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OUR 127TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 50

OCTOBER 29, 2015

75 CENTS

Small farm yields big results



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photos

A bunch of the younger goats, which don't yet produce milk, enjoy a meal of hay at the Herb Hill Micro-Dairy.

Micro-dairy brings fresh goats' milk to market, along with produce

By TERRY DATE
tdate@andovertownsman.com

Appearances deceive at 320 High Plain Road.

The shed at the driveway's end is really a barn. The hulking colonial home shields a pen with 25 chickens strutting, bobbing and pecking when they are not laying eggs.

Their hircine buddies hang out in neighboring pens, 13 nanny and kid goats. Among them are Anni, Queen Catherine and Broom Hilda, goat gals who chew hay and occasionally rear up on their hind legs and bleat a coughing/crying sound.

Welcome to Lucy McKain's Herb Hill Micro Dairy, a small farm with big connections to the town.

In the chill of last Friday afternoon's waning hours the single-acre lot was state Sen. Barbara L'Italien's latest stop on her harvest agriculture tour, meeting local farmers, learning about their operations and finding out what they need.

"Tell us all about it," Sen. L'Italien said, asking McKain to describe her mini-farm.

The senator stood with McKain and two of her seven children as well as a



Lucy McKain, owner of Herb Hill Micro-Dairy, glances at her "Dairy of Distinction" sign while she tidies up her small barn.

handful of visitors — including local conservationists and an Andover High School student.

They started their tour in the front

of the house at the apron of a garden gone to seed, now stripped and shorn.

See DAIRY, Page 3

Interim supt. may get long-term contract

School Committee votes 5-0 to extend contract beyond 2016

By GABRIELLA CRUZ AND BILL KIRK
Townsman Staff



Sheldon Berman

the district should offer Berman a long-term contract as superintendent.

In a letter to parents and staff, School Com-

The School Committee voted unanimously last week to offer interim Superintendent Sheldon Berman an extension of his one-year contract.

The vote comes on the heels of an executive session held two weeks ago by the School Committee to discuss "negotiations" regarding the superintendent's contract.

At the time, school committee members would not divulge the nature of those discussions.

Last week, it became clear that the closed-door meeting they held earlier this month was to see if all five members were in agreement that

mittee chairwoman Annie Gilbert wrote that the 5-0 vote was a reflection of the board's respect for the job Berman has done since he started less than four months ago.

At last week's meeting, she said, "every School Committee member expressed high praise for (Berman's) exceptional performance as

See CONTRACT, Page 2

Solar deal shines on Andover

Amendment to existing deal means \$6.2M in total energy savings

By TERRY DATE
tdate@andovertownsman.com

The town continues to look to the sun to power day-to-day operations, with the latest example coming Monday when selectmen approved buying 25 percent more solar power from a planned array in Western Massachusetts.

The agreement, which amends an earlier one, is expected to save the town an additional \$2 million over 20 years, with total savings estimated at \$6.2 million over two decades.

"I think Andover's efforts are at the forefront of the solar initiative in

introducing solar to the community as a viable power source," Selectmen Chairman Mary O'Donoghue said.

Last summer, the board agreed to buy about 4 million kilowatt hours, or kWh, of solar power from Syncarpha Capital of New York. The energy is to be generated from 30 acres of solar panels on a capped landfill in Palmer, Mass.

But Monday's amendment to the agreement increases the power purchase to 6.2 million kilowatt hours. This equals a savings of about \$300,000 a year or \$6

See SOLAR, Page 2

Schools need big bucks for major projects

Capital Improvements Plan runs anywhere from \$10M to over \$20M

By GABRIELLA CRUZ
gcruz@andovertownsman.com

With funding being held up by the Baker Administration, the Andover School Committee has been forced to give up on state money it was supposed to receive to fund a design study for a new media

center at the high school. Instead, the committee has decided to fund the study itself.

Andover and other communities have been waiting for money that was part of the state's budget for fiscal year 2016. Gov. Baker vetoed the \$200,000 study, and dozens of

other so-called "earmarks" from around the state, noting that if state revenues continued to fall, those projects would become unaffordable.

It is one of many Capital Improvements Projects that make up the annual capital spending request, which now sits at somewhere between

\$10 million and \$13 million and may run as high as \$20 million if a proposal to build a new Pre-Kindergarten at Sanborn School is approved.

The school committee unanimously approved the plan, which will go to the

See SCHOOLS, Page 2



The light brown area under the black netting shows what the bottom half of the wall looked like before wall panels were ripped off during a May 2015 thunderstorm.

GABRIELLA CRUZ/Staff photo

What's old is new: a barn reborn

By TERRY DATE
tdate@eagletribune.com

Twenty-one years ago the town's newly hired youth services director and Andover kids stood before selectmen and proposed raising a barn to house programs for Andover youth.

They said at the time it was a venue that was sorely missing in a town sorely wracked by three teen suicides.

Selectmen endorsed the barn raising. But it remained a dream deferred.

Fast-forward to last week

See BARN, Page 3



TERRY DATE/Staff photo

Andover Youth Services Executive Director Bill Fahey, working with a professional crew, will dismantle this barn at 61 Argilla Road and use pieces of the old structure at the new Cormier Youth Center.

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DAIRY

Continued from Page 1

A few sunflowers drooped amid harvested herbs, scallions, shallots, peas, mescal lettuce and a host of other veggies sold to restaurants and apportioned to her CSA members.

With respect to what McKain and her husband, Jim, need, the farmer pointed to the “for sale” sign posted on the property.

“We’d really like to farm a bigger space and are looking around Andover,” she said.

They’ve been searching for a year now but finding nada. They want about 10 acres to pasture their livestock — and add five milking goats, 20 egg-laying chickens, and 100 meat chickens — and increase production to meet demand for local organic food.

But Andover farm land comes at such a premium that it ends up growing residential and commercial buildings; nor have the McKains found farm land in neighboring towns.

“Where is there a small farm that is not sold to building development?” she asked.

McKain led the entourage to the end of the driveway and her mini-barn. She sells goat milk and organic eggs and chickens.

There wasn’t an egg left. They sold out.

She pulled a plastic gallon jug of goat milk from the refrigerator.

She runs her farm in strict adherence to agriculture and organic rules. Within two hours of milking her goats — she does it by hand — she must refrigerate the product to 40 degrees or less.

In early summer her eight milkers produce 17 gallons a week. Not all the goats are of milking age. A good milker will produce a half gallon in one milking, McKain said.

Their milk tastes sweet, fresh and light.

“Many are surprised it tastes like cow milk only lighter, not with much cream,” she said.

Her floppy-eared gals are civic minded, too — or at least avid about carrying out



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo
Lucy McKain, owner of Herb Hill Micro-Dairy, pets Anna, one of the older milk-producing goats on her farm.

a public service.

Each day during grass growing season McKain marches a rotating group of goats up the hill to the Virginia Hammond Reservation. Sometimes Wood Hill students come to work with the animals and walk them to the pasture.

“We have a cooperative agreement with Lucy,” said Bob Douglas, the town’s Conservation Division director.

The arrangement goes back about seven years when the town didn’t have money for mowing these lands, and up sprouted the goat mower idea. The goats get a place to graze and the town gets its grass cut.

Another of the guests on Friday’s tour was Andover High senior Oceanna Schnirman. She is an intern with the Andover Conservation Commission and working with mentor Ann Knowles on a project to establish a community garden in town.

A tip she learned Friday was how to enrich the soil with superb compost.

McKain combines chicken and goat manure with vegetation to create rich black soil in which the vegetables thrive.

McKain has been raising animals commercially, here at her High Plain Road home since 2006, but has had goats since 1981. Her children grew up with 4H.

McKain has been a volunteer 4H leader for 14 years. She leads a group of children ages 6-18 who specialize in the study of dairy goats.

Wood Hill Middle School students have come to the Herb Hill Micro Dairy and worked with the goats, and walked them to pasture.

McKain has taught in elementary and middle schools, and still teaches speech at Middlesex Community College.

The lesson on Friday, said Douglas, is that farming can be viable in town with proper timing and planning.

“That is an inspiration for our community garden,” the conservation director said.

At least it will be if they can find the land, and if McKain finds her farm.

Farming enriches the land and people’s lives, and the farmer can get by, economically, McKain said.

“You can’t get rich, but it does provide a living,” she said.

In a subsequent interview, Sen. L’Italien said she will be working with the New Entry Sustainable Farming Project in Lowell to see if they can help identify land for farmers in the region.

She will also check with the state to see what programs might be available to assist McKain., as well as put her in touch with others in similar situations and those who have developed innovative solutions to problems.

“I also think the conversation is starting in Andover regarding any creative ways that the Andover Conservation Commission could assist as well in replicating community farm land as town officials have done in Dracut,” the senator said.

BARN

Continued from Page 1

and Andover Preservation Commission members voted unanimously, 6-0, to allow disassembly of a historic barn at 61 Argilla Road and its reuse by Andover Youth Services, incorporated as visual elements at its brand new \$6.7 million Cormier Youth Center at 40 Whittier Court.

It was an odd and fortuitous twist, noted Youth Services Director Bill Fahey. Instead of a barn raising, he said, “we are going to take a barn down.”

The director, town employees and youth center kids will then sprinkle many of the Argilla barn’s posts and beams, and planks and boards as well as its swinging doors — and maybe even the weathervane-topped cupola — throughout the new youth center.

So in the end, a barn raising of sorts will happen.

“We just did it backwards,” Fahey said.

The center already incorporates barn elements: the shape of the gym as seen from the outside, wood paneling at the entrance; and white barn doors at the building’s back.

The Argilla barn, once a straw-filled repository for the Rennie family’s storied strawberry farm, was later sold, along with their home, and the property fell into serious disrepair before its sale earlier this year to developer Justin Silverio.

On Oct. 19, Preservation Commission members approved demolition of the

61 Argilla farmhouse and disassembly of its barn by the owner. They are allowing it to be salvaged by Fahey, said commission Chairman Karen Herman.

The commission also lifted its previously imposed four-month delay to demolition, clearing the way for the barn’s salvaging and home’s demolition in the coming weeks, according to the commission.

Silverio’s crew will clean out the barn and strip the sides, then Fahey’s crew will take the barn apart.

The barn pieces will remain in a trailer in Salem, N.H., until installation at the youth center — expected next spring.

Much of the material will end up in the center’s now unfinished 800-square-foot music/video room, transforming the space to a down-home style recording area.

There is also talk of posting a local history display at the center to tell the barn’s story and as well as the story of Andover’s rich agrarian past, one where verdant strawberry fields and dairy farms once sprawled.

Preservation Commission member and local historian James Batchelder is ideally suited to relate the barn’s story.

He played in it as a kid — in the 1950s and early 1960s — with his friend George Rennie, both of them wearing raccoon-skinned caps and imaging themselves characters in an old wild west drama.

“The lofts were filled with hay or straw, for bedding material for the strawberry plants in the winter,” he

said. “I remember the sweet smell of dry hay mixed with the aged wood of the barn and a tinge of earth soil.”

They sometimes ventured to the cupola, a scary climb for a kid, arriving to an intensely hot space always home to a hornets’ nest and a spectacular view: the Phillips Academy campus, spires and roof tops on the hill, the firehouse tower and the South and Baptist Church steeples and, of course, Rennie strawberry fields.

“Fields stretched out in every direction with stone walls and cart-paths into the fields,” he said. They could also see the spire of West Parish Church. “I remember how quiet and peaceful that perch was at the top of the world,” he recently reminisced.

Batchelder said he wished someone had taken the whole barn and restored it but he can see the beams and boards adding a home-spun quality to the new youth center.

“The building will create lots of memories for the kids of Andover in the future,” he said. “Perhaps some elements from Andover’s past history will remind them of how long it took to realize their dream of a place of their own.”

No date has been announced for the Argilla demo/salvage. As of early last week, Silverio had yet to apply to the town building department for a permit for the actions.

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Education

United Nations Day at Andover School of Montessori



GABRIELLA CRUZ/Staff photo

Kara Vitiello, an Andover School of Montessori teacher, walks in the school's United Nations Day parade with, from left Rhea Bhandari, Pahel Vedansh, H Tanner H and Sofia Knox Artacho.

Education Notebook

Gabriella Cruz

In honor of United Nations Day, Andover School of Montessori students paraded through the school in cultural clothing from around the world.

The students then gathered around the school's flag pole in front of an audience of close to 60 family members and staff. The younger students performed inspirational songs and the older students presented the goals of the United Nations.

The festivities continued with food from different cultures that parents, students and staff shared with



Courtesy photo

Bancroft Elementary School

one another in the school's cafeteria.

Bancroft Architecture Award

Bancroft Elementary School is New England's People's Choice for the

favorite place to study. Each year, the American Institute of Architects gives the public an opportunity to vote on its favorite architectural design across the region.

The 99,000-square-foot building, completed in 2014, serves grades K-5 an

enrollment of 680 students. The Bancroft school was up against many other educational facilities across New England, but the Andover school, designed by Symmes Maini McKee & Associates of Cambridge, received the most votes.

MCAS scores

Not one of Andover High School's 10th graders failed the English Language Arts portion of the MCAS test this year. Demonstrating either a proficient or advance score is a requirement for students to graduate, and 99 percent of students met the requirement. The Townsman will be running a more in-depth story on MCAS results next month.

Students check out jail cells, dust for fingerprints

Andover Police detectives took AHS forensic science students on behind-the-scenes tour

By GABRIELLA CRUZ
gcruz@andovertownsmen.com

Quentin Baptiste, 15, had his fingerprints taken at the Andover Police station on a recent Friday afternoon.

But it's not because he had just committed a felony.

Rather, he was part of a popular, Andover High School forensics class that is studying everything about crime-scene analysis - from fingerprinting and DNA sampling to blood spatter patterns and time-of-death estimates.

"I love when we practice trying to take our fingerprints in class," said Baptiste, as an image of his fingers appeared on a screen just above his head. "Then they did it so easily with the scanner. It was just really cool."

Forensic science teacher Lindsey L'Ecuyer brought each of her three classes to the station for a series of tours led by Andover Police Detectives Kevin Aufiero and Peter Reming last Friday. Aufiero spoke with students before each tour about taking fingerprints, processing crime scenes and collecting evidence.

After demonstrating how to collect fingerprints from a coffee mug using the fingerprint dusting method, Reming and Aufiero led students into the station's booking area. Students were shown how the station processes arrests from the initial fingerprint scan to the inside of a holding cell. Reming and



GABRIELLA CRUZ/Staff photo
Quentin Baptiste, 15, gets his fingerprints scanned in the Andover Police Department's booking room.

Aufiero then brought the group outside to get a look inside an Andover Police cruiser.

The tour was one of many hands-on activities students participate in throughout their semester in L'Ecuyer's forensic science class. This is the second year the class has been offered to students and this year's students have been waiting to take the course for quite some time.

"Last year, there was a waiting list of around 125 students," L'Ecuyer said. "So the students from the waiting list are getting to take the class this semester. It's one of the most popular electives at the high school."

Students start the semester learning the basics of crime scene investigation and move on to subjects including

hair, fingerprints, blood, DNA, bones and estimating time of death. Unlike other classes, students do all of their textbook reading, written activities and studying as homework so that class time can be devoted to hands-on activities.

"I hear comments from kids and other teachers that they can't believe they're doing that kind of work in class," L'Ecuyer said. "This class is really engaging for a lot of kids because they know that when they come to class, they're always going to be doing something different."

Nicole Costa, 18, was especially interested in Friday's tour because she hopes to work in the field of forensics someday.

"This is my favorite class," Costa said. "I want to study forensic science in college, so that's why I signed up for the course. Getting to take our own fingerprints in class was probably my favorite thing so far."

L'Ecuyer said it's activities like fingerprint dusting that give students the opportunity to participate in class differently than they might be able to in others.

"Being able to get kids engaged, who may not be engaged in other subjects, because of the activities I'm able to do with them is my favorite part," L'Ecuyer said. "It's always a struggle getting kids to first block on time, but in my first block, kids are almost always there on time and ready to see what activities they get to do that day."

Drama Guild raises funds to get Broadway star

ANDOVER — On Saturday, Oct. 24, members of the AHS Drama Guild put on a Kids Fun Activity in the Park. Activities included face painting, ring toss, a raffle and ten other fun games and projects for the children.

The effort was organized and coordinated by Summer Erickson, a senior at AHS. The "Kids Fun Park" provided lots of fun for the kids, and raised over \$400 toward the cost of bringing Broadway star Krysta Rodriguez to Andover.

Krysta played the starring role in the musical "In the Heights" on Broadway. AHS Students will be putting on

their own production of "In the Heights" at the Collins Center Nov. 19 through the 24th. If the students are successful in raising the money, Krysta will fly up from New York City to hold a Master

Class for the students. The group is close to their goal, but still a little short. Anyone interested in making a donation should contact the Andover High School Drama Guild.

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ON CAMPUS

Seven locals have entered Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn., as freshmen: **Georgina Christopoulos**, School of Health Sciences; **John Golan**, School of Business and Engineering; **Anne Lyons**, School of Business and Engineering; **Owen Meech**, College of Arts and Sciences; **Shane Napolitano**, College of Arts and Sciences; **Sean O'Connor**, School of Communications; and **Dean Smith**, School of Communications.

Shyam Venkatramani has been named an AP Scholar, which means that he received an average score of 3 or higher on at least three AP exams.

The AP Scholar program recognizes academic excellence based on a student's performance in the College Board's Advanced Placement Exams. A total of 46 current and former students at Commonwealth School in Boston were recognized by the AP Scholar program this fall.

Venkatramani has also

been named a commended student in the National Merit Scholarship Program. The competition is based on scores in the PSAT/NMSQT standardized test.

Mary G. Lennon is participating in St. Lawrence University's Study Abroad Program for the fall 2015 semester. Lennon, who is majoring in environmental studies-mathematics, will be studying in Czech Republic. She is a graduate of Andover High School.

More than 3,000 students graduated from Tufts University on May 17, during a university-wide commencement ceremony. The graduates from the School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Engineering included: **Gabrielle Galat**, Bachelor of Arts in child study and human development, summa cum laude; **Hadley Green**, Bachelor of Arts in international relations, magna cum laude; **Allan Yau**, Bachelor of Science in biochemistry,

summa cum laude; and **David Lyle**, Bachelor of Science in computer science, summa cum laude.

Emily Belluche, **Lydia Mesler**, and **Jamie Newsome** earned the dean's award for academic excellence during the spring semester at Colgate University.

Abigail Katz was named to the 2015 dean's list at Union College. Katz is majoring in psychology.

Jillian Conway and **Jillian Pengeroth** graduated from Bates College at the school's 149th commencement ceremony on May 31. Conway and Pengeroth both majored in psychology while at Bates. Conway is a 2011 graduate of The Governor's Academy and Pengeroth is a 2011 graduate of Andover High School.

Zoe Lantelme graduated from Widener University in Chester, Pa., with a Master of Education in human sexuality studies.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING: MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY

Andover Reads 2016 needs your vote

Memorial Hall Library is organizing another community-wide read in 2016. Andover Reads 2016 will feature a nonfiction title, and the public will help choose which book the community will read. The library's book selection committee has narrowed the choices to three titles: "The Boys in the Boat" by Daniel James Brown, "Waiting for Snow in Havana" by Carlos Eire, and "The Wright Brothers" by David McCullough. Read about the books at www.mhl.org/ar2016vote and be sure to vote during the month of October, online or in person at the library. The winning book will be announced in November, and programs, book discussions, and other events will begin in the spring.

Memorial Hall Library has a lot of programs and activities in store for fall. Here are some of the

featured programs on the calendar:

Authors Among Us: Michael Levy, PhD, Thursday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m. Michael S. Levy, PhD, author of "Celebrity and Entertainment Obsession," will explore the psychological nature of society's obsession and offer suggestions for tempering responses to celebrity culture. Levy, an Andover resident, is a clinical psychologist and the director of Substance Use Services and Clinic Coordinator of the adult outpatient clinic at the North Shore Medical Center in Salem, Mass.

Career Networking Group, Thursdays, 10 to 11:30 a.m. in Friends Alcove 1. Join this free group to expand one's network of business contacts, share ideas, and learn about effective job search strategies; Oct. 29, "Ace Your Interview." Facilitated by certified career coach, Arleen Bradley. For more information, visit www.arleenbradley.com.

Sleep and the Healthy Heart,

Sunday, Nov. 1, 2 p.m. Dr. Kenneth Sassower will present the latest medical research connecting sleep apnea, hypertension, and heart health, as well as strategies for preventing and treating a wide range of sleep issues. Dr. Sassower is a triple Board-certified neurologist who specializes in sleep disorders and epilepsy at Massachusetts General Hospital. A question and answer session will follow his talk. RSVP at www.mhl.org/eventcalendar or call 978-623-8401, ext. 31. This program, sponsored by the library and the Merrimack Valley Chapter of Hadassah, is part of Hadassah's national campaign initiative "Every Beat Counts: Hadassah's Heart Health Program."

"It's Never Too Early to Start Planning for College," Thursday, Nov. 5, 7 p.m. Jim Femia, a Certified College Planning Specialist (CCPS) and member of the National Institute of Certified College Planners (NICCP), will give a free workshop for students and parents. Learn about how families of all income levels are receiving financial aid, why some families incorrectly assume they could never qualify for aid, and which colleges give the best financial aid packages. Registration is recommended; go to www.mhl.org/eventcalendar or call 978-623-8401, ext. 31.

Hungrytown in Concert: Rebecca Hall and Ken Anderson, Sunday, Nov. 8, 2:30 p.m. Hungrytown's music has received extensive radio airplay worldwide, and has appeared on several TV shows, including the Independent Film Channel's hit series, "Portlandia." Visit www.hungrytown.net for more. RSVP at www.mhl.org/eventcalendar or call 978-623-8401, ext. 31.

Pub Trivia, Tuesday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m. at Andolini's, 19 Essex St., Andover. MHL librarians will test guests' knowledge of popular culture and events, sports, literature, science and more. Teams are encouraged. The prize will be provided by Andolini's.

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Business

Enel Green Power pitches in to clean up

By BILL KIRK
bkirk@eagletribune.com

More than 160 employees from Enel Green Power North America headquarters in Andover pitched in and helped clean up parks and playgrounds around the Merrimack Valley earlier this month.

On Oct. 16, employees of the company that owns 90 power plants — including a hydroelectric facility at the Great Stone Dam in Lawrence — fanned out across the region where they joined volunteers from Groundwork Lawrence and other groups to clear debris from the Merrimack River, plant trees at Costello Park in Lawrence and clean up the Lowell National Historic Park near Francis Gate Park in Lowell.

For the second consecutive year, 60 Enel volunteers joined Groundwork Lawrence to plant trees and do a general cleanup of Costello Park. In anticipation of

colder weather, they also harvested vegetables from the community garden.

“Thank you to the volunteers from Enel Green Power North America for their hard work in supporting our mission to create an empowered and thriving Lawrence community,” said Lesly Medina, community engagement director for Groundwork Lawrence.

In all, employees from four offices and more than 90 power plants gathered at various sites to help local communities.

With its North American headquarters located in Andover, Enel has a total of four hydroelectric projects in Massachusetts for a combined capacity of 37.6 megawatts, which produces enough renewable energy to power approximately 14,000 households, cutting more than 85,000 tons of CO₂ emissions each year.

Enel’s corporate headquarters are in Italy.



Courtesy photo

Employees of Enel North America, headquartered in Andover, pause for a moment from their cleanup activities at Costello Park in Lawrence to pose for a photo. They are, back row, from left: Jason Pasquariello, Phil Trueira, Kyle Frey, Beck Shrum, Ross Holland, Salim Ayas, Pascual Espinosa, Vikas Narang, Chris Hickey, Gary Smith, Bonnie Merrick, Michela De Gennaro, Mike Beauoin and Joel Caron. Front row, from left: Greg Rizzo, Samara Spencer, Rebecca Perkins, Ruth Skomurski, Lea Brandano, Stacie Sheridan and Jen Johansen. On Oct. 16, the volunteers planted trees, picked up rubbish and harvested vegetables from the community garden.

Melmark executive appointed CEO-elect

By BILL KIRK
bkirk@eagletribune.com

Rita Gardner, former head of Melmark New England on River Road, has been bumped up the chain of command to CEO-elect of the national, non-profit school for autistic children.

She will take over her duties immediately, according to a press release from the company. The board’s decision to name Gardner to the position was unanimous.

“Rita brings a great deal of expertise to this role,” said Melmark Chairman of the Board Robert Marcus, adding, “most important, she holds the heart of Melmark’s mission at the core of her professional standards. She is dedicated to each and every child, adult and family served at Melmark, as well as every member of Melmark’s professional staff.”

Gardner, 53, who lives in Andover with her husband and three sons, will not have to move to the company’s Berwyn, Penn., headquarters but will be dividing her time between the two campuses, according to company spokeswoman Ellen Kallman. Gardner said she is both excited and touched by the opportunity.

“I see this new position as an opportunity to lead a team of highly experienced staff who are committed to Melmark’s mission of creating opportunities for children and adults with intellectual disabilities and autism,” she said, adding, “I am humbled by the opportunity and will do my utmost to ensure the success of each person served, as well as that of the organization, both today and in the future.”

While she transitions into her new role, Gardner will work alongside Peter Troy, Interim Deputy CEO and Joanne Gillis-Donovan, Ph.D., whose retirement was announced in late August.

Melmark provides residential, educational, rehabilitative and vocational programs for children and adults with autism spectrum disorders, intellectual disabilities, brain injuries and other neurological and genetic disorders. For more information about Melmark, please visit www.melmark.org.

BUSINESS BRIEFCASE

Nordahl raises money for breast cancer patients

Kristin A. Nordahl, a local financial services representative with The MNE Group and a member of the New England Walkers for Knockers (NE-W4K) organization, helped organize the sixth annual motorcycle “Ride for Help and Hope” on Aug. 15. The police-escorted ride went through the scenic back roads of Maine, and ended with an after-ride celebration that included music, games and raffles.

Since 2010, NE-W4K has donated 100 percent of the funds raised from “Ride for Help and Hope” to My Breast Cancer Support (MBCS), a local nonprofit dedicated to delivering tangible, practical and emotional support to breast cancer patients in the greater Seacoast area.

Nordahl donates her time at the events each year and has raised more than \$35,000 over the past five years. Together, NE-W4K has raised more than \$170,000, all of which goes directly to

MBCS to help breast cancer patients in need.

For information about next year’s event or to sign up, visit www.ne-w4k.org. To learn more about MBCS, visit www.mybreastcancer-support.org.

Andover nonprofit awarded state grant

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) has received a \$28,000 grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), a state agency. The grant, through MCC’s Cultural Investment Portfolio Partners Program, will help support NEDCC’s mission to serve museums, archives, libraries, historical societies, town clerks offices, and other organizations, as well as private and family collectors in Massachusetts.

The center offers book and paper conservation treatment, digital imaging, audio preservation, assessments and consultations, and educational programs on the care and preservation of paper-based collections for

institutions as well as individuals. Free information on preserving cultural heritage collections is available at nedcc.org.

Salem State recognizes faculty and staff for years of service

Salem State University recently recognized 116 of its members who reached employment milestones this year in increments that ranged from five years of service to 50 years. Collectively, they represent 1,585 years of employment.

Those recognized and thanked for their service included Andover

residents, Marie Jensen, School of Nursing professor, 35 years of service; and Joseph Scott, facilities, 10 years.

Monthly professional networking

The Networking Group meets one Tuesday each month from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover. Past speakers have included professional recruiters, career counselors, human resource professionals, marketing leaders, business owners and more. New sponsorships are always welcome to help defray costs. For more information, contact Brotherhood

President Mitchell Schneir at 978-470-1356. Visit www.templemanuel.net for a complete schedule.

LeTip networking meetings

LeTip Merrimack Valley Executives, a free business networking group, meets on Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 a.m. at Atria Marland Place, 15 Steven St., Andover. Bring business cards to hand out. For more information, call Paul Lambert at 978-609-6420 or email PDLLAW@comcast.net.

◆◆◆
To submit an item for the Business Briefcase, email townsmen@andovertownsmen.com.

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A day of goodness blossomed from a day of sadness

BY ETHAN FORMAN
Staff Writer

The family of Colleen Ritzer was overwhelmed last week at the countless number of people who made a special effort to find the good in ordinary daily life on what was certainly the most difficult day the Ritzers have to confront each year — the anniversary of their daughter's death.

The 24-year-old math teacher and Andover resident was murdered two years ago Oct. 22 inside Danvers High, her body then dumped in the woods behind the school. Philip Chism, now 16, is facing charges for the murder, rape and robbery of Ritzer.

"Our family is overwhelmed by the tremendous outpouring of good performed today in support of the #Kindness4Colleen effort. Since 2013, and going forward, Oct. 22 will always be a day of great sadness and pain, however, we, and

Colleen's extended family and friends, are strengthened by the many good deeds that are done today in her name," the family said in a statement. "We are proud that Colleen continues to inspire others to simply be good to people."

The Andover family's statement was in response to a day full of kind acts inspired by the initiative of Colleen Ritzer's friend, Jennifer Berger.

Berger started a campaign to get people to perform random acts of kindness on the anniversary of Ritzer's death and share their thoughts and photos via social media with the hashtag #Kindness4Colleen.

The act could be as simple as buying someone a cup of coffee or holding the door open for someone.

Berger's public invitation lit up Twitter Thursday with the color pink and countless pictures of Ritzer, along with all the things great and small people did to fulfill Ritzer's



Colleen Ritzer

hopeful wish: "Find something good in every day." Ritzer had posted that message on her Twitter account a few weeks before she died.

"As a family, we thank the many individuals and organizations that have taken a moment out of their busy

day to remember Colleen and do something in support of #Kindness4Colleen. We would also like to thank Colleen's close friend, Jennifer, for initiating this beautiful tribute," the family said in their statement.

Chism's trial in Salem

Superior Court has been put on hold during the jury selection phase while he is evaluated for his mental competency, but instead of dwelling on the tragedy and the pending trial, many honored Ritzer's legacy Thursday with small tokens of generosity, honoring her wish that others "be good to people."

At Andover High School, Ritzer's alma mater, students and faculty participated in the day of kindness by doing spontaneous acts of kindness throughout the building and the day, said principal Philip Conrad, adding that some faculty also wore pink shirts in remembrance of Colleen as well.

On social media, some people tweeted about how they paid for coffee for those behind them in line.

Students at Danvers High wrote letters to veterans and soldiers "to help spread the kindness," according to a tweet from teacher Tracie Ewing.

Students also tweeted about handing out pink roses to teachers at the school. A number of photos captured buckets of pink roses for students and staff.

And the acts of kindness were not just confined to Danvers. A recent Beverly High graduate and student at UMass Amherst, Alex Kelliher, tweeted that "Find the good" #Kindness4Colleen was written in chalk all over campus.

Assumption College in Worcester, where Ritzer graduated in 2011, also urged folks to join in. Someone donated 150 pairs of socks to the nonprofits Friendly House and Andy's Attic in Worcester.

People sent one another flowers. Some bought pizza for the office. The Massachusetts Teachers Association posted a story about how members of the Danvers Teachers Association created a peace garden in memory of Ritzer at Danvers High.

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Community

Farmers Market wraps up another successful season

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

Longer hours, more room for vendors to spread out their stuff and better accessibility for strollers and wheelchairs made this year's Farmers Market better than ever, said organizers.

"It was a very good season. We have received a lot of feedback from vendors and customers. Our Farmers Market continues to be a nice community event," said Elaine Clements, executive director of the Andover Historical Society, who hosts the market every year.

Clements said this was the ninth consecutive year for the market. Held on the lawn of the Society's museum at 93 Main St., the market is a must-go on Saturday mornings as produce, including tomatoes, squash, carrots and zucchini, is from local farms and very fresh.

The market also had wine from a local winery, fresh bread, candy and craft vendors alongside the farmers. This year there were 12 farmers and 15 craft vendors taking part.

The market opened in June

and its last day for the 2015 season is this Saturday, Oct. 31. Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The market will be back next year, Clements said.

"In January, we will start registering vendors and many have already said that they will be back...we had our market in one place and it was easy for vendors to park their trucks and unload their items. It was great," Clements said.

The market pushed up its opening time from noon to 10 a.m. and customers liked that, Clements said.

"Shoppers like the earlier opening time," she said. "Between the opening time change and having vendors easy to reach from a stroller or wheelchair level, everyone seemed satisfied. It really was a good season."

Every year, vendors and customers are surveyed at the end of the market season and asked about what they liked — and didn't like — about the Andover Farmers Market.

"We refine things for the next year, if necessary, using those comments," Clements said.



Maureen Keller browses the farmstead of Gauvette Farms at the Andover Farmers Market on Saturday afternoon.

AMANDA SABGA/Staff photos



Andover resident Peter Price browses stalks of brussels sprouts.



Stephen Rondinone performs for patrons and vendors.



The Gauvette Farm stand at the Andover Farmers Market.



Some of the fresh vegetables available from White Gates Farm at the farmers market.



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photos

ABOVE: Sadie Buczunski, 4, left, dressed as Tinkerbell and Eyal Mamet, 4, right, dressed as Peter Pan, stick by each other's side during the Ballardvale Neighborhood Halloween Party on Sunday.

RIGHT: Dressed as one of the "Minions" Niesen Christopherson, 2, points out something to his dad Neil during party.



Who ya gonna call?

Ghosts and goblins gather for good-old-fashioned ghoulish parade

STAFF REPORT

It was a spooky day Sunday in Ballardvale, as an assorted gathering of ghouls, goblins and minions gathered for a parade, games and fun at the newly constructed playground off Clark Road.

About 150 people took part in the event, which ran from 5 to 6 p.m.

Some of the activities included skeleton bowling with candy skeleton prizes, an old-fashioned donut-eating contest with donuts

hanging from strings and eaten with no hands, followed by a parade around Ballardvale green.

The parade was combined with some trick-or-treating stops at a few homes along the way and then it was back to the park for cider, cookies and brownies.

After all that, the costumed-kids had plenty of energy to frolic in the new playground.

It was "truly an old-fashioned townie event," as one participant noted.

Use color and fragrance to get rid of winter time blues

STAFF REPORT

The Andover Garden Club's November meeting is scheduled for Nov. 3, during which well-known local horticultural expert Art Scarpa will make a presentation on how bring the beautiful colors and fragrances of flowers to your home year-round.

The meeting starts at 10 a.m. with social time and refreshments followed by a brief business meeting.

Scarpa's presentation will begin at about 11 a.m. The

meeting is scheduled to be held at South Church, 41 Central St.

Scarpa has assembled a collection of plants that extend the New England growing period from three seasons to year-round indoors. Suitable plants include camellias, clivias, tropical and hardy bulbs, jasmines, and cyclamens, among many others.

He will display some of these plants and discuss how attendees can flower indoors to brighten the darkest days of the year.

He will also provide tips on how to fill a bright but cold breezeway, balcony, or deck with living plants for winter interest.

A \$10 donation is requested for guests.

Founded in 1927, the Andover Garden Club (www.andovergardenclub.org) is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that encourages the study and practice of horticulture, landscape design, and floral design; aids in the beautification of the town of Andover; and helps protect and conserve

natural resources.

A member of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc., and National Garden Clubs, Inc., the club provides both financial and hands-on support to a variety of municipal, educational, and environmental organizations throughout the region.

To join, contact chairwomen of the organization, Anne Collins at: 978-681-8052 or collinsak14@verizon.net; and Donna Rudolph, 978-475-7165 or dlabsuper49@aol.com.



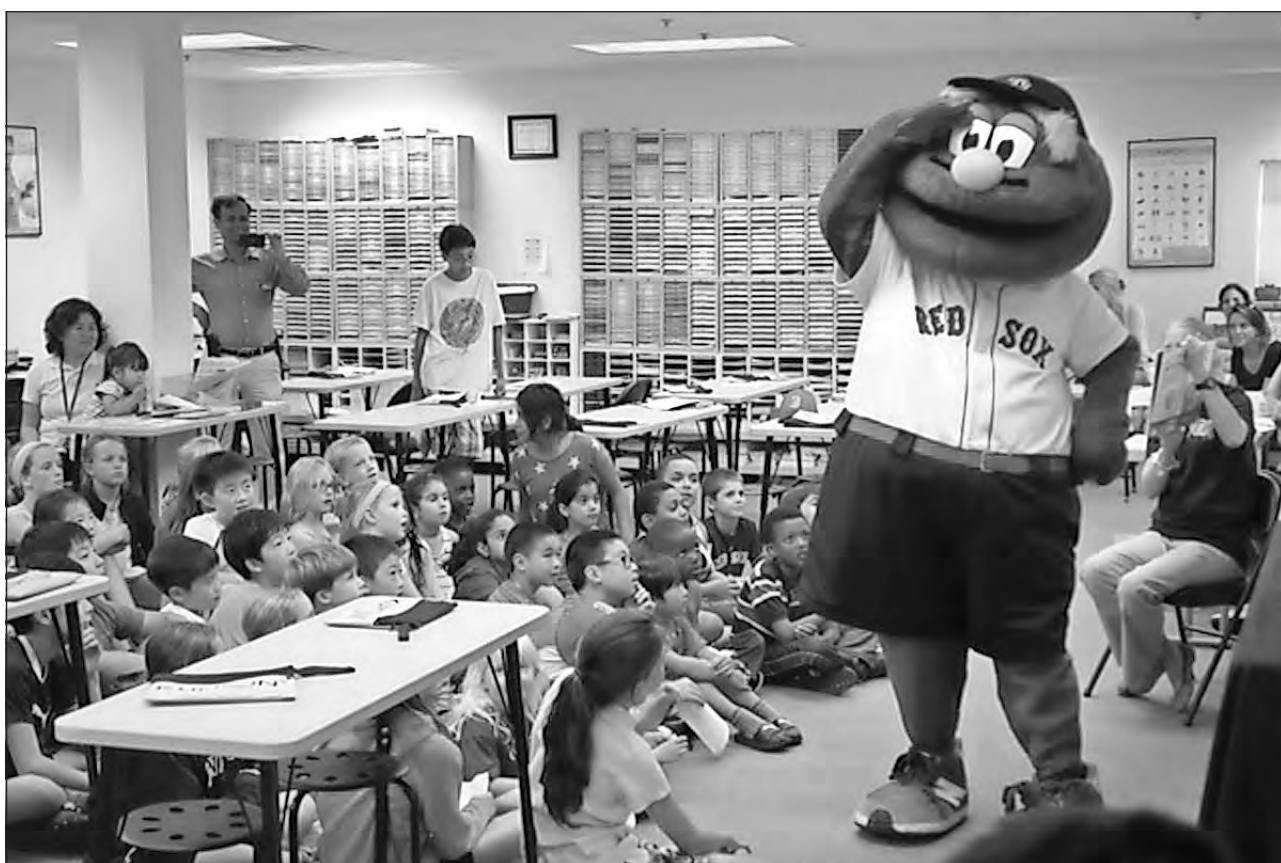
PHOTO BY FRANCES Y.J. WHEELER

Camellias are just one type of plant suitable for growing indoors during the winter. On Nov. 3 at the Andover Garden Club meeting, Art Scarpa will discuss this and many other types of flowers that can be cultivated indoors during the winter months.

Children's author visits bookstore

Popular children's book author and illustrator Tomie dePaola will be at the Andover Bookstore on Sunday, Nov. 8 at 11 a.m. for a reading and signing. dePaola's new book features six favorite stories about Strega Nona and her sidekick, the bumbling Big Anthony. The book takes readers behind the scenes to see how Strega Nona's world has developed through the years. Also included are an original lullaby with sheet music and CD, a map of Strega Nona's town and some fun recipes. Strega Nona, dePaola's

beloved "grandmother witch" character, won the Caldecott Honor Award in 1975. Chantel Coughlin, manager at Andover Bookstore, said Strega Nona is still a popular book series. "Her matter-of-fact approach to life have won her legions of fans young and old, and the American Library Association has called her 'an enduring character who has charmed generations of children'," Coughlin wrote in a press release. The bookstore is located at 89R Main St. in Andover.



Courtesy photos

Wally the Boston Red Sox mascot appears happy the season is over.

Wally the Red Sox mascot makes visit to local school

STAFF REPORT

Wally the Boston Red Sox mascot recently visited the Kumon Center at 28 Andover St. where he entertained the children with his wild antics. Kumon students, ages 3 to 18 years old, cheered as Wally made his entrance with silly dance moves amid high-fives. The group erupted with laughter as Wally took a Red Sox cap from 5-year-old Douglas Carroll of Methuen and replaced it with his giant cap that nearly covered Douglas' whole body. The children couldn't take their eyes off Wally as he wildly acted out a Red Sox Nation story book being read by a Kumon assistant. Afterwards, Wally and a Kumon director conducted



Wally the Boston Red Sox mascot signs autographs for some of the children at the Kumon Center during his visit.

and enjoyed being with each child with Kumon backpacks, pencil cases, Frisbees and more. Families received autographs and took photos with Wally as students snacked and enjoyed being with each other at the event. Normally the Kumon Center is a quiet environment where students use their time to complete individualized math and reading programs. There are assistants that work at the center grading students' work and offering support as needed. The Kumon program empowers children to become self-learners. The Andover Kumon Center has over 150 children enrolled with all of its learners reaching grade level and beyond. "All parents have the desire for their children to be the best they can be," said Esther Kim, director of Andover Center. "Kumon is a foundation of success that develops skills worthwhile in the children's every day lives — inside and outside of the classroom. Through the concerted efforts between the student, instructor and parents promising futures are being created at our center."

CLUES ACROSS

- Owed
- Shawl
- Slow tempo
- Bodily structure
- Sun-god
- Franklin or Eleanor
- Degree
- Norwegian poet
- Local school organization
- Consumer
- Brews
- Hero
- To clear or tidy
- 9th month
- Hit lightly
- Pinna
- DoD computer language
- One Direction won at 2014 awards
- No. Am. peat bog
- Clear wrap

CLUES DOWN

- Ineffective
- 39th state
- Skins
- In a moment
- Japanese Prime Minister Hirobumi
- Tyrant
- A cruelly rapacious person
- Point midway between NE and E
- Abnormal breathing
- Essential oil or perfume obtained from flowers
- Italian river
- Fixed firmly into
- Opera songs
- Cloth measurement
- 7th Greek letter
- Extractor
- For boiling water to make tea
- Possesses
- Edible tuberous root
- Glass window sheets
- Tactics

Solution in Classified Section

- Napped leather
- In a way, takes
- Transported
- Back muscle
- Unhappy
- Wrong
- Chit
- Epic poem
- Capuchin genus
- ____traz: The Rock
- Weight unit
- Foot (Latin)
- Egg-shaped nut palm
- A radioactive element
- Roosevelt V.P.
- Railroad track
- More dense, less liquid
- Block, Fire & Reunion
- A set that is part of another set
- Hair product
- More (Spanish)
- Our star
- Makes a choice
- Great Plains Indians
- Baglike structure in a plant or animal
- Female sibling
- Diverge
- Adherent of Islam
- Defer
- Semitic gods
- Indian term of respect
- 10 decibels
- Surface regions
- Small amounts
- Liberal rights organization
- Teeny
- Volcanic mountain in Japan
- Atomic #71
- Canadian province

10/29/15

ANDOVER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ART/GALLERIES

ADDISON GALLERY OF AMERICAN ART, The new exhibitions were inspired by artists' friendships and collaborations: "Converging Lines: Eva Hesse and Sol LeWitt," "In Tandem: Inspirations and Collaborations," and "Words in Air: Jennifer Caine and Rachel Hellman in Collaboration"; free admission to gallery and all programs; located on the Phillips Academy campus, 3 Chapel Ave.,

Andover; 978-749-4015, www.addisongallery.org.

GELB GALLERY, located in George Washington Hall, Phillips Academy campus, 180 Main St., Andover. The annual "Faculty Exhibit" will be on view through Friday, Oct. 30. The exhibit features the works of Elaine Crivelli, Peg Harrigan, Emily Trespas, Thayer Zaeder, Therese Zemlin and visiting scholar, Dominique Zeltzman; mixed-media drawings, sculpture,

ceramics, video and photography are all part of the show; open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; parking is available on Chapel Avenue and in the lot next to the Andover Inn; www.andover.edu. **PASSAGES ART EXHIBIT**, through Oct. 31, held in cooperation with West Parish Garden Cemetery and the Andover Historical Society. Two-dimensional artwork will be displayed at the historical society, while

West Parish will host the three-dimensional art installations; www.andoverhistorical.org/passages. **ALPERS FINE ART**, located at 96 Main St., Andover. "Terrain," a solo show by eastern Massachusetts artist Roy Perkinson, is currently on display; fall hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sundays; other times by appointment; 978-760-1829, www.alpersfineartonline.com.

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BLACKITA

Townspeople

High school concussion leads to lifetime struggle

By BILL KIRK
bkirk@eagletribune.com

When Hanna Gully got a concussion while playing intramural soccer at Phillips Academy eight years ago, she didn't realize at the time it would change her life forever.

Just 17, she, her family and her doctors all assumed the usual symptoms of a concussion — headaches, dizziness, nausea — would dissipate after a week or two.

But Gully, now 24, lives every day with something known as postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome, or POTS, which is a form of dysautonomia. It affects the autonomic nervous system — the system that regulates everything from your heartbeat to when you have to go to the bathroom.

"It's a constant effort," said Gully. "It's a daily effort to manage the symptoms."

Gully grew up on Summer Street. Andover has been home to at least three generations of her family.

After sustaining the concussion, it took seven years for doctors to figure out what went wrong.

"I was playing intramural soccer at Phillips Academy," she said. "It was my junior year — 2007."

She immediately began getting symptoms but nobody knew what was wrong with her.

Doctors dismissed it, saying she was a hormonal teenager.

Despite her illness, she graduated from high school and got into Georgetown University. It took her an extra year to graduate, but she battled through those years, still not knowing what was causing her dizziness, bloating, nausea and a myriad of other health problems.

Finally, one of many gastroenterologists she had been seeing suggested she might have a problem with her autonomic nervous system. She took a tilt-table test — a simple, non-invasive procedure that requires a patient to lie still, strapped to a table for about 30 minutes. Attached to a blood pressure monitor, the patient is slowly raised to a standing position. For people with POTS, or similar maladies, blood pressure plunges and the patient feels like passing out.



Hanna Gully, 24, of Andover, was just 17 when she got a concussion that has led to a lifetime of health problems.

Until that test was administered — some seven years after she got the concussion — nobody knew what was really wrong with her. Now that she knows, she said, she has taken several trips to the Mayo Clinic where she has learned how to cope with her symptoms through lifestyle changes and other techniques.

But it's a problem that will never leave her, she said.

"I was a healthy 17-year-old and bam, I got concussion and everything changed," she said. "We knew everything went wrong, it was just a problem of finding out why."

She has since learned that some people — mostly women — are predisposed to developing the disease, but "they don't know why. Something happens — an illness, or an accident or a concussion — that triggers the onset. That's what caused the immediate onset for me."

Part of the problem for those suffering from the disease is that most people, including many physicians, have never heard of it.

"If it's mentioned in medical school, it's mentioned in passing," she said. "Nobody spends much time on it. Many people (patients)



Courtesy photos

At the starting line of the POTS Walk & 5k in May in Medford, which raised \$45,000 for POTS research. Pictured from left to right are: Mass. Attorney General Maura Healey, Dysautonomia International President Lauren Stiles, Hanna Gully and Dysautonomia International Board Member Sarah Mendelowitz.

are told, 'It's all in your head.'"

She said she suffers from severe bloating because the disease can wreak havoc with the intestinal system. But it's not a particularly visible symptom so doctors tended to ignore it.

While the diagnosis gave her little relief from her symptoms because it is a chronic disease, it did give her a mission in life: to get the word out about the debilitating disease so that others wouldn't have to suffer in silence for as long as she did.

Gully sits on the Patient Advisory Board of Dysautonomia International, a global non-profit working on advocacy, awareness and fundraising for illnesses of the autonomic nervous, including POTS. This month, she has been working alongside other volunteers to raise awareness throughout the state.

"We have secured a proclamation from Gov. Baker declaring October to be Dysautonomia Awareness Month," she said. In addition, from Oct. 16 to Oct. 19 the Zakim Bridge in Boston was lit up turquoise, Dysautonomia's color.

In May, she took part in a

fund-raising walk, joined by Mass. Attorney General Maura Healey.

As awareness grows, the size of the problem also becomes more well-known. She said it affects up to 3 million Americans, including 1 in 100 teens. Most people who suffer from it — or about 85 percent — are women. About 25 percent of patients diagnosed with the disease are unable to work or attend school.

Last year, Gully graduated from college and over the past year or so she has worked on figuring out what she can do to manage the symptoms — something she's gotten better at but which is still a struggle.

"Now I'm functional again," she said. "I'm at a good place now. I'm pretty stable."

She said she hopes to start looking for a job soon, but will always have to pay attention to her ailment.

"It's going to be a lifelong battle," she said.

For more on this story, see Gully's essay about living with the disease, published in Teen Vogue: <http://www.teenvogue.com/story/how-to-live-survive-pots-postural-orthostatic-tachycardia-syndrome>.

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

COMPILED BY
SUSAN MCKELIGET

100 Years Ago October 29, 1915

About 350 voters assembled in the town hall last evening to hear the speakers secured by the Republican Town Committee to present the cause of their party and to urge the election on next Tuesday. [The Honorable Frederick W. Dallinger] took up some of the national issues which have been of the most interest to the voters all over the country. He said that the extravagance of the Democrats has been almost unbelievable and that money was being spent lavishly. He then touched on the attitude of those in authority at Washington in regard to the system of log-rolling and patronage which has made the administration so notorious.

A number of our farmers have lost quite heavily by a thief or thieves stealing their vegetables and fruit. The latest victim is Mr. Sanders at West Andover Depot. Mr. Sanders teaches German in Lawrence and during the absence of himself and wife the thief forced an entrance through a skylight and got off with about ten bushels of potatoes.

75 Years Ago October 31, 1940

One estimate for Andover, an estimate, whose source is hard to track down, says that 19 men from Andover will be included in the first call [the draft]. Already nine young men have volunteered, and therefore the first call will have but 10, on this basis. The nine volunteers, if physically fit, will be included in 800 who it is expected will be in uniform in Massachusetts by Nov. 18. The army expects to have 400,000 in training before March, 500,000 before June.

The lure of beautiful and rare antiques attracted

two too many people to the Crystal Ballroom Monday, the opening day of the antique exhibit. The unwelcome visitors arrived several hours after the doors had been closed for the night, but being unusually enthusiastic collectors, they evidently decided not to wait, but to force their way in right then and there. Mrs. MacEachern, manager of the show was very glad she had hired a watchman, Mr. John Burrows...he had retired about midnight Monday and was dozing when he heard the sound of glass tinkling... but when the noise increased and resembled the pounding of bars, he dashed toward the front entrance just in time to see a fleet figure disappear up the balcony stairs. Using the bluff system he hollered "Get out or I'll shoot." At the same time a voice from outside the building, evidently an accomplice on guard, called a warning to the already frightened intruder. Mr. Burrows was by this time wondering if the two might call his bluff and attempt to shoot it out, so he slipped out a window and rushed to the Shawsheen Motor Mart to telephone the police. Meanwhile the two malfeasants departed without stopping to pick up any valuable antiques at bargain prices. The two young men were picked up by police and are being held in juvenile court where action on the case is being continued.

50 Years Ago October 28, 1965

Defective wiring has been determined the probable cause of a fire which took the life of a retired chauffeur here early Sunday and destroyed the interior of his home at 273 N. Main street. It was Andover's first fire fatality in approximately 25 years.

A Harvard University professor [Edwin Moise] told an audience of some

70 Andover residents Monday that the U.S. not the Viet Cong, is the aggressor in the Vietnam War. Disputing Moise's point of view was a second educator, Leonard F. James, head of the history at Phillips Academy.

A photo shows Congressman Donald Rumsfeld of Illinois, Andover Selectman Paul W. Cronin and Congressman F. Bradford Morse who represents Massachusetts fifth District in Washington. The trio conferred Wednesday at a dinner at the Andover Country Club and for presentation of the Young Republican Club Distinguished Service Award to Cronin. Congressman Rumsfeld was the keynote speaker. Cronin is an Andover selectman and administrative aide to Congressman Morse.

25 Years Ago November 1, 1990

Dr. Mark McQuillan is the School Committee's choice to be the new superintendent of schools. Dr. McQuillan, the current assistant superintendent of schools in Beverly, was the unanimous choice Tuesday night of the committee, which picked him from a field of 77 candidates. Dr. McQuillan and the committee are in the process of drafting a three and a half year, \$75,000 annual salary contract.

A public meeting will be held on Wednesday Nov. 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the third floor Conference Room at the Bartlet Street Town Office building regarding preliminary plans that have recently been prepared for traffic signal and other improvements in Shawsheen Square.

The sale of water to North Reading did not draw many opponents to a public hearing at Memorial Hall Library Tuesday night, but even those in favor of the plan expressed the need for a regional approach to managing the Merrimack River.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Al DeLuca of Methuen, center, accepts the "Make a Difference Award" from the Service Club of Andover immediate past president, Enzo Fossella, left, and Brad Heim, Service Club of Andover Executive Vice President.

Al DeLuca honored with 'Make a Difference' award

STAFF REPORT

Al DeLuca was congratulated by family and friends Saturday night after accepting the "Make a Difference Award" from the Service Club of Andover during its 20th annual Fundraising Gala and Dinner at Andover Country Club.

Since its inception in 1993,

the Service Club of Andover's mission has been to "Make a Difference" in the lives of local youths and individuals with special needs.

DeLuca is a lifelong Merrimack Valley resident, born and raised in Lawrence, and a 1957 graduate of Central Catholic High School. He raised his family in Methuen, where he and his wife, Joyce,

currently reside.

Between them, Al and Joyce have 5 children and 9 grandchildren. He has worked in the automobile industry since 1955, now at Woodworth Motors in Andover. He has held a variety of leadership roles with numerous charitable and community organizations in the region.

Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra boasts 6 Andover teens

STAFF REPORT

The Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras begin their 2015-2016 season under the leadership of Music Director Federico Cortese, now 17 years in this role.

The Andover musicians are: Aditi Kannan, 15, violin; Maggie Meng, 16, viola; Mari Nagahara, 16, cello; Emily Qiu, 13, bassoon; Brett Sawka, 16, double bass, and Kevin Wu, 16, cello. BYSO, now in its 58th season, continues its diverse

programming with initiatives to attract new and returning audiences. On Oct. 18 at 3 p.m. at Symphony Hall, BYSO will perform Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring.

The young musicians from Boston Youth Symphony will also perform Brahms' Tragic Overture and Mozart's Symphony No. 31, Paris. This concert will also feature a performance of Smetana's Vltava (Moldau) from Má vlast (My Fatherland) by Repertory Orchestra, conducted by Mark Miller.

Looking further into the season, Boston Youth Symphony, known nationally as the only youth orchestras to perform full, semi-staged operas, will present Verdi's Otello on Jan. 24, 2016 at Sanders Theatre at Harvard University. This marks BYSO's 9th consecutive semi-staged opera performance.

View the full season schedule and for more information visit www.BYSOweb.org. Tickets \$25-\$30; season subscribers receive up to a 15 percent discount.

CHAMPIONS AGAIN



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photos

The Chiefs' Conor Moses hauls the ball downfield as the Vikings' Charles Baillargeon and Samuel Yanowitz close in during the first half of Sunday's Andover Junior Football League Title Game.

Vikings dominate to return as Andover Junior Football League champs

SPECIAL TO THE TOWNSMAN

The Vikings won another AJFL Championship Sunday before 200 people the Andover High School Football field, defeating a Chiefs team 21-0 as they dominated the game on both sides of the ball while avenging an earlier regular season loss to the Chiefs.

Sunday afternoon's resounding victory placed an exclamation point on a terrific season for the Vikings. Both teams entered the game with the best records in the AJFL this year but it was the Vikings who set the tone early, using a physical and swarming defense that often frustrated the best offensive team in the league.

In this year's championship game, the Vikings relied heavily on Andrew Postal, a player who missed the entire regular season due to injury. Postal, showing no rust from missing so many games, came up big on both sides of the ball making huge plays when the Vikings needed it

most and was the impact player of the game.

In an emotional victory, Vikings players and coaches alike shared plenty of smiles and even a few tears after yesterday's victory and looked forward to picking up their trophies at the upcoming AJFL banquet on Nov. 10.

The Andover Junior Football League was founded in 1960 by Augustine J. "Gus" Connolly and has 6 in-town Andover teams. Considered by many to be the oldest running junior football league in the country, the purpose of the league is to conduct an all in-town football season for youngsters ages 9 to 14 under conditions that foster the spirit of competition while enhancing the physical and moral training for youngsters.

In addition to the in-town league the AJFL has a travel 8th grade team. Anyone interested in playing, coaching, cheering or volunteering for the 2016 season can do so by contacting AJFL.com or kenaulbach@gmail.com.



Neither the Vikings' Aidan Ritter, left, or the Chiefs' Tyler Wallis, right, manage to catch a toss meant for Wallis.



The Chiefs' Connor Sheehan tries to make an interception on a pass thrown to the Vikings' James Mahoney.



The Chiefs' Thomas Casey dashes downfield with the ball.

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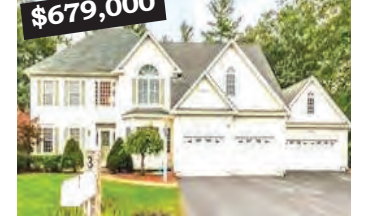
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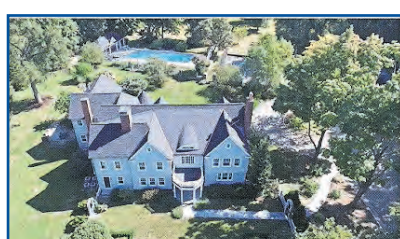
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