volunteers should park on Nollot Drive off River Road and follow the trail to the right on the Deer Jump Reservation. Email Janovsky at amyjanovsky@avisandover.org for more information.

Next Saturday, May 9, the work party will go from 9 a.m. to noon.

Volunteers should park on Inwood Lane off River Road and follow the trail to the left on the Deer Jump Reservation. The effort will be led by Hegarty and Carl Hayssen. Contact Hayssen at chayssen@usa.net or 978-682-8899 for more information.

May 7 blood drive at Christ Church

Christ Church, 25 Central St., Andover, is helping the American Red Cross mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day with a blood drive on Thursday, May 7, from 2 to 7 p.m.

May 8 is the birthday of International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement founder Henry Dunant, and the day recognizes the local and global impact of the Red Cross mission.

The blood drive seeks donors of all blood types – especially those with types O negative, A negative and B negative.

To make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Those unable to give blood can also support blood donations and invite others to make a lifesaving donation by creating a SleevesUp virtual blood drive at redcrossblood.org/SleevesUp.

To submit an item for the Town Briefs, email townsman@andover-townsmen.com.

Andover native to share story of strength, hope

Garrison to talk on 'Overcoming Adversity' at Melmark

Andover native Julia Fox Garrison, a motivational speaker and author, will speak on "Overcoming Adversity with Attitude, Choice and Purpose" on Thursday, May 14, at 5:30 p.m. at Melmark New England, 461 River Road, Andover.

Garrison is the author of "Don't Leave Me This Way or when I get back on my feet you'll be sorry!"

The book chronicles her

struggle to regain control over her life and her body following a massive hemorrhage resulting in a paralyzing stroke.

She has harnessed her first-hand experience in battling the medical establishment into a message of strength and hope.

With humor and optimism, Garrison is said to transcend the sobering subject of stroke to show how anyone

facing a life challenge can overcome adversity through laughter, boundless enthusiasm as well as unflinching determination.

Garrison's presentation will be followed by a wine and cheese reception and book signing at 7 p.m.

The cost is \$35 for the presentation only or \$50 for the presentation, reception and book signing.

Garrison's book will be

sold separately.

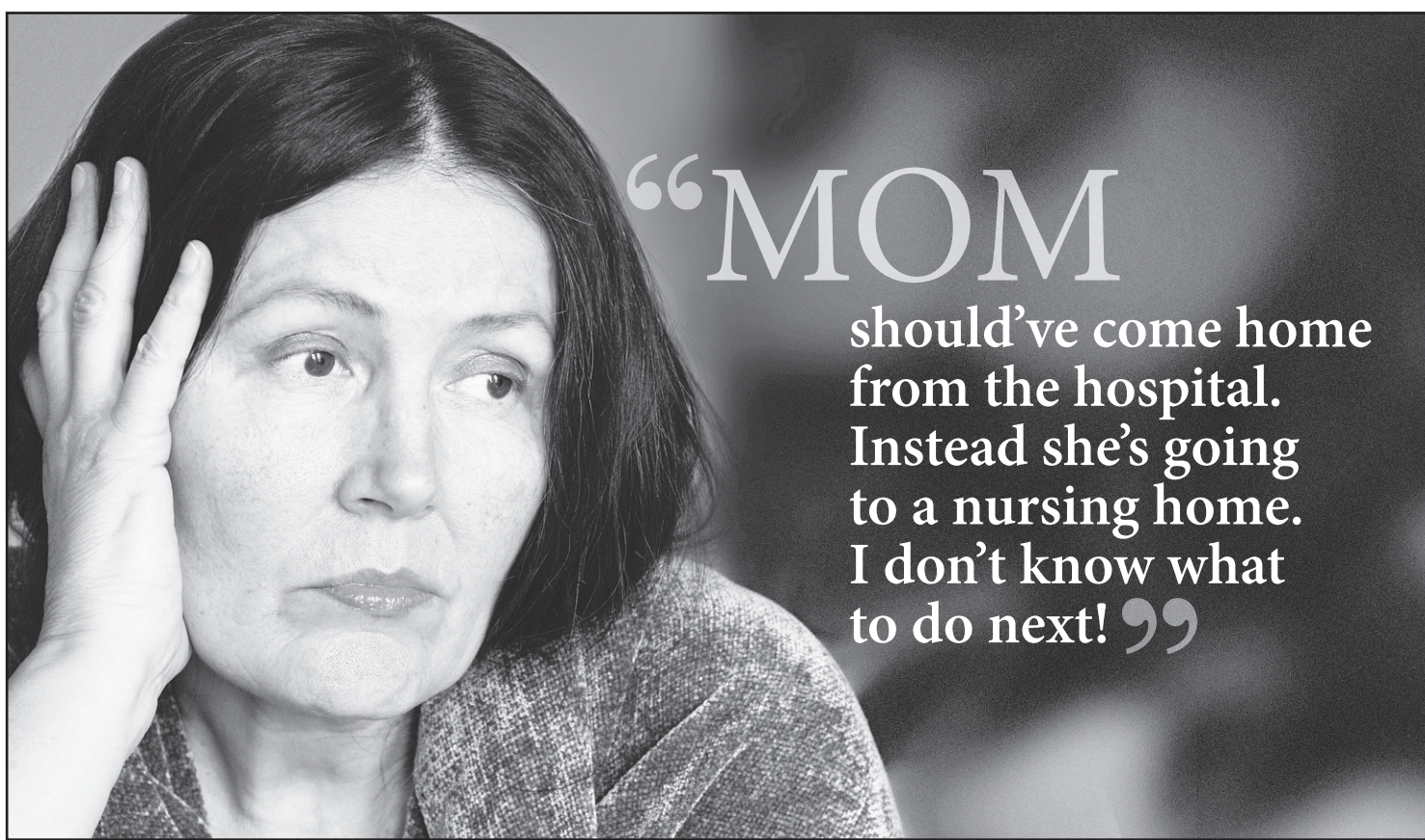
To reserve a spot, contact Danielle Greeley at dgreeley@melmarkne.org or 978-654-4332 or register online by visiting www.melmarkne.org and clicking on the "Outreach Services" tab and selecting "Expert Speaker Series."

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Dundee Park: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow



Andover Stories

Tom Adams

Andover Historical Society

The Industrial Revolution began in Great Britain during the mid-1600s and spread rapidly through Western Europe and ultimately to North America. It was the most important event in the history of humanity since the domestication of animals, plants and fire. It marked the evolution of manufacturing from hand-production methods to machines. Textiles were the dominant industry when measured by employment, the value of production and the level of capital invested.

Seated across from the old Andover train station, near the intersections of Essex, Railroad and Pearson streets, are the old Smith & Dove mills. Today, they are known collectively as Dundee Park. These mills, along with those that stretched along the Shawsheen River from Andover to Lowell, powered the area's transformation from an agricultural-based economy to an industrial one. Mills impacted nearly every aspect of daily life — expanding population, increasing the availability of goods, and raising the overall standard of living.

By the early 19th century, several local textile mills had taken root. In 1807, Abraham Marland erected a cotton mill. The Abbott wool operation moved to Andover about 1815. Its business was successful until the late 1830s when the market for wool declined. Creditors sold off the Abbott mill buildings to Smith & Dove in 1843.

Founded in 1835 by John and Peter Smith and John Dove, immigrants from Brechin, Scotland, Smith & Dove was the first linen manufacturer in the United States. It operated mills in Frye and Abbott villages. By 1865, the mills produced thread for shoelaces, carpets and for sail and broad cloth. The company continued to expand its operations. A new main mill plant opened in 1894 and Dundee Park was born. Expansion continued well into the early 20th century, transforming the site into much of what we see today.

The company provided nearby housing for its workers, erected a village hall and recreational facilities, and created a pension fund. The Smith and Dove families were actively involved in community affairs, contributing to educational institutions and helping establish Memorial Hall Library. Resolute abolitionists, they were also charter members of the Free Christian Church.

In 1927, the Smith & Dove Company was sold to Ludlow Manufacturing. The

company operations were moved and the mill complex shuttered in 1928. Through the ensuing years, the land and buildings fell into disuse and changed hands several times. The Indian Ridge Company acquired the property and a portion of the housing stock, which was later parceled off to private investors.

The complex was later reorganized as an office park and held, all or in part, by Lawrence Savings and the Family Bank. In the 1970s, two new buildings were added, further expanding the footprint of Dundee Park. Initially used for storage, one building now houses Yang's Fitness and Wellness Center and the second includes Classic Closets of Andover.

In 1997, a sizable portion of the office park was purchased by Ozzy Properties, which manages large commercial and residential properties, including Osgood Landing. The old mill buildings were largely abandoned and required significant repurposing to attract new tenants. Ozzy Properties' vision of creating an environment suited to each tenant's needs has been largely realized. Today, the park attracts small high-tech start-ups, professional and administrative offices, graphic designers and advertising firms.

Recently, Andover Tomorrow, a grassroots community organization was formed. It envisions a process focusing on land



IMAGE COURTESY ANDOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The former Smith & Dove mills, Abbott Village, in the area now Dundee Park.



PHOTO COURTESY OZZY PROPERTIES

The view of Dundee Park today.

stretching from the Shawsheen River up to Main Street. Through community conversations, tours and charrettes, Andover Tomorrow is seeking to reconnect people to the historic and natural resources that are

already here, to plan for Andover's future as a vital community. A zoning article for the creation of a Historic Mill overlay district encompassing Dundee Park will go before voters at the May Town Meeting that starts

next week. Stay tuned.

Andover Stories is a recurring feature prepared by the Andover Historical Society. Visit www.andoverhistorical.org for more information.

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 30, 1915

Dennis Sweeney of Central Street, the well-known rural mail carrier, has purchased an Overland touring car.

All the summer camps and bungalows on the Shawsheen have been engaged and the season promises to be the most successful one yet. As is well known, the beauties of the Shawsheen are unexcelled by any river in this vicinity.

Mrs. Mercer Higgins, who is staying at the home of her aunt, Mrs. Joseph Cole of Chestnut Street, while confined with the German measles, had a very severe case of ivy poisoning, and now she has an attack of the grip.

Levi Bryan and family have moved from Cuba Street to a tenement owned by H.W. Barnard on Barnard Street.

75 Years Ago April 25, 1940

Gladys Brainerd, of Morton

Street, started work this week as clerk to welfare agent Arthur W. Cole and Town Clerk George H. Winslow. Mary Loosigian will devote her entire time to the Retirement Board and the town clerk.

Registration of children who are to enter the first grade of the Andover Public School system next September will be held on May 13 and 14 in Samuel Jackson School, May 15 and 16 in Shawsheen School, May 17 in Indian Ridge School, May 20 in Bradlee School, and May 21 in West Center School between 3:30 and 4 p.m. It is advisable that the parents bring the child at this time to the first-grade classroom, where they both will have an opportunity to meet the child's teacher, as well as the principal and the school nurse.

50 Years Ago April 29, 1965

A front-page photo declares "It's a Homer for Jim McCarron" in the Little League home run hitting contest held last week prior to the season opener. The Yankee hitter won the contest in a double playoff. Also shown, Gerry Silverman, umpire, and Peter Olney, Braves catcher.

Thirty residents rode an

Andover Citizens for Equal Opportunity bus to Boston Friday for the March on Boston held in connection with Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s visit there on behalf of the hub's civil rights movement.

Two Andover mothers will offer a six-week course this summer in tennis technique, court manners and sportsmanship for a class of 20 boys and girls 8 to 15 years of age. With the cooperation of Abbott Academy, which will make its courts available, Mrs. Amy O. Johnson, an instructor at Pike School, and Mrs. Helen E. Rich, girls athletic director at Pike, will enroll young people for a junior tennis development program.

25 Years Ago April 26, 1990

Curbside recycling could be a reality in Andover as soon as July 1 if the town can afford it. But, curbside or not, current recycling programs in town are going to change by the end of June. Bid specifications for a new curbside trash collection contract were completed this week and include a curbside recycling option, according to Robert McQuade, public works director.

It's official! A postal service

station will be open in Old Town Hall this summer, according to Town Planner Steven Colyer. "It's a firm commitment from the postal service," Mr. Colyer said Wednesday. The station will be on the first floor on the left as you walk in the front door of Old Town Hall off Main Street and will be in "period decor," according to Mr. Colyer.

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

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Join the movement to bring Olympics to Boston

Editor, Townsman:

When I learned of Boston being selected as the U.S. candidate for the 2024 Olympic Summer Games, I immediately wanted to get involved. I've watched the 2024 Olympic Committee in action, and have been very impressed with its members'

integrity, hard work, openness, concern for the community, and passion in bringing the 2024 Olympic Games to Boston.

In addition to the amazing Boston 2024 leadership, there are also the incredible volunteers. There are past Olympians in the group, ranging from recent athletes to older distinguished contestants, both Olympic and Paralympic. There are multitudes of energetic sports enthusiasts

who know personally how life changing sports can be. There are many teachers and leaders of youth-oriented sports who want to have the Olympics here for their kids. There are newly naturalized, patriotic citizens who strongly believe that the games contribute to international peace. There are also many individuals like myself — lifelong residents who love Boston and want to see the city evolve, and fix things like

public transportation and housing issues; people who believe the Olympics can be a catalyst for sustainable job growth, as well as cost-efficient, public-private partnerships around the Bay State.

If you are interested in learning more, or want to get involved, there will be Boston 2024 volunteers at the Andover Town Meeting on May 4. You can also go to the website, www.2024Boston.org, where you can find more information and sign up online to volunteer.

Go Boston 2024!
SARA MARTIN
39 Prospect Road

with 127 miles of main line in western Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire, terminating in Dracut. From Dracut, a 20-inch lateral line is planned through Andover, ending in Peabody. This will affect homeowners, open spaces, conserved habitats and agricultural lands along its path. Wherever the pipeline runs, it will have a detrimental impact on wildlife by causing more fragmentation of habitat, will increase opportunities for invasive plants to take hold and potentially affect water supplies.

For those who don't live near the pipeline, there are other effects. Natural gas (methane) is far cleaner burning than coal or oil when used to generate electricity. However, emissions of the gas during the production and transportation process, according to a study at Cornell University, can make it close to having the same net impact on global warming as burning coal.

Venting of gas at compressor stations, which is a part of normal operation and maintenance, can last as

long as two hours and make noise similar to a jet engine at takeoff. Dracut has a proposed station rated at 23,000 HP, which could impact Andover residents across the river.

Increased dependence on natural gas for electricity generation (we are already at more than 50 percent) will subject ratepayers to price swings of this volatile commodity as well as price increases from possible export of liquefied natural gas to Europe and other countries.

We should be planning to meet our regional energy needs through a combination of energy efficiency, clean renewable sources and fixing leaks in existing pipelines. These methods would provide more sustainable jobs and a better long-term economic outlook for New England than expanding old fossil fuel infrastructure across virgin territory. Only after these options have been fully explored should expansion along existing gas pipelines be considered.

FRED SNELL
7 Mercury Circle

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Teacher salaries, contract comparably matched

Editor, Townsman:

Repeatedly over the past several months, members of the Board of Selectmen have faulted the School Committee for signing an “overgenerous” contract with Andover teachers, and used this as justification for withholding reasonable funding for the school budget.

Having spent dozens of hours analyzing teacher salary and Andover contract data (all available on the town website), I can see no basis for this claim by selectmen. Salaries paid to Andover teachers are right in the middle of comparable districts, and the teachers contract contains the same cost of living (COLA), education and longevity components for salary increases as in other large town contracts in Andover.

Andover compares itself to 30 other peer school districts, which are defined in the school’s budget book. Looking at this group, Andover teachers are ranked in the middle when it comes to average salary, total district spending on salary as a percentage of per-pupil costs, and salary growth over the past five years.

Andover is lower than average (24th out of 31) when it comes to head count growth, with a decline of 0.7 percent versus the peer group average increase of .3 percent and state average increase of 1 percent between 2009 and 2013. Andover teacher head count is expected to decrease again this year given the lack of funding to the schools.

With respect to contract components, selectmen have said that teachers contracts should not include COLA increases because they already have raises included through step (longevity) and track (education). However, after reading contracts for other Andover unions, it’s clear that COLA, longevity and education raises are common components of Andover employment contracts.

Specifically, in examining contracts for Andover police, fire and public workers, a

5 percent COLA over three years is standard. Education incentives bump up pay for public safety workers from 5 percent to 25 percent depending on education level, beginning as low as an associate’s degree bonus. Andover’s standard town contracts also include longevity increases of between 2 percent and 4 percent every five years, maxing out at 25 years. By contrast, teachers need to have at least a bachelor’s degree for employment and longevity maxes out at 14 years.

I don’t point this out to begrudge any other union in town. Andover employs personnel for very different jobs, requiring different skills, and all should be compensated fairly.

However, it is duplicitous for selectmen to suggest the teachers contract is too generous for including the same components as other union contracts, particularly when math shows the resulting salaries to be completely ordinary.

The selectmen’s explanation for minimally funding schools based on Andover teachers’ salaries and their contract doesn’t hold any water. Andover citizens deserve better, and a fact-based dialogue would be a nice start.

SHANNON SCULLY
School Street
SaveAndoverTeachers.com

Overlay provides a unifying vision for growth

Editor, Townsman:

Andover residents have a unique opportunity to shape Andover’s future. Town Meeting Articles 49 and 50 create a land use overlay district for 100 downtown acres between the Shawsheen River and Main Street, stretching from Whole Foods to Dundee Park. This overlay district will provide a single set of development rules to promote smart, well-designed growth in an area historically plagued by a mishmash of separate zoning areas designated for separate purposes.

The proposed Historic Mill District overlay will enable the Andover community to converge on a unifying

vision for the future of our downtown — greater access to the Shawsheen River, an improved intersection near the railroad tracks, mixed-use mill buildings and pedestrian-friendly walkways for residents to discuss. Passage of this proposal will not take away the rights of any existing property owners; it will just allow a platform for a more cohesive set of future possibilities.

We have lived in Andover for 22 years and raised three children here. We own two businesses downtown — one professional, one retail — and have been deeply involved in the schools and other community affairs for years. We love Andover, and have a large stake in its future. Please join us in supporting the Historic Mill District articles at Town Meeting.

BOB AND ANNIE GILBERT
12 Gray Road

Creating an overlay for the future of Andover

Editor, Townsman:

It is very rare for us as citizens of Andover to make significantly far-reaching decisions with respect to the direction of the town. One example of where we did was the decision some 50 years ago to zone some of the outer sections of Andover for industrial use. These commercially successful areas, when combined with other businesses in town, account for almost 30 percent of our total tax revenue base. This is quite extraordinary when compared to similar towns — and it took good creative planning and perseverance on the part of town leaders at that time.

At this year’s Annual Town Meeting, we are presented with another exceptional opportunity to lay the groundwork for some long-range thinking about an extremely important section of Andover — 100-plus acres of land adjacent to the existing downtown, called the Historic Mill District, where an overlay on top of existing zoning is being recommended. With this overlay, or “tool kit,” the possibilities for

mixed-use residential, retail and commercial development together with transit and safety improvements, as well as green space recreation along the river, will become an integral part of downtown Andover for the next generation.

This zoning bylaw amendment on the warrant for this year’s Town Meeting actually leaves the underlying zoning in place and does not force any resident or business currently in the new district to make any changes at all — ever. Nor does it address the eventual disposition of the Town Yard currently on the selectmen’s docket. But what this overlay will do is to attract some inspirational ideas about ways in which this area can most effectively serve the future needs of Andover for the next 50 years as we plan for the best place to work and live and play north of Boston. Of course, any and all future development in

the district will still have to withstand the rigorous permitting and approval process, which protects our values and the special environment we enjoy in this town.

Over the past 18 to 24 months, a growing number of citizens — now numbering in the hundreds — have participated in the well-publicized public meetings, open forums and tours of the Historic Mill District to discuss the creation of this special place. There is a video about this idea, which has been seen by more than 10,000 people — and can be accessed at https://www.facebook.com/pages/Andover-Historic-Mill-District/1397146760594667?ref=br_tf.

There have been more than 20 such public meetings, and now with the unanimous approval of the Board of Selectmen, the Council on Aging, the Andover Green Advisory Board, the Planning Board, the Preservation

Commission and others, we are ready to move forward. While this amendment has no buildings or projects or new development of any kind attached to it, we hope that these same groups along with town leadership and others will continue to participate actively as specific plans and ideas begin to germinate and flower over the months and years ahead. Fifty years from now, our children and grandchildren will look back on this prescient thinking as Andover becomes a key destination on the North Shore.

The Economic Development Council strongly recommends your support of this opportunity — this chance to, once again, let us dream about the future and create a unique, vibrant and exciting centerpiece for our wonderful and very special town.

TIMOTHY L. VAILL
Chairman, Andover Economic Development Council
9 Bancroft Road

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Warm welcome to spring in The Andovers

It was a long, trying road to spring, but the season of renewal has arrived in the Andovers. And so has the spring issue of The Andovers Magazine.

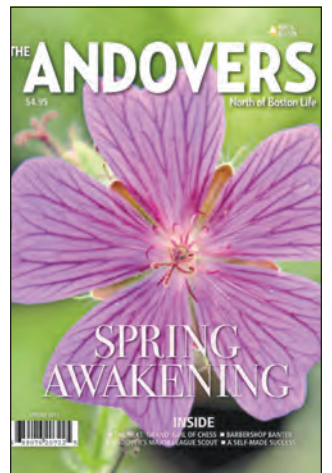
Aptly proclaiming "Spring Awakening" on the cover, the magazine offers readers much to enjoy inside.

The issue opens with a return to the local barbershop, a throwback to the past that has maintained its place in many lives today. We pay a visit to our local shops, including Andover's own Colonial Barbers and Andover Barber Shop, and talk to the barbers about what makes them dedicated to the craft as well as their clients who can't imagine going anywhere else for a trim.

We also meet a young chess phenom — 11-year-old Carissa Yip of Andover — who is taking the world by storm with her mastery of the game. While others her age are sending Snapchats, she became the youngest female chess master in the country earlier this year.

We catch up with local businessmen Sal Lupoli. As he's poised to begin an expansion of his recently completed Andover Medical Center, Lupoli shares the path he's followed to become one of the most successful developers in the region.

We also learn about the growing trend of fabric printing courtesy of Andover's Lisa DiAntonio, who is putting her designs on the world of custom textiles. We travel to Fenway Park to hear about this year's Boston Red Sox from Andover native Gus Quattlebaum, who was recently named assistant director of professional and international scouting for the home team.



And we attend a couple classes with local coach Michelle Doucette of Get Youth Moving who is determined to incorporate play back into children's lives.

We invite you to discover all this and more in our new issue. Pick up the quarterly lifestyles magazine on newsstands at these locations:

- Andover Spa, 9 Elm St., Andover
- Andover Townsman office, 33 Chestnut St., Andover
- Butcher Boy, 1077 Osgood St., North Andover
- Main Street Liquors, 64 Main St., North Andover
- Mobil on the Run, 1785 Andover St., Tewksbury
- Richdale, 4 Main St., North Andover
- Richdale, 75 Chickering Road, North Andover
- Richdale, 10 Railroad St., Andover
- Sam's Mobil Mart, 12 Mass. Ave., North Andover
- Sunday's General Store, 195 Andover St., Andover
- The Eagle-Tribune, 100 Turnpike St., North Andover
- Whole Foods, 40 Railroad St., Andover

Have an idea for an upcoming edition of The Andovers? Contact editor Sonya Vartabedian at 978-691-8733 or email svartabedian@theandoversmagazine.com.

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Opinion

Seeking answers on rail service fix

Commuters from Andover, and the rest of the Merrimack Valley, deserve some straight answers from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. There's no more snow on the tracks to slow down the decrepit trains. But service on the Haverhill line is still so unreliable, some commuters get in their cars and drive to Woburn so they can get to their jobs in Boston on the more dependable Lowell line.

That what Nick Stellakis of Andover does every day, despite living within walking distance of the Andover station.

What makes the Haverhill line so unreliable? Most of the line that serves the Merrimack Valley is single-track, rather than double-track. That means whenever a train breaks down on the line, train service comes to a halt. The single line also must accommodate freight trains and Amtrak's Downeaster.

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

That was all supposed to change five years ago. In 2010, officials held a ground-breaking ceremony in Andover. It was the kickoff for a project to add 8 miles of double-track between Lawrence and Wilmington.

The parallel track would allow freight trains and the Downeaster to move onto the new line and out of the way of the commuter trains, reducing delays.

That was the promise. Little of it has yet happened.

Instead the double-tracking project is bogged down in delays and cost overruns.

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, Kirk found.

To date, just two miles of the double-tracking have been completed and put into service, Michael Verseeckes, a spokesman for the Mass. Department of Transportation, told Kirk.

It remains unclear exactly why so little of the project has been completed so far, leaving commuters like Stellakis to scratch their head 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."

That's what really matters to Merrimack Valley commuters. The fine details of the project and which of an alphabet soup of state and federal agencies are paying for it matter little.

But even basic questions on when the double-track project will be complete and how it will improve service result in double-talk from transportation officials.

One state official even insists that project won't change commuter service at all.

Kirk reports that two weeks ago, Andover Town Manager Reginald 'Buzz' Stapczynski emailed Dan Fielding, public liaison for the Mass. 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, due to be "substantially completed" by the end of this year, "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."

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

It's ludicrous to suggest that \$55 million in improvements to a commuter rail line will result in no improvement for commuters.

But given the chaos and incompetence that is the hallmark of public transportation in Massachusetts, it would not be surprising.

WEB QUESTION

Editor's Note: To give readers more time to weigh in on commuter rail service through Andover, we're extending last week's question for one additional week.

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. 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 going 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.

FINDING INNER PEACE



Instructor Meg Holmes leads a group in tai chi exercises on Saturday morning from the top of Holt Hill overlooking the Boston skyline in celebration of World Tai Chi & Qigong Day.

REBA SALDANHA/Photo

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Finance Committee conducts thorough review

Editor, Townsman:

In response to issues raised in last week's Townsman, I would like to explain the process, and the time constraints, involved in preparing the Finance Committee Report.

We begin in December when the town manager's Capital Improvement Program, which contains the first estimates of revenues and expenditures, is released. From that point on, the Finance Committee reviews many rounds of revenue and expenditure projections, both separately and jointly with the Board of Selectmen and School Committee.

Regarding the time constraints, the report must go to press in time to meet a bylaw requirement for delivery to each household at least 10 days before Town Meeting. A dedicated team including Finance Committee members and town employees accumulate all the data and format the contents. There may be numbers and/or charts printed in the book that are a consolidation of the detailed revenue and expenditures previously reviewed by the Finance Committee. Again, all of those revenue and expenditure details are thoroughly reviewed.

In closing, I'd like to say how proud I am of the town's Finance Committee members. They are a dedicated team of volunteers who work countless hours to fulfill our responsibility to the town.

JON STUMPF
Finance Committee chairman
11 Stafford Lane

'Slashing' budgets no solution to town finances

Editor, Townsman:

On April 16, Max Arai, a new member to the Finance Committee, had a letter to the editor published in the Andover Townsman. His letter is an unfair and inaccurate depiction of the construction of the Finance Committee Report.

To be sure, each Finance Committee member has the ability to read the entire document prior to its printing. Mr. Arai was told on more than one occasion that if he wanted to read the entire document word for word, he could. There are several Finance Committee members

who read the report cover to cover and Mr. Arai could have as well.

During our deliberations of the town and school budgets for fiscal year 2016, Mr. Arai refused to consider approving any part of Article 4, the article that funds the town's operating departments. Apparently, Mr. Arai believes until the town properly funds our Other Post-Employment Benefits and pension obligations, we should not fund the town's operating departments. When confronted with this choice, Max said we should "slash" the operating budgets by cutting jobs and services. This highly impractical suggestion would be excusable if he wasn't serious, but he was.

By now we all know that the town's obligations to current and retired town employees for pension benefits and other post-employment benefits are significantly underfunded. This is not a new topic — it has been discussed and debated by the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee for at least the past three years that I have served on the Finance Committee. The situation was described clearly and concisely to the town's residents at the 2014 Town Meeting. Following the 2014 Town Meeting, an OPEB subcommittee of the town's respective boards was assembled. I served on this subcommittee and we submitted our recommendations for addressing the OPEB issue to the Board of Selectmen.

This is not a complex issue to understand, but it is a very complex one to fix. Put simply, the town cannot afford to completely fund the unfunded obligations and maintain the budgets required to fund town and school operating budgets. This is not a situation unique to Andover; it is an issue faced by most, if not all, municipalities across the United States.

Somehow, Mr. Arai thinks you and I don't understand this problem. He is wrong. Somehow he believes we should "slash" operating budgets, cutting back on critical town services such as public safety and education. He is wrong. This issue didn't arise overnight and it won't be fixed overnight. Rest assured, the Board of Selectmen understands the issue, as does the Finance Committee. Responsible action has been taken and will continue to be taken. We need practical solutions to problems. I

think we all could agree that "slashing" town and school departments to levels that render them inoperable is not a practical solution.

GREG SERRAO
Andover Finance Committee member
40 Morton St.

Andover must value its teachers, education

Editor, Townsman:

I don't like taxes. I feel the pinch every month when I send in my mortgage payment. Yet, like most Andover residents, I expect excellent town services and exceptional schools. It's why I chose to move here. Twice.

Last week, a letter writer suggested that the School Committee had not done its due diligence before signing the last teachers contract. He, and our Board of Selectmen, like to repeat over and over that the contract is unaffordable.

Based on the history of property tax levy in town, the contract was and is affordable. The Board of Selectmen, however, moved the bar. They chose, in the middle of the budget process, to reduce the amount of money available to the schools. Call it fiscal responsibility or call it revenge over a contract they didn't like, but call it what it is: If teachers are laid off, the decision was made by our selectmen, not the School Committee.

When the Commonwealth of Massachusetts decided almost 200 years ago to establish school committees in each town, it deliberately created a separate and independent body to serve as the champion of education. What wisdom!

Andover's schools bring new families to town, drive property values and create a strong sense of community pride. Would the town be in this enviable position without an independent champion for the schools? Maybe. Will our schools continue to excel if our current Board of Selectmen were to make school decisions moving forward? Doubtful.

I, for one, am growing weary of the constant vilification of our teachers by the Board of Selectman and others in the media. My kids spend six hours a day with their teachers. I expect those teachers to be constantly on their toes, to be committed each and every moment to providing the best possible educational experience for my children.

That commitment is a two-way street, however. We must show our teachers that we value them personally for their service. Going to the mattresses over every contract only serves to weaken the town's relationship with its teachers. We will not have great schools without dedicated, committed, first-rate educators.

While other districts make modest increases in staff head count, Andover has been forced to make reductions. If we do not keep this annual pillaging in check, the town is rolling toward an inevitable decline. I ask the Board of Selectmen: Do you want this on your watch?

CHRISTA DINAPOLI
Summer Street

Town Meeting asked to clarify congregate living facilities

Editor, Townsman:

One of the members of our group opposing the Strawberry Hill Farm development, Heather Lauten, will advocate for an article (No. 34) on the Town Meeting warrant recommending an amendment to the town bylaw regarding the definition of congregate living facility. The purpose of this article is to amend the definition to be consistent with the widespread and generally accepted meaning of this term and to protect the town against misinterpretation and abuse by those seeking to circumvent and violate the fundamental intent of this bylaw by applying the term to housing that falls far short of the intent of the definition.

Thus Article VIII, Section 10.0 Definitions of the Zoning Bylaw would be amended by deleting the last grammatical sentence of the definition of congregate living facility and replacing it with the following:

"The facility shall not consist of separate dwelling units and each resident shall have an individual bedroom but shall share with other residents of the facility one or more of the following: kitchen facilities, dining facilities, and/or bathing facilities."

Introduction of this amendment would protect against those seeking to construct essentially independent living facilities under the umbrella of the current loosely worded definition. Your support at Town Meeting for this amendment (Article 34) is requested.

JOHN BONESS
4 Robinswood Way

READER ACCESS

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Andover Townsman

Established 1887

Regional Publisher
Karen Andreas

Editor
Sonya Vartabedian

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

News fax: 978-470-2819
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TownsBeat



REBA SALDANHA/Photo

The sun casts shadows as a group of area residents celebrate World Tai Chi & Qigong Day on Saturday at Ward Reservation.

BREATHING IN THE SCENERY

Holt Hill offers picturesque views for World Tai Chi Day

Some call it moving medication, while others prefer to see it as moving meditation. Perhaps it's a little of both.

This past Saturday, a receptive group got to decide for themselves as they climbed to the top of Holt Hill within Ward Reservation in Andover to experience the varied benefits of tai chi.

The participants greeted the morning breaks of sun in 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, together with the Friends of the Ward Reservation teamed for the program in the picturesque surroundings at the top of Holt Hill, considered the highest point in Essex County.

With views of the Boston skyline in the distance, Holmes, an Andover resident and retired North Andover Middle School librarian, led the group in tai chi warm-up movements, qigong breathing exercises and a demonstration of the Yang-style tai chi sequence. The program ended with a short walk around Ward Reservation for all those who were interested.

The free educational event aimed to unite all in a celebration of personal and global health and healing. Each year on the last Saturday of April, people gather in hundreds of cities spanning 70 nations to breathe together, providing a healing vision for the world.

Those who missed the opportunity or who want a second try are invited next Thursday, May 7, for a program of either tai chi or yoga starting at 9 a.m. from Ward Reservation, located off Prospect Street.

The programs are part of a series of outings at the property owned by The Trustees of Reservations. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.thetrustees.org/places-to-visit/northeast-ma/ward-reservation.html.



REBA SALDANHA/Photo Instructor

Meg Holmes of Andover shares her knowledge of tai chi and qigong in Saturday's celebration of personal and global health and healing at Ward Reservation.



REBA SALDANHA/Photo

Dan Boland of Dracut is focused as he practices a movement during the program of tai chi and qigong exercises. For more photos, see www.andovertownsmen.com.

Out & About: Return engagement for MV Philharmonic

The Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra welcomes back violin soloist Zina Schiff for its spring concert on Sunday, May 3, at 2:30 p.m. at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St. (Route 114), North Andover.

Schiff will be joined by her daughter, Avlana Eisenberg, who will guest conduct her mother's performance of "Wieniawski's Concerto No. 2 in D minor, Opus 22 for Violin and Orchestra."

Schiff has performed on four continents and has recorded music for movies and CDs, some with her daughter. Eisenberg, who is now music director of the Boston Chamber Symphony, began conducting while an undergraduate at Yale University in Connecticut. She has a master's degree in orchestral conducting from the University of Michigan and a Graduate Performance Diploma from the Peabody Institute in Maryland.

Sunday's program, under the direction of George Monseur, will also include "Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Opus 64" and Beethoven's "Consecration of the House Overture." The orchestra includes musicians from greater Andover.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for students and seniors and \$5 for children ages 4 to 12 and will be available at the door or online at www.MKTix.com/mvpo or www.mvpomusic.org.

Early music plays on with Convivium Musicum

The choral group Convivium Musicum will perform a program of Latin motets and French psalm settings of noted Dutch composer Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck on Sunday, May 3, at 4 p.m. at The Parish of Christ Church, 33 Central St., Andover.

Music Director Michael Barrett leads Convivium through the program of late 16th and early 17th century works by Sweelinck.

Convivium Musicum is entering its eighth season of early music performance. Tickets are \$20, \$12 for students and seniors; children under 18 are free.

West Parish Church serving Spring Breakfast Buffet

West Parish Church, 129 Reservation Road, Andover, will hold its Spring Breakfast Buffet on Saturday, May 2, from 7 to 10 a.m. in its Fellowship Hall.

The public is invited to the all-you-can-eat breakfast featuring scrambled eggs, fried eggs, French toast, ham, bacon, sausages, muffins and doughnuts. There will also be May Baskets for sale.

Admission is \$8, \$4 for children over 4 years old. The event is sponsored by the Women's Evening Circle of West Parish Church.

Phillips art faculty unveiling annual exhibition

The annual Art Department Faculty Exhibition at Phillips Academy featuring the talents of seven artist-teachers graces the walls of the school's Gelb Gallery through May 14.

This year's exhibit features mixed-media drawings on digital photos by Elaine

See **OUT**, Page 14

Singing for a cure

Voices of Hope performing 'Godspell' in fight against cancer

BY JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

The 200 members of Voices of Hope sing, act and dance for much more than a love of the performing arts. They celebrate those loved and lost to cancer, honor those who are battling the disease and rejoice for those who survive.

The group of volunteer performers have joined together in the quest for a cure. They call themselves ordinary people on an extraordinary mission. They say raise their voices in the hope of eliminating a disease that has taken too many of their loved ones.

The cause has been a

life-changing journey for members who come from all over, including many with Andover ties who are gearing up for their spring performance of "Godspell" at North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly this Saturday, May 2.

Chris Desjardins, an Andover native and music director for the show, calls the production "a labor of love for the cast."

"The updated orchestration and multi-layered harmonies are a perfect fit for the breadth of vocal skills found in our group," said Desjardins, who performed in a version of the show as a teen in Andover.

Every dollar of the net proceeds from performances

are donated to the Henri and Belinda Termeer Center for Targeted Therapies at the Mass General Cancer Center in Boston.

"Voices of Hope" founder Greg Chastain says that as long as there is research to be done and advances to be made, the group will continue its work.

Chastain, a longtime actor and performer, lost his own mother to pancreatic cancer in 2009 and decided to turn his grief into purpose.

"Voices of Hope has brought meaning to a big loss," Chastain said in the release. "My family grew exponentially after my mom left and I have been surrounded by the most amazing people. Folks rallied



COURTESY PHOTO

Voices of Hope, a group of volunteer performers on a quest to find a cure for cancer, presents "Godspell" for its spring production at North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly on Saturday night. The show is directed by Andover native Chris Desjardins and involves several other volunteers with local ties.

around my call, but I could not have imagined what would come out of that. I lost my mother, but her loss has brought so much more to others; she continues to

give in her passing." Dana (Bissett) Siegal, a former Andover resident who directed Desjardins as a teen in the original version of "Godspell" for

Andover Summer Act many years ago, is now artistic director for the Voices of Hope production.

See **VOICES**, Page 14

An American elm grows for Stapczynski

Retiring town manager honored at Arbor Day celebration

By TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsmen.com

A tree commemorating Town Manager Reginald “Buzz” Stapczynski’s 25 years of service was planted on Arbor Day last Friday, April 24, in The Park, adjacent to the office he will soon be retiring from.

The *Ulmus americana* Princeton — better known as an American elm tree — was placed in the 20.4-acre park across from the Town Offices at the intersection of Bartlet and Chestnut streets.

The honor came as a surprise for Stapczynski.

“You can have 25 years of a honeymoon that I’ve had here. But really, it’s the seeds that we plant, the people who are in place and the trees that are planted today that will be here for generations to come,” he said. “It’s a legacy that all of us can appreciate, so thank you very much.”

In a note further thanking organizers and the community for the honor, Stapczynski wrote the 1-acre stretch of grass in The Park will now be an even more special space for him.

He added that he has always had a fondness for elm trees, including one in his own yard that has endured disease and more for a half-century.

“It is a survivor ... there must be a lesson there for all of us,” he wrote.

The tree dedication was part of the town’s annual Arbor Day celebration. Organizers Marc Fournier, deputy director of public



TIM LIMA/Staff photo

Town Manager Reginald “Buzz” Stapczynski, right, stands in front of the American elm tree dedicated to him at The Park during an Arbor Day observance last Friday. Stapczynski will retire in June after 25 years of service to the town. Paul Sanborn, left, the town’s superintendent of parks and grounds, forestry and cemetery divisions, and Marc Fournier, deputy director of municipal services and highway superintendent, hold a plaque in Stapczynski’s honor.

works and highway superintendent, and Paul Sanborn, superintendent of forestry, parks and grounds, and cemetery, opened the program by explaining the history of the day to those gathered.

Arbor Day is a national observance held the last Friday of April. Massachusetts formally recognized the day in 1886. It was initially called Bird Day for a decade before switching over to Arbor Day.

“It initially started as the return of birds to the area,” Sanborn said.

Since, many schools and town offices plant a tree in honor of the occasion. Some states even give students the day off from school in observance, Sanborn said.

Along with the American elm planted for Stapczynski, a Cornus mas, or Cornelian cherry dogwood tree, was planted in The Park to

replace a tree that had begun to fail over several years.

Fournier said Arbor Day is one he always marks on his calendar.

“I’ve loved trees since I was a kid,” he said, laughing. “I’ve always liked trees and recycling. I have no idea why — I’m kind of a weird person.”

Fournier said he hopes to create an arboretum — or a collection of trees — in The Park. Eventually, he would like to have the trees labeled, with their locations specified via GPS, and even create a map or brochure to explain what they are as well as what the war monuments they are near represent.

As part of the Arbor Day observance, everyone who participated was given a Rose of Sharon seedling to bring home and plant in their yards.

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Education

Just call him 'Outstanding;' Andover High grad wins top honor from Virginia Tech

By TIM LIMA
tlima@andovertownsmam.com

Tim Duffy's days as an undergraduate at Virginia Tech ended four months ago when he graduated a semester early. But he's still making news on campus.

This month, the Andover High School graduate was named the Most Outstanding Senior in Virginia Tech's Pamplin College of Business.

After wrapping up his college career with a 4.0 grade point average and a bachelor's degree in finance and accounting, the 22-year-old Andover resident has spent much of his time traveling the

world with his family, exploring both Europe and Asia for more than a month before heading home.

Duffy's next adventure will take him to New York City later this spring to begin his life at the prestigious Goldman Sachs investment firm.

He didn't set out to pursue a future in finance. Duffy said he began college with plans to become an architect, and eventually found his way over to business, where he excelled to win Virginia Tech's top Pamplin College honor.

Presented to one graduating senior in each of Virginia Tech's eight colleges, the Outstanding Senior Award

recognizes exceptional academic achievement and leadership.

"I think the award is a by-product of doing what I enjoy doing, and I am really honored that I've been selected for this award," he said.

Duffy was a member of the University Honors Program, Phi Beta Kappa, the Beta Gamma Sigma Honors Business Society and the Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society. After earning the 2012 Kappa Pi Scholar of the Year, he was named the 2014 Virginia Tech Man of the Year.

The honors stem from the numerous tasks he has juggled and excelled at in college.

He served as the chief financial officer of BASIS, the largest student-run bond fund in the nation; was the president and director of service of the Honors Residential College, and was a student leader with VT Engage. In addition, as a student leader, he participated in several service projects such as Habitat for Humanity, Relay for Life, The Big Event at Virginia Tech and Head Start.

"It was definitely a lot of late nights," Duffy said. "It wasn't easy. But for me, they were things that I enjoyed doing so it was a lot easier to find time for those things because I enjoyed doing

them."

Duffy also credited his family, who financed his education. Because of them, he didn't have the need to work part-time to fund his schooling — something he said was a "real blessing" and "allowed me to focus on extracurricular activities."

A native of Connecticut, Duffy moved to Andover with his family to begin Andover High School as a freshman, graduating in 2011. He's the son of Michael and Virginia Duffy, and older brother to Virginia, a student at Bentley University in Waltham, and Brian, now a senior at Andover High.



COURTESY PHOTO

Andover High class of 2011 graduate Tim Duffy has received the Outstanding Senior Award from the business school at Virginia Tech.

Chapter and verse

Shawsheen Elementary School students celebrated National Poetry and School Library Month in style by showing off their talents in reading, writing and artwork.

Students and their families read their favorite poems, worked on watercolor paintings and enjoyed a display of other artwork at the April 14 celebration.

Observed in April, National Poetry Month is the largest literary celebration in the world. Each year, millions of people take time to mark poetry's importance in everyday culture and life.

— Tim Lima, staff writer



Heather Cleary congratulates her son, Gavin, a second-grader, on his artwork on display for Shawsheen's event celebrating poetry and school libraries.



Milena Tiernan, a first-grader, and her brother, Connor, a kindergarten student, work on their drawings during the Shawsheen School celebration of National Poetry and School Library months.



Second-grader Amanda Dominique reads her poem in the "Poetry Corner" during the celebration.

EDUCATION NOTEBOOK

Interim superintendent search beginning

The School Committee will meet this Thursday, April 30, to review and approve a proposed process, schedule and transition plan for the selection and appointment of an interim superintendent for the 2015-16 school year, according to a memo sent to the school community by School Committee Chairman Annie Gilbert.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the School Committee Room of the School

Administration Building. Superintendent Marinel McGrath is retiring in July. The School Committee intends to choose an interim superintendent to serve one year while it undergoes a formal process to hire a permanent replacement for McGrath. The vote on the interim superintendent is scheduled for June 11.

Charity hoops game at West Middle

West Middle School students and teachers took to the basketball court right

before the start of school vacation on Friday, April 17, for a charity game to support the American Heart Association.

All of West Middle's students were in the gymnasium to cheer on their classmates, who bested their teachers by a score of 80-69 at the final buzzer.

The fundraiser was organized by physical education teachers Marc Deschene and Kathy McDermott. Students donated \$10 and raised additional money for the cause, with those raising the most

money earning a spot on the team. They played two, 30-minute halves, with special free-throw contests during half-time.

Members of the school's Parent Advisory Committee and student web leaders sold items to support the upcoming Step Up for Colleen 5K road race this Sunday as well.

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.

A closer look at Ballpark Mysteries

Children's book author and travel writer David A. Kelly, best known for

his Ballpark Mysteries series, taught South School first-graders all about the writing process, from initial idea creation and story structure through to publishing, during a recent presentation. All of the first-graders received a signed copy of Kelly's latest book in the Ballpark Mysteries Series, "The Rookie Blue Jay."

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

4 win National Merit Scholarships

Three Phillips Academy students and one from Andover High School have been awarded National Achievement Scholarships and Corporate-Sponsored Merit Scholarships through the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

Phillips Academy students Isabella Berkley and Kayla Thompson, both of Andover, and Charlie

Jarvis of Watertown received \$2,500 Achievement Scholarships based on overall academic performance, endorsements and high school recommendations. They were among about 800 outstanding Black American high school seniors recognized with awards totaling more than \$2 million, financed by grants from 30 corporate

organizations and professional associations.

Andover High School student Kimberly Feng, meanwhile, was selected to receive the National Merit Novartis Scholarship to support her undergraduate college education in biomedicine. She is one of around 7,600 students chosen from 1.4 million applicants. Most of the awards,

renewable for up to four years, range from \$500 to \$10,000 a year. Some provide a single payment between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

By the conclusion of the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program, more than 34,200 students will have received scholarships totaling roughly \$108 million.

LOCAL SCHOLARS

Connor Reardon, a sophomore at Andover High School, recently completed the Youth Leadership Conference at Norwich University in Vermont.

Sponsored by the university and the Military Order of World Wars, an organization for

retired military officers, the two-day program covered numerous topics, including leadership, effective communication, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, free enterprise, cyber security, ethics and what it means to be a citizen soldier.

Reardon was recommended for the program

by the teaching staff at Andover High and ultimately selected by Norwich University. A member of Andover High's football team, Reardon is the son of Sean and Deidra Reardon.

Peter Trauh was named to the second quarter high honor roll at Minuteman High School in Lexington. Trauh, a junior, is interested in engineering.

Peter O'Connell, a sophomore at Belmont Hill School in Belmont, earned academic honors for the third marking period of the 2014-2015 academic year.

Eric Tang earned high honors on the third quarter honor roll at Presentation of Mary Academy in Methuen.

ON CAMPUS

Connor J. Fraser was named to Jean's list for the fall 2014 semester at Columbia University in New York. He is a 2013 graduate of Phillips Academy in Andover.

Erin Christopher graduated cum laude with two bachelor of science

degrees in economics and international affairs from Florida State University last year.

Crosby Nicholson was named to the president's list for the fall 2014 semester at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester.

Nicholson is majoring in accounting/finance.

Aria Wu Lowenhaupt, a graduate of Andover High School, was a recipient of the Wilder Trustee Scholarship at the University of Rochester. The scholarship is given to students who

have demonstrated excellent academic and extracurricular achievement and have the potential to make strong, unique contributions to student life at Rochester. A freshman, she is the daughter of Patti and Manuel Lowenhaupt.

31,000 hours' worth of thank-yous

Town volunteers honored at annual reception

From the information desk at the Town Offices to the front gate of the Bald Hill compost area and everywhere in between, a dedicated group of volunteers is insuring the town runs smoothly day in and day out.

Last year, a cadre of volunteers delivered 25,000 Meals on Wheels across town and helped serve another 20,000 meals at The Center at Punchard.

They racked up more than 60,000 miles on the roads transporting seniors and others to medical appointments. They weeded gardens, monitored traffic flow, stacked books in Memorial Hall Library, took digital scans of town maps, tutored youngsters in the schools, worked with youth services and more.

In all, they provided 31,000 hours of service with a combined value of \$460,000. While many volunteers receive a break on their property taxes in exchange through the Senior Citizen Residential Property Tax Work-Off Program, others offer their time purely for no

More photos online at: www.andovertownsmen.com

other reason than they want to give a little of themselves back to the community they call home.

"We are everywhere," volunteer coordinator Andrea Zaimes said.

Last Friday, the town feted its more than 350 volunteers across all departments at its annual volunteer appreciation reception at Old Town Hall. More than 50 of the volunteers turned out for some refreshments, entertainment and, above all, well-deserved gratitude.

Acknowledging that volunteers don't typically like to talk about themselves, Kathy Urquhart, director of elder services for the town, encouraged the volunteers to share some of the stories they had experienced in their various roles.

Then she recognized the oldest volunteer, 97-year-old Viola DiMeo, who made all the centerpieces for the occasion from like-real flowers. The youngest volunteer, the longest-serving one, and

others of particular note also got their due, getting to take home one of DiMeo's floral creations in appreciation.

Retiring Town Manager Reginald "Buzz" Stapeczynski, who addressed the group, joked that he may be attending a future appreciation reception as one of the town's volunteers in the years to come.

"I don't know how we thank you for all you do for the town," he said. "It's really priceless the contributions you all make for town departments, the schools, library, The Center at Punchard. The value you put forth is in the hundreds and hundreds of thousands of dollars of time and manpower ... plus the presence you have."

Every volunteer received a pin handed out by Karen Payne-Taylor, program coordinator for The Center at Punchard/Boomer Venture, that depicted a person on top of a hill with outstretched arms and a heart on his chest together with the words "One Person Can Make A Difference." It was attached to a card that read, "We



ABOVE: Volunteers Rose Iannazzi, left, Edith McElman and George Farr pose for a photo at the annual appreciation reception at Old Town Hall. AT LEFT: Volunteers enjoy the hors d'oeuvres in recognition for their services to the community. Organizers of the volunteer program say the town could not provide the high level of service that residents enjoy without their support.

PAUL BILODEAU/Staff photos

think you're terrific for your efforts each day, and the care and commitment you always display. We're grateful to know we can count on you, please accept our thank-you

for all you do."

Urquhart acknowledged the Andover Senior Community Friends for donating the hot hors d'oeuvres for the reception and Beverly

Parker for playing the piano for a sing-along to close out the event.

—Sonya Vartabedian, staff writer

Rotary Club's Citizens Who Care to get their due May 7

Andover High School Choral Director Marc Mercer will join this year's class of Rotary Club of Andover's Citizens Who Care as the organization's chosen 2015 Teacher of the Year.

The annual awards will be handed out next week at a dinner and recognition event on Thursday, May 7, at 6 p.m. at the Wyndham Hotel, 123 Old River Road.

In addition to Mercer, Andover High School senior Caitlin Patten, who participates in Student and Warrior Way, volunteers at Lazarus House in Lawrence and also plays on the girls varsity soccer team, was recently announced as this year's Student of the Year.

They will be honored along with the 11 volunteers

who have been selected as the 2015 Citizens Who Care for their hard work and dedication to the town.

They are:

- Claire Bishop: Lazarus House, St. Augustine's Church
- Susan Connolly: A Better Chance, Andover
- Dave Doub: AVIS, Andover Youth Services, Shawsheen River Greenway

■ Marie Flynn: Quota International of Andover, Town Hall, Friends of Memorial Hall Library

- Annie Gilbert: Andover School Committee, PTO, Andover Parent to Parent
- Ted Gorrie: Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence, Central Catholic High School
- Kevin Lynch: Andover Junior Football League, Knights of Columbus

■ Phyllis O'Grady: Andover Business Community Association

- Amy Sebell: Bread and Roses, Temple Emanuel, Hadassah
- Claire Stahley: Bancroft School and Doherty School PTOs, Memorial Circle, Andover Coalition for Education
- Charles Zanazzi: Great Lawrence Family Health

Center, Lazarus House, Exchange Club

This year's event will also honor Town Manager Buzz Stapeczynski, who is retiring in June after 25 years of service to the town.

Tickets for the awards dinner are \$50 and can be purchased at www.rotaryandover.org.

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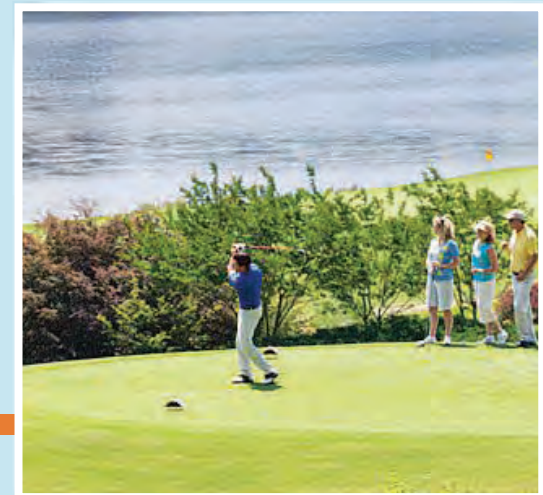
BY DR. MARK FAGAN

If you are looking for a place to spend your active retirement years and you enjoy college campuses and college towns, National Village might be for you. National Village and the surrounding area feature a comfortable lifestyle with a complete selection of services and a balance of outdoor recreation and outstanding cultural attractions. There is a feeling of community, low traffic congestion and uncrowded conditions. If you love Auburn University, there are many university activities that you can enjoy as a retiree.

Located in Opelika, Alabama, National Village is adjacent to the 54-hole Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail's Grand National golf complex. Grand National opened in 1993 as the 4th site on The RTJ Golf Trail. National Village is a 700-acre site developed by the Retirement Systems of Alabama as a recreational and retirement resort with upscale homes and cottages. When fully developed, it will include a village center, parks, green space, walking trails, fishing and a 4,200 square-foot swimming pool complex.

It is located six miles from Auburn University and only minutes from downtown Opelika and downtown Auburn. The area's highly educated population supports excellent recreational and entertainment events along with uncommon cultural activities. The area is located off Interstate 85, 45 minutes from Montgomery. It is a 90-minute drive to the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport serving more than 150 U.S. destinations and 60 international cities in 50 countries.

Opelika has restored its downtown district, which includes restaurants, clothing, antique, art and gift shops, specialty retail outlets and many historic buildings. Downtown Auburn has many shops, restaurants, bars and nightlife establishments. Southeast Alabama has celebrated the opening of nearly 20 new shops and restaurants in the past two years. The area also has a wide variety of cafés, coffeehouses, sports bars, and fine dining restaurants with American classics, BBQ, fresh seafood and ethnic dishes representing Asia, Germany, Italy and Mexico.



Montgomery offers additional health care, shopping, recreation and cultural attractions. There are many historical places including Dexter Avenue Baptist Church and the Rosa Parks Museum. The revived downtown and Riverfront District has restored storefronts, restaurants, warehouses and antique shops.

The East Alabama Medical Center in Opelika provides several medical specialties, including comprehensive cancer services; oncology wellness program; cardiology services; the Orthopaedic Joint Center of Excellence; psychiatric services; robotic surgery system; imaging, including 64-slice CT, the 3T MRI (the world's strongest MRI approved for clinical use), PET scan, and calcium scoring; diabetes and nutrition center; rehabilitation services; pain clinic; sleep disorders center; health and wellness center, and wound treatment center. There are more than 160 physicians practicing in 31 different specialties on the active medical staff. Montgomery County serves as a strong base for health care with six hospitals.

Auburn University has some 25,000 students and offers more than 140 degree options in 13 schools and colleges at the undergraduate, graduate and professional levels. It is a member of the Southeastern Conference and has 21 NCAA Division I-A athletic teams; nine men's and 12 women's. The university's athletic venues are outstanding and are very spectator-friendly. Auburn's Vet School has a new Wilford and Kate Bailey Small Animal Teaching Hospital with access to 3 Telsa and 7 Telsa MRI facilities. A complete array of cultural attractions is also available at the university.

The Auburn University Alumni Association has a staff of 25 employees and 43,000 members (includes non-alumni). The association offers activities to engage and reunite the alumni such as a travel program, reunions, football game-day hospitality tent festivities, awards and recognition events for alumni, and a scholarship program. There is a nice building on campus that can be used for meetings.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute is a membership program for those 50 years and older, with over 600 members. It is comprised of people who participate in not-for-credit academic classes and other organized learning opportunities. OLLI has courses in art, languages, literature, history, theology, sciences and an extensive array of other subjects. Retired university professors are hired to instruct and some OLLI members teach courses. Experts are invited to address course topics.

The moderate four-season climate allows for abundant outdoor recreation. Some of the attractions: walking trails, biking, Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve, Davis Arboretum, Spring Villa Park, Lee County Lake, Lake Harding, The Tuskegee National Forest, Chewacla State Park, Chattahoochee River, West Point Lake, Lake Martin, The Montgomery Zoo, The Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at Capitol Hill, professional baseball, and Auburn University athletics.

Other leisure-time activities nearby include a casino, the Southeastern Raptor Center, Center for Aquatic Resource Management, Telfair B. Peet Theatre, Opelika Center for the Performing Arts, The Montgomery Performing Arts Center, The Montgomery Ballet, Alabama Dance Theatre, The Alabama Shakespeare Theatre, Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, Auburn University Museum of Natural History, Jonathan B. Lovelace Athletic Museum, and the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. Concerts are held at Auburn University, in Opelika and in Montgomery (Montgomery Symphony Orchestra). There are many libraries in the area.

The Guide to Retirement at National Village presents detailed information that retirees can use to determine if the retirement lifestyle in Auburn-Opelika can provide fulfillment to them during their retirement years. It can also serve as a resource to retired military, and persons wanting details on cost-of-living (including taxes), transportation, health care, outdoor attractions, cultural attractions and leisure-time activities. A copy can be printed at www.nationalvillage.com. Call 334-749-8165 to receive a copy by mail.

Mark Fagan has researched and written about retirees and retirement areas for over 30 years.

NATIONAL VILLAGE
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Sports

On a course to remember Ritzer

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

She was supposed to be turning 26 years old this month, pursuing her passion for teaching and enjoying time with her family and friends.

Instead, her hometown of Andover is once again keeping Colleen Ritzer's memory alive by hosting a memorial road race in her honor on Sunday, May 3, starting from The Park in downtown.

"In no way has Andover stopped caring or forgotten about Colleen ... interest in this race has not diminished," race organizer Nina Caron said of the Danvers High math teacher who died in October 2013. One of her students stands accused of her death.

Caron's daughter and Ritzer were once good friends.

"Colleen was at our house every day when the girls were young ...," said Caron, who now lives in North Andover. "She was a wonderful girl with values that every parent hopes their child will have."

Caron said the Andover community has stayed connected to the tragedy and she believes the popular math teacher, who graduated from Andover High School in 2007, will never be forgotten by her hometown.

Ritzer's influence remains felt in Danvers, too, which has continued to remember her goodness and love for the teaching profession. Numerous students and co-workers from Danvers have once again registered for Sunday's Step Up for Colleen 5K, Caron said.

Caron, a competitive

IF YOU GO

What: Step Up for Colleen 5K
When: Sunday, May 3; 9 a.m. race start
Where: The Park, Chestnut and Bartlet streets, downtown Andover
Cost: \$35; proceeds benefit a memorial scholarship fund
Information: www.stepup-forcolleen.com

runner, said interest in the race has been high with more sponsors signing on this year and volunteers having to be turned away because so many people have stepped forward wanting to help.

While organizers are seeking to have the course, which travels through the bird sanctuary at Phillips Academy, become USA Track & Field certified, they stress that it is also a family event and all ages are invited to run or walk the route as they choose.

Online registration has closed as of Wednesday, April 29, but race-day registration will take place Sunday from 7 to 8:45 a.m.

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

Proceeds from the event support the Step Up for Colleen Fund at Essex County Community Foundation, which awards scholarships to future teachers. Established to benefit Andover and Danvers High School seniors who demonstrate a passion for teaching, academic excellence and love of family, applicants must plan to pursue a degree in the field of education at an accredited four-year college or university.



COURTESY PHOTO

Step Up for Colleen race director and family friend Nina Caron, center, poses at last year's event with Colleen Ritzer's family, from left, sister Laura, mother Peggie, father Tom and brother Dan. The second annual 5K in memory of the slain teacher is set for Sunday in Andover.

HAIL TO THE LITTLE LEAGUERS



TIM JEAN/Staff photos

The Pirates of the Andover Little League take in the moment as they scan parade-watchers along Main Street for familiar faces.

Opening Day Parade a grand-slam success



Players from the Andover Little League's Diamond Backs, "Dbacks" for short, wave to the crowd lining Main Street.



Andover police and firefighters give the Andover Little League players a royal escort through downtown for Saturday's Opening Day Parade.

Andover's Little Leaguers got the royal treatment Saturday as they marched through downtown for the annual Opening Day Parade.

Parents and other Little League supporters lined the streets to wave, cheer and take photos of the young ballplayers as they paraded by.

This spring's challenging weather caused the season to get off to a slow start and league leaders almost decided to forego the parade this year. But ultimately they decided the youngsters would not be denied what is a popular annual town tradition.

Starting from the bandstand in The Park at Chestnut and Bartlet streets, the players marched down Bartlet to Punchard Street, then to Main Street before turning onto Chestnut Street and returning to The Park.

Now the action can officially begin for the season.



The Royals make their way down Main Street in the annual Andover Little League Opening Day Parade on Saturday.

► Andover High Roundup

Amidon tosses 14 strikeouts in dazzling win from the mound

BASEBALL

Dan Amidon dazzled Lowell, allowing just two hits and striking out a whopping 14 to lead Andover to a 1-0 victory over Super 8 qualifier Lowell last Thursday, April 23. Amidon as of last week had struck out 29 and allowed four hits in three starts.

Jake Lansberry drove in the game's lone run with a fielder's choice to plate Quinn McCarthy.

Quinn McCarthy knocked a solo home run out of the park in the second inning, the go-ahead run in Andover's 3-1 win over Nashua North last Friday. Freshman Cedric Gillette struck out five in a complete-game shutout and Gabe Hernandez was 2-for-3 with an RBI for the winners.

Christopher Nicholas was 3-for-3 with an RBI and was scored to lead Andover to a 4-3 victory over Haverhill last Tuesday, April 21. Daniel Walsh added two hits and an RBI, Evan Christopoulos earned the victory and Gabe Hernandez came on to close out the victory for his third save.



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo

Quinn McCarthy, center, celebrates with teammates after scoring a run against North Andover earlier this month. McCarthy was the hero again last week, scoring the lone run in the Golden Warriors' 1-0 victory over Lowell. Dan Amidon struck out 14 in the win.

SOFTBALL

Hartnett explodes at plate

Paige Hartnett had a three-run triple, a solo home run and five RBIs as Andover's bats came alive in a 12-8 victory

over Haverhill last Thursday, April 23. Allie Morganstern added two hits and three RBIs and freshman Abby Meyers chipped in with three hits.

Despite two hits for Amy Stankiewicz, Andover fell to Tewksbury 5-0 last Wednesday, April 22.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Warriors spread the wealth

Twelve separate players scored at least one goal as Andover rolled past Methuen 16-7 last Thursday, April 23.

Caroline Curtin led the Warriors with three goals, Darcie Peterson and Jordan Torres each scored twice and Evan Farnham had a goal and an assist for the winners.

Caroline Curtin netted four goals to help Andover roll past Lowell 14-4 last Tuesday, April 22. Victoria Alois and Brenna Keefe each scored two goals, six other Warriors scored one goal each and Gabby Vaccaro made six saves for the win.

Courtney Grygiel and Veronica Alois each scored three goals, but Andover dropped a heart-breaker to Bishop Guertin 11-10 on Sunday. Carissa Remington netted two goals and Brooke Lenes and Nikki Christopoulos each scored once.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Merinder, Waters star

Connor Merinder continued to rule the net with 24 kills as Andover downed archrival Central Catholic 25-21, 25-23, 14-25, 25-21 last Thursday, April 23. Adam Yee had six blocks and Jeff Hunt added 24 assists.

Bruce Waters recorded team-highs in digs (9) and aces (3)

as Andover rolled past New Hampshire foe Pinkerton Academy 25-17, 25-11, 25-20 last Friday. Ben Hunt had nine service points and Adam Yee had nine blocks for the winners.

Jeff Hunt notched 24 assists, but Andover lost to Chelmsford 25-13, 25-21, 25-23 last Tuesday, April 22. Devin Dean added 12 service points and Ben Hunt had seven digs for the Warriors.

BOYS LACROSSE

Cardillo scores five

George Cardillo netted five goals to send Andover past Winchester 13-7 last Thursday, April 23. Jake Lakos added four goals, Griffin Clark scored twice and Andrew Soucy and Michael Biddle had one goal each.

Jake Lakos scored two goals and assisted on two others, but Andover fell to Over-Sherborn 14-8 last Tuesday, April 22. George Cardillo and John Croston each added two goals for the Warriors.

Despite a goal and an assist for Michael Biddle, Andover lost to Hingham 11-4 on Saturday.



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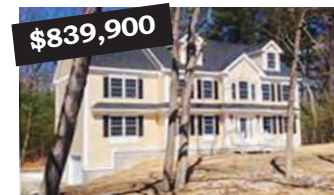


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To Get Your Full Local Forecast, Go To <http://www.Andovertownsm.com>

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Periods of sun	Cooler	Mostly cloudy	Mostly sunny; warmer	Nice with sunshine	Clouds and sun; warm	Cloudy with a shower
High: 58° Low: 40°	High: 51° Low: 39°	High: 57° Low: 41°	High: 67° Low: 44°	High: 73° Low: 52°	High: 77° Low: 51°	High: 64° Low: 51°

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A new pediatric specialty center has landed in Lawrence.

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Lawrence General Hospital + Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

The following real estate transfers were recorded recently in town:

- **1 Yale Road:** Robert and Lesley Scully to Joseph A. Dispina and Jaclyn Alexander, \$398,000
- **16 Balmoral St., Unit 217:** Corinne M. and Corinne M. Pierce to R.S. Parrish and K.L. Grothaus-Parrish, \$165,325
- **1 Christian Way:** Sothy L. and Jessica B. Pheng to Xiaofei Pu and Rong Zhou, \$796,000
- **50 Colonial Drive, Unit 8:** Kathleen A. Lemay and Green Tree Servicing LLC to FNMA, \$169,947
- **1 Deerfield Way:** Daniel E. Ganek and Carol A. Dean to Eliot Scull and Shoko Hosono, \$615,000
- **145 High Plain Road:** Kathleen J. Zagarella and U.S. Bank NA to U.S. Bank NA Trust, \$407,222
- **19 Johnson Road:** Francis S. and Sherrie A. Kimball to James J. Sheehan and Rodney R. Johnson, \$713,000
- **11 Oak St.:** Marie D.S. Amand Estates and Robert D. Stamand to Scott I. and Perla Redfern, \$240,000
- **100 Red Spring Road:** Nina Abruscato-Oskar and Nina Oskar to Joseph R. and Katherine S. Maloney, \$460,140
- **57R River Road:** Phillips Academy to Merrimack Mutual Fire Insurance, \$2,600,000
- **8 Taylor Cove Drive, Unit 8:** Cove Development LLC to Janice Trey, \$599,999
- **27 Wabanaki Way:** Jean L. and Frank R. Bill to Brian and Theresa A. Days, \$917,500
- **37 Bailey Road:** Stanley W. Shepperd FT and Stanley W. Shepperd to Stanley W. Shepperd FT and Sarvanand Girdhari, \$652,000
- **36 Central St., Unit 6:** Joanne Desilets to Carlo Esidore, \$255,000
- **50 Colonial Drive, Unit 9:** Eliana B. Ventura to Anthony M. Scoppettuolo, \$176,000
- **11 Hampton Lane:** Richard J. and Paula R. Piccolo to Jolanta M. and Terrance Conway, \$523,825
- **4 Inwood Lane:** Jiang Zhang RET and Zhaoda Zhang to Michael W. and Elizabeth K. Weatherwax, \$660,000
- **3 Swan Lane, Unit 3:** Swam T. Tjalsma and Enno K. Tjalsma to Gregory Quercia, \$849,900

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 Jacqueline Morgan 978-490-4394 jmorgan1@remax.net North Andover 232 Sutton Street U2 \$1200/Month	 Terry McQuade 978-771-0972 tmcquade@andoverhomesales.com Methuen 144 Jackson Street \$299,900	 Christopher Sciacca 978-314-6934 Sciacca1@comcast.net Ipswich New Construction \$599,900	 Krystal Solimine 978-482-3673 krystalsolimine@verizon.net Andover Tiffany Lane \$879,900

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