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ARMAN KOUL - SKILLED DEBATER, POWERFUL LINE-BACKER FOR AHS
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PILGRIMAGE TO THE POPE
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OUR 127TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 48

OCTOBER 15, 2015

75 CENTS

Royal treatment

6-year-old Austin Krafton crowned Jr. King of Topsfield Fair



Austin Krafton, 6, of Andover was crowned Junior King at the Topsfield Fair this year.

COURTESY IMAGE

By BILL KIRK
bkirk@eagletribune.com

Long live the (junior) king!
Andover's Austin Krafton, who hasn't actually lived that long - he's only 6 - was crowned the Jr. King of the Topsfield Fair for 2015.
Every year the Topsfield Fair

hosts a pageant for children between the ages of 5 and 8 years old to become the Junior King and Queen and to serve as a representatives of the Fair at local parades and other events throughout the year.
Krafton was interviewed on stage and judged according to general appearance, conduct and personality.

His father, Richard Krafton Jr. and Austin's mother, Rebecca, said the first-grader at West Elementary School was very eager to take part in this year's Junior King competition.
"Last year, he saw the junior king in the parade and said, 'How do I do that?'" said his father, Dicky Krafton. "We looked into it, filled out the application, and

on the first day of the fair they have a pageant where boys and girls go on stage. The judges ask some questions and they were judged based on personality and how they answered the questions."
He said Austin was thrilled to be crowned the junior king and
See **JR. KING**, Page 5

A POWERFUL ADDICTION

Heroin's allure eclipses a mother's love

By TERRY DATE
tdate@andovertownsman.com

Cheryl Robinson lives with a painful and gnawing question.
The Andover mother looks down at her dining room table toward an old Christmas card photo of her son Adam, then 9, and his younger brother, Grant, who was 5.
They are wearing sweaters and smiling, standing shoulder to shoulder, their heads leaning against one another.
"How do you get from that — that little boy," she questions, pointing to Adam, "to this?"
The mother removes another photograph from its envelope and puts it on the table. It pictures Adam Robinson at 32.
It was his last photograph, taken last winter in a local funeral home.
"I'm not the only mother who wonders what happens between here and there," Robinson says.
In the wake of overdoses and other heroin-related deaths, families, especially mothers



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PAUL BILODEAU/Staff photo.

Cheryl Robinson, who lost her son to a heroin overdose, talks about the pain of watching her son disappear under the influence of addiction.

See **CHERYL**, Page 2

A HANDWRITTEN LETTER TO HEROIN

By Adam Robinson

Andover mother Cheryl Robinson found this letter written by her son, Adam Robinson, in his room, after his death on Feb. 4, 2015

How are you doing? I miss u so much ... think about you every day. We have had good times and bad times. but lately the bad have outweighed the good.

There are a lot of things I love about u. First of all you numb me and make me feel nothing. My back pain goes away completely seconds after I use u. I am more sociable and have less anxiety around people w/u. U have made parties and get-togethers better, help me sleep when I am not tired, help me eat when I have no appetite, help me talk to girls when I'm shy, made me happy when I'm sad, made me motivated when I'm lazy, and I guess just made me feel content. You have been there for me whenever I had the \$ for u.

But as much as I love u, I also hate you. U alone have drained me of \$200,000. Every dime I made or could get my hands on went to u. U have caused to make my family not trust me anymore. You have cost me a few friendships and almost killed me several times. You have made it so that I could not function w/out u. I would need u every day just to make it to work. I would often leave work early because I would need to use u again. Because of what u have done to me, my mother has almost had heart attacks and had to start going to therapy. I've pawned valuable coins from my later grandmother and tools that I needed for work to have u.

I wish I could make myself a promise never to see you again, but I stopped making promises a long time ago. So I'll just say this ... I hope we can keep our distance from each other, but who knows, we might bump into each other again sooner or later ... good bye.

--Adam

New town manager sworn in

Historic day in Andover; 30-year-old takes reins at town hall

By TERRY DATE
tdate@andovertownsman.com

Early Tuesday morning new Town Manager Andrew Flanagan sat in his office for the first time ever, taking up quarters on the third-floor of the high ceilinged room that overlooks Bartlet Street.

Flanagan, 30, had just recited the oath of office, issued by Town Clerk Larry Murphy, while selectmen looked on.

The town manager's freshly minted identification badge, laying on his desk, awaited clipping to his shirt. Nearby sat a white box filled tightly with newly printed business cards, each bearing his name: Andrew P. Flanagan, Town Manager, Town of Andover, Mass.

Selectmen, on hand to welcome the town's newest employee, laughed when one of them observed — now it's time to get to work on the budget.

Flanagan has been familiarizing himself with the town's budget and Capital Improvement Plan since he was hired at the end of the summer.

Flanagan has been eager to take the reins of local government after an eight-month selection process and numerous interviews.
See **FLANAGAN**, Page 3



TERRY DATE/Staff photo

New Town Manager Andrew Flanagan recites the oath of office, administered by Town Clerk Larry Murphy on Tuesday, Oct. 13.

Music fest to inspire action against heroin addiction

By TERRY DATE
tdate@andovertownsman.com

Saturday's Andover Cares Festival in The Park will bring together musicians and speakers to confront heroin addiction and inspire unity.

The musical acts will include Jon Butcher Axis as the headline band, with Hayley Jane & The Primates as the back-up, and four 12-year-old Andover friends in the band Steel Amp.

Steel Amp has played several venues including Andover Day, where the kids brought a sound beyond their years. On Saturday

IF YOU GO
What: Andover Cares Festival in The Park
Why: To raise awareness and funds for fight against opiate addiction
Who: Everyone is invited
When: Oct. 17, 3-8 p.m.
Where: The Park, Bartlet Street, adjacent to Town Offices
Cost: Free, but donations are accepted

Journey, said Matt Fisher their band teacher.

Organizers like having a local youth connection at the festival, Andover Rotary Club President Don Gottfried said.

"(Because) having a youth band fulfills the festival mission to engage kids in life as the key to diminishing the allure of drugs," Gottfried said.

Organizers also think more young people will come to the festival because they want to see their peers perform.

See **CONCERT**, Page 3

they will play Classic Rock covers including "Jump" by Van Halen and "Separate Ways" by

Young entrepreneurs start small

A math class project becomes real-life business experience

By GABRIELLA CRUZ
gcruz@andovertownsman.com

For four West Middle School students, a school project turned into a chance to experience real-life entrepreneurship before they even apply for college.

In Debra Freilich's seventh grade math class, students were given an assignment to create a mock business plan to learn the aspects of business finances and entrepreneurship. The class's projects were judged by a panel of five judges, who all have ties to Andover.

Shea Krekorian, 13, and Madison Ros, 13, created M&S Dogelicious Treats, dog treats made from 100 percent natural ingredients. Lily Meola, 14, and Chloe Smith, 13, are the creators of Aroma Flora, and developed an all natural air freshener.

See **PROJECT**, Page 6



Lily Meola, 14, and Chloe Smith, 13, are the creators of Aroma Flora.

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FLANAGAN

Continued from Page 1

"I'm looking forward to going to work," Flanagan said, sitting at his desk.

He will be working on Capital Improvement Plan requests over the next few weeks with the finance team and department heads and present his fiscal 2017-2021 CIP to selectmen on Oct. 30.

This will be the seventh time Flanagan has put together a municipal budget, having carried out that responsibility in Newburyport, where he was an aide to the mayor.

Selectmen chose him for the post Aug. 12, a unanimous choice to succeed long-time Town Manager Reginald "Buzz" Stapczynski, who retired in June.

Flanagan recently met Selectman Alex Vispoli to talk about Fiscal 2017 budget, in the wake of Vispoli's tax policy approved by selectmen.

The policy sets a 2.5 percent maximum property

Tuesday's swearing-in was the official oath but the town will host a ceremonial oath of office and welcome ceremony for the public on Thursday.

It will take place from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the James D. Doherty Hall at the historic Town House (also known as the Old Town Hall), 20 Main St.

Meet the new town manager, enjoy refreshments and listen to local school children sing and local dancers dance.

Performers will include the Andover High School Traveling Chamber Strings and A Cappella groups, Drifters — High Plain Elementary School Chorus, the Rhythm-Aires and Sunset Tappers from The Center at Punchard, and an original poem, "Finally Home," by Kate Zdunczynk, of West Middle School.

increase for homeowners.

The selectman said he wanted to keep the tax policy simple in order to build a sustainable rate of increase.

Flanagan is on board with the policy.

"I think it helps frame the parameters in terms of budget development," he said.

Under the town charter the town manager must submit a balanced budget to the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee.

Vispoli has been keen on starting the process early,

and keeping the new town manager in the loop.

"Once you get into December you get into the vortex of the budget," Vispoli said earlier.

Meanwhile, Flanagan's daily calendar items Tuesday included a meeting with the director of municipal services, other departmental meetings, and a walk around the Town Offices Building to familiarize himself with the landscape and introduce himself to his new team.

CONCERT

Continued from Page 1

The Andover Rotary Club is organizing the Oct. 17 event, and as of last week had enlisted about \$35,000 in sponsorship sales and sold about 200 Andover Cares buttons, Gottfried said.

Look for a new button design in addition to the existing one, the new variety smaller — 2-inches instead of 4-inches — and inverting the slogan to Andover Cares Heroin Crisis, Gottfried said.

The Festival's objective is to bring together people to express care in response to the despair and lives lost in a heroin addiction epidemic that continues to plague Andover and the region.

More than 50 people have overdosed and eight people have died from opiate use in Andover so far this year.

What does not show up in the statistics are those in various stages of opiate use, and their family and friends who witness the problem up close and personal.

"The remarkable thing is how close to home this hits in the (Rotary) Club," Gottfried said.

That includes siblings, and friends who have children who have lost marriages, homes and jobs.

Rotarian Elaine Clements said the event will include booths and opportunities for informal talks and information on where addicted people and their families can seek help and support.

The Andover Rotarians hope to raise \$40,000 in the first year through the club's charitable trust, money for grants to fund heroin addiction prevention and other programs.

Button sales have generated about \$3,500 for the Andover Cares fund. The rest of the money has come in the form of sponsorships.

The festival is free but the buttons are offered for contributions, all the proceeds to fight opiate addiction, supporting Andover's three-tiered solution to opiate addiction: education, treatment and enforcement.

The Andover Rotary Club will post applications for its grant funding on its website starting in January.

A grant review committee will review the applications and award funding from \$500 to \$10,000.

To support the festival or learn more visit www.rotary-andover.org or email andover-caresinfo@gmail.com.

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JR. KING

Continued from Page 1

has already assumed some of his duties, which is to take part in parades around the fair grounds during which he passes out beads to onlookers.

"As (the fair) got closer, he just kept saying, 'I want to do that! I want to do that!'" Rebecca Krafton said. "He was very persistent."

She admitted Austin can shy away from the spotlight, making her son's winning performance even more memorable.

"I think my cheeks still hurt from smiling so much," she said. "(Austin) a lot like me. He doesn't always like to be front and center. Seeing him so happy made me happy."

"He really enjoys it," agreed her husband, who has been involved in the Topsfield Fair since he was a youngster. He and his sister rode horses and would show them as part of the 4-H competitions. Now, his wife is involved in the craft-making

Austin will take part in parades around the North Shore, including the Christmas Parade in Beverly and the Yankee Homecoming Parade in Newburyport, among others.

portion of the 4-H Club while he is involved in the wood-working and nature parts of 4-H.

"We've been volunteering at the fair for years," said Dicky Krafton, who lives off Union Street in Andover.

The younger Krafton's duties do not end with the last day of the fair, which was Oct. 12.

In addition to winning a new bicycle and a trophy, Austin will take part in parades around the North Shore, including the Christmas Parade in Beverly and the Yankee Homecoming Parade in Newburyport, among others.

The first-grader is looking forward to a prosperous year for everyone in his kingdom, and appears to be interested in mass transit

projects, as his favorite part of the fair is the model train exhibit inside the Grange Building.

"I love the trains," he said. "I really like watching them go around the track."

The junior queen, meanwhile, seems more interested in the midway, noting that being crowned junior queen enabled her to attend the fair one more time.

"I get to eat fried dough," said Angelina Tamberino, 5 of Haverhill. "I love playing games (at the fair) like the fishing game and I like going on rides."



COURTESY PHOTO

Last year's Mrs. Essex County winner, Lisa Humph, joins Junior Queen Angelina Tamberino of Haverhill and Junior King Austin Krafton of Andover.

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STAFF PHOTO/Gabriella Cruz

Four girls from West Middle School will be selling their homemade products - dog treats and air-freshener - from SoleAmour in downtown Andover. Standing with store owner Stephanie Siple, middle, are, from left, Lily Meola and Chloe Smith, who designed an all-natural air-freshener, and, at right, Madison Ros and Shea Krekorian, both 13, who created organic dog treats.

PROJECT

Continued from Page 1

The girls thought their creations wouldn't go further than Freilich's classroom, but to their surprise, one of the judges had a different idea. Stephanie Siple, who owns SoleAmour, a boutique in downtown Andover, and after taking home some of the winning treats and sprays, offered the girls a space to sell their products. Siple not only gave the two groups a free retail space, but also paid for product packaging and processing fees.

"As a small business owner and resident of Andover, I loved the idea of being able to support these girls," Siple said. "My hope is to encourage more young entrepreneurs to test their dreams."

Lily Meola, one of the creators of Aroma Flora,

said the idea for her and Chloe Smith's business was different from most of the others she saw.

"A lot of other kids were making cupcakes or other stuff you can eat," Meola said. "We thought it would be cool to make something different that all kinds of people could use."

Meola and Smith experimented with different ingredients before striking the right combination of water, essential oils and witch hazel, which is a natural disinfectant. The two say that the spray can be used to freshen up homes, gym bags, cars and even shoes.

After finding that many leading dog treat brands use unhealthy ingredients, Shea Krekorian and Madison Ros decided to make treats that were better for their dogs. Using ingredients like whole wheat flour and peanut butter,

Krekorian and Ros make their all natural, healthy dog treats in their kitchens at home.

"We wanted to make something that was better for our dogs than what we could buy at the store," Krekorian said. "So we tried some different recipes and this was the one that worked best."

The four girls, however, aren't stopping at entrepreneurship. Both businesses plan to donate a portion of their proceeds to non-profits in the area. Aroma Flora will donate to MSPCA, and M&S Dogelicious Treats will give some of their proceeds to Great Dog Rescue New England.

Aroma Flora and M&S Dogelicious Treats are on sale at SoleAmour starting this week. A bottle of air freshener is \$7 and a bag of around 20 dog treats will sell for \$6.



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Town Hall Notebook

Terry Date



In doing here at the Town Offices Building, Finance and Budget

Director Donna Walsh had a stint as town manager last month.

She was acting interim town manager for two days, Sept. 28 and Sept. 29, while filling in for Interim Town Manager Larry Murphy, who was away from work because his son-in-law died.

Upon Murphy's return, Wednesday, he said Walsh steered the ship fine in his absence.

As many of you already know, Murphy has now gone back to his regular position as Town Clerk with the swearing in this week of new Town Manager Andrew Flanagan.

Flanagan, 30, left his deputy town manager job in Arlington to take the new job here in Andover.

On Monday, Oct. 5, over in the selectmen's room, the board heard Plants and Facilities Director Ed Ataide report that the Cormier Youth Center had received its long-awaited certificate of occupancy.

Youth Services Director Bill Fahey didn't expect activities to start up immediately at the center. Minor finish-work items remained to be completed and the construction crews still needed to haul away their tools and equipment.

Fahey said he expects the town will celebrate the center's opening at the beginning of November.

Meanwhile, Ataide said the youth center project construction cost came in at \$6.5 million. The original projected cost was \$5.4 million, but that figure grew with the addition of the Phillips Room's outfitting.

Funding for the multi-purpose room work came from a \$500,000 gift from Phillips Academy.

On the same night, Oct. 5, Selectmen heard from Mark Sagor, the president of a Marlborough company that manages and coordinates employee assistance programs.

Sagor was invited by Selectman Robert Landry to speak about a model opiate addiction services idea.

Sagor explained how the plan would deliver counseling services for individuals and families impacted by opiate addiction, providing outreach and support, crisis services, follow-up services and consultations.

Selectmen thanked him for his presentation but said that the town would be continuing with its previously approved plan to hire two employees, under the direction of the police chief, to help the town combat heroin use.

One position is a program coordinator, with responsibilities including education and prevention;

and the other position is a substance abuse clinician, who will help people with addictions get help.

Also, related to heroin awareness, Don Gottfried, president of the Andover Rotary Club came before the selectmen on Oct. 5. He asked for the town to use money leftover from its Civic Event Fund to help pay for fire and police details at the Oct. 17, Festival in The Park.

The festival will include music and speakers, with the goal being to raise awareness about heroin use and raise money for the Andover Cares Fund, dedicated to stamping out heroin addiction in Andover.

Gottfried was asking for about \$3,000, but selectmen balked at using the Civic Event Fund for anything but the annual Andover Day.

Chairman Mary O'Donoghue said selectmen need to establish a policy on who can receive funds from the town for civic events before they consider granting funding to private organizations.

River Road site

Senior Housing proposal moving ahead Demolition delay expires on property's monastery

By TERRY DATE
tdate@eagletribune.com

Permit hearings for proposed senior housing at the St. Francis monastery site continue, but the demolition delay on the historic building has expired.

The expiration, on Sept. 9, one year after it was imposed by the Preservation Commission, makes the building eligible for demolition.

As of early last week, the town had yet to receive an application for a building permit to demolish the historic structure, according to Andover Building Inspector Chris Clemente.

Developer Pulte Homes wants to build 200 units of 62-and-over housing on the 459 River Road site. The property contains almost 70 acres, owned by the Franciscan Monastery of St. Clare, Lowell.

The Planning Board was scheduled, Oct. 13, to continue its public hearing on Pulte's requests

for special permits for the senior housing and associated earth removal.

The board planned to review comments from the town arborist. It is also looking at the affordability of the proposed senior housing project.

Planning Board member Ann Knowles had asked on Sept. 22 that the town review the proposed landscaping plan for plant diversity and report back to the panel.

Also in the Planning Board's Sept. 22 meeting, the board heard peer reviews on traffic safety and drainage.

The only disagreement came out of a traffic review by BETA Engineering.

Engineer Kenneth Petraglia, of BETA, advocated for one-way roads in and

out of the development, as opposed to the two-way traffic the developer's plan calls for.

The BETA engineer said his recommendation comes out of concern for elderly drivers and elderly pedestrians crossing River Road. "I am not saying what they are proposing is unsafe, I am saying what I am proposing would be safer," he said.

Andover Planning Division Director Paul Materazzo said the town safety officer is comfortable with what Pulte is proposing.

BETA had no major issues with the site's drainage plan. Pulte Homes is working with the neighboring Melmark School on the project.

Under the proposal a portion of the Franciscan property would be developed as

Andover Woods. Part of the remaining land would go to Melmark for group homes, parking and possibly other construction.

The project also calls for preserving a section of land along the river as open space.

The St. Francis Seraphic Seminary was dedicated Nov. 30, 1930. It prepared boys and young men for the priesthood in the Franciscan Order, according to Andover Historic Preservation. The study corresponded to four years of high school and one year of college.

The property also includes a small cemetery for priests who worked and lived at the seminary.

For more on this story, see *The Eagle-Tribune* and next week's edition of the *Andover Townsman*.

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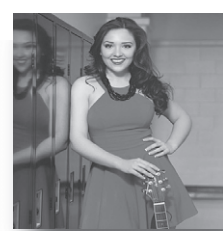
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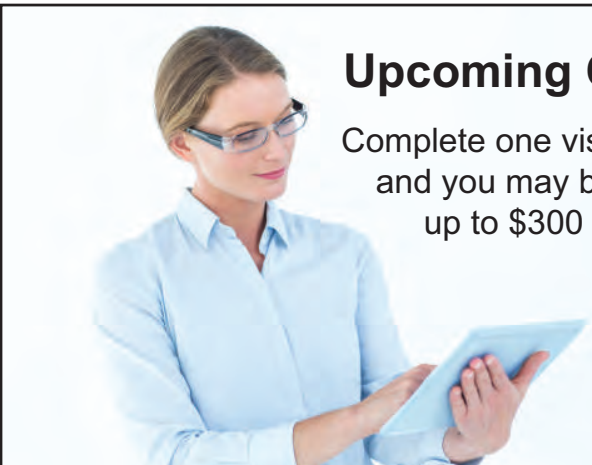


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Publisher of Townsman wins chamber award

By GARRIN MARCHETTI
gmarchetti@northofboston.com

Haverhill — In front of a crowd of hundreds at DiBurrio's Function Hall last Wednesday night, Karen Andreas, regional publisher of the North of Boston Media Group, received the prestigious Wilkinson Good Citizenship Award for her work throughout the Merrimack Valley.

Andreas was presented the award at the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce's Annual Dinner, which featured several other reward recipients and an address from Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker, the event's featured speaker.

The Wilkinson Good Citizenship Award was first given in 1954 in honor of Ralph B. Wilkinson, a longtime and dedicated civic leader in the Greater Lawrence Area who died in 1952. The award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the lives of Merrimack Valley residents. Past winners include doctors, attorneys, politicians and community organizations. As in her role with the

North of Boston Media Group, Andreas oversees the company's nine daily and weekly newspapers, including The Andover Townsman. She has worked in the community news business for over 25 years as a reporter, editor and now publisher.

"I'm very honored, very humbled and very appreciative of this award," Andreas said afterward. "I accept this on behalf of the entire staff, because we are a family, and we are committed to the Merrimack Valley and to providing the best journalism for our readers."

The roughly 400 people in attendance gave Andreas a standing ovation as she walked toward the podium to accept her award from chamber president Joseph Bevilacqua and chairman Salvatore Lupoli. After a brief acceptance speech, Andreas posed for a photograph with Bevilacqua, Lupoli and Baker.

The chamber's Leadership and Valor Award was presented posthumously to the late Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, who died in October 2014 after a battle with cancer. Menino's widow, Angela,

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Past winners of the Ralph B. Wilkinson Good Citizenship Award:

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| 1956: Abbott Stevens | 1990: Clifford E. Elias |
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| 1958: Walter N. Webster | 1992: Edna Grieco Thomas |
| 1959: Fred E. Dionne | 1993: Dr. Jose Silva |
| 1960: Louise Haffner-Fournier | 1994: Dean K. Webster |
| 1961: James F. Hennessey | 1995: John J. Menzie Jr. |
| 1962: Dr. Nina E. Scarito | 1996: Aaron Feuerstein |
| 1963: Charles J. McCabe | 1997: Alfred J. Torrissi |
| 1964: Judge John E. Fenton Sr. | 1998: Judge Michael T. Stella Jr. |
| 1965: Monsignor Joseph P. Burke | 1999: William L. Lane |
| 1966: John J. Hart III | 2000: Thomas F. Caffrey |
| 1967: Dr. James A. O'Shea | 2001: Joseph S. McManus |
| 1974: Judge John E. Fenton Jr. | 2002: Kathy Rodger |
| 1975: Max Goldstein | 2003: Betty Beland |
| 1976: John J. Buckley | 2004: Paul A. Miller |
| 1977: David J. Hilder | 2005: William P. DeLuca Jr. |
| 1978: Daniel J. Murphy Jr. | 2006: Fred Shaheen |
| 1979: Roger N. Bower | 2007: Philip F. Laverriere Sr. |
| 1980: Abraham D. Beshara | 2008: Leonard A. Wilson |
| 1981: Angelo P. Zappala | 2009: Attorney George Stella |
| 1982: Walter G. Wilson Jr. | 2010: Salvatore Lupoli |
| 1983: Cornelius J. McCarthy | 2011: Al Getler |
| 1984: Paul E. Tsongas | 2012: Larry Yameen |
| 1985: Evelyn Axelrod | 2013: MV Area Veterans |
| 1986: Patricia McGovern | 2014: Dr. Carole Cowan |
| 1987: Robert M. Henderson | |



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo

Eagle-Tribune Publisher Karen Andreas gets a bear hug from Governor Charlie Baker during the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner as she receives her Ralph B. Wilkinson Good Citizenship Award. To the left is Salvatore Lupoli, chairman of the Chamber's board of directors.

basketball as a student at Harvard University. The injury flairs up from time to time.

Despite his injury, Baker was noticeably cheerful as he addressed the audience, cracking jokes about the State House's lack of Internet WiFi and sharing stories of his time with Menino. He also discussed the improvements made to the public train system following the MBTA's disastrous winter last year, including the addition of plows to the front of the trains.

Baker got more serious as he discussed the state's opioid epidemic, which has claimed the lives of hundreds of people across the state. In Essex County alone, there have been 124 suspected overdose deaths this year.

"I think we (the state) are starting to do a lot of the right things on this (opioid) issue, but it has so much negative momentum, that this will require sustained diligence, perseverance and effort to get to where we need to go to deal with this," Baker said to a round of applause from the audience.

of Baker. The governor arrived shortly after 8 p.m. and entered the main room on crutches, a result of a lingering Achilles tendon injury he suffered while playing

accepted the award on her husband's behalf. The event kicked off around 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour,

followed by dinner. Guests mingled and networked throughout the evening, eagerly awaiting the arrival

Local attorney gets nod for state business panel

Council will assist in creation of statewide economic development plan

By BILL KIRK
bkirk@andovertownsmen.com

Andover resident Andrew Botti has been appointed to the Massachusetts Economic Development Planning Council by Governor Charlie Baker.

Botti, an attorney in New Hampshire and Massachusetts, was sworn in last Tuesday, Oct. 6, along with dozens of other members of the business, non-profit and public sectors from across the state.

The council will help Housing and Economic Development Secretary Jay Ash and his staff develop an economic development plan that will be submitted to the Legislature for approval later this year.

After they were sworn in, the group met with Ash to discuss the Baker administration's forthcoming economic development plan.

"The Planning Council offers an opportunity for engagement with business, public, and non-profit sector leaders on a wide range of economic development priorities and programs," said Gov. Charlie Baker. "Their invaluable experience will help guide our planning and implementation, and I look forward to continued partnerships as we work to develop Massachusetts' economy, and ensure that communities across the Commonwealth share in our economic growth."

The Planning Council is comprised of representatives from banking, innovation, manufacturing, and other industries; representatives of non-profits and membership organizations; and the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technology, Senator Eileen Donoghue, and Representative Joseph

Wagner. Administration and Finance Secretary Kristen Lepore, Labor and Workforce Development Secretary Ron Walker, Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton, and Transportation Secretary Stephanie Pollack will also serve as members. Secretary Ash will chair the Council.

"Addressing some of the problems that stymie Massachusetts' economic development and hurt our global competitiveness requires productive dialogue with engaged citizens and industry groups," said Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito. "The Council's economic expertise is a wonderful resource to help us confront barriers to growth

— including permitting, regulations, zoning, and workforce development — efficiently and effectively."

The Council will convene again for the second and final time on Dec. 9 to offer its final recommendations.

Massachusetts law requires the appointment of an economic development planning council, and the filing of an economic development plan, within the first year of each new gubernatorial administration.

Botti is a director at McLane Middleton where he represents corporations, smaller businesses, and family-owned and operated enterprises in complex business and employment-related disputes. He served as chairman of the

board of the Smaller Business Association of New England from 2009-2011, and currently serves on the board of the Associated Industries of Massachusetts.

He is also on the board of Lazarus House, and is a member of the parish council of St. Augustine's Church in Andover. Andrew is a resident of Andover.

Founded in 1919, McLane Middleton is a full-service law firm with offices in Manchester, Portsmouth, and Concord, New Hampshire, as well as Woburn.

In addition to Botti, other people with ties to the region who are on the council include Salvatore

Lupoli, president/CEO of Development Council who is currently Town Manager of Framingham; and, James Fiorentini, mayor of Merrimack Valley Economic Haverhill.



Andrew Botti

More business news appears on Page 18.

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Opinion

New town manager has tough task ahead

CHARLIE SCORES WITH THE CHAMBER

It's an historic week in Andover. After a quarter-century of leadership by Town Manager Reginald 'Buzz' Stapczynski, a new town manager was sworn in Tuesday morning.

Andrew Flanagan is 30 years old - a lot younger than the wizened professional that was Stapczynski.

But it should be refreshing to have some youth in the corner office at town hall on Bartlet Street. Despite his age, Flanagan brings a strong variety of experience to the position, and has been able to articulate his message clearly to members of the Board of Selectmen, and, before that, to the search committee and the search consultant that helped choose him.

Flanagan comes into Andover at an interesting time and he will have a chance to make his mark on Andover, just as Stapczynski did before him.

The budget season is getting revved up, meaning the new town manager won't have much time to take his breath before launching into the nuts and bolts of town finances.

The job of town manager is a balancing act. He has to balance the needs and demands by residents and businesses for services with the cost of providing those services. He has to balance the needs of department heads - apportioning them the funding they need to run their departments without providing too much or too little to any, single department. He has to sign contracts for services and equipment that are equitable to vendors but cost-conscious for taxpayers.

One of the most important jobs of the modern-day town manager is that he has to negotiate with the town's municipal unions. The largest, single cost in any city or town budget is personnel. That is, salaries and benefits for hundreds of employees. In Andover, he must negotiate with police, fire and public works unions, along with office workers and even department heads, while negotiations with school unions go on separately.

One of the biggest financial concerns raised in the last couple of years is the high cost of pensions and retiree health insurance. As the town hires more workers, and pays them more money, taxpayers are on the hook for an almost never-ending bill that some estimates have put it at a quarter-of-a-billion dollars. The total cost of all pensions and health insurance for retirees is such an astronomically high number it is almost impossible to comprehend it.

Critics of this spending pattern, including Max Arai who recently resigned from the Finance Committee to protest the town's handling of its long-term debt, say the problem starts with union contracts. It is there, in the nitty-gritty, fine details and minutiae of the language in those contracts that the town, and its taxpayers, can realize savings.

But Flanagan will need help. He'll need the backing of Selectmen, the School Committee, the Finance Committee, the state Legislature and the governor to roll back the types of generous benefits packages that have led to these runaway costs.

It won't be easy. It may take a decade or more. But if Flanagan is here even half as long as Buzz was, he could most certainly make it happen.



RYAN HUTTON/ Staff photo
Governor Charlie Baker gets animated while telling a story during the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner last week

All Those Years Ago

COMPILED BY
SUSAN MCKELLOGIT

100 Years Ago October 15, 1915

Work has been begun on the farm long known as the "Winning Farm," corner of Chandler Road and Beacon Street. The farm has recently been purchased by Mr. Hydeman of Lawrence, who intends on building 75 cottages. Two of the cellars are being dug. As an inducement for the city people to live there, Mr. Hydeman will have enough land with each cottage to raise vegetables for the winter's use.

Edward Shattuck has moved from Brookline to the old Shattuck homestead on River Road. This place has been in the hands of Mr. Shattuck's ancestors since 1640.

All factories in town except the Smith & Dove plant closed on Columbus Day. Business was rushing at the latter place, so all worked who desired to do so.

75 Years Ago October 17, 1940

Passing the Golden property on North Main Street with its row on row of plowed land is apt to cause

comment. To clear up the rustle of comment from passersby, the land was plowed by the contestants in the National Farm Youth Foundation program sponsored by the distributors of Ford tractors, Reilly and McGreavy, Essex County agents, and locally sponsored by Kenneth Crompton of Shawsheen Motor Mart on Haverhill street.

Great bargains await those who come early to the annual Guild Rummage sale when the Guild opens its doors at 9:30 Saturday, Oct. 26. There may be an embargo on scrap bound for Japan, but locally the restrictions are down, and Mrs. George French reports that the women's apparel so far contributed is finer than ever before. Helping her run the Women's shop at the sale are Mrs. Henry Hopper, Mrs. Lester C. Newton, Mrs. James Toohey, Mrs. James Gould, Mrs. William Wallace and Mrs. Charles H. Hollis.

An early Halloween celebrator, Valentine Robbins, was host to a large number of his young friends last Saturday at his home on Red Spring Road. The barbecued supper wasn't a roasted witch but it tasted much

better, and there wasn't a ghost of a chance of anyone complaining about the toasted marshmallows.

50 Years Ago October 14, 1965

Lively competition for an added package store license OK'd by the state on the basis of the latest certified census count is expected. The number of such licenses available for any community relates to the population, now at 20,551 in Andover.

A State Police gaming raid at Town Grill in Elm Square September 29 brought to light information that a few Andover police officers are known to frequent the grill. Chief David Nicoll said Wednesday that he intends to question the men involved, particularly about whether or not they had prior knowledge of numbers bets being taken at the grill, and if so, why it had not been reported.

Some 150 townspeople and guests attended a testimonial at Andover Country Club Wednesday for J. Everett Collins, a member of the present town finance committee and a former selectman.

The Board of Selectmen

last week named Associate Member Augustine P. Sheehy to the full-member vacancy on the Board of Appeals created by the death of Edmond E. Hammond.

25 Years Ago October 18, 1990

Andover's candidates for state senator and state representative will take part in a debate Thursday, Oct. 25, sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Andover. The candidate for state senator who will be taking part include the incumbent, State Sen. Pat McGovern, and her Republican challenger, Alba Castillo. In the race for the 17th Essex seat in the state House of Representatives. Democratic incumbent Sue Tucker will face Republican Gary Coon. League member Betsy Cullen will moderate the debate.

Six very surprised theatergoers arrived at the J. Everett Collins Center for the performing Arts Friday, Oct. 12, to find that "Damn Yankees" had been cancelled. The six were the only ones out of the 200 ticket holders who the Collins Center weren't able to notify, said Bonnie Szarzynski, Collins Center program manager.

WEB QUESTION

Halloween's only three weeks away and 2015's costume trends are already being predicted. Which do you think will be the most popular Halloween costume of 2015?

- A. Donald Trump.** Who doesn't want to "make Halloween great again?"
- B. Star Wars characters.** Popular they will be.
- C. Hillary Clinton.** People can't resist a good pants suit.
- D. Minions.** They're too cute to ever go out of style.

Talking to teens about tough stuff

Taylor Seidel
Andover Health Division

Talking to a teenager about drugs and alcohol seems like a daunting task, but it doesn't have to be. These conversations are important and allow you to create boundaries and to set expectations with your teen.

First, consider having an honest conversation in which your teenager feels comfortable enough to ask questions. By having an

open discussion, you can express your concerns in a manner that is calm and nonjudgmental. Encourage your teen to share his or her thoughts, opinions, and worries about substances like heroin or alcohol.

The Mayo Clinic suggests that you ask questions about your teen's views by saying "what do you think about..." Actively involving your teen in the conversation is your best bet!

The Mayo Clinic recommends that parents and guardians stay away from using tactics that instill fear. Instead, it is suggested

that you try to explain how using drugs or alcohol can impact areas of life that teenagers consider important. Parents should discuss how drug use can influence sports, health, and driving.

Discussing the ways in which the media show substance use is also important for this type of conversation. Ask your teen what they have heard about drugs and alcohol from TV shows movies, and songs. This will allow them to think about how substance use is often portrayed incorrectly by the media.

There are many ways to talk to your teen about drugs and alcohol, if you want to learn more about these types of conversations, visit the Mayo Clinic's website at <http://www.mayoclinic.org>. Remember to stay calm, try not to lecture; instead have an honest conversation in which you and your teen feel comfortable sharing experiences, thoughts, and opinions.

Second in a series of columns from the Andover Health Department about opioid abuse that will run all month.

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TownsBeat

Auto-ficianados drive interest in antique cars

STAFF REPORT

Dozens of car fanatics and auto aficionados turned out for a classic car show at Melmark New England on River Road earlier this month.

The show, put on by the Bean Pot Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America, was held to support the school, which treats people with autism disorders.

The event featured classic and antique cars from all over the Northeast region, along with refreshments, music and family fun including a Touch-a-Truck Area. Those in attendance also had the opportunity to vote for their favorite cars.

While there was no admission fee for spectators or participants, donations to the school were accepted.



AMANDA SABGA/ Staff photo

Andy Schemer of Andover admires a '34 Chevy at a Classic Car Show hosted by the Beanpot Antique Automobile Club of America to benefit Mellark New England.



Learn the art of woodworking this fall at the Andover Historical Society.

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A six-week hands-on woodworking class offered at Andover Historical Society

STAFF REPORT

Leave the 21st century behind and step back in time to an era before electricity while taking part in a working class at the Andover Historical Society in the 195-year-old Amos Blanchard Barn.

While listening to the hum of a handsaw cutting and the sound of a sharp plane shaving curls of wood from a board, pick up a 19th-century plane or router and try your hand at traditional woodworking with expert craftsman Stephen Anthony.

Feel the warmth of the wooden tools and the satisfaction of learning an old "new" skill this fall.

"Hand Planes & Wireless Routers" is a six-week traditional hand woodworking class designed to meet the needs of woodworkers from the novice to the advanced craftsman. Tools used in the class are 19th century,

non-electric, and human powered ... the ultimate in green technology.

The small class size and location create unique learning opportunity. With expert instruction from craftsman Stephen Anthony students can make a basic, introductory project, such as a foot stool or candle box, from pre-milled stock. Novices will learn from the instructor and the more advanced students as everyone gets to use the antique tools and machinery.

The class is \$60 for members of the Andover Historical Society and \$70 for non-members. Students receive a discounted rate of \$40. Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. This six-week series takes every Saturday from 9 a.m.-12 noon, Oct. 31 through Dec. 5. Call the Andover Historical Society at 978-475-2236 or visit the Society online at www.andover-historical.org.

ANDOVER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ALPERS FINE ART, Andy Newman's "Approaching Stillness," which includes new and recent paintings, will be on view through Sunday, Oct. 18; 96 Main St., Andover; 978-760-1829, www.alpers-fineartonline.com.

ANDOVER BOOKSTORE, 89R Main St., Andover: Author events, Anthony Sammarco, "The Sons of Italy," Tuesday, Oct. 20, 6 p.m.; Paul Tremblay, "A Head Full of Ghosts," Thursday, Oct. 22, 6 p.m.; "Stories and S'more's" with Laurie Faria Stolarz, Saturday, Oct. 24, 6 to 7:30 p.m. All events begin at 6:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted; free; 978-475-0143; <http://hugobooks.com/andover>.

"ANDOVER CARES" FESTIVAL, Saturday, Oct. 17, 3 to 8 p.m. in the Park, Chestnut and Bartlet streets, Andover. Hosted by the Rotary Club of Andover, the festival will feature live music, local

entertainment, and family fun; the club hopes to raise awareness and money to address the opiate epidemic; club members will be selling "Heroin Crisis: Andover Cares" buttons for \$20 and \$10 for students; all proceeds from button sales and the festival will go to the Andover Cares Fund; www.rotaryandover.org, email andovercaresinfo@gmail.com.

BELLESINI ACADEMY FUNDRAISER, "Give Lawrence Girls A Reason to Believe," Saturday, Oct. 17, 7 to 11 p.m., Andover Country Club, 60 Canterbury St. Proceeds from Bellesini's fundraiser will support the new girls school; enjoy an evening of music with Rick Larrimore, The Ultimate Tribute to Rod Stewart, food, drinks and more; tickets are \$100 each; first 100 registered guests will receive a swag bag from Robert Jason Salon; RSVP by Oct. 12 online at www.bellesiniacademy.org, 978-989-9404.

CORMIER YOUTH CENTER GOLF TOURNAMENT, Monday, Oct. 19, Andover Country Club, 60 Canterbury St. Registration at 10:30 a.m., lunch at 11 a.m., shotgun start at 11:45 a.m.; 18 hole scramble format; cocktail hour, lunch and prime rib dinner; entertainment, live auction, raffle, prizes and more; \$500 per golfer, \$2,000 for each foursome, \$500 for hole sponsorship, \$125 for dinner only; register online at www.cormieryouthcenter.org, email ays@andoverma.gov.

ITALIAN BUFFET, West Parish Church Italian Buffet Night, Saturday, Oct. 17, 5-7 p.m. Come and enjoy this annual Italian dinner featuring eggplant, lasagna (meat and vegetarian), chicken cacciatore, spaghetti and meatballs, garden salad, Italian bread, cake, coffee/tea. Adults \$12, Child (12 and under) \$5.

VICTORIAN PICNIC, Sunday,

Oct. 25, 1 to 4 p.m., West Parish Garden Cemetery, 129 Reservation Road, Andover. In the Victorian era, cemeteries had the dual role of burial ground and park, a place for families to visit the deceased and enjoy the outdoors; pack a picnic basket, walk, bike, play a game, read a book or just enjoy the foliage; free, but donations are always welcomed; www.westparish-gardencemetery.org.

IN PINK BUFFET BRUNCH AND FASHION SHOW, Saturday, Oct. 17, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Andover Country Club, 60 Canterbury St. Hosted by the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center; www.glfhc.org/site.

TRUNK OR TREAT, Saturday, Oct. 31, 4 to 6 p.m., North Boston Korean United Methodist Church, 244 Lowell St., Andover. Park your vehicles and decorate your trunks, while having goodies stashed inside; families can enjoy a fun and safe Halloween.

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Andover boys win U12 tourney

The Andover United Warriors went 6-0 and allowed only 5 goals to become the champions of the U12 Boys North Reading Kick off Classic Soccer Tournament over Labor Day weekend. The team members are: top row, from left, Shawne Robinson, Steve Sintros, Leah Brown. Second row: Tom Fitzgerald, Steven Tchouafei, Jeffrey Arthur, Donny Gaggiotti, Jackson Brown, Ethan Olivo, Luke Sintros, Nick Ventura, Sam Elliott. Bottom Row: Ian Robinson, Avi Shah, Danny Alepa, Ari Andriola, Tyler Ardito, Brian Gibson.



COURTESY PHOTO

Andover girls hoops travel team now registering players

BY BILL KIRK
bkirk@eagletribune.com

Andover girls hoops travel program tryouts for the 2015-2016 season are set for the week of Oct. 25.

The program is for girls in 5th to 8th grade living and or going to school in Andover. The start of the season is the second week of November.

Practices are 2 week-nights per week for 75 to 90 minutes each.

There are 1 to 2 games per week, typically on weekends, with home games on Saturdays.

Teams to play in two to three weekend tournaments, including over holiday breaks.

The season ends in early to mid-March.

Teams play their 16-game regular season in the River Valley Girls basketball league.

Benefits include: developing basketball skills, teamwork, work ethic and strong character.

Midnight Madness Clinics, which are not really at midnight, are held throughout the season for additional skills development.

Coaching is by former college and high school basketball players.

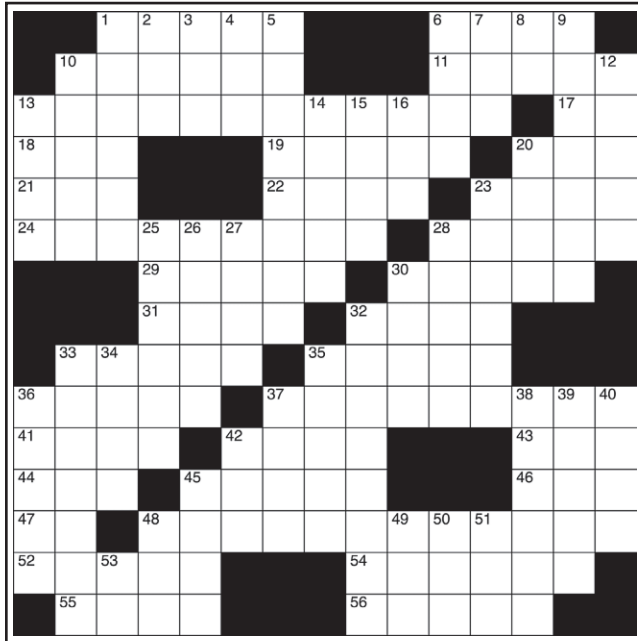
Optional skill workshops will be also be offered throughout the season.

Tuition is \$350. Each girl receives practice jersey, game uniform and a basketball, not to mention great memories and a great experience.

There is a discount of \$25 for siblings.

For questions or registration details, E-mail: andover-girlstravelhoop@gmail.com

Check out the web site to register: <http://www.eteamz.com/> andovergirlstravelhoops/



Solution in Classified Section

CLUES ACROSS

1. LA team member
6. Young Fr. woman (abbr.)
10. Per __ each
11. Footh
13. Veggie toy
17. Overdose
18. US, Latin America, Canada belong to
19. So. Am. plain (Span.)
20. Point midway between N and NE
21. Single
22. Inactive
23. Mother of Hermes
24. Gives a new meaning
28. Silent players
29. One who adds Cluny trim
30. Men or boys
31. God of War

32. Self-immolation by fire ritual
33. Inevitable events
35. Add piquancy
36. Skin lesions
37. Cannabis
41. River of NE Turkey
42. 2 family struggle
43. A young swine
44. __ student, learns healing
45. 55300 MN
46. Opie actor Howard
47. World's oldest news gathering organization (abbr.)
48. Luke's Jedi mentor
52. Japan's knife & scissor city
54. Medical antiseptic & dye
55. Early female flyers
56. Loses heat

CLUES DOWN

1. No longer practicing
2. Military mailbox
3. Cowboy Carson
4. 7th Greek letter
5. Nautical ladder rungs
6. Hmong
7. Fellow
8. Maltese pound
9. Coal blacks
10. Japan Airlines bird
12. Different concepts
13. Secure a ship with ropes
14. Elder
15. Belongs to famous computer
16. Point midway between NE and E
20. Moniker
23. Environment
25. Fills with joy
26. Transportation charges
27. Frosts

28. Counterpart
30. 2nd largest Hawaiian island
32. Grimly humorous
33. A dog's front foot
34. Mures River city
35. Steam bath
36. South African Music Awards
37. Sound made by a cat
38. Clothing protectors
39. Wife of Amphion
40. God of fire (Hindu)
42. Favorite weekday (abbr.)
45. Japanese sashes
48. Klutz
49. " __ Koo," Debbie Harry debut album
50. Tokyo
51. Hardly any
53. Cathode

10/15/15

SEND US YOUR TOWN SPORTS NEWS

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

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

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

Send your photos, highlights and story ideas to townsman@andovertownsmen.com or call 978-475-7000, ext. 8733. We look forward to hearing from you.

Dance Prism Cinderella

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www.usafband.af.mil

The Center at Punchard (The Center), 30 Whittier Court, Andover, has lots of activities and programs on tap.

Here are some of the highlights:

Breath, Balance and Bodywork: Tuesdays through Nov. 10, 2 p.m. Improve oxygen to the body and find a balance between the mind and body; increase bone density and strength through the use of props and one's own body weight; \$40.

Stretch, Release and Relax: Wednesdays through Nov. 4, 2 p.m. Improve flexibility, balance and stability with a series of simple exercises to release tight spots and reduce muscle pain; start by standing then finish the class on the floor with

meditation; limited to two chair participants; \$36.

BoomerVenture: Belly Dancing: Thursdays through Nov. 12, 6 p.m. Learn basic dance moves to improve flexibility, and increase self-confidence; suitable for women of all body types and fitness levels; \$54.

Reflexology with Uli Kapp: Thursdays, 6:15 p.m. Pressure points on hands and feet that correlate to Qi in the body. Participants must register by the day before to hold a spot; by advance appointment only; \$1 per minute, in 15-minute intervals.

Mail with your harmonica: Wednesdays through Oct. 21, 9 a.m. Led by Dave Cook, teacher and performer; expand the lungs, pucker up and have fun learning to play the harmonica; \$20.

"The Crucible" by Arthur Miller: Mondays through Oct. 26, 1:30 p.m. Find parallels between 17th century Salem and 20th America. The four-session reading and discussion of the play will include an optional visit to Salem and Salem Village. Eileen Reilly will facilitate the discussions; \$16.

Vatican City's Art and Architecture: Tuesdays through Nov. 3, 10 a.m. Learn about the artistic treasures housed in the Vatican museums and the architectural wonders to be found there; sponsored by the Northern Essex Community College CoOL program and held at the Lawrence campus; \$30, \$10 for transportation (if desired).

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Sports

KOUL IS THE RULE

Hard-hitting Andover linebacker also a star student

MICHAEL MULDOON
Staff Writer

Arman Koul is a skilled debater on Andover High's debate team.

And the key to debating?

"You have to come off like you know your stuff," said Koul (pronounced cool).

Koul certainly knows his stuff on the gridiron, and is more than able to solve battles there with brute force.



Arman Koul

He's a quad-captain for the 3-1 Golden Warrior football

team, which entered Friday ranked 15th in the ESPN Boston statewide rankings, and is good enough to be recruited by Ivy League and NESCAC schools.

Head coach E.J. Perry said, "Arman has an opportunity to be our best player this year."

The middle linebacker played like it a couple weeks back in the big 38-15 win over then-No. 5 BC High.

Koul notched a team-high 15 tackles, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery.

The gritty 215-pounder leads the Golden Warriors in total tackles (36) and solo tackles (12) including a sack. He was third on the Warriors with 70 tackles a season ago.

Koul's also a violinist, a longtime volunteer at Lawrence General Hospital and a brilliant student. His SATs are in the stratosphere (2,260: 770 math, 750 writing, 740 verbal), he has passed four AP exams including a 5 on B/C Calculus and is ranked among the top 10 students in Andover's senior class.

Perry calls him "a great leader"



CARL RUSSO/Staff Photo

Andover linebacker Arman Koul brings down former Central Catholic star Markus Edmunds last year. Koul is the Golden Warriors' leading tackler this fall, and a force in the classroom.

and "a Renaissance man."

It looked like Koul would be Andover's tight end, a glamorous position in the Golden Warriors' pass-happy offense. Two recent Andover tight ends (Brian Miller and Alex Marshall) earned multiple scholarship offers from big-time football schools.

But it became apparent that the offensive line needed to be upgraded. At the last minute, Perry asked Koul to make a major sacrifice.

Move to the line, where you will be undersized and inexperienced and sacrifice considerable personal glory for the anonymity of a lineman. But "great leaders" don't

always do the easy thing.

"Honestly, me and E.J. (Perry IV, the star quarterback) were working out together and Coach Perry would tell me I'm the tight end. Then the day before practice, I start out at left tackle."

No touchdowns, no headlines, no experience, long nights battling far bigger men in the trenches. Oh, and left tackle is obviously a crucial position protecting the younger Perry against the league's best pass-rushers.

"It was a rough week or so," said 6-2, 215-pound Koul, whose mother, Pamma, an architect, and father, Arun,

a software engineer, both grew up in India. "But you do what's best for the team."

That selflessness may have attracted more scouts. And his play at linebacker has been at an All-Scholastic level. He lists Williams, Columbia, Princeton and Harvard as possible destinations to continue his academic and football careers.

This Renaissance man flourishes in most pursuits, but some are more challenging.

"School comes easy for me," said Koul, whose brother, Shyan, is a freshman rower at Phillips Academy. "Football is a lot more difficult for me."

Registration underway for Feaster Five road race

Registration for the Thanksgiving Day Feaster Five Road Race - one of New England's largest and most festive running events - is underway at www.feasterfive.com.

Registration before Oct. 31 is discounted and the first 9,000 registrants will also receive a long sleeved tech T-shirt.

Also, anyone interested in training for the race with a group, the Merrimack Valley Striders (MVS) are, for the fourth year in a row, sponsoring a free walk to 5K program every Sunday until Nov. 22.

The event is geared toward all ages (kids, parents, grandparents) and all fitness levels (casual runners, former runners, walkers) are welcome. The training program begins at 8 a.m. every Sunday at the Feaster Five Race Start (parking lot across from Woodworth Motors in Andover). For more information, visit the training section at the race website: <http://www.feasterfive.com/walk-to-5k-training-program/>. "These training events offer a fun and healthy way to prepare for the race," said Tom Licciardello of the Merrimack Valley Striders. "I would encourage anyone at any fitness level to become involved. It's a great way to get your Sundays started."

The Feaster Five is a popular, family-friendly event Thanksgiving Day tradition for families and groups of friends across the region. Every race finisher on Nov. 26 goes home with an old-fashioned apple pie provided by Table Talk, a long-time New England favorite, hence the slogan "Will Run for Pie" on T-shirts, which are available for sale when registering on the race website.

Race officials have registered as many as 10,700 in



FILE PHOTO

More than 10,000 runners set off at the start of the Feaster Five race in Shawsheen Square last fall.

past years and are encouraging runners and walkers to sign up soon.

Hosted by the Merrimack Valley Striders and managed by DMSE Sports, the Feaster Five Road Race's 5-mile and 5K races will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the Kid's Fun Run at 7:45 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day. All three races - which welcome walkers as well - begin near Brickstone Square on Main Street in Andover at the corner of Routes 133 and 28.

Proceeds from the race will benefit the Merrimack Valley YMCA, Challenge Unlimited at Ironstone Farm, Bellesini Academy and the Merrimack Valley Striders.

The Feaster Five also features bands and music along the course, digital clocks posted at each mile, and holiday refreshments following the race. In addition, every 50th runner in the 5K or 5 mile will win a \$25 gift certificate to Whirlaway Sports, and every child in the kid's race will win

a medal shirt.

To learn more about the race and to register, go to the race's website at www.FeasterFive.com. Once runners or walkers have registered, they can update their details via the www.myevents.active.com link on the website.

Volunteers also are needed. Detailed information about how to sign up to help on race day can be found on the volunteer page at www.feasterfive.com/Volunteer or by e-mailing Crissy Licciardello at crissyl26@yahoo.com.

Sponsors this year include bPositive Project Apparel Company, Whirlaway Sports, Schneider Electric, Eagle-Tribune Publishing, Table Talk Pies, Bagel Boy, and Wignall Animal Hospital. To become a sponsor, contact dmse@dmse-sports.com.

The non-profit Merrimack Valley Striders was founded in 1979 to encourage and enhance running at all levels - from beginners to seasoned

marathoners to members who run to improve their health. Though founded in the Merrimack Valley north of Boston, the running club has members from as far away as Florida and Arizona. For additional information, visit www.mvsruns.com.

Founded by Dave McGilivray in 1981, DMSE Sports is a leader in sports event management, specializing in creating, marketing and producing mass participatory athletic events throughout the U.S. and abroad. In addition to the Feaster Five, DMSE manages the B.A.A. Boston Marathon, the TD Beach to Beacon in Maine, the New Balance Falmouth Road Race on Cape Cod, the Finish at the 50 at Patriot Place, Run for the Dream in Williamsburg, Va., the Bellin Run in Green Bay, Wis., and the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk, among others. For more info, visit www.dmsesports.com.

► Local Sports Roundup

Volleyball wins thriller over perennial state champion

Note: results are through Oct. 8

VOLLEYBALL

Andover picked up its biggest win of the season, knocking off state volleyball power Barnstable in an exciting 3-2 thriller last Tuesday. The Warriors won 25-17, 21-25, 25-21, 16-25, 15-11.

Both teams came into the match undefeated. Barnstable lost in last year's state semifinal, but won 10 of the previous 11 state championships before that.

Wyllie Boughton and Maddy Reppucci each scored 11 kills and Mackenzie Kennedy added 30 assists and 24 digs for the winners.

Mackenzie Kennedy notched 16 service points and 29 assists to lead Andover past Methuen 25-11, 25-9, 25-8 last Thursday. Colleen Mullins added eight kills for the winners.

FIELD HOCKEY

Keefe is clutch

Emma Farnham moved a pass in front of the net to Brenna Keefe, who fought through a scrum and scored with 5:12 left in the game to give Andover a 1-0 victory over archrival Chelmsford last Wednesday. The Lions beat the Golden Warriors a season ago, ruining their unbeaten regular season.

Tori Roche and Brenna Keefe each scored one goal and assisted on two others as Andover rolled past Tewksbury 6-0 last Monday. Emma Farnham, Sammy Shea and Darsie Peterson each added a goal and Jillian Huges and Caroline Curtin each added an assist.

GOLF

Spencer leads the way

Jason Spencer won 1-up and Tyler Trapp took a 4-and-3 victory as Andover downed Haverhill 14-5 last Thursday. Chris Nyhan (2-up) and Josh Gruenberg (4-and-2) also earned wins for the Warriors.

Nate Abbott, Josh Gruenberg, Caroline Ingram and Chris Nyhan each earned a win as Andover downed Chelmsford 12-7 last Tuesday.

Despite wins for Charlie Alagero and Tyler Trapp, Andover fell to unbeaten North Andover 13-7 last Wednesday.

BOYS SOCCER

Lansberry is unbeatable

Andover earned its second straight 0-0 tie, and fourth of the season, drawing with Billerica last Thursday. Jake Lansberry needed just four saves for the shutout.

Jake Lansberry continued to roll with six saves as Andover played Haverhill to a 0-0 tie last Tuesday.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Pineault takes second

Robert Pineault took second overall in 16:44 as Andover beat Methuen 23-37 but lost to Chelmsford 23-35 last Wednesday. Vikram Daesety was next best for the Warriors in sixth overall, while Andy Chaves was ninth.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Cain paces Andover

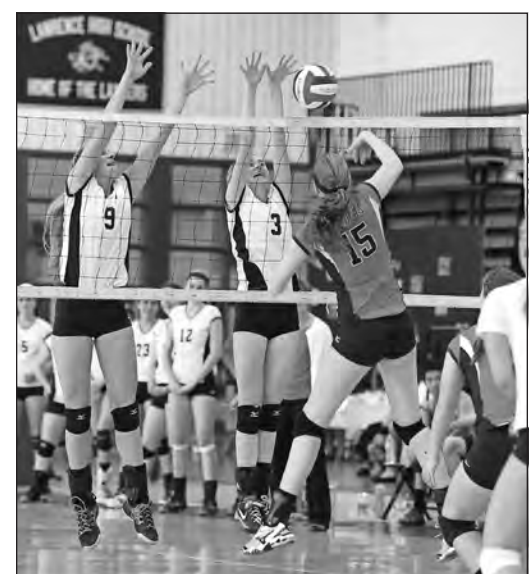
Sarah Cain took fifth overall in 20:57, the first of Andover's four top-10 finishes on the way to downing Methuen (20-43) but falling to Chelmsford (17-38). last Wednesday Caroline Wacome (eighth), Emily Rothmann (ninth) and Isabella Silveira (10th) were next in for the Warriors.

GIRLS SOCCER

Warriors back on track

Jenna Davison, Maddy Mucher and Veronica Alois each netted a goal to help Andover beat Billerica 3-1 last Thursday.

Andover lost to Haverhill 2-0 last Tuesday.



STAFF FILE PHOTO

Andover's Wyllie Boughton (9) and Colleen Mullins (3) each played key rolls as the Golden Warriors downed fellow unbeaten state powerhouse Barnstable 3-2 last Wednesday.

Townspeople

Troop 76 Hikes Mt. Wachusett

STAFF REPORT

The rain and damp forecast did not stop Ballard Vale's Boy Scout Troop 76 from running their latest event.

On Friday night, Oct. 2, Scouts and adults left their base at the Ballard Vale United Church and headed out for a weekend of camping and hiking.

The Troop stayed at Treasure Valley Scout Reservation in Rutland, Mass.

Rather than use tents, most of the Troop, known as the Super Ducks, spent two nights in Adirondack shelters. These are three sided shelters found in many national park and trail camping areas.

On Saturday morning the Troop hiked a network of trails to summit Mt. Wachusett. They stopped for lunch at the top where the high winds kept most others away. Among the sights

they passed on the hike were windmills, fire tower, Echo Lake, and an apple orchard.

Back at the campground the Scouts prepared a chicken and biscuit supper on the open fire using Dutch ovens. The monkey bread used for dessert was also prepared in the same manner.

The Ducks returned to the nest Sunday morning after a French toast and sausage breakfast.

Troop 76 is part of West Wind District of the new Spirit of Adventure Council, Boy Scouts of America. They meet Friday nights, 7-9 p.m. during the school year at the Ballard Vale United Church, 23 Clark Road, Andover.

If a boy is 10-1/2 years old or has completed the 5th-grade and would like to participate in an outdoors-based program, the Troop would like to meet him.

Scoutmaster Don Milligan can be reached at 978-475-9525.



Courtesy image

The Ballard Vale Boy Scout Troop 76 summited Mt. Wachusett earlier this month despite inclement weather.

Andover resident honored by Esperanza

STAFF REPORT

Susan Wilson of Andover is being presented with the 2015 Rosalyn Kempton Wood Award on Friday, Oct. 23.



Susan Wilson

Esperanza Academy of Law-rence gives this award to the person who best reflects Rosalyn Wood's generosity of spirit, and her abiding commitment to education and the future of the young women of Lawrence. Philanthropist Rosalyn Wood is the past president of Esperanza's board of trustees and patron of Esperanza.

Susan Wilson, co-founder of Northshore Women for H.O.P.E. (Harnessing Opportunities and Promoting Education), has been a committed donor and volunteer for Esperanza since the school's opening

9 years ago.

Under Susan's leadership Northshore Women for H.O.P.E. has provided the school with financial and volunteer support. The volunteer support has ranged from career days to tutoring to increasing the community's awareness of Esperanza Academy and its wonderful work.

Susan has also just celebrated 33 years with Merrill Lynch. She currently holds the titles of Senior Financial Advisor and PIA Portfolio Manager.

Esperanza Academy is a tuition-free, independent middle school in the Episcopal tradition, welcoming girls of diverse faiths, races, and cultures from Lawrence. All of the school's alumnae have graduated from high school and 80 percent are enrolled in colleges and universities.

Esperanza will be presenting Susan Wilson with the Rosalyn Kempton Wood Award during their Harvest of Hope Annual Dinner and Auction on Friday, Oct. 23.

Andover sister towns go to Saugus

STAFF REPORT

The Andover Sister Towns Association of Andover and North Andover cordially invites all members, friends and interested new members to join us on a special tour to the National Historic Site, the Saugus Ironworks.

Explore the birthplace of the American iron and steel industry where Europeans iron makers brought their

skills to the American colonies in the 1600s.

The site includes working waterwheels, hot forges, mills, an historic 17th century home, herb garden, and river basin. Operated by the National Park Service at 244 Central St., Saugus, this free group tour will begin at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 15. Join us for lunch before the tour at the highly rated Iron Town Diner, 325 Main

St., Saugus at 11:30 a.m. for a fun dining experience.

ASTA is a non-profit organization open to people of all ages in Andover and North Andover whose mission is to promote goodwill and mutual understanding between Andover USA and other Andover towns throughout the world including the namesake Andover, England.

We welcome new

members to attend the many interesting programs the club organizes locally and to also learn about ASTA's next UK exchange trip in the planning stage for Sept. 2016.

For more detailed information about ASTA, to reserve space on the tour or to arrange carpooling or a ride for the tour, please contact Marj Snell at fredsnell@gmail.com or 978-686-3647.

UU minister walks for immigrant women in detention

By BILL KIRK
bkirk@eagletribune.com

The Rev. M. Lara Hoke of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Andover participated in the Sept. 15 opening vigil and first leg of the "100 Women, 100 Miles" pilgrimage from a detention center in York, Penn., to Washington, D.C., to coincide with the visit of Pope Francis.

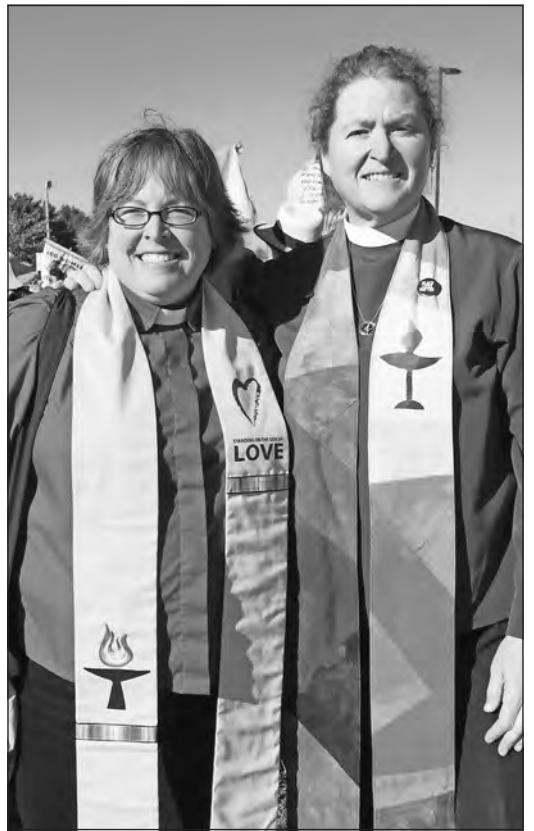
Hoke joined with the organizations We Belong Together, PICO, Junto, and others aiming to share the stories of migrant women.

The vigil and pilgrimage were meant to echo the Pope's message for migrant

dignity and to lift up the hardships immigrant women and their families face in this country. The pilgrimage, which ended Sept. 23 in Washington, D.C., included clergy and people of faith who believe that compassion for immigrants is a core aspect of their respective religious traditions.

"We have many immigrants in the Merrimack Valley, and of course Lawrence is known as 'Immigrant City,'" Hoke said.

Hoke noted that Pope Francis is giving a strong message of dignity for the migrant peoples of



Rev. Lara Hoke of the UU Congregation in Andover (left) and Rev. Wendy Von Courter (right) of the UU Church of Marblehead before the march began.

TOWN BRIEFS

Wine & Art Reception planned

GROVELAND — Veasey Park will hold its 10th annual Wine & Art Reception on Nov. 7 from 6 to 9 p.m.

This fundraiser is an opportunity to network with local artists. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Admission includes a wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres and live music by the Pentucket High School Jazz Band.

Those attending also will have the opportunity to browse and purchase art, photography and sculpture. Call 978-521-9345 or email vanessa@veaseypark for more information. Visit www.veaseypark.org for more information, artist registrations and ticket sales. Artist registrations and ticket purchases are available online by using PayPal and major credit cards.

Andover Girls Travel Basketball tryouts

Girls in grades five through eight are invited to try out for the Travel Basketball team. Tryouts will begin on Sunday, Oct. 25, at either 1 or 2:30 p.m. in the Andover High School fieldhouse, 80 Shawshen Road. The deadline to register

for the tryouts is Saturday, Oct. 17. Online registration and program information is available at www.eteamz.com/andovergirlstravelhoops/.

Treats in store for all at Too Cute To Spook

Andover DCS invites the community to attend their annual Halloween event, "Too Cute to Spook," at Town Hall on Wednesday, Oct. 28, from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Kids (and their parents if they so choose) can come dressed in their favorite costumes, while they enjoy Halloween games, contests, and activities. Treats and refreshments will be served.

"Too Cute to Spook" is \$5 per child in advance or \$7 at the door. To pre-register, go to www.AndoverDCS.com or call the office at 978-623-8274.

Bertucci's partners with Cultural Council to support the arts

The Andover Cultural Council and Bertucci's are teaming up to support the arts. On Wednesday, Oct. 21, Bertucci's in downtown Andover will donate 15 percent of its sales to the Council, which funds cultural programs and events in town.

The partnership is made possible through the restaurant's "Dining for Dollars" initiative which helps nonprofit groups raise funds for local causes.

The Andover Cultural Council supports community-based projects in the arts, sciences, and humanities. Last year, it sponsored a total of 18 events across town, including concerts, storytelling, school programs, family museum days, senior programs, and more. Most recently it helped sponsor the "Passages" project that can be seen in West Parish cemetery and the Andover Historical Society.

To be eligible, all purchases must be accompanied by a flyer which may be found on the Council's website at www.andover-culturalcouncil.com. The offer is good for all orders on Oct. 21, eat in, take out, or delivery, between the hours of noon and 8 p.m. Bertucci's is located at 90 Main St. in Andover.

Andover DCS offers Pottery Art and More

The Andover Department of Community Services is offering a five-week session of art classes through Nov. 4, at Andover High School, 80 Shawshen Road. The classes are geared for

children in kindergarten through grade five.

Students will decorate ceramic pieces, make a sun catcher out of fused glass, and create a painting on a canvas using water-based acrylic paints. Classes will run from 4 to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and are limited to 15 students. The instructor is Tricia Langeleh and staff at Magic Brush Pottery Studio. The fee is \$85 and includes all materials.

Visit www.AndoverDCS.com or call 978-623-8274.

AVIS to host a work party

Volunteers are needed on Saturday, Oct. 24, to help AVIS tackle a small section of the Deer Jump Reservation that is overrun with weeds. Workers will be hand-pulling narrow-leaved bittercress, a small plant that does not require much force, but is prolific. They may also target a plant called Dames Rocket, which is growing nearby. Volunteers will also learn how to identify wildflowers in the fall.

Botanist Walter Kirtledge, who has identified more than 100 species of plants at Deer Jump, will join AVIS volunteers to share his knowledge and help pull invasive plants. Botanist and ecological

restoration specialist Chris Polatin will also be on hand to help with the project.

Meet on Nollett Road (off of River Road) by the entrance to the AVIS reservation by 9 a.m. The project should be completed by noon. Participants should bring gardening gloves. AVIS will provide extra gloves, water and snacks.

Contact Amy Janovsky, group leader, at amy-janovsky@avisandover.org if planning to attend.

MVPC offers two municipal workshops

The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) and Citizen Planner Training Collaborative (CPTC) will host two municipal training workshops, "Site Plan Review" on Monday, Oct. 26, from 7 to 9 p.m., and "The Next Chapter of 40B: Targeted Training for Zoning Board Members" on Monday, Nov. 16, from 7 to 9 p.m., at the MVPC, 160 Main St., Haverhill. The cost of each workshop is \$30 and attendees will earn MIIA credits. Register online at <http://massepc.org/workshops/cptc-workshops.html> or call 413-545-2188.

The two workshops are

part of a series of municipal training sessions offered each year by MVPC, CPTC, and their partner organizations. For more information on these sessions, contact Nancy Lavallee, MVPC office administrator, at nlavallee@mvpc.org or consult the CPTC website.

Andover Chess Club

The club has a new meeting place. It now meets at St. Augustine's Center for Education and Ministry at 35 Essex St. in Andover. The club formerly met at Faith Lutheran Church on South Main Street in Andover.

The Andover Chess Club meets on Friday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. If you have questions, go to andoverchessclub@gmail.com or call club advisor Mike Henroid of Andover at 781-790-6461.

Andover Public School Preschool Screenings The Special Education staff conducts screenings for 3- and 4-year-olds on the third Friday of every month. If there are concerns about your child's development, call Mary Kay at 978-623-8850 to schedule an appointment.

Submit an item for the Town Briefs, email townsm@andovertownsm.com.



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State official stresses value of small business

By CAITLIN WALSH
cwalth@eagletribune.com

Touting the role of small business in Massachusetts, the state's assistant secretary of business development, speaking to a crowd at the Andover Country Club last month, highlighted the need for government and commerce to work together.

Nam Pham, the guest speaker at the VIP Luncheon for the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce's fall Business Expo, said partnerships between small business and government are a critical component for the state to thrive. "A key part of my job is to support small businesses," he said. "We know how important small businesses are to our economy. ... Small businesses are the backbone of the economy."

Pham said he was impressed by the turnout for the expo. While he's been to other expos in the state, this was his first for the Merrimack Valley Chamber. "You can feel the energy," he said when he walked into the function room for the

event. "It's such a diverse group of businesses ... really reflects what's going on in business in the state."

Pham, who previously served as commissioner of the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants and deputy director of the Massachusetts Office of International Trade and Investment, outlined some of the initiatives that his office is working on that will benefit the Merrimack Valley.

"We (Massachusetts) can be great, but we cannot be great without partnership between state government, local government, between government and business. We have to do that," he said, adding that those partnerships have already begun to become a reality.

One of the initiatives being pursued is an urban agenda meant to extend beyond Boston and Cambridge into other areas in the state that "need a little extra attention," such as local Main Street and downtown business districts. In the next few months, Pham said his office will be detailing the program and making



Nam Pham, assistant secretary of business development for the state, highlights the importance of small business as guest speaker at the VIP Luncheon in conjunction with last month's Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Business Expo at Andover Country Club.

AMANDA SABGA/Staff photo

information available for interested small businesses and nonprofit organizations. He said there's a need

for better promotion of the state's tourism industry. He also touched on the involvement of small businesses in

international trade, and said the state hopes to provide more tools to assist companies seeking to enter or

expand in that arena.

Pham also spoke broadly about the high cost of doing business in Massachusetts, which makes it a challenge to attract both large and small businesses, something the state hopes to address.

Despite the work that remains to be done, Pham was optimistic. "I still get up every morning very excited to go to work, because I know that we have good leadership in the Statehouse, and they are doing all they can to make our lives better," he said.

The luncheon, which was sponsored by Lowell Five Cent Savings Bank, was part of a daylong event that centered on a health, wellness, job fair and trade show promoting local and regional businesses. The day opened with a Veterans Assistance Breakfast that highlighted business opportunities, workforce training and other assistance for returning veterans and concluded with a member appreciation networking mixer for chamber members.

A day of networking and promotion

MV Chamber hosts semiannual Business Expo

By CAITLIN WALSH
cwalth@eagletribune.com

More than area 70 businesses and organizations recently set up booths in the hopes of networking with potential clients, hopeful employees and other businesses and groups at the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce's semiannual Business Expo late last month.

The daylong trade show late last month at Andover Country Club featured a mix of new and longtime businesses and was open free to guests.

It was the first expo for Emma Kane, the marketing and recruitment coordinator for Methuen clinical research company

ActivMed, which has been in business since 1994.

"I think it's a great opportunity for businesses to get their name out to the public, make new connections," Kane said. "It's great how these can turn into business partnerships."

Others were representing new businesses such as FlowFitness of Lawrence, which opened in January, and CARE Laser Center, which opened its first U.S. location in North Andover.

Arleen Bradley, a career coach from Lawrence, attends every year with some of her clients who are interested in networking. Among them was Maria Dankhes, who was recently laid off. Dankhes, who

holds a Master of Business Administration, canvassed the ballroom for opportunities and dropped off a couple resumes.

The day opened with a Veterans Assistance Breakfast and also included a VIP Luncheon and Member Appreciation Business Networking Mixer.

Small business and the importance of partnerships between business and government was the theme of the luncheon, which was sponsored by Lowell Five Cent Savings Bank.

Michael Bevilacqua, assistant vice president of member programs and services for the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce, called the whole day a "great success."



Northern Essex Community College's booth was filled with a variety of information on its programs and classes available at its Haverhill and Lawrence campuses.

AMANDA SABGA/Staff photo

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4x4

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2015
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200
Limited



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Cherokee
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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly sunny	Rain and drizzle	Cooler in the p.m.	Partly sunny	Plenty of sunshine	Partly sunny	Clouding up
High: 62° Low: 48°	High: 61° Low: 39°	High: 53° Low: 33°	High: 48° Low: 30°	High: 47° Low: 25°	High: 60° Low: 44°	High: 66° Low: 46°

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SEAN MCKENNA
Advertising Director
978.946.2161
smckenna@eagletribune.com

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