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OUR 128<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

# Andover Townsman

Issue No. 7

DECEMBER 31, 2015

75 CENTS

## Andover joins other communities in fight against heroin

By KIERA BLESSING  
kblessing@eagletribune.com

The movement's leaders come from both sides of the state border. They're parents, community figures and nonprofit managers.

They range dramatically in age, interests and careers. But all share a common interest: to keep the families touched by substance abuse from being alone as they go through the hardship they've

all experienced firsthand. With the reach and scale of the heroin epidemic increasing exponentially, many people who have been personally affected by addiction have taken it upon themselves to join the fight against substance abuse, especially that of opioids.

Nearly all of these people have lost loved ones to the needle, while a few were fortunate enough to see them rise above the struggle and overcome the disease. Every one of them, though, has witnessed, in their own

More coverage of the Heroin Crisis. Page 13, 16 & 17

communities, the devastating reality of heroin.

The result has been the rise of grassroots efforts to battle the epidemic. Volunteers donate their time to raise awareness, raise funds and raise the attention of state lawmakers as they dedicate themselves to the fight.

Andover  
When Don Gottfried realized the rate of overdose deaths in Andover had increased six-fold between

2014 and 2015, he and the other members of the Rotary Club in town began looking for a way to help.

"When we started putting together the idea for a new fall fundraiser, it was sort of a no-brainer to go with the heroin crisis," Gottfried said. "We anticipate doing some other smaller events to keep the momentum going and keep the focus on it."

The Rotary Club dubbed the effort "Andover Cares," and the title has become a



AMANDA SABGA/ Staff photo  
Bill Fahey, director of youth services for Andover, speaks to the crowd at the Andover Cares Concert at The Park.

See CRISIS, Page 2

## House decorated by 10-year-old wins annual contest



Corey O'Connell, 10, decorated his home at 11 Lamancha Way by himself.

RYAN HUTTON/ Staff photo

## Lights a holiday surprise for siblings in college

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
jwakefield@andovertownsman.com

Corey O'Connell is only 10-years-old but he lit up the holidays for his three older siblings with a gift they are sure to never forget.

When your two older brothers captain their high school basketball teams - Ryan at Andover High School at Phillips Academy last year - and your older sister Maryann is a computer

whiz attending Worcester Polytechnic Institute, holiday gifts can be tough to get when you are the baby brother to a trio of smart, athletic siblings. "I'm on the tech crew at school," said the proud

fourth-grader who attends High Plain Elementary School. "And I like electronics so I started thinking..." Corey, who is also a member of Andover Boy Scout

See CONTEST, Page 2

## Andover School Committee

# Pokress aims for open seat

Cites 'downward trend' in academics; wants to 'hold administrators accountable'

By GABRIELLA CRUZ  
gacruz@andovertownsman.com

Come March, it's possible that two seats on the Andover School Committee will be open.

Bob Pokress of Cherrywood Circle believes that he is the man for at least one of those seats.

"Over the past roughly 10 to 12 years, the school committee has been failing the children of Andover by being asleep at the wheel while a downward trend of academic achievement has been occurring throughout the system," Pokress said. "I want the policies and the approach toward school governance to result in reversing that trend to an upward trend across the board to academic achievement through all levels in the district."

Pokress, 67, has lived in Andover for 31 years

See POKRESS, Page 6



Bob Pokress

## A year of changes for Andover schools

By GABRIELLA CRUZ  
gacruz@andovertownsman.com

2015 was a year full of changes and uncertainties for the Andover Public Schools, but as 2015 draws to a close, the district's new leadership brings potential for both continued change as well as a more stable future.

On Thursday, Dec. 17, Sheldon Berman, 66, signed a four-year contract to serve as superintendent of Andover schools, in which the district agrees to a \$220,000 annual base salary,

a \$22,000-per-year contribution to an Andover-sponsored retirement plan, and a \$500 monthly automobile allowance.

The committee will also conduct annual performance reviews and will determine whether to award Berman merit-based salary increases or bonuses.

Berman came to the district in June after former superintendent Marinell McGrath announced in March that she would be stepping down after the 2014-2015 school year. McGrath led the district for five years and decided to end her tenure in order to have more time with her husband, who is suffering from medical problems.

McGrath's departure created a vacancy in the district that presented the school committee with the crucial task of choosing the next head of schools. Committee members decided to look for a

one-year interim superintendent to give themselves more time to conduct a search for a permanent leader.

In May, after conducting public interviews with both candidates, the committee unanimously chose Berman for the one-year job and approved a contract that would expire in June 2016. Because Berman had previously worked in Massachusetts, he received a \$60,000 pension on top of a \$206,000 salary. In order to work in

See SCHOOLS, Page 6



CARL RUSSO/ Staff photo  
Town Clerk Larry Murphy swears in new School Committee members Susan McCready and Ted Teichert and incumbent Annie Gilbert on March 25, 2015.

## 2015 was a busy, newsy year

STAFF REPORT

The selection of a new town manager in 2015 marked a watershed moment in Andover's history.

Andrew Flanagan, 30, replaced Reginald "Buzz" Staczynski, who retired on June 30 after 25 years at the helm.

Selectmen chose Flanagan after a rigorous eight-month selection process.

Flanagan, who grew up in Winthrop, and, most recently, was Arlington's deputy town manager, brings financial and technical skills to the post as well as a strong work ethic and history of working well with others.

He signed a five-year

contract with the town, per the town charter, and was sworn into office on Oct. 13.

Selectmen said they chose Flanagan to be the next town manager because they are confident the young man will usher in new ideas.

Selectman Paul Salafia said he talked to managers about their meetings with the finalists and their response to Flanagan sealed the deal for him.

Selectman Robert Landry put change at the forefront of deciding factors when it came to choosing the next town manager.

"In my view, Andrew Flanagan will be the change agent that Andover needs," Landry said.

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Andrew Flanagan was chosen as the new town manager.

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# CONTEST

Continued from Page 1

Troop 79, decided to handle the holiday light decorating job at the family home on Lamancha Way in West Andover. It was his surprise gift to his trio of siblings - and they love it.

He made sure the lights were on when Brendan and Maryann got home from college. Brendan attends Sarah Lawrence College in New York and Maryann came home for the holidays from Worcester. Ryan is always busy in December as AHS basketball is in season. It's a treasured gift as their baby brother truly lit up the holidays for his siblings with his holiday light show.

And, it's an award-winning light show as Corey placed first in the town's holiday light decorating contest run by the Department of Community Services in conjunction with the Andover Townsman. So, that makes the gift even more special.

There were four entries in this year's contest, said Janice Coppolino of DCS. Corey's online photograph of his house decorated with lights received 130 likes while the second place finisher had 117 likes, Coppolino said.

Corey won a \$50 DCS gift card and a trophy for his achievement. He'll sign up for an upcoming DCS-sponsored archery program, he said.

Corey went to a local Lowe's with his mother, Laurel O'Connell, and picked out the lights himself.

"They are cool lights with different LEDs," he said. "I got seven different modes. They are steady or fade in and out and I mixed white



GABRIELLA CRUZ/ Staff photo

Corey O'Connell, 10, won the town's annual Holiday Lights contest when he decorated his family's home on Lamancha Way.



RYAN HUTTON/ Staff photo

This sled, used as a decoration by Corey, may be used for more than aesthetic purposes this week, if there's enough snow for sledding.



Corey O'Connell, 10, decorated his home at 11 Lamancha Way by himself using a variety of lights.



RYAN HUTTON/ Staff photos

lights and multi-colored lights. My mom got on the big ladder and helped me and she hung up the star. But I did everything I could by myself with the little

ladder." His father Mike O'Connell concurred. "He did most of the decorating himself," dad said. "His mom helped him hang

the star. But, Corey picked out and bought the decorations himself. He decorated the house as a surprise for his two older siblings for when they came home

from college. After Corey had decorated the house we suggested Corey enter the contest since he had already worked so hard on the home."

This simple but heartfelt gift surely brought smiles to the O'Connell family this holiday as well as to neighbors who get to drive by the well-lit house every night.

# CRISIS

Continued from Page 1

means for the rest of the town and the surrounding area to contribute to the fight against addiction. Local groups, including several at the high school, have begun donating proceeds from events such as a Powder Puff football game and an Interact Club fundraiser to the cause.

"Andover has the two-pronged approach of intervention and treatment," Gottfried said. "So keeping drugs out, and education and prevention."

Gottfried said the group intends to continue contributing to small events throughout the coming year by partnering with local businesses or other organizations that want to hold fundraisers and lead awareness campaigns. Andover Cares can provide manpower and planning help, he said.

The group will primarily direct its funding toward youth prevention efforts, Gottfried said, and hopes to get some experts like social workers, drug counselors and clergy involved.

"The importance of the issue — that's what really drove the action," he said.

Methuen Working closely with Doug Griffin to bridge New Hampshire and Massachusetts activism efforts is Phil Lahey, a Methuen man whose daughter struggled with addiction for years before she recovered in late 2008. Now seven years clean, Colleen Lahey is proof that addiction can be overcome with the right tools.

Since 2012, Lahey has hosted an addiction awareness show on Methuen Community Television with his daughter, where the pair speak candidly about their experience with addiction and invite guests to do the same.

Lahey also hosts a support group, Circle of Hope, which has recently registered as a nonprofit. In addition to the group's annual fundraising event, Lahey recently led an effort to create subcommittees within the group that will continue working to raise awareness and spur change year-round.

"We understand that abuse has to be attacked from



AMANDA SABGA/ Staff photo

Local Andover band Steel Amp performs at the Andover Cares Concert held to raise awareness about the fight against opiates at The Park.

various angles," Lahey said. The five subcommittees, in total made up of about 10 to 12 people, will focus on fundraising, research and legislation, social media, youth organizations and defense and awareness.

In early 2016, Lahey said a large part of Circle of Hope's focus will be directed at preventative action with kids.

"For the most part, parents minimize the things their kids do, so they don't think it can happen to them," Lahey said. "I was one of them."

## New Hampshire

Doug and Pamela Griffin's life is nothing like it used to be. In September 2014, the Griffins lost their daughter Courtney to heroin at just 20 years old.

"The day she died, it all stopped. Everything just stopped," Doug said.

After watching Courtney struggle to find help and reaching dead ends with insurance that wouldn't help and a lack of other resources, the Griffins have taken to being outspoken about her death so that others won't face the same roadblocks.

"We're so busy in our advocacy work there really isn't time for anything else," Doug said. "We just want to save some families from ever having to go through this."

The couple's biggest effort is the Courtney Griffin Sober House, which they hope to open by mid-2016.

The residence for women, run primarily by volunteers, will start small, with six beds for recovering substance abusers.

The idea, Doug said, is to create a safe space for recovering addicts who have completed a 28-day detox. The residents will be subject to drug tests and curfews, and will learn life skills: how to cook, clean and balance a checkbook. Doug hopes to get them vocational training as well, so that they can join the working world and afford to support themselves if they don't have a degree.

The Griffins are in the process of purchasing a house, which Doug hopes to take possession of by March 1 and open by the summer.

In addition to the sober house, the Griffins are

involved in community groups and spend their days speaking to the media and to state legislators about the epidemic. They host a monthly support group, and when a family in distress reaches out, they share everything they know in the hopes of saving a life.

"I'll take a call, any hour, any time," Doug said. "The people who are fighting this battle now are going to win. I really feel that."

## North Shore

Several North Shore residents have taken on their own awareness campaigns, including Kathy Day and Gary Langis of Gloucester and Jocelis Uribe of Salem. All three have a personal reason drawing them to activism.

Uribe lost a close friend, Lee Gonzalez, to a heroin overdose in October. She and others quickly organized a walk at the Salem Common that saw about 100 people participate. Her group plans to do more in the coming months — perhaps a T-shirt fundraiser or a basketball

tournament that will double as an educational opportunity for kids.

With a 12-year-old son and 7-year-old daughter, Uribe said she feels strongly that there needs to be more awareness among youth so they don't experiment with drugs or develop addictions to begin with.

"It's always been in the back of my head to do something like this, maybe because I'm a parent," Uribe said. "The community itself has never been this bad. ... I'm trying to clean it up, making it safer for the kids."

Day, the northeast regional manager for the nonprofit Learn To Cope, began working with substance abuse disorders because of personal experiences she's had with addiction. She, along with others, organizes an annual vigil in Gloucester that allows families to grieve.

"It's one of the most meaningful things I could put my time and effort toward," Day said of the vigil. "What we all do is show each other that you're not alone and be able to show people support, offer hope to speak out."

Day also oversees seven chapters of Learn To Cope, which "provides support to family members and loved ones that have someone struggling with addiction." A safe space for those struggling to help their loved ones to learn, find resources and support one another, Learn to Cope has 23 chapters across Massachusetts, including the Northeast chapters in Haverhill, Gloucester, Salem and Ipswich.

Day also works with Gary Langis, a harm reduction specialist for the Revere Fire Department, whose wife died of HIV after she contracted the disease while sharing a needle.

Today, Langis helps keep addicts safe from disease, injury and other adverse effects of addiction. He also trains families in the Gloucester and Cape Ann areas who ask for help in use of the overdose-reversing drug Narcan and assists them with enrolling in state-funded programs so they can keep a dose at home for their loved ones.

Langis also focuses on reducing the stigma surrounding drug abuse and in finding alternatives to the punitive approach to the epidemic.

"It's important to me," Langis said. "We've been stigmatizing drug users for so long. ... Stigma is embedded within the community, and it's going to take another 100 years to get out."

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# ANA Synchro athletes visit southern France

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
 jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

Fourteen athletes from the Andover/North Andover YMCA traveled to the south of France in late November as part of USA Synchro's International Club Exchange (ICE).

The athletes are all members of the YMCA's synchronized swimming team ANA Synchro. The Y also invited athletes from neighboring teams to participate, and eight athletes from the YMCA of the North Shore Selkies and Cambridge Synchro also made the trip.

The athletes stayed with host families from Nautil Club Boucain (NCB), a synchronized swimming team based near Marseille.

While in France, the athletes participated in regular NCB synchro practices, went to school with their host sisters, and went on a number of excursions to learn about the history and culture of the Provence region.

Previously, in October, 30 athletes and five coaches from NCB traveled to Massachusetts, during which time they also attended regular



Athletes from ANA Synchro, YMCA of the North Shore Selkies and Cambridge Synchro visited France and met three-time World Champion and Olympic bronze medalist Virginie Dedieu (standing, center, back) after she gave a demonstration swim in Bouc-Bel-Air, France, the home of Nautil Club Boucain.

*“France was a terrific place for us to do an exchange because France is a very strong international competitor.”*

Head Coach Leah Pinette

synchro practices, went to American schools with their host sisters, and were treated to a number of classic New England cultural activities.

“France was a terrific place for us to do an exchange because France is a very

strong international competitor,” said Head Coach Leah Pinette, who competed around the world for Team USA for nine years prior to joining ANA Synchro. “We exchanged technical knowledge of our sport which will



Twenty-two American synchronized swimming athletes learned about the history and culture of France by taking part in numerous excursions and activities, including a tour of the village of Les Baux-de-Provence.



Athletes and coaches from ANA Synchro, YMCA of the North Shore Selkies, Cambridge Synchro, and Nautil Club Boucain took part in a team building activity in New Hampshire in October as part of USA Synchro's International Club Exchange Program.

definitely be very valuable from a competition point of view.”

A highlight of the trip was a demonstration swim

by France's own Virginie Dedieu, a three-time World Champion and an Olympic bronze medalist.

“It was so exciting,” ANA

Synchro athlete Ruby Remati of Andover said in a press release. “I watch her videos on YouTube all the time. She's so much more impressive in person than on a small screen. She's a real inspiration to us all.”

After the demonstration swim, Dedieu presented each of the girls with an autographed cap.

ANA Synchro is the competitive synchronized swimming team of the Andover/North Andover YMCA. Girls wishing to join the team or try the sport for the first time should contact Head Coach Leah Pinette at 978-685-3541, lpinette@mvyymca.org. Introductory “Synchro Splash” sessions meet twice a week and are held regularly throughout the year; the next session starts Jan. 5.

Synchronized swimming combines music, dance and swimming into “the ultimate team sport.” Through the artistry and athletics of synchronized swimming and team competition, girls build lifelong friendships and skills while developing the confidence to dream big and pursue their goals. The team is open to girls ages 6 to 19.

## ANDOVER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**JANUARY**  
 TUESDAYS, JAN. 1 AND 26

**BEHIND THE SCENES TOURS,** Tuesdays, Jan. 1, 1 to 2 p.m.; Jan. 26, 7 to 8 p.m., Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St. Peek inside closets, pull aside curtains, and explore behind the scenes in the Blanchard House and Andover Historical Society.

Tour the attics, closets, nooks and crannies and hear stories about rarely seen collections items. The stories will change with every tour, so there will always be something new to learn.

Register online for a free tour at [www.andoverhistorical.org/behind-the-scenes](http://www.andoverhistorical.org/behind-the-scenes), call 978-475-2236 or email [info@andoverhistorical.org](mailto:info@andoverhistorical.org).

**WEDNESDAY, JAN. 6**

**MERRIMACK VALLEY ESTATE PLANNING COUNCIL PROGRAM,** noon to 1 p.m., Massachusetts School of Law, Room 218, 500 Federal St., Andover. Mary Ellen McIver of HUB International Personal Insurance will present “Property Casualty Pitfalls and

Problems”; registration is not required to attend this brown bag lunch event.

**SATURDAY, JAN. 9**

**FACULTY PIANO RECITAL WITH STEPHEN PORTER,** 7:30 p.m., Cochran Chapel on the Phillips Academy campus, 180 Main St., Andover. Presented

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## Caring in the comfort of home

During this holiday season we are drawn to the treasures of home – the warmth and comfort of family, memories and familiar surroundings. Our agencies work together to keep you or your loved one at home with the people and things you love. It has been our privilege and honor to provide comprehensive medical, emotional, and supportive services in the homes of thousands of wonderful patients and families in our care.

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OBITUARIES

Mr. Alfred G. "Fred" Zappala, 83 Years

July 3, 1932 — December 20, 2015

METHUEN, FORMERLY OF ANDOVER — Mr. Alfred G. Zappala, a resident of Methuen for the past 15 years, formerly of Andover and beloved husband of the late Shirley (Ayoub) Zappala, passed away, surrounded by his loving children on Sunday afternoon, December 20, 2015. He was 83 years old.



Born in Lawrence, he was the son of the late John F. and Lena (Mambro) Zappala. Mr. Zappala was a United States Army Veteran, entering the military as a Lieutenant on August 24, 1954, and receiving his honorable discharge on August 23, 1956. Known as Fred, he was a graduate of MIT where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Physics. He furthered his education at the Harvard Business School where he earned the degree of Master in Business Administration. Fred had a long and successful career in defense and technology consulting and sales and was employed by Digital Equipment Corporation for many years.

Burlingame, Calif.; brother, John F. Zappala of Amherst, N.H.; grandchildren, Franklin A., Derek M. and Christopher M. Farago, all of Orlando, and Carina and Camille Ongpin, both of Burlingame, Calif.; and one niece and several nephews. He will be dearly missed by all.

**ARRANGEMENTS:** His funeral service was celebrated in the Burke-Magliozi Funeral Home, 390 North Main Street, Andover, on Tuesday, December 29, 2015, at 10 a.m. Relatives and friends are most welcome to attend. Calling hours will be held on Monday, December 28, 2015, from 4 to 7 p.m. Interment will be held in Spring Grove Cemetery in Andover. In lieu of flowers, donations in Alfred's memory may be made to the Methuen Fire Department, 24 Lowell Street, Methuen, MA 01844. For additional information, please visit, www.burkemagliozi.com.

Fred enjoyed playing golf and was an avid Boston sports fan. He was an excellent and passionate Duplicate Bridge player having amassed nearly 2,000 Master Points.

He is survived by his loving children, John L. Zappala of San Diego, Calif., Rosemarie Zappala of Orlando, Fla., and Christina Zappala Ongpin of

**ANDOVER TOWNSMAN OBITUARIES**  
 Obituaries in the Andover Townsman are paid notices. To place an obituary, please visit andovertownsmen.com/submitobit. Call 1-800-681-6248 if you have any questions.

Local realtors holding post-Christmas toy drop

STAFF REPORT

Local Realtors Tom, Gretchen, and Chris Papineau will be holding a toy collection for those who feel that their homes have been overrun by toys.

After the hectic holidays have passed, local homeowners are encouraged to step back and take a look at what old toys their home and family can do without.

On Saturday, Jan. 9, residents with too many toys are encouraged to make a trip to the Coldwell Banker office, 305 North Main St., #102, with toys in tow and leave the rest to the Papineaus.

Upon arrival, ask for Gretchen Papineau or one of the Papineau Partners Team. All donated toys will be donated to Massachusetts

General Hospital.

The Papineaus' hope is to not only to help families deal with post-holiday clutter, but to give to those who may not have been able to experience such a fruitful holiday.

"We love being involved with our community and are strong supporters of anything local," Gretchen said. "This season, we are looking to help our community by providing an efficient drop-off location for those who are donating, and to acquire enough donations to make several children smile as we start this new year."

Any questions can be directed to Gretchen Papineau and she can be reached at Gretchen.papineau@nemoves.com or 978-815-6622.

Inmate arrested in Andover hangs self in Middleton

BY PAUL TENNANT  
 tennant@eagletribune.com

MIDDLETON — An 18-year-old inmate at the Middleton House of Correction hanged himself last Wednesday night, according to Deputy Maurice Pratt, spokesman for the Essex County Sheriff's Department.

Correctional officers found Anfelmin Feliz of Lawrence hanging in his cell at 6:17 p.m., Pratt said. They immediately began performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation and called emergency medical services, Pratt said.

Middleton firefighters arrived at 6:26 p.m., Pratt said. Feliz was taken to Beverly Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The Sheriff's Department's security investigation team will review the incident, "as we always do," Pratt said. State police assigned to the

Essex District Attorney's Office will also investigate the man's death, Pratt said.

The correctional officers who discovered Feliz hanging in the cell "performed admirably under these circumstances and they utilized their training," Pratt said.

Feliz was a pretrial inmate who was being held without bail, Pratt said. He was charged with armed robbery, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and wanton destruction of property.

Andover police arrested Feliz and Edgar Garcia, 19, also of Lawrence, and charged them with robbing a Liberty Taxi driver on Pauline Road the night of Nov. 17. One of the men, armed with a knife, cut the driver's hand when she tried to call for help, police said.

The men did not obtain any money, police said.

The Andover Townsman is looking for a few good men. And women. And even kids, for that matter.

Next month the newspaper is launching a new feature, "Volunteer of the Week."

The idea is to celebrate the

many people who volunteer in town in any capacity to make Andover a better place to live.

It can be a member of a board or commission who takes up their own, personal time attending meetings that help govern the town.

POLICE LOG

COMPILED BY TERRY DATE

MONDAY, DEC. 21

At 6:56 a.m., a Wild Rose Drive resident called police to report that someone went through his unlocked vehicle overnight. He reported that nothing was stolen.

At 7:08 a.m., another Wild Rose Drive resident reported to police that someone went through his vehicle overnight.

At 7:16 a.m., a separate Wild Rose Drive resident called police to report that someone entered her unlocked vehicle overnight. She also reported that \$10 cash was stolen and that a flashlight was left behind.

At 7:31 a.m., another Wild Rose Drive resident called 911 to report that their vehicle was entered overnight.

At 7:53 a.m., an officer spoke with a resident on Wild Rose Drive and they reported that their vehicle was entered overnight.

At 7:55 a.m., while an officer was on Wild Rose Drive, another resident reported that their vehicle was also entered overnight.

At 8:13 a.m., a Windemere Drive resident called police to report that someone went through their vehicle overnight.

At 8:37 a.m., a caller on Lovejoy Road reported that two of his unlocked vehicles were entered overnight and that money, two GPS's and Ray Ban sunglasses were stolen.

At 9:04 a.m., an officer filed a motor vehicle breaking and entering report that happened on Lovejoy Road.

At 10:37 a.m., an officer filed a larceny from motor vehicle report that

happened on Wild Rose Drive.

At 10:49 a.m., an officer filed a larceny from motor vehicle report that happened on Wild Rose Drive.

At 12:53 p.m., a staff member from Shawsheen School on Anns Lane called police to report a raccoon near the building "terrorizing students and faculty." The responding animal control officer searched the area with negative results.

TUESDAY, DEC. 22

At 6:42 a.m., a caller reported that two windows were "blown out" of his work truck on South Main Street, but he said nothing appeared to be missing.

At 7:13 a.m., police received another call from South Main Street reporting that their vehicle had been vandalized.

At 7:53 a.m., a caller

reported vandalism to a vehicle on Main Street.

A Fraser Drive resident requested to speak with an officer at 10:41 a.m., at the station to report that his Bobcats had been stolen.

A Burnham Road resident called police at 12:58 p.m., to report that when she went home for lunch, she noticed things had been moved around in her house. There was no forced entry and police believed someone used a key she left in her mailbox to enter the home.

At 4:15 p.m., a caller from River Road reported that someone stole a GPS out of her car and left someone else's ID behind.

At 11:15 p.m., officers arrested Stephen Ayers, 22, of 242 Wellman Ave., North Chelmsford, and charged him with operating a vehicle with a revoked license and a number plate violation.



The 24 graduates, all men, represent the 18 fire departments of: Andover, Boxborough, Braintree, Clinton, Danvers, Easton, Hanson, Harwich, Lakeville, Lawrence, Maynard, Natick, North Andover, Raynham, Saugus, Taunton, Wayland, and Woburn.

Andover Fire Department has two new members

Andover's Fire Department has two new members as they are recent graduates of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's 45-day Career Recruit Firefighting Training Program.

Ryan M. Beirne and Andrew J. Loonie have joined the Andover Fire Department. They are among 24 program graduates now working for 18 fire departments around the state including Andover, Boxborough, Braintree, Clinton, Danvers, Easton, Hanson, Harwich, Lakeville, Lawrence, Maynard, Natick, North Andover, Raynham, Saugus, Taunton, Wayland and Woburn.

The State Firefighting Academy graduation was Dec. 18 and is the 237th class of the program. The Academy is a division of the Department of Fire Services,

and offers this program, tuition-free. The graduation ceremony took place at the Department of Fire Services in Stow.

"This rigorous professional training provides our newest firefighters with the basic skills to perform their jobs effectively and safely," said State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan in a press release.

Coan said today's firefighters do far more than fight fires. They are the first ones called to respond to chemical and environmental emergencies, ranging from the suspected presence of carbon monoxide to a gas leak. They may be called to rescue a child who has fallen through the ice or who has locked himself in a bathroom. They rescue people from stalled elevators and in vehicle crashes. They test and maintain their equipment including self-contained

breathing apparatus (SCBA), hydrants, hoses, power tools and apparatus.

At the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy they learn all these skills and more from certified fire instructors who are also experienced firefighters. Students learn all the basic skills they need to respond to fires and to contain and control them. They are also given training in public fire education, hazardous material incident mitigation, flammable liquids, stress management, confined space rescue techniques, and rappelling. The intensive, nine-week program for municipal firefighters involves classroom instruction, physical fitness training, firefighter skills training, and live firefighting practice.

The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy trains 24 students every three weeks. Students receive

classroom training in all basic firefighter skills. They practice first under non-fire conditions and then during controlled fire conditions.

To graduate, students must demonstrate proficiency in life safety, search and rescue, ladder operations, water supply, pump operation, and fire attack. Fire attack operations range from mailbox fires to multiple-floor or multiple-room structural fires.

Upon successful completion of the recruit program, all students have met national standards of National Fire Protection Association 1001 and are certified to the level of Firefighter I and II, and Hazardous Materials First Responder Operational Level by the Massachusetts Fire Training Council, which is accredited by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications.

Plan to stopper healthcare costs sparks early debate

BY CHRISTIAN M. WADE  
 CNHI State Reporter

BOSTON — Supporters of a plan to bottle the cost of medical services say it offers a salve to ailing community hospitals, and it will mean millions of dollars in savings for hospitals on the North Shore and Merrimack Valley.

But a group that represents those hospitals disputes just how much help it could mean and calls the plan "unworkable."

The debate, pitting labor leaders against hospital executives, could be left to voters to settle.

Supporters of the union-backed proposal have collected nearly 70,000 signatures to put the question on the November 2016 ballot. Lawmakers have until May to take up the issue before it's cleared for the ballot, but previous legislation hasn't gained much traction.

The plan seeks to cap prices that insurance companies pay hospitals for a variety of services at no more than 20 percent more than the average of what other providers receive.

Importantly for community hospitals, the proposal sets a floor for payments to "safety net" hospitals, which must get at least 90 percent of the average payment to

other providers.

Many community hospitals are considered "safety net hospitals," because they serve large numbers of low-income patients. And many struggle to collect from low-paying government insurance programs, or get below-average reimbursements from commercial insurers.

The measure could reduce overall payments to hospitals by an estimated \$450 million a year. But supporters say it will mean a savings of \$250 million per year for community and safety-net hospitals.

That would mean more than \$23 million for hospitals in the North Shore and Merrimack Valley — savings that could lower patients' healthcare premiums.

"We need to create fairness in the healthcare market," said Tim Foley, executive vice president of 1199 Service Employees International Union United Healthcare Workers East.

"Too many good community hospitals are facing financial challenges that can be fixed by simply spending our healthcare dollars fairly," the union, which represents more than 52,000 hospital workers in Massachusetts, estimates that Lawrence General Hospital

alone would save \$5.7 million a year if the Legislature or the state's voters approve the plan.

Holy Family Hospital in Methuen would save \$4.7 million; Merrimack Valley Hospital in Haverhill would save \$2.6 million; Anna Jaques Hospital in Newburyport would see \$6.8 million; and Beverly and Addison Gilbert hospitals \$3.5 million.

But the Massachusetts Hospital Association — which represents large medical centers as well as community hospitals — opposes the proposal.

Tim Gens, the association's executive vice president, calls it "flawed and unworkable." The state had a system of regulating reimbursements years ago, he said, "but it failed."

"More government regulation is not what we need to address this problem," he said.

Union estimates of what community hospitals will save, he added, are "inaccurate."

"They make no sense, and the union hasn't shared their methodology," he said.

State lawmakers have wrestled with rising medical costs since approving a landmark healthcare law in 2006 that required coverage for all Massachusetts residents

and expanded the state-run healthcare program to include more people.

In 2012, the Legislature passed a package of reforms that included cost-curbings provisions estimated to save the state government more than \$200 billion over 15 years.

The law, signed by former Gov. Deval Patrick, caps annual healthcare cost increases at 3.6 percent.

Foley said limiting how much insurers pay for services will also allow community hospitals to "receive fair pay for good quality healthcare, protect healthcare jobs, and lower the cost of healthcare overall across the state."

Gens disagrees. He said the biggest financial problem for community hospitals is underpayment of services by the state and federal governments, and that can only be fixed by legislation addressing the government reimbursement rate.

"Community hospitals are under financial pressure and certainly need assistance," he said. "But they won't be rescued by this plan."

Christian Wade covers the Massachusetts Statehouse for CNHI's newspapers and websites. Reach him at cwade@cnhi.com

Looking for volunteers!

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If you'd like to nominate someone, send an email to Bill Kirk, editor of the Andover Townsman, at bkirk@

andovertownsmen.com. Or call 978-623-8733.

If you already have the information about the person, send that along with a photo. If not, let us know and we can conduct the interview and take a photo.

We basically need to know the following: Name, age, volunteer position, why they volunteer, how long they have volunteered, what they like about it and what they get out of it. So, let us know! We want to celebrate volunteers!

**MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY TEENS**

There's a ton of fun in store for teens at MHL in January. Upcoming January events for teens at the library include:

**Movie Nights**, Tuesdays, Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26, 6:30 p.m.

**Yankee Swap**, Monday, Jan. 4, 3 p.m. Bring a wrapped gift to the Teen Room to swap it for something else.

**VAB (Volunteer Advisory Board) meeting**, Tuesday, Jan. 5, 3 p.m. Plan something big.

**Teen Trivia**, Thursday, Jan. 7, 7 p.m. Test one's trivia knowledge with friends.

**Book Craft: Make a hedgehog (part one)**, Monday, Jan. 11, 3 p.m. Old books will be provided for the project. Participants will learn how to craft a hedgehog through careful, meditative folding.

**Random Fandom**, Wednesday,

Jan. 13, 3 p.m. Teens can discuss what fandoms they're interested in.

**Meditation with Seth Monk**, Wednesday, Jan. 20, 7 p.m. The former Andover High School graduate and former Buddhist monk will cover the basics of sitting and walking in meditation. Bring a cushion and a blanket. First time meditators are welcome. Sign up online.

**Phone Case Makeovers**, Thursday, Jan. 21, 3 p.m. Turn that sad phone case into something fabulous. Registration is encouraged.

**Book Craft: Make a hedgehog (part two)**, Monday, Jan. 25, 3 p.m. Now that the hedgehog is finished, it's time to accessorize the paper pet.

**Bad Art Transformation**, Wednesday, Jan. 27, 3 p.m. Add creative touches to old, boring paintings. Previous

additions have included strategically placed superheroes or Mario Bros. characters. Take a look at some well-known ones for inspiration. The library will provide the paintings.

**Duct Tape Crafts**, Thursday, Jan. 28, 7 p.m. Many things can be created using duct tape.

All programs and activities are at Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St., Andover. MHL events are for teens in grades six through 12. Register online at [www.mhl.org/eventcalendar](http://www.mhl.org/eventcalendar) or call 978-623-8401, ext. 31, for more information. Teens can also check out the blog for news, events and other fun stuff at <http://mhlteenroom.tumblr.com> and follow the Teen Room on Instagram @mhlteenroom.

**MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY CHILDREN'S ROOM**

Here's what's in store for young people at the library at 2 North Main St.:

**Find-Out Friday**, Jan. 15, 3:45 p.m. Geared towards ages 5 and up. Online registration is

required.

**Pajama Party**, Tuesdays, Jan. 19 and 26, 6:30 p.m. Preschoolers and a favorite adult will have fun with stories, songs, a short movie and a craft. Pick

up a token in the Children's Room before the program.

**Game Day with the Jr. Friends**, Wednesday, Jan. 20, 3:45 p.m. Open to children 6 and up. Online registration is required.



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# SCHOOL

Continued from Page 1

Andover for four more years, however, Berman agreed to forgo his pension until the end of the contract.

While selecting a new chief of schools is a significant change in itself, other district administrative roles were shaken up over the year as well. On the heels of turmoil around the high school's top position, Philip Conrad joined the district as principal of Andover High School in 2015 after serving as principal of Rockport Middle/High School for five years.

Conrad succeeded former principal of West Middle School Steve Murray, who left the position after just two months following reportedly failed contract negotiations with former superintendent McGrath. Murray, current principal at Chelmsford High School, was chosen to fill the shoes of Dr. Christopher Lord, who abruptly resigned under strange circumstances after three years at the helm of the high school.

The district's decision makers also experienced transition in 2015, starting with an empty chair left by now-Sen. Barbara L'Italien. By election time in March, L'Italien's one-year seat as well as two three-year seats had attracted six candidates. Gilbert, the incumbent chairwoman, ran for the one-year seat against Paul Properzio, but ultimately came out on top to serve a second year



RYAN HUTTON/ Staff photo

Andover Town Meeting membership overwhelmingly votes in favor of an additional \$423,062 to the schools' budget on Monday, May 4.

as the committee's chairwoman. Former selectman Ted Teichert and Susan McCready won the two three-year committee seats, beating out incumbent David Birnbach and challenger Kim Sousa.

At Town Meeting in May, the newly reformed committee received approval for its fiscal 2016 spending plan, which totaled more than \$73 million. Although the committee's budget was \$423,000 higher than what the Board

of Selectmen had proposed, the go-ahead garnered at Town Meeting ended a budget battle between the town and the committee over school spending. The vote allowed the district to use \$280,000 for teacher salaries

to avoid laying off a number of teachers who, if the budget had been denied, would have lost their jobs.

As a new year begins, the district will face another round of problems to solve and obstacles to overcome.

The math curriculum at the middle schools and the proposed new high school schedule will be some of the committee's first tasks in 2016 and have already attracted attention from the community and district staff.

*“Sadly, ‘Nero fiddles as Rome burns’ is not just a prose expression describing the ‘why’ of the downfall of Rome but aptly describes our current School Committee’s approach to school system governance.”*

Bob Pokress

# POKRESS

Continued from Page 1

this January and said that his educational and professional experiences have made him aware of the need for change in Andover schools. He took out nomination papers last week.

Chairwoman Annie Gilbert will be leaving the committee in March after serving for seven years, two of which as committee chairwoman.

“I plan to step down from the school committee in March,” Gilbert said. “With my youngest child graduating high school this year, it’s time to move on to other things.”

Paula Colby-Clements’



Chairwoman Annie Gilbert is not running again.



Paula Colby-Clements may not run again.

term as a school committee member will also expire in March. She could not be reached for comment about whether she plans to run for election again. Pokress pulled papers for school

committee for the March 22 town election on Friday, but has been the only resident to do so thus far.

Colby-Clements has not pulled papers yet, but has until February to formally run for re-election. She has been on the committee since 2010 after running in an uncontested election for the seat.

The departure of both Gilbert and Colby-Clements

would leave a very inexperienced board behind, as members Ted Teichert and Susan McCready were both elected in the last election and Joel Blumstein is still in his first, three-year term.

The School Committee oversees the largest budget in town, as well as the largest number of employees. This year’s budget is about \$73 million out of a total, townwide budget of about \$172 million, and pays salaries and benefits for approximately 800 teachers and clerical workers along with administrators and other staff.

Pokress, an honors graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, majored in electronics engineering before serving six years as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Coast Guard. He received a Masters of Science in the field of Applied Math from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and a

Masters in Theoretical and Applied Mathematics from the University of California, Berkeley.

“I saw some of the top echelon students and a number of cadets struggling with the same math that my generation was expected to know eyes closed, hands behind our backs,” Pokress explained. “That raised my level of awareness that even the best public school systems in the country are not doing nearly as good a job as they did one or two generations ago.”

Pokress recently wrote a letter to the editor that was published in the Townsman on Thursday, Dec. 10. The letter was titled “Andover School Committee has Lost its Way,” and Pokress pointed to the letter as his current platform.

“Part of what I want to bring to the school committee is a much higher level of accountability by the superintendent, the principals and the teachers

for the level of academic achievement in the schools compared to the very meager levels of accountability that exist today,” Pokress said.

He said in his letter: “Good school department governance requires electing School Committee members who are unafraid to ask the hard questions that always need to be asked of school administrators to root out of them the inconvenient truths bureaucrats always like to bury, who will hold the School Department’s highly-paid administrators accountable for measurable academic results and who will stand up to the powers that be in the education-industrial complex.”

“Sadly, ‘Nero fiddles as Rome burns’ is not just a prose expression describing the ‘why’ of the downfall of Rome but aptly describes our current School Committee’s approach to school system governance.”

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# Readalong celebrates the joy of reading

By BILL KIRK  
 bkirk@andovertownsmen.com

A townwide readalong in November brought out dozens of adults who read to scores of kids in classrooms in every elementary school in the district.

The program, held the week of Nov. 16-20, is held every November in conjunction with American Education Week.

During the week, the schools invite community members into their classrooms to promote a love of reading and foster a sense of community, according to Renita Jackson of the Andover/North Andover League of Women Voters, which organized the event.

Readers could bring their own books or read from one selected by the school. Readers were treated to receptions with refreshments afterwards.

Maureen Sundberg of the LWV said it was the 21st year the event was held in Andover and includes all of the district's elementary schools plus the Pike School and St. Augustine's.

As part of the event, the LWV donated the book "Today on Election Day," written by Catherine Stier, to all of the schools, she said.

Students in Jen Fecteau's fifth-grade class said they enjoyed the event.

"I like reading," said Skylar Garcia, 10. "It interests me."

Alan Dowty, also 10, said books spark his imagination.

"My favorite book is Fire Star," he said. "It's all about clay dragons coming to life."

The event confirmed his love of reading, said Cole Lachapelle, who said he

was currently reading five books.

"I love fiction," he said. The readalong was a good experience for the readers, too.

Mark Spencer, a local businessman, said he read from a biography of Teddy Roosevelt.

"I got their attention with the Battle of San Juan Hill and the Rough Riders," he said.

Bill Pennington, organizer of local running races, said he always reads a book called "Tulips," and hands out tulip bulbs for the kids to take home and plant in the yard.

"They don't know what the color is going to be so they have to try to guess," said Pennington, who has been reading the same book to different classes of kids for 20 years.

Mary Gould said she read the book, "The Little Red Hen Makes a Pizza," but the students did more than listen.

She said she gets them to act out parts in the book.

"It's a lot of fun," she said.

Candy Dann, a local author, read her own book at Bancroft this year.

She said it was the first, public reading of "The Recycling Story."

"I love reading to the children, especially those in first- and second-grade because they are so attentive and interested and want to know how to recycle right," she said. "I gave them an 'assignment' and I hope that all parents of Mrs. O'Conner's first-grade class will ask their students what they learned about recycling in the Read-Along. Hint: It has to do with what NOT to recycle and why."



Eileen Woods, former South School principal, reads to first-graders during the League of Women Voters annual Read Across America event at the South School.



Candy Dann reads to Bancroft students.



David Froberg of the Andover Police Department talks with first-graders at the South School after reading to them.



A large group of local residents read to students at the Sanborn Elementary School and then met afterwards for refreshments.

TIM JEAN/Staff photos

## ON CAMPUS

William Flanagan achieved honors for the first quarter at Boston College High School.

Dautey Akufu and Brian Coiro were named to the dean's list for the spring 2015 semester at Curry College.

The following local residents were named to the dean's list for the spring 2015 semester at Northeastern University: Guillaume Benoit Harmange, biochemistry major; Ceara C. Donovan,

architecture studies major; Marie Casey Olney, environmental studies/economics major; Frank Christopher Potts, business administration major; Rachel Dai Schnakenberg, biology major; Bryce E. Stocks, business administration

major; Kanella E. Christopoulos, speech-language pathology and audiology major; Nicole E. Hardgrove, political science/international affairs major; Hannah Emerson Bramhall, communication studies major; Christopher F. Chu,

computer science/information science major; Lauren J. Wanzek, psychology major; Meghan K. McPhee, physical therapy major; Christina M. Iannalfo, business administration major; Anthony M. Manfredi, health science major;

Alexandra N. Allocca, business administration major; James R. Roselle, communication studies major; Amit Shrenik Deliwala, electrical engineering major; and Christopher Z. McKenna, chemical engineering major.

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**2015**

Continued from Page 1

**Election upset**

The town saw major political upheaval this year when long-time Selectman Brian Major was defeated after serving 18 years, or 6 terms, on the board.

He was up for re-election against fellow incumbent Dan Kowalski, a one-term veteran of the board, and newcomers Bob Landry and Neil Senior.

But it was Landry who would prevail in the end, coming in second behind Kowalski with Major a distant third and Senior an even more distant fourth place. The win by Landry was blamed on a couple of things - a lackluster campaign by Major and an appealing campaign by Landry, who touted fiscal austerity and government transparency.

**Chism trial**

The heartbreak continued in 2015 for the Ritzer family of Andover as the trial of the student convicted of killing their teacher daughter, Colleen Ritzer, presented horrific details of her murder earlier this month.

Phillip Chism was 14 and a student in Ritzer's math class at Danvers High School when he followed her into a school bathroom and killed her two years ago. She was strangled, stabbed at least 16 times with a box cutter, raped and then her body was dumped in the woods near the school. Chism, now 16, was found guilty of first-degree murder on Dec. 15. He will be sentenced next month.

The Ritzers continue to get support from their hometown as numerous memorial events in honor of Colleen are held, including a 5K road race held near her birthday in May, a girls hockey game between Andover and Danvers high school teams and continuing contributions to her foundation which provides scholarships for future teachers.

**Youth Center**

After several years of waiting, the Cormier Community Center, located behind Doherty Middle School, is finally open although details of its grand opening ceremony are still being worked out.

The year 2015 was the year of the final push for money to get the nearly \$7 million building open. The Andover Youth Foundation received \$150,000 in anonymous donations in 2015 which helped to get the doors open - finally.

The Center has been talked about around town for years so the grand opening ceremony is expected to be a well-attended event. Two big donors are developer Yvon Cormier of Andover, who donated \$1 million, while Phillips Academy donated \$500,000. Other donors this year included Charlie Daher of Commonwealth Motors.

**Other big stories**

A new housing development at the old Strawberry Hill Farm and another one on Elm Street were both approved by the Planning Board over the objections of neighbors, who have filed appeals on both projects.

Merrimack College's dorm project, halted in Andover by town and neighborhood opposition, continued apace on the North Andover side



A breach in the Shawsheen River dam in the Ballardvale section of Andover caused some damage to the parking area of the Shawsheen Arrowhead Athletics company in mid-September.



The Franciscan Monastery on River Road is headed for the wrecking ball after a condominium proposed for the site received town approvals.

of the border. The school is expected to start construction on more dorms in Andover in the new year.

Neighbors of the old, closed landfill on Ledge Road continued to raise issues of concern with the town. Public Works officials say that even after the landfill is formally closed, part of it will be used for a town storage yard, something neighbors are opposed to, citing truck traffic and insufficient sidewalks.

The Andover Hockey Shop announced it was closing this year, ending a nearly 50-year relationship with the town's vibrant ice hockey scene. The Shawsheen Square store had a loyal following, many of whom simply liked hanging

around, talking hockey and other matters, while getting their skates sharpened or buying equipment. Superstores and online hockey sites were to blame for the store's demise.

Town Meeting passed the Historic Mill Overlay District, a zoning proposal that should enable more diverse development of the area around the train station, the town public works yard and the surrounding neighborhood. While nothing concrete has come of it, there is apparently a lot of interest from developers in taking a look at transit-oriented development, among other projects.

Abutters to the proposed

Kinder Morgan natural gas pipeline took heart in November when Massachusetts AG Maura Healey declared that the state does not need natural gas pipelines to meet

energy needs through 2030. That declaration could be influential if the pipeline's fate winds up being determined in court. Kinder Morgan has applied for federal approval to build its 400-mile pipeline, 4.3 miles of which would traverse Andover. The pipeline will also need approvals from the state's utility commission and its Department of Environmental Protection.

Heavy rain the weekend Sept. 12-13 swelled the Shawsheen River and washed out part of a retaining wall at the Ballardvale Dam. The Shawsheen Rubber Company, the Andover Conservation Commission and state Office of Dam Safety documented the damage and arranged repairs. Meanwhile, two other dams along the river in Andover are slated for removal in 2016 but the Ballardvale Dam will remain.

The Preservation Commission assigned demolition delay protection for houses including a bungalow at 33 Porter Road. The property will be protected through September 2016. But a last historic link to the town's strawberry farms came down with the demolition of the home and barn at 61 Argilla Road. The home had been neglected for years and had fallen into disrepair. Meanwhile, the year-long delay to demolition of the St. Francis monastery ran out in 2015, and the building is expected to be knocked down in 2016.

Police arrested a 53-year-old man charged with kidnapping an Andover teen and breaking into two Andover homes. Peter Bardzik was held on \$300,000 bail and he remains in jail. On July 31, Bardzik allegedly duct taped a 16-year-old girl to a chair in her Andover home and stole about \$300.

The town struck a deal with a New York-based power company called Syncharpha that would result in the town saving \$6 million over 20 years from a solar array in Western Massachusetts. But Syncharpha isn't going to build the solar array until the Legislature lifts the caps on credits for using solar power. So far, the Legislature has yet to do so.



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# Opinion

## Main Street businesses could use some help

'Tis the season. To shop. Well, that's the cynic's view of the holiday season. On the other hand, watching local businesses hustle to get customers, you have to root for them to succeed.

From one end of Main Street to the other, there are small businesses hoping to boost their sales during the holiday season.

Enzo of Andover, for example, located at 91 Main St., near the back of the Andover Village Square, is a high-end men's clothing store. The owner, Enzo Fossella, had his store for 23 years in the Musgrove Building, looking out over Elm Square.

Since his move, his storefront isn't quite as visible. During a recent interview, he noted that things aren't quite as rosy as some economic forecasters claim. That's why he was happy to get a visit from state Sen. Barbara L'Italien, D-Andover, who recently took a walking tour of downtown, stopping in to see how she could help.

Enzo, as everyone calls him, told her that regulations are just as tough on small businesses as they are on big businesses.

"We do all the things that General Motors does," he said. "There should be some kind of recognition according to who we are."

While it would be helpful to ease some of the state regulations strangling local businesses, it would also be nice to ease some of the local regulations that slow things down for small businesses in town.

Selectman Alex Vispoli pushed to set up the Economic Development Council, or EDC, which was vocal last year about establishing the Historic Mill District. Town Meeting ultimately approved the district, which may eventually pave the way for redevelopment of the town yard, which is adjacent to the train station.

The EDC has also been instrumental in pushing for a parking overhaul downtown. Anything the town can do to make it easier for people to park without getting a ticket would be huge. Parking plans seem to come and go, but nothing ever really seems to stick. Meanwhile, businesses struggle along.

Sense of Wonder, located at 27 Main St. the last few years, is closing at the end of the year. The owner said it's because it's time to move on and do something else, he said in a story in a recent Townsman. But one has to wonder if the downtown business climate may have something to do with that.

Holly Nahabedian, branch manager at Century Bank and head of the Andover Business Center Association, is doing a great job generating ideas and buzz around downtown events. But even that is a struggle. While the Santa Parade and Tree Lighting by most accounts was a successful event, it's unclear if the late start time — this year it was 4 p.m. instead 1 p.m. — generated additional commerce for local businesses as intended.

But at least she and the ABCA tried something. The following weekend, they held a shoppers stroll. That was a good idea, but Main Street wasn't exactly bustling, according to store owners. People who were shopping downtown that night didn't even know it was an official event.

Perhaps the EDC could work more closely with the ABCA to market and push downtown events. After spending millions fixing the downtown streetscape, with new sidewalks and historic lighting, Andover should be proud of its central shopping district.

Now is the time for the Board of Selectmen to advance a comprehensive parking plan that will bring shoppers downtown without making them feel like they are unwanted. Perhaps the EDC and ABCA could work on marketing the downtown to businesses, while pushing for reforms to local regulations that make it expensive to open up shop here.

In the meantime, downtown still has great places to shop and to eat, so come on down and support your local businesses!

## WEB QUESTION

### This week's question:

Will you make, and keep, New Year's resolutions for 2016?

Now that the overindulgence of the holidays are nearly over, have you given any thought to next year?

No. I haven't even taken all my returns back to the mall!

Yes. I've already started planning to make sure I can follow them - starting next week!

No. I never follow through with them.

Yes. It's always good to have something to look forward to after the holidays.

### Last week's question

How do you think Santa Claus delivers presents to all the kids around the world?

Realistically, there's just too much work for one man to do. It makes more sense that he has elves traveling with him. The elves do the legwork while Santa plans the route and makes sure the reindeer are hydrated. 66 percent.

Santa's sleigh holds all of the answers. There are mechanical arms that drop presents into every house and collect cookies and milk when they are retracted back into the sleigh. 33 percent.

Santa parks his sleigh at the end of each street like your average postman. Being the practical man that he is, he simply goes through each front door and delivers presents under each tree. He collects cookies from each house he visits and saves them to share with the reindeer during their midnight snack break.

I have no idea. I barely got my shopping and wrapping done before Christmas Eve, so whatever his secret is - I need it!

Santa Claus and his reindeer were cloned in the '60s. There are now thousands of identical Santas working on Christmas Eve across the world to get the job done.

## Selectmen meet with Santa Claus for coffee

By BILL KIRK  
 bkirk@eagletribune.com

The Board of Selectmen had a special visit from Santa Claus the week before Christmas when the bearded-one (not former Town Manager Reginald Stapczynski) showed up to shower presents upon those assembled at Old Town Hall on Main Street for the weekly, Saturday coffee clutch.

Claus, sporting a red jacket fringed with white (faux) fur, was heard laughing heartily at the various wishes from elected and appointed officials.

"Ho-ho-ho," he said, upon hearing that both Selectmen Alex Vispoli and Paul Salafia are wishing for votes at the spring election. Both candidates have pulled papers, with Vispoli reporting that he has turned his in already.

Claus chuckled upon hearing Selectmen Chairwoman Mary O'Donoghue was



Santa Claus was surrounded by members of the Board of Selectmen, elves and at least one town official the morning of Saturday, Dec. 19, at Old Town Hall on Main Street. Standing behind Santa were Selectman Paul Salafia, an elf named Brenda Afshin, Town Manager Andrew Flanagan, and Selectmen Alex Vispoli, Mary O'Donoghue and Bob Landry. Sitting on Santa's left is Audrey Nason, another one of his elves, who attended the event to help hand out presents.

wishing for shorter meetings. He chortled merrily when Selectman Bob Landry told him he wished people would

start paying attention to the OPEB liability, although it made Claus wonder a little bit about retiree health plans for the army of aging elves he employs.

Finally, Selectman Dan Kowalski got the biggest laugh of all when he sat on Santa's lap and asked for a swing-set, noting that he is frequently the swing vote on the board.

Among other town officials, newly appointed Town Manager Andrew Flanagan said he wanted a bicycle so he could ride back and forth from his office to new school superintendent Sheldon Berman's office during budget season. He thinks he may need it as discussions between the town and schools are likely to get heated in what is looking to be a fairly tight fiscal climate.

"Merry Christmas," Claus shouted, as he left the building and rode out of sight.

## All Those Years Ago

COMPILED BY  
 SUSAN MCKELLIGET

### 100 years Ago December 31, 1915

The severe wind and storm on Sunday afternoon did much damage in various parts of the town. On Elm Street a huge tree on the Locke Estate was uprooted by the wind and fell across the street, breaking the trolley and electric wires. The Haverhill and Andover electric car was unable to pass and passengers were obliged to walk from Whittier Street to the Square. It was some time before the cars were running on schedule again. A fire alarm wire on Salem Street was also blown down.

Charles Donovan, the well-known painter, has moved his paint shop from Essex Street to the old Press building at the rear of Draper Block.

John Symonds of Elm Street has entered the employ of Smith & Dove Mfg. Co.

### 75 Years Ago January 2, 1941

Tuesday night at midnight Andover ended its two-year hard liquor drought, with restaurants again serving hard liquors until 1 a.m. on New Year's morning. There were no drunks however. Chief Dane states that the only problem now is the handful of old-timers who were drunk even in prohibition days, and there seems to be no new crop developing.

An advertisement announces: "Come to the Gala Opening of the Shawshen Manor Cocktail Lounge Saturday night—Now ready to serve the finest of liquors in a delightfully cozy lounge, we will be very happy to have you

drop in Saturday evening." No. Main Street Shawsheen Village.

Frank Kefferstan was one of the Village's many college students home on vacation last week. Frank is attending Tufts College. Eddie Anderson was home from Massachusetts State, Jean Wirtz was enjoying the Christmas recess from her studies at Wheaton, Miss Pauline MacMackin was home from Northfield Seminary.

### 50 Years Ago December 30, 1965

On the motion of William Stewart, the Board of Selectmen voted Tuesday to suspend the liquor license of Anchor's Aweigh Café (Fred's Lunch) for the dates of Jan. 3, 4 and 5. The decision was unanimous. Stewart reminded the board that a warning had been issued to this same license

holder previously for the same violation, serving a minor.

Raytheon Co. made news twice within the week, first with announcement of a merger and later with reports of a \$100 million Hawk missiles system contract that will mean work for the Andover plant. The \$100 million missiles agreement with Saudi Arabia should bolster the Andover Raytheon facility where employment stands at just over 3,000, down from a post-war high of about 8,000.

Mrs. Anna Lynch, 16 Cuba St., and her 14-year-old son were injured Tuesday morning when their car hit a utility pole on Red Spring Road not far from the Lynch house. The son, David, underwent emergency surgery for multiple face cuts and his mother was treated at Lawrence General Hospital.

## How heroin addiction hijacked my brain

### Richard Farrell

Heroin is my God. But I wasn't born a junkie.

I was 12 or 13 years old when I smoked my first joint of marijuana. I was a normal kid, did what everybody did back then: got drunk on Boone's Farm apple wine and was sick for three days.

Now, I get dope-sick and I turn violent. I'm petrified of what I'll do — how far I'll go. There is a voice inside my head that won't go away: "Lie, steal, go to an extreme for a bag of heroin."

I cannot get dope-sick. A cold sweat turns the hair on the back of my neck into a dripping mop. I get cramps in my stomach, aching mad, screaming for somebody to help. A knot twists my calf muscles into a gnarly ball. The worst is the diarrhea.

All the while I know my God heroin will end the riveting, twisting, gnawing fire in seconds.

I shot my first bag of heroin the night my father died. It took away all my pain. Almost three years later, I'm still chasing that first high. Whatever I do, wherever I go, I just can't match that initial blast of heroin. I have to do two or three bags at once just to kill the guilt, shame and panic attacks. I can't swallow food without gagging, my arms are covered with infected holes and nothing at all is clear to me.

It's as if heroin hijacked my brain.

### That was March 17, 1987.

I had shot heroin for 821 days, from Dec. 4, 1984 until April 1, 1987. On that day in 1987, I climbed out of a very dark hole and turned my life around.

But the most amazing thing about my life? Those 821 days have defined who I am. It doesn't matter that in my recovery I received prestigious journalism awards. In fact, it doesn't matter what I've accomplished as a professional. The stigma of being a "heroin addict" haunts me.

I really thought the "name tag" would go away after I wrote a tell-all memoir, "What's Left of Us," in 2009. I was sure if I braved my deepest secrets, if I wrote my memoir as if I was reliving my descent into addiction, I would be free from "my heroin life" and be born again.

I was wrong. After 28 years clean, I'm still a "junkie." That's OK, though. I have accepted the fact that those 821 days out of over the 21,000 days I've lived will be the touchstone of my life. What I can't do for the life of me, however, is figure out what happened to my brain. How did a smart kid, an athlete from a good family, stick a needle in his arm five or six times a day?

I don't know the answer, but what I am sure of is simple.

The word addiction comes from the Latin term "enslaved by" or "bound to." Heroin hijacks the human brain in three ways, according to a Harvard Medical School Mental Health Letter.

First, almost immediately after your initial encounter with heroin, it brings about intense cravings for more heroin. Second, after continued use, you lose complete control of how often you use heroin. Third, and probably the most insidious, regardless of the horrible consequences, the permanent physical harm to yourself and to others, you continue to use heroin with reckless abandon.

### But just how does heroin hijack the brain?

Easy. The human brain interprets all pleasure identically. Sex, chocolate and heroin immediately change the chemical structure of your cerebral cortex. There is a small cluster of nerve cells called the nucleus accumbens. When heroin crosses the blood-brain barrier, it converts into morphine, and then dopamine, a neurotransmitter, is instantly released in the nucleus accumbens. Seconds later, the hard wiring of that specific region, the area neuroscientists call the brain's pleasure center, short circuits and is overloaded with euphoria.

Wait, it gets worse. Heroin euphoria carries a double-edged sword. The first cut is dramatic; that is, using heroin just once can change the brain permanently. But the sharper side of the sword is devastating; that is, the initial euphoria doesn't repeat itself. Instead, it becomes a memory, one that sadly turns "chasing" that high into an obsession.

"Drugs (heroin) hijack the

brain, and you stop feeling the pleasure of the experience," says Jack Stein, director of the Office of Science Policy and Communications at the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

And the bad news: The heroin addict population is multiplying faster than statistics can be recorded. Between 2007 and 2012, the number of heroin addicts has grown by 80 percent. In 2015, almost every state in America is burying its children in record numbers.

In the end, we have two options for dismantling heroin addiction in America:

We can join together, Democrats, Republicans and independents, and attack with extreme purpose. Guarantee detoxes are readily available. Educate children starting in the fifth grade. Produce graphic public service announcements like those in Europe. Shut down the Heroin Highway from Mexico. Make stiff laws to incarcerate those who traffic in or deal heroin — including charging those who sell heroin that causes a death with murder.

Or we keep on keeping on as usual. Keep running the show and hijack enough brains so that we create this: Modern Day Slavery in America.

Former Andover teacher Richard Farrell is a filmmaker, author, WGA screenwriter and a motivational speaker living in Milford, New Hampshire. Contact Ritchie.Farrell1@gmail.com. Follow Richard Farrell on Twitter: www.twitter.com/addictionlies.

## READER ACCESS

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- **Reporter Judy Wakefield** at 978-475-7000, ext. 8726, or jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com
- **Reporter Terry Date** at 978-475-7000, ext. 8723, or tdate@andovertownsmen.com
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2015-16 SEASON PREVIEW<sub>s</sub>  
ANDOVER



Meet the 2015-16 Andover High boys basketball team

**BOYS 2015-16 SCHEDULE**

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Tue., Dec. 15	at Methuen	7 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 18	at Dracut	7 p.m.
Tue., Dec. 22	Lawrence	7 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 27	Londonderry (tournament)	6 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 28	Salem (tournament)	2:45 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 30	TBD (tournament)	TBD
Tue., Jan. 5	Haverhill	7 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 8	Central Catholic	7 p.m.
Tue., Jan. 12	at Tewksbury	7 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 15	at North Andover	7 p.m.
Tue., Jan. 19	Chelmsford	7 p.m.
Sun., Jan. 24	vs. Newton South (TD Garden)	TBD
Tue., Jan. 26	at Lowell	7 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 29	at Billerica	7 p.m.
Fri., Feb. 5	North Andover	7 p.m.
Tue., Feb. 9	at Lawrence	7 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 14	at Central (tournament)	7 p.m.
Mon., Feb. 15	TBD (tournament)	TBD
Fri., Feb. 19	Methuen	7 p.m.
Tue., Feb. 23	Lowell	7 p.m.

**ROSTERS**

**Andover High 2015-16 Girls Basketball Roster**

3	Taylor Landry	G	9
4	Victoria Roche	G	12
5	Brianna Goguen	G	12
10	Jillian Webber	F	11
13	Kayla Kobelski	G/F	12
14	Sioban Kindlan	G	11
15	Allison Gilkie	F	11
21	Gia Bramanti	G	9
22	Carolina McDonald	F	10
23	Meghan Stickney	G/F	12
24	Elizabeth Bernardin	F	12
30	Madison Kefferstan	G	11
33	Alyssa Casey	G/F	11

**Head Coach:** EJ Perry  
**Assistant Coach:** Christine Kuchar, Amanda Saab, Kerri Odea

**Team Captains:** Tori Roche, Meghan Stickney  
**Athletic Trainer:** Desiree Jubinville

**Andover High 2015-16 Boys Basketball Roster**

2	Brandon Witten	G	6-1 Jr.
3	Devon Beasley	G	5-11 Jr.
4	EJ Perry	G	6-2 Jr.
5	Kevin LaBrie	G	5-10 Jr.
10	Tommy Comparato	G	5-10 Jr.
11	Ryan O'Connell	G	6-2 Sr.
14	Timmy Kalantzakos	G	6-1 Jr.
15	Perry Wynn	G	5-11 Sr.
22	Ryan Puglisi	F	6-1 Jr.
23	Cedric Gillette	G	5-10 So.
24	Dan Gemmill	G	6-2 Jr.
30	Jonathan Rodriguez	F	6-3 Sr.
32	Evan Christopoulos	G	6-1 Jr.
33	DJ Minor	F	6-2 Jr.
34	Michael Briggs	G	5-8 Sr.
35	Angelo Carbone	F	6-3 Sr.
42	Nick Dellatto	G	6-1 So.
45	Max Beati	C	6-8 Jr.
55	James Nyamwaya	C	6-5 Jr.

**Head Coach:** David Fazio  
**Assistant Coaches:** Carol Martini, Connor Arnold, Tristian Shannon

**JV Coach:** Alan Hibino  
**Freshman Coach:** Patrick Murnane  
**Captains:** Ryan O'Connell, EJ Perry IV  
**Student Assistant:** Nicole Dunn  
**Video Coordinator:** Travis Traub

**GIRLS 2015-16 SCHEDULE**

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Tue, Dec. 15	Methuen	7 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 12	Dracut	7 p.m.
Tue., Dec. 22	at Billerica	7 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 27	Central (tournament)	2:30 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 28	North Andover (tournament)	1 p.m.
Tue., Jan. 5	at Haverhill	7 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 8	at Central Catholic	7 p.m.
Tue., Jan. 12	Tewksbury	7 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 15	North Andover	7 p.m.
Tue., Jan. 19	at Chelmsford	7 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 22	at Methuen	7 p.m.
Tue. Jan. 26	Lowell	7 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 29	Lawrence	7 p.m.
Fri., Feb 5	at North Andover	7 p.m.
Tue., Feb. 9	Billerica	7 p.m.
Wed., Feb. 10	Bishop Fenwick	7 p.m.
Fri., Feb. 12	Central Catholic	7 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 14	at Wakefield (tournament)	TBD
Mon., Feb. 15	TBD	TBD
Tue., Feb. 23	at Lowell	7 p.m.



Meet the 2015-16 Andover High girls basketball team

# LIVES LOST TO AN EPIDEMIC



**Daniel James Amor**

» Age 18, Beverly  
» DIED Jan. 21, 2015

Daniel's family was open about his cause of death in his obituary and urged the public to understand how hard the fight against addiction can be.

They cited the words he wrote on a chalkboard in art class at Northshore Recovery High School, where he was a senior: "Live your life to the fullest. Let nothing hold you back."

In his obituary, his family wrote, "If we do not practice compassion and kindness, more people are in danger of fading away, and our world will lose more bright stars like Dan."



**Kali Dargoonian**

» Age 27, Andover  
» DIED Sept. 19, 2015

She was an Andover High School graduate and proprietor of Salon Tas in Lowell. She also was a heroin addict.

Addressing the crowd at an event hosted by the advocacy group Andover Cares, Kali's mother, Dena Dargoonian, said the family tried every way they could to help Kali get clean. Kali wanted that, too.

"The life of a beautiful person shouldn't have to consist of heart-breaking overdoses, arrests, probation, fear, homelessness, loneliness or anger," her mother said. "This is what the drug does."



**James 'Jimmy' Robert Davidson**

» Age 27, Haverhill  
» DIED Oct. 9, 2015

The father of an 8-year-old boy became addicted to opiates after breaking his jaw. Six years later, after a stay in rehab, he died of a heroin overdose in his girlfriend's apartment.

"It had been the most positive time in his life, the strongest he'd ever been," his mother, Nicole Alvarez, said. "But obviously, he broke."

# THE HEROIN CRISIS

SPECIAL REPORT II

## WAGING WAR

The region is forging ahead in the battle against opiates, but **THE DEATH TOLL CONTINUES TO RISE.**

In 2015, heroin has claimed more than 200 lives in our region alone.

SEE PAGES 16 & 17



**Thomas Drake**

» Age 22, Atkinson  
» DIED Sept. 7, 2014

High-functioning, funny and a great big brother, he died of a heroin overdose Sept. 7, 2014, his mother, Pamela Drake, said.

The family didn't experience the longtime angst and worry that most other addicts' families do. Rather, the day his mother learned he was using was the day she found him dead in his bedroom. The killer dose was

sold to him by his lifelong best friend.

"I would have bet you my youngest's life that my kid didn't do heroin," his mother said.



**Courtney A. Griffin**

» Age 20, Newton, N.H.  
» DIED Sept. 29, 2014

Her family recalls her as bright, mischievous and inquisitive at age 17 and a full-blown heroin addict at 20.

They fought to get her into treatment and finally secured a spot. However, she died a week before entering rehab, on a night when her father had called to invite her over to watch an episode of "Bones."

"She replied, 'No, I just want to lay in bed the rest of my life,'" Doug Griffin recalled.



**Christopher Matthew Honor**

» Age 22, Plaistow  
» DIED Sept. 5, 2015

"He dreamed big," Christopher's father said, describing him as a "talker" with ambitions of becoming a sports broadcaster.

But the 2011 graduate of Salem High in Salem, N.H., started using drugs in middle school and his addiction progressed throughout high school and beyond.

After a string of difficult years involving rehab stays and the loss of his girlfriend, Courtney Griffin of Newton, N.H., to an overdose while serving time in jail, he died a day after being released — in the same room where Courtney died.



**Kelly Johnson**

» Age 18, Andover and Reading  
» DIED Jan. 3, 2015

A student at Northshore Recovery High School in Beverly, the free-spirited young woman with big brown eyes died two days after a heroin overdose. She had celebrated New Year's Eve at a house party in Andover and slipped out of consciousness after an injection, prompting friends to call 911.

"She walked toward pain. Because she understood the pain herself, she saw it in others," Northshore Recovery High School Principal Michelle Lipinski said of Kelly.



**Peter Mazzola**

» Age 25, Derry  
» DIED Jan. 3, 2015

Peter, captain of his sports teams at Pinkerton Academy in Derry, was a recovering addict — and told his doctors so — when he was prescribed painkillers after surgery in December 2014, according to his mother, Lila.

From painkillers, he went back to heroin. And his mother believes that if Narcan had been available to her son, he might still be alive today.



**Melissa Riley**

» Age 36, Kingston  
» DIED Sept. 12, 2015

Her battle with addiction began in her 20s when, as a nurse's aide, she fell and broke two vertebrae in her neck while helping a patient. A Percocet addiction led to heroin.

The mother of two boys, ages 6 and 15, she died at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. She had overdosed on heroin three weeks earlier and her family made the difficult decision to remove her from life support.

"After she became addicted, you could see her in there, and she fought hard to beat it. But it was something that she couldn't," said her brother, Paul Riley.



**James A. Schifano Sr.**

» Age 38, Salem, N.H.  
» DIED Nov. 9, 2015

James was a loving father, good man and had a "heart of gold," according to his family. And then he became a casualty to the heroin epidemic.

In the weeks leading up to his death, he was out of rehab, had made a home in the Gavin House in South Boston and was employed as a cook at The Hard Rock Cafe.

"He was doing so well. He would call me and talk and tell me how he was giving talks to groups on all the problems and everything else," his mother said. "It just seemed like he had everything under control."



**Richard White Sr.**

» Age 23, Salisbury  
» DIED Dec. 25, 2014

Dorothy White found her son Richard overdosing on the family's couch Christmas morning.

"When I saw him, I knew; I knew heroin finally killed him," Dorothy White said. Despite extensive attempts to revive him, very little brain activity remained as he lay dying in the hospital, on life support.

"My husband just didn't want Christmas to be the day our son died," Dorothy said. "... I said, 'No, we have to let him go.' I thought to myself: I was here when he took his first breath; I'll be here for his last."



**Jacqueline Zanfagna**

» Age 25, Plaistow  
» DIED Oct. 18, 2014

Her family says she struggled with untreated mental health issues throughout her life and turned to heroin 18 months before she died of an overdose in Salisbury, just after buying a car and getting a new job.

"We thought, 'Oh, life is good,' until it wasn't," her mother, Anne Marie Zanfagna, said.

ON THE WEB AT WWW.ADOVERTOWNSMAN.COM: WHERE THEY'RE DYING, AN INTERACTIVE MAP

## Parents: Texts are links to dealers

BY ANGELJEAN CHIARAMIDA  
Staff Writer

Dorothy White has all the proof she needs.

Her son's cellphone contains what she believes is the link to the local drug runner who sold the lethal dose of fentanyl that killed her 23-year-old son last Christmas.

White is convinced the young woman from Seabrook who visited her son, Richard Sr., in their Salisbury home Christmas Eve 2014 delivered the deadly dose.

"That girl brought the drugs that killed my son into my house; she sat on my couch, in my living room," White said. "She's a runner; she'll do anything to get money so she can get high."

But it takes considerably more than a mother's strong assertions to charge and ultimately convict a suspect in a drug-related death. Those in the law enforcement and legal communities say the

complexities of bringing down the suppliers are many, requiring exhaustive investigations to yield charges and indisputable evidence to take cases to trial. And still, the results are often not successful.

White gave law enforcement officials her son's cellphone with the name of the young woman who she believes could connect them to the dealer.

She handed over the remainder of drugs her son bought the last night of his life, which she found still in its paper wrappings, hidden under furniture in her living room.

In recent months, she also was provided her son's autopsy — which found that the only drug in his system was a lethal amount of fentanyl, the same drug the police lab reported was in the packet she found.

But it's still not enough to charge the people she believes contributed to her

son's death.

Although the data in her son's cellphone was immediately preserved and documented, Dorothy White has learned from authorities that text messages are considered "hearsay," essentially rumor, information received from other people that cannot be adequately substantiated.

Following Richard White's death, the Salisbury Police Department went to work tracking down suspects and talking to those who consented. But what they encountered was finger pointing, a slew of contradictory statements, as well as outright denials and a referral to a lawyer, according to their police report.

After exhausting "all available and cooperative resources" to find out who sold Richard White the drugs the night he died, there just wasn't enough corroborating evidence to bring charges, Salisbury police Detective Keith Forget wrote in his

report. "Although there is evidence leading to (suspect's name deleted)," Forget wrote, "I currently do not have enough evidence against (suspect's name deleted) to support probable cause or a charge of any kind."

According to Dorothy White, Forget has told her that he'd be willing to consider reopening her son's case if he got new evidence.

Despite her pleas to the Essex County District Attorney's office, prosecutors have been unable to move on the case.

"Yes, my son chose to use heroin, but he didn't know he was shooting up a lethal dose of fentanyl that would kill him," White said. "My son wasn't a saint and I'm not trying to make him look like one. I'm not looking for vengeance, but I'm going to keep fighting for justice for my son. People need to be held accountable."

### Targeting the neighborhood suppliers

They're the death peddlers: street-level drug runners selling tiny packets of heroin and fentanyl to addicts who can end up dead from the contents.

Often, they're not the major dealers, but addicts themselves supplying others, including friends, to earn a living and support their habits.

But they kill just the same, with frightening regularity. And as the death toll continues to mount, grieving relatives are left to wonder why these drug addicts turned street-level dealers aren't arrested and convicted more often for the tragic consequences they promote.

Dorothy White acknowledges that her son had been a drug user and heroin addict for some time. However, since being released from jail prior to Thanksgiving last year, he had been clean, living under

house arrest and equipped with an electronic monitor while serving probation.

But Richard White had become upset last Christmas Eve, his mother said, and he reached out through cellphone text messages to people he thought could get him the heroin he sought for relief, including his female visitor.

Instead, he was handed fentanyl — a synthetic opioid made by the Mexican cartel known for supplying the region with heroin. Cheaper to produce than the labor-intensive, agriculturally based heroin, fentanyl can be as much as 100 times more potent.

In recent years, to add to their profit margin, more and more drug dealers cut heroin with fentanyl, or use it as a 100 percent substitute.

Then they sell it to runners, who sell it to addicts who use it like the less powerful heroin. The result has been a stunning rise in deaths.

# Andover Garden Club meets Jan. 5

Naturalist and educator John Root will present a variety of trees, shrubs, vines, canes, and herbaceous perennials that can be grown in New England at the Andover Garden Club's meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 5.



John Root

The meeting starts at 10 a.m. with social time and refreshments, followed by a brief business meeting. Root's presentation will begin at approximately 11 a.m. The Club meets at South Church, 41 Central St., Andover. Admission is a \$10 donation for guests (includes refreshments).

Root will talk about fruits, nuts and vegetables. He will discuss how to establish and care for these plants using organic methods, and will describe the nutritional and medicinal benefits they provide. In addition, Root will share his knowledge and photos of crop circles, the fascinating and mysterious designs that have been appearing with increasing sophistication during the past three decades in farmers' fields and other locations all over the world.

Founded in 1927, the Andover Garden Club welcomes new members, and information about joining is available from AGC membership chairs Anne Collins (978-681-8052, collinsak14@verizon.net) and Donna Rudolph (978-475-7165, dlab-super49@aol.com).



Thomas Mahony and his mother, Trice Mahony, pose with Santa while sitting on a horse named Kaiser at Ironstone Farm's free Breakfast with Santa Event.

## Horses, not reindeer, at this Breakfast with Santa

By JUDY WAKEFIELD  
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

More than 200 people recently enjoyed the Breakfast with Santa event at Ironstone Farm including the Giorgio, Wu and Mahoney families, all from Andover.

Ironstone Farm on Lowell Street in Andover is home to two nonprofit organizations that benefit children with special needs and others.

The free event for Ironstone Farm's volunteers, riders, sponsors and their families, allowed photographs of Santa with Ironstone Farm's horses. The horses were decked out in red ribbons, antlers and other accessories for the occasion.

A free breakfast was served in the smaller indoor arena courtesy of NetScout Systems, Inc. of Westford. NetScout employees volunteer at Ironstone.

Engraved bricks that honor someone special and gift certificates in any amount for recreational or therapeutic horseback riding at the farm were the talked-about holiday gift ideas as those purchases benefit Ironstone Farm's efforts to renovate its



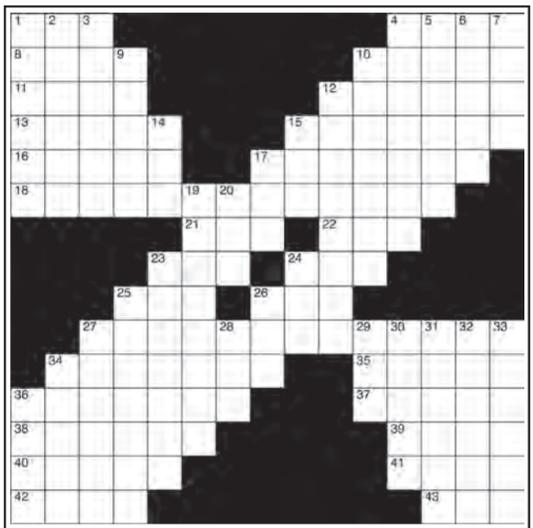
Andres and Valentina Giorgio of Andover sit atop Kaiser while Santa holds onto the reins during the recent Ironstone Farm Breakfast with Santa event.

450 Lowell St. (Route 133), Andover.

Ironstone Farm is home to the nonprofit organizations Challenge Unlimited and Ironstone Therapy. Its programs combine several powerful therapies into one effective program for children and adults with special needs. Clients are referred to Ironstone Therapy by top doctors and institutions. Ironstone uses the dynamic motion of a horse, which mimics the walking motion of a person and works multiple muscle groups at once. The inviting atmosphere of a farm improves social interactions and makes therapy a "want to" event rather than a "have to" session.

Additional programs at Ironstone Farm benefit people living with cancer, veterans returning with post-traumatic stress disorder, elders with memory issues, teens at risk and others. Clients come to Ironstone Farm from more than 90 communities in the Merrimack Valley, Greater Boston and Southern New Hampshire areas. More than 200 people each week volunteer their time because they know their donated work changes lives.

facilities and expand its programs. Visit ironstonebrick.org; call 978-475-4056; or visit its welcome center at



Solution in Classified Section

### CLUES ACROSS

1. Engine additive
4. Soluble ribonucleic acid
8. Subdue
10. One long, three short
11. Morally bad
12. With collapsible shelter
13. Central church parts
15. Summer shoes
16. Intestinal
17. Transgressors
18. Meeting expectations
21. Clutch
22. Autonomic nervous system
23. What you can repeat immediately after perceiving it

24. Favorite summer sandwich
25. An accountant certified by the state
26. Cologne
27. Norma Jean Baker
34. Galaxies
35. Bluish greens
36. Detected
37. Having 3 dimensions
38. Made level
39. The destroyer (Hindu)
40. Uncovered
41. Ooze slowly
42. Aerie
43. Point midway between S and SE

### CLUES DOWN

1. Having beautiful natural views
2. Fanafuti is the capital
3. Shrub used for hedges
4. Polishing tools
5. Slow down
6. Christmas carols
7. & & &
9. Sound of sheep or goat
10. A long flag, often tapering
12. Atomic #73
14. Schilling (abbr.)
15. Female sibling
17. Long sandwich
19. In a way, necessitated

20. Mayan people of SW Guatemala
23. Cleaned up
24. Prohibit
25. Upright cupboard
26. Cyclone center
27. Metric linear units
28. Young male
29. Securities market
30. City across from Dusseldorf
31. Animal disease
32. Mount of \_\_\_ east of Jerusalem
33. Get free
34. Variable stars
36. One point N of NE

12/31/15

## Free wellness clinic schedule announced

The Andover Health Department's wellness clinic schedule has been announced for the new year. Blood pressure readings will be available along with the opportunity to talk to a nurse about overall health and wellness.

While the clinics held on Wednesdays at the Center at Punchard are open to the public, clinics at Andover Commons and Frye Circle are for the senior residents who live there only. The clinics are free and no appointment is necessary.

Here is the January and February schedule:

- Monday, Jan. 11, 2 to 3 p.m., Andover Commons
- Monday, Jan. 25, 1 to 2 p.m., Frye Circle
- Wednesday, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2 to 3 p.m., Center at Punchard (the Senior Center)

- Monday, Feb. 8, 2 to 3 p.m., Andover Commons
- Monday, Feb. 22, 1 to 2 p.m., Frye Circle
- Wednesday, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2 to 3 p.m., Center at Punchard (the Senior Center)

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**REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS**

The following real estate transfers were recorded recently in town:

- 60 Argilla Road:** Peter R. and Lorene A. Comeau to Kenneth and Lindsey Meharg, \$775,000
- 300 Ballardvale St.:** BRE East Mixed Asset Owner to Berkeley Ballardvale LLC, \$22,200,000
- 301 Ballardvale St.:** BRE East Mixed Asset Owner to Berkeley Ballardvale LLC, \$22,200,000
- By Pass Road:** Warren Stevens to Timothy J. Cox, \$275,000
- 29 Fosters Pond Road:** Kathleen MacDonald to Alyssa K. Garber and Robert W. Purtle, \$479,900
- 340 High Plain Road:** Catherine A. Brenning NT and Mary E. Brenning to 340 High Plain Road RT and Sean Szekely, \$330,000
- 107 High St.:** Deborah L. Wipff to Rebecca Dalise, \$430,000

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# 2015 PICTURES OF THE YEAR

Every day, all year long, photographers for the Andover Townsman take dozens of pictures of the people and places of Andover. Each photo assignment brings its own challenges and opportunities. Today, staff photographers present some their favorite photos from 2015.



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo

Claire Rees, 5, hauls her snow tube back up the hill at Andover High School last winter. While the snow was a headache for many people, it was fun for others.



PAUL BILODEAU/Staff photo

Hope Morrison, 17 months, looks around while sitting in the lap of her adoptive mother, Cindy, at their home in Andover. Hope is now 20 months old and recently had her liver replaced. Prognosis for a full recovery is good.



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo

Nathaniel Cole Burnes listens to the ordination prayer while several other reverends in attendance lay their hands on him during his ordination as a reverend at the Andover Baptist Church.



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Friends of Kelly Johnson hold candles to remember her during a gathering held at Old Town Hall in Andover in January. Kelly Johnson, 18, lost her struggle with substance abuse and overdosed on New Year's Day.



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Children jump off the docks into the water at Poms Pond in July.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Tom Dolan of Canterbury Street in Andover clears his driveway on Feb. 2, getting ready for the second of the four storms that blanketed the region last winter.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Light shone in the darkness as Andover High School students organized a candlelight vigil for peace in The Park. Andover High freshmen, from left, Hanna Morrill, Mia Wood and Katelyn McLaren attended the vigil. The rally, titled "Sparking Solidarity," was attended by 150 people in response to terrorist attacks and acts of violence that have taken place in Paris, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and Israel, among other places.



AMANDA SABGA/Staff photo

Second-grade graduate Kara Stefani runs through the archway in procession as Shawsheen Elementary School celebrates its final assembly before closing its doors for good as an elementary school on June 22. It is still being used as a pre-school, but that may also soon end.

THE HEROIN CRISIS

# THE BATTLE RAGES ON

BY PAUL LEIGHTON  
 AND DOUG IRELAND  
 Staff Writers

From the governors' offices on down, the opiate epidemic received considerable attention in both Massachusetts and New Hampshire in 2015. Whether that attention translates into results is still an open question.

The most telling measure of the crisis has remained stubbornly high.

In Massachusetts, as of Nov. 30, there were 148 suspected drug overdose deaths in Essex County, according to the Essex County district attorney's office, compared to 190 for all of 2014.

Lahey Health Behavioral Services CEO Kevin Norton said it will take more than a year before we know whether progress is being made.

"Even if it goes down for one month, it could be a reflection of the supply on the streets," Norton said. "It's going to be 16 to 18 months before we can see a potential trend."

In New Hampshire, the drug epidemic had claimed 295 lives by mid-November.

But the projected number of deaths, since not all

toxicology reports are in, is expected to reach at least 357 by year's end, said chief forensic investigator Kim Fallon of the state medical examiner's office.

N.H. Attorney General Joseph Foster, however, predicts the number could easily top 400.

There were 326 overdose deaths reported in all of 2014.

Of the 295 deaths as of mid-November, 244 were caused by opiates and opioids and 183 deaths involved fentanyl, the medical examiner's office said.

There were 135 deaths directly linked to just fentanyl and 21 attributed to just heroin in New Hampshire. Thirty-one deaths were tied to the use of both heroin and fentanyl. In October, Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker filed what he called "landmark legislation" to help fight the problem.

The law would give doctors the authority to commit drug addicts to a 72-hour period of involuntary treatment, similar to an existing law regarding people with mental illnesses who pose a serious risk of harm.

The proposal has raised

## ESSEX COUNTY OVERDOSE DEATHS

2015 - 137 (as of Oct. 31)
2014 - 190
2013 - 116
2012 - 85
2011 - 54
2010 - 48
2009 - 69
2008 - 52
2007 - 85
2006 - 83
2005 - 73
2004 - 61
2003 - 74
2002 - 44
2001 - 58
2000 - 41

Sources: Massachusetts Department of Public Health; Essex County District Attorney

concerns from disability rights advocates and some legislators about infringing on people's civil rights by committing them without a court order.

Baker's proposal would also limit doctors to prescribing only a 72-hour supply for first-time opioid prescriptions, and end the practice of sending female addicts to prison in Framingham. Instead, they would be

treated at new, secure treatment units approved by state public and mental health officials.

Baker signed a separate bill in November that closes a loophole in the law and now makes it a crime to sell more than 10 grams of fentanyl. The governor also announced a five-week media campaign seeking to reduce the stigma of addiction through radio, billboard and digital advertisements.

Essex District Attorney Jonathan Blodgett said his office has expanded its adult drug diversion program into the Lawrence District Court. The program allows non-violent offenders to receive substance abuse treatment rather than face prosecution. Blodgett has also sponsored talks by former Boston Celtic and recovering heroin addict Chris Herren in Peabody and Beverly.

"We cannot let up on prevention and education while we seek to expand treatment and strengthen our drug trafficking laws," Blodgett said. "We must continue to make every effort to convince young people not to even try these drugs once."

Other initiatives include a

plan by Essex County Sheriff Frank Cousins to open a 42-bed detox unit at the Middleton jail to treat addicts awaiting court dates for minor drug-related offenses. A spokesman for Cousins said the unit could open in December.

Norton, whose Danvers-based company is one of the area's largest treatment providers, said the fact that the epidemic is out from behind closed doors is the biggest sign of progress so far.

"Across the commonwealth, the most positive outcome is that there has been an incredibly open dialogue about a problem that is plaguing every community and almost every family in Massachusetts," he said. "The progress has been that everyone's willing to have the conversation and try something unique and different to get at the root of the problem."

In New Hampshire, the opioid crisis has overwhelmed the State Police forensic laboratory with overdose cases.

A staff of six criminologists faces a backlog of about 3,800 drug cases, director Tim Pifer said.

"The number of heroin and fentanyl cases has

skyrocketed," Pifer said. "Nobody really knows what's in that white powder they're injecting themselves with."

The state lab sees an average of 750 drug cases a month, but has the resources to handle only about 500, he said.

All four members of New Hampshire's congressional delegation have joined together to fight for more federal funding for the overburdened lab.

The crisis has raised the concern of lawmakers and other state officials, including Gov. Maggie Hassan.

"With Granite Staters dying nearly every day from the heroin and opioid crisis, we know that we must work with a sense of urgency in order to strengthen our efforts to combat this epidemic and save lives," she said.

Hassan requested a special legislative session to focus on drafting bills to tackle the epidemic.

Since late November, a 26-member task force has been meeting to study opiate addiction and propose legislation that lawmakers consider when the next regular session begins in January.

## Havens for healing

### Treatment centers a first step for addicts — but more are needed

BY GARRIN MARCHETTI  
 gmarchetti@eagletribune.com

In the ongoing battle against heroin, the region has worked diligently to educate young people on the dangers of the drug, train police officers to handle possible overdoses and spread awareness of the struggles of addiction.

Yet one area of the epidemic remains a work in progress: That's access to treatment services for heroin addicts to help them develop a new, drug-free life.

While the heroin crisis has swept through North of Boston communities over the last several years, the emergence of detox and residential treatment centers has only occurred recently, with two new facilities opening in the Merrimack Valley within the last year.

Gary and Janet Hufnagle are the owners of Haven of Hope, a women's recovery home in Methuen.

Nearly two years ago, the Peabody couple purchased the former Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church property on Union Street and transformed the old convent into a treatment center specifically for women struggling with drug and alcohol addiction.

After months of renovations, Haven of Hope opened its doors in July. The home can accommodate 25 women. At the beginning of December, seven women were living there, although the Hufnagles expected more to arrive throughout the month.

"We want this house to be full, because we know there a lot of people out there who are struggling," Gary Hufnagle said recently inside Haven of Hope. "But the success of

this place will not be to fill the house; it will be the women who move on with their lives after living here. Their success is our success."

Haven of Hope maintains its former residents' commitment to religious faith; it even has a prayer room for today's inhabitants to reflect silently on their recovery process.

Overall, the Hufnagles wanted to provide a place for women to feel like they are surrounded by the love and support of a family.

"This isn't just a sober house. It's a community," Janet Hufnagle said. "This place is filled with dignity and love."

A few months after Haven of Hope welcomed its first resident, Summit Behavioral Health Center, a New Jersey-based organization, held an open house for its new detox and residential treatment center in Haverhill, Serenity at Summit — New England.

The center recently received its residential license and is scheduled to fully open this month. It offers a detox program that ranges from five to 10 days, as well as 23 detox beds, and an additional 40 beds for long-term residential care. Serenity on Summit's residential program can house patients for 30 to 45 days.

"There's no question about it: There's absolutely a need for these type of services in Massachusetts," Rebecca O'Mara, director of corporate communications for Summit, said. "There's an opioid epidemic (there) right now, and we're hoping we can provide a system and treatment to the population up there."

Local legislators have taken steps to add more treatment centers North of Boston.



AMANDA SABGA/Staff photo

**Haven of Hope, which organizers describe as a refuge for women in recovery, prides itself in making women feel at home and at peace.**

According to state Rep. Diana DiZogio, D-Methuen, lawmakers secured \$3 million for 250 new clinical stabilization beds for the current fiscal year, which extends through next June. They are building off the \$10 million investment in overall substance abuse services in the previous fiscal year.

DiZogio filed a bill back in January that would divert female addicts from the Massachusetts Correctional Facility in Framingham to treatment centers more equipped to service women. The state's House of Representatives passed the funding for this bill in October, allocating \$5.8 million toward relocating the women.

Action also has been taken at the top of state government. In October, Gov. Charlie Baker unveiled his opioid abuse bill, which included a proposal to limit the amount of opioid painkillers doctors can prescribe to their patients to a three-day supply. He also proposed to allow doctors to hold addicts involuntary for three days after they are admitted

to a hospital for an overdose.

The bill, which Baker has said he hopes to sign by this coming January or February, has received its fair share of support and criticism from lawmakers and medical professionals. Some have praised the governor's aggressive action, while others believe decisions of medication restrictions and treatment services should be made by the doctors and addicts or their families, respectively.

While the hope remains for more treatment centers to set up in the region, personnel at the services currently available want people to know their doors are always open.

"We will never turn anyone away. And if our beds are full, we will refer clients to other programs and make sure they get the services they need," O'Mara said. "Right now, we're in the unfortunate situation of having a revolving door of clients. We want to help change that."

Follow Garrin Marchetti on Twitter @GarrinMarchetti.

## WHERE TO FIND HELP

If you need help right away, or know someone who does, here is a list of resources in the area.

### Mass. Substance Abuse Information and Education Helpline

Staffed seven days a week, the helpline provides free, confidential information or referrals for alcohol and drug abuse problems.  
 800-327-5050

### Institute for Health and Recovery

Screening, assessment and referral process based in Cambridge for families to access care and support for young people dealing with substance abuse. Services offered Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in English and Spanish.  
 866-705-2807

### Suboxone hotline, opioid treatment program at Boston Medical Center

Hotline for referrals and information on opiate and heroin treatment for adolescents and adults.  
 866-414-6926 or 617-414-6926

### Adolescent Substance Abuse Program at Boston Children's Hospital

Program that seeks to identify, diagnose and treat substance abuse and disorders in children and adolescents.  
 617-355-2727

### Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Association

A treatment referral routing service that provides free, confidential referral and information for mental health or substance abuse disorders, prevention and recovery. Service is available 24 hours a day in English and Spanish.  
 800-662-4357

### N.H. Department of Health and Human Services: Treatment Services Bureau

Provides a list of treatment centers and programs for those struggling with substance abuse.  
 603-271-6103

### Merrimack River Medical Services

Part of the Community Substance Abuse Centers network, the Hudson, N.H., center offers private outpatient programs that provide humanistic treatment for substance abusers.  
 603-595-3399

### N.H. Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention

A 24-hour helpline for a treatment facility in Manchester, N.H.  
 800-420-9064

### Merrimack Valley Prevention and Substance Abuse Project

The community group meets regularly to raise awareness, education, prevention and treatment of substance use and abuse.  
 Email merrimackvalleypreventionsap@gmail.com

### Serenity at Summit New England

The addiction treatment center in Haverhill offers holistic drug and alcohol detox and residential addiction care for clients in Massachusetts.  
 978-994-0509 or 844-695-3370

### Lahey Health Behavioral Services: Detoxification Treatment

Lahey offers a wide range of addiction treatment programs for adults and teens, from outpatient counseling to treatment-focused halfway houses. The following treatment settings provide detoxification from drugs and alcohol in a medical setting:  
 Boston Treatment Center: 617-247-1001  
 Danvers Treatment Center: 978-777-2121  
 Tewksbury Treatment Center: 978-259-7000

### Haven of Hope

The faith-based, 12-step "transformation" house in Methuen is a transitional home for women that provides a safe and sober living environment for women to learn how to cope with life without the use of drugs or alcohol.  
 978-258-3982

### Lawrence/Methuen Community Coalition: Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force

Part of Family Services of the Merrimack Valley, the task force was established as an initiative to address the crisis of substance abuse in Lawrence, specifically targeting prevention in people under age 18.  
 978-688-5294

### New Beginnings Peer Recovery Center

The center in Lawrence provides peer-to-peer support services for people in various stages of recovery.  
 978-655-3674

### Tewksbury Hospital

Substance abuse and high-risk services are offered to people in high-risk populations. Treatment includes IV therapy, behavioral management, substance abuse counseling and palliative care.  
 978-851-7321

### The Psychological Center

The mission of the Lawrence center is to help people who are experiencing mental health, substance or alcohol abuse, and addiction issues.  
 978-291-2262

### Lowell House Inc.

Structured Outpatient Addictions Program is a clinically intensive, highly structured day or evening program for individuals in early stages of recovery. Individuals attend the Lowell program daily for six to seven hours.  
 978-459-8656

### Virtu Services/ARMOR: Drug Addiction Treatment Services

The rehabilitation center in Lowell offers cannabis clinics, counseling and mental health services.  
 978-973-4152

### Granite State Area of Narcotics Anonymous

A 24-hour helpline is available to New Hampshire residents.  
 888-NA-Help-U, 888-624-3578

### Farnum Center Substance Abuse Services

24-hour helpline for the Manchester, N.H., treatment center.  
 800-420-9064

### AREA HOSPITALS

**Anna Jaques Hospital**, 25 Highland Ave., Newburyport  
 Inpatient psychiatric and substance-abuse services are provided to adults, adolescents and children.  
 978-463-1066 (adult psychiatric services), 978-834-8448 (child psychiatric services)

### Catholic Medical Center

100 McGregor St., Manchester, N.H.  
 603-668-3545, 800-437-9666 or catholicmedicalcenter.org

### Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

New Hampshire locations  
 603-226-2200 (Concord), 603-354-5400 (Keene), 603-650-5000 (Lebanon), 603-695-2500 (Manchester/Bedford), 603-577-4000 (Nashua) or dartmouth-hitchcock.org

### Elliot Hospital

1 Elliot Way, Manchester, N.H.  
 603-669-5300 or elliothospital.org

### Holy Family Hospital

70 East St., Methuen  
 978-687-0151 or steward.org

### Holy Family Hospital at Merrimack Valley

140 Lincoln Ave., Haverhill  
 978-374-2000 or steward.org

### Lahey Hospital and Medical Center

41 Burlington Mall Road, Burlington  
 781-744-5100 or lahey.org

### Lahey Medical Center

1 Essex Center Drive, Peabody  
 978-538-4000 or lahey.org

### Lawrence General Hospital

1 General St., Lawrence  
 978-683-4000 or lawrencegeneral.org

### Lowell General Hospital

295 Varnum Ave., Lowell  
 978-937-6000 or lowellgeneral.org

## An uphill fight

### Heroin scourge will take years to curtail, experts say

BY CHRISTIAN WADE  
 CNHI Massachusetts State Reporter

Massachusetts is pouring millions of dollars and resources into the war against heroin and prescription drug addiction, but substance abuse experts say it could take years to see measurable results.

It's a point that Gov. Charlie Baker has made repeatedly as he has traveled around the state to talk about his administration's response to the public health crisis, which claimed more than 1,256 lives in the state last year.

"This is not the sort of thing that is going to get fixed overnight," Baker told a group of newspaper publishers and editors in November. "But it's not something that's going to get fixed by monkeying around on the edges."

Gauging the progress of the war on opioids is complicated, officials say. Few suggest the situation is improving.

"The crisis hasn't abated, so this needs to be all hands on deck," Rep. Linda Campbell, D-Methuen, said. "Money has been spent and a lot of programs have been put in place, and now we need to figure out if it's been working."

Joanne Peterson, executive director of the nonprofit Learning to Cope, said compared to a surge in heroin abuse a decade ago, the state's response this time is much more comprehensive.

Much of that has to do with the state's focus on addiction as an illness, not a criminal act, which has helped reduce the stigma, she said.

"People are finally paying attention to this problem," Peterson said. "For the families that have been dealing with this for years, it's created an enormous amount of hope that something is going to be done."

To date, the Baker administration has budgeted more than \$114 million for

substance abuse prevention, education and treatment. It has opened more than 100 new treatment beds at dozens of state-run facilities.

Baker also changed reporting requirements for the state's prescription monitoring program, from seven days to 24 hours, which advocates say will limit abuse of powerful painkillers that can pave the way toward heroin addiction.

"That is going to save a lot of lives," Peterson said. "It's sad that it took that long for a governor to change it."

Advocating for an aggressive approach to the opioid crisis, Baker filed legislation last month that seeks to limit prescription painkillers and requires physicians to hold over-dosing addicts up to three days for observation.

His proposal has been met with skepticism from some in the medical community, who have raised concerns about patient rights and government overreach. The changes

could discourage addicts from seeking treatment, they argue.

Dr. Dennis Dimitri, president of the Massachusetts Medical Society, said physicians recognize that they have a role in curbing opioid abuse, but many are concerned that the state's response will be too heavy handed.

He said patients who depend on opioid medications to manage acute or chronic pain could be marginalized.

"The major risk here is that impatience could give rise to proposals that push the pendulum too far in the other direction and abandon patients who are seeking relief from their acute and chronic pain," Dimitri said.

Lawmakers will also consider a bill, filed by Rep. Diana DiZogio, D-Methuen, that prohibits physicians and pharmacists from prescribing OxyContin and other addictive opioid medications to anyone under age 17.

THE HEROIN CRISIS

# 'YOU KEEP ON GOING AND YOU PUT ONE FOOT IN FRONT OF THE OTHER'

By TERRY DATE  
 tdate@eagletribune.com

## WHERE TO GET HELP

Cheryl Robinson recommends the group G.R.A.S.P. (Grief Recovery After Substance Passing) for those trying to cope with the loss of a loved one to a drug overdose. There is a group in Lowell and another in Winchester. Visit grasphelp.org.

ANDOVER — Grief knows no timetable, says Cheryl Robinson, whose son Adam died of a heroin overdose Feb. 4.

"You keep on going and you put one foot in front of the other," the Andover mother said in a recent interview during which she talked about life since the death of her 32-year-old son.

For 13 years, Cheryl Robinson tried to cope with and understand the destructive path Adam traveled. She is still trying to piece it together in the wake of his death in his Tewksbury condominium last winter.

It has been, and continues to be, a gut-wrenching experience, she said.

She has reached out to others for help and to those who are in pain to help them. She

has close friends with whom she talks and walks, both here in Andover, where she lives during the warm months, and in Port Saint Lucie, Florida, where she spends the winters.

She has been in Florida since the first week in November, residing in a winter community that includes friends from Andover, six or seven couples.

She has made new friends in Florida, too, including a neighbor who lost a daughter to drug and alcohol addiction. Robinson said she has

found it is best for her to be around people and to stay active.

As the weather got colder in Andover before she left for Florida, it was harder to find people and activities. In Florida, there is more to do now.

"There is always something to do," she said. "In that regard, it is easier. You can get your mind off of it."

Robinson also reads. Quite recently, she read a very poignant piece on grief that she shared with others on Facebook.

The piece, written by John

Pavlovitz, is called "The Day I'll Finally Stop Grieving."

It states that grief "is the cost of sharing your life with someone worth missing."

Pavlovitz was once impatient with people who experienced prolonged grieving — until he went into mourning over the sudden loss of his father. Then he discovered that grief has no expiration date, and that it engenders compassion.

Robinson knows that the problem of heroin addiction and overdoses and deaths continues.

She emails friends and regularly learns of people having to cope with loss due to the heroin epidemic.

These are people who will need help, as well, to keep living, however changed they are in their interior landscapes.

For Robinson, it helps to keep going, to try to understand, to engage with people.



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

## Straight talk

### It's never too soon to start conversation about drugs

By PETER FRANCIS  
 pfrancis@eagletribune.com

"We need to talk."

These four words most always signal the start of an uncomfortable conversation.

But however uncomfortable, experts say when it comes to drugs, that "talk" between parent and child must occur — and it needs to start happening more often and at an earlier age.

Dean Brouder, drug and alcohol resource coordinator for the Methuen School District, said there are a few reasons why parents fail to talk to their children about drugs. They think it'll never become a problem for their kids. They've succumbed to addiction themselves.

But for many parents, they just don't know what to say and how and when to say it.

"It's so difficult to get parents to talk to their kids," said Brouder, a longtime English teacher who also directs the Methuen High School chapter of Students Against Destructive Decisions.

"It's easy to say the schools should do more. And there's a lot of finger-pointing, because the schools think parents need to be more involved."

Both are imperative, Brouder said, with the ultimate goal of getting kids

talking.

#### Beginning the conversation

David Gibson, one of two health teachers for Haverhill's four middle schools, has already begun giving his 7-year-old twins the basic talk about drugs.

"They're still young, but they know (opioids) are bad," he said. "With pill bottles, I tell them that if you can't open it, you're not supposed to have it."

Conversations can start light with youngsters, and focus on introducing them to what drugs are, health educators say. Children as young as toddlers can be taught not to put unfamiliar things in their mouths and that the medicine cabinet is for adults only.

As children mature, so should the tone and subject matter of the conversations. The dangers of alcohol, cigarettes and drugs should be introduced at the elementary school level. By middle school, the discussions should become more frequent and detailed, delving into specifics surrounding heroin, cocaine and other narcotics.

The key is to keep the conversations appropriate to each individual child, educators say.

"It's all about talking to your kids every day and knowing their comprehension level," said Jeffrey Osgood, director of physical education, health and family consumer science and wellness for Methuen Public Schools. "The level of learning becomes more explicit when it needs to be."

Osgood, whose children are 6 and 3, began talking to his oldest at age 3 about not putting anything given by a stranger — like vitamins or pills — into the mouth.

"We just tell them they're dangerous and you could get very sick and we don't want to call the ambulance," he said. "Young children understand what the ambulance does."

Methuen health education programs begin in the grammar schools, where students start learning the difference between prescription, over-the-counter and illegal "street" drugs. But Osgood said by then, the conversation should have already started at home.

"When you start seeing them try to be like other kids and follow a crowd, it's time to start talking to them about specific drugs," he said. "And when they're young and start asking about specific things — 'what's beer?' for instance

— answer the question they ask."

Parents don't have to shoulder the burden alone. Other family members can play an important role, too.

"When I was young, I talked to my grandparents about things I wouldn't have dared to talk about with my own parents," said Susan Foster, activity coordinator for the city of Methuen. "They were always sage. The older, the wiser."

Now a grandmother to four, the oldest of whom is 12, Foster said her motto is to always keep the lines of communication open.

"We've always told them, if you see something on the ground, don't touch it. Come talk to us and we'll call the police," she said.

And, she said, medications in the house are kept so high on a shelf that even she can't reach them.

Gibson said youngsters are often more aware of drugs and the issues surrounding substance abuse than adults may think.

Since joining the Haverhill schools staff in August, Gibson said he has focused more on substance abuse than he did at his last teaching job at Lowell's Wang Middle School.

His curriculum is largely aimed at the dangers of

alcohol and tobacco, which he said makes for an easier transition into the conversation about harder drugs.

By and large, though, students already are familiar with the subject.

"The kids watch the news and read the papers, so they've asked a lot more questions about opioids," Gibson said. "They take it seriously because they know about what's going on."

#### Continuing the dialogue

Phil Lahey, founder of the Merrimack Valley Prevention and Substance Abuse Project, said he believes he missed early signs with his own daughter, a recovering addict now in her late 30s, when she was dabbling in marijuana and alcohol as a teen.

He said that's one of the biggest mistakes parents can make with older children, sometimes even letting them experiment at home because they think it's "safer."

"When kids are young, don't minimize it and (allow) them to experiment with pot, booze or anything," he said. "If you condone it by letting them do it and helping them do it, to supposedly build up trust, it's not going to work."

Lahey embraces the idea of bringing law enforcement into classrooms in the early

grades and gradually introducing older kids to addicts, recovering abusers and grieving parents.

He is in the process of setting up a panel of six parents who have lost children to addiction to talk to the public.

"I want to try to get some of these people who don't think it can happen to them, and show them these regular, middle-class people with good families," Lahey said.

"I want parents to say, 'They're no different than our families.' I want kids to realize that it's not just them that they're hurting. It's their brothers, sisters, parents, grandparents... anybody they really care about, they're going to impact."

Sheryl Mercier of Pelham, N.H., can attest to that. A detective with the Lowell Police Department, she has seen plenty of crime and drug abuse on the streets. But she didn't realize her own teenage son was an addict.

She had a stern message for parents this past summer when she spoke to them at a forum.

"I saw the signs on the streets and I should have seen them in my own home," she said. "They are doing it in third, fourth and fifth grade. Parents need to get their heads out of the sand."

## A lesson in substance abuse

### Schools called on to play a critical role

By PETER FRANCIS  
 pfrancis@eagletribune.com

Schools all across the region are trying to address the opioid crisis, with some taking a more proactive approach to the problem.

Methuen is notable for being the only district in the state with Students Against Destructive Behavior chapters in each of its middle schools, where they were launched five years ago.

At Methuen High School, the Students Against Drunk Driving chapter, which was a large presence from the 1980s until it disbanded in the late 1990s,

was revived several years ago by a group of students in one of Dean Brouder's English classes.

Known today as Students Against Destructive Decisions, the Methuen High chapter hosts an appreciation breakfast for incoming freshmen, recruits students as early as the grammar school level and hosts activities like bowling, laser tag and hiking in New Hampshire.

English teacher Jackie Rubino, the group's adviser, said the chapter is more activities-driven than the one she was involved in when she was a student at Wilmington High.

"They're a group of kids who really wanted to have a group that didn't involve drugs and alcohol, which is what some of their peers were doing," Rubino said. "Our ideology is to have fun, not just sit and talk."

But in addition to guidance and fun, both Rubino and Brouder can offer Methuen students concrete examples of the drug epidemic.

Rubino's cousin died of an overdose 10 years ago at the age of 19.

Brouder was forced to go before a judge to put his son into a treatment facility. His son is in recovery now.

Both he and Rubino believe

drug-free students play a critical role today in keeping their peers away from harmful substances.

"I know it sounds almost too simple ... (but if) you get a bunch of kids together who want to live drug-free, you create a group where peers look out for younger kids," Brouder said. "There are about 2,000 kids at Methuen High and 90 percent of them aren't doing drugs."

"Let's talk to those kids about how to help the kids who are."

Katie Vozeolas, nurse supervisor for Haverhill Public Schools, consulted with

Brouder as her district sought to improve its response to the heroin crisis.

One step Haverhill is taking is to expand the reach of the high school's Violence Intervention and Prevention group to include issues dealing with substance abuse.

Haverhill also is set to host a summit meeting with representatives from schools throughout the North Shore to focus on taking a more unified stand against opioids.

"A lot of communities do things differently, so there is a lot of reinventing the wheel in dealing with this," she said. "It's a new world for school

health (departments) and this meeting is about finding commonality."

Vozeolas, who has talked with students whose parents are either addicted, in prison, or both, doesn't underestimate the power of simply lending a listening ear.

"We'd like to have more structured programs in the early grades about building up their resiliency to just say no, but there's so much we can't control in these students' environments outside school," she said.

"Often times, kids aren't using, but they want to talk to someone about someone else's use."

## 28 MONTHS LATER

### Recovering mom grateful for family bonds and a responsible life

By JILL HARMACINSKI  
 jharmacinski@eagletribune.com

Harmony King is pregnant with her second child, but she said in many ways it feels like her first pregnancy.

Prior to having Melody, her 2-year-old daughter, King used heroin and other drugs before overdosing six weeks short of her due date. She detoxed and went to a special home, The Hart House in Tewksbury, for mothers with addiction.

Today, King is seven months pregnant with another baby girl and has been clean and sober for 28 months. She relishes the baby's constant

kicking, something she was oblivious and numb to the first time around.

"I cry all the time thinking I could I have enjoyed this with Melody, too .... I didn't have this connection with Melody because I was using," said King, 31.

She thinks of her own mother, Joanne Dillon of Methuen, who stuck by her through the worst days of addiction, she said.

"Sometimes right before I go to sleep, I think about what I put my own mom through," said King, who spent more than a decade abusing drugs and making failed attempts at recovery. "And I get scared

about Melody, hoping she doesn't become like me when she grows up."

She's excited about setting up a nursery for the new baby, something she couldn't do last time "because I was in a program."

She's looking forward to the baby shower her mother is planning for her.

"Before, I missed out on all the normal stuff moms are supposed to have," she said.

These days, King said being sober feels normal.

"It doesn't feel short or long. You live day by day until eventually you accumulate all these 24 hours, one after another," she explained.

In June, King publicly told her story of addiction and overdosing while pregnant exclusively to The Eagle-Tribune.

Six months later, she says she's continuing to improve her life. She has a full-time job as a Boston-area waitress, lives in an apartment with her longtime boyfriend and Melody, and is readying for her new baby's birth in early February.

King said she didn't experience any backlash or regrets about going public with her story. If anything, she said it emboldened her.

She praises others speaking out about addiction and



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo

Harmony King and her daughter Melody, 2, in their home at the end of November.

heroin because "it's an epidemic. The light needs to be shined on it."

Occasionally, she has what she calls a "drug dream," in which she's using again.

"I wake up so relieved," she said. "I'm like 'I didn't use. It was a dream.'"

Follow staff reporter Jill Harmacinski on Twitter @EagleTribJill.

# Sports

## YOUNG GUNS

### Freshmen Landry, Bramanti step right into key roles for girls varsity hoops

By MAC CERULLO  
Staff Writer

ANDOVER — Freshman Taylor Landry has vivid memories of watching Andover High girls basketball dating back to the days of legend Nicole Boudreau, the 2,000-point scorer now starring for Boston College, leading the Golden Warriors to three straight state titles, carving up the competition.

“I always wanted to be like her,” Landry said.

For fellow 2015 Warrior freshman Gia Bramanti, Andover hoops was more of a family affair.

Gia's older brother, current University of New Hampshire basketball co-captain Joe Bramanti, was a 1,000-point scorer for the Andover High, and his senior year (2010) he won the then-Greater Lawrence Christmas Tournament MVP. He scored 24 points to lead Andover to a 63-60 win over North Andover for the 2010 title, ending the program's 15-year tournament title drought.

Bramanti was a water girl on that team, and of course she also looked up to Boudreau and fellow state champion Natalie Gomez-Martinez, who went on to have a fine college career for Division 1 Marist.

Now, having both earned spots in the starting lineup as freshmen for Andover High, this past week playing in their first Commonwealth Motors Christmas Classic.

With superstar junior Alyssa Casey sitting out the early season and holiday tournament due to a stress reaction in her foot, Landry and Bramanti have been counted on to pick up an even bigger load for the Golden Warriors so far this winter. “It's nerve-wracking, but I



RYAN HUTTON/Staff Photo

Taylor Landry's tough defense and scoring touch have her looking like a player far more experienced than a freshman. She and classmate Gia Bramanti are each starters for the Andover girls hoops team.

just have to step up,” Landry said. “I want to do as much as I can.”

In the early stakes of the season, the youngster has been up to the task. Landry scored 16 points in her debut and is averaging 11.6 points. Bramanti's first two games were a tad quieter, totalling eight points, but in the team's game against Billerica, a 56-42 loss, she scored 10 points.

If you ask their teammates though, the two are already on the cusp of stardom.

“I have nothing but amazing things to say. They're incredible,” Casey said.

“Coming in we knew they'd be a force to reckon with, but we didn't picture they'd be such a big force. I think everyone underestimated them and I'm absolutely pleased with how they've turned out.”

Casey said that Landry's biggest asset is her ability to see things on the court that nobody else can see. As for Bramanti, she said her three-point shooting is lights out.

“She can shoot from anywhere,” said Casey, an All-Scholastic last winter when the Warriors lost to Braintree in the Division 1 state

semis at the TD Garden. “And as a freshman having the strength to shoot from three feet behind the line is pretty impressive.”

Andover will be counting on the freshmen to take some pressure off 6-foot junior Jillian Webber (22.3 points), who figures to see a lot more coverage with Casey out of the lineup.

#### Warriors fall in Christmas Tourney opener

The Commonwealth Motors Christmas Classic began in disappointing

fashion for the Andover girls hoops team, which fell to archrival Central Catholic 43-36 in the first round on Sunday.

Senior co-captain Meghan Stickney led the Golden Warriors with a game-high 10 points including a pair of 3-pointers.

Fighting foul trouble that cost her most of the second half, junior star Jillian Webber was next best for the Warriors with seven points, facing constant double teams when she was on the court. Gia Bramanti added seven points.

“We took advantage of a few missing players from Andover,” said Central head coach Casey Grange. “And we prepared well for them.”

#### Central Catholic 43, Andover 36

Central Catholic (43):	Wiggins 0-0-0, Smith 3-3-9, Elbeery 4-1-9, Lane 2-2-6, Kirsch 1-5-7, Bradley 1-1-3, Quaratiello 0-2-2, Thomas 3-0-7.
Totals	14-14-43
Andover (36):	Landry 3-0-6, Roche 1-0-2, Webber 2-5-9, Bramanti 2-2-7, Stickney 3-2-10; Kobelski 1-0-2, Goguen 0-0-0, McDonald 0-0-0.
Totals	12-9-36
3-pointers:	A - Stickney 2, Bramanti; CC - Thomas
Andover (2-2):	5 10 15 6 — 36
Central Catholic (3-1):	11 5 12 15 — 43

#### Local Sports Roundup

## O'Connell, Beasley help boys hoops hold off Lawrence

#### BOYS BASKETBALL

With its stars struggled to score points, Andover role players Ryan O'Connell and Devon Beasley each stepped up huge in the second half to help Andover hold off Lawrence 61-52 last Tuesday.

“After the Central win we knew that Lawrence would be tough,” said senior co-captain O'Connell. “We wanted to come out and show that we can stand with the toughest teams in the state.”

“After losing big pieces like (All-Scholastics) Connor (Merinder) and Giri (David Giribaldi) people think we have huge holes. But we want to show that we can overcome that and win.”

With 30 seconds left in the game, Beasley knocked down a pair of free throws to extend the Andover lead to 60-52. Then Jonathan Rodriguez added one more free throw for the winning margin.

“We just had to keep the heat on them,” said O'Connell. “We couldn't play with fear. They are a tough team with great bigs. But if we got intimidated they would go on a run and build a lead. So we had to stay tough.”

It was a big second half for O'Connell and Beasley.

After just one basket in the first half, O'Connell led the Warriors with nine points after the break, along with 11 rebounds. Beasley scored all eight of his points in the second half.

“It was good to spread of the offense out a little,” said O'Connell.

“They were really keying in on E.J. (Perry IV) so we moved the ball around and created opportunities.”

#### SWIMMING

#### Bradshaws, Andover roll

Nick Bradshaw won the 100 freestyle, John Crowley took the 200 IM, Brian Corrigan won the 500 freestyle, Connor Stack took the 100 butterfly and they teamed to take the 400 freestyle relay as Andover downed Lowell 97-77 last Monday. Chris Zhao won the 50 freestyle and 200 freestyle and Sean Bradshaw took the diving for the winners.

#### GYMNASTICS

#### McDonald sweeps

Kaitlyn McDonald won the vault, bars, beam, floor exercise and took the all-around with a 36.2 as Andover rolled past Lowell 137-120 last Tuesday. Audrey Tarbox added a second in the all-around, Madison Quill was second in the vault and bars and Sarah Williams was runner-up in the floor exercise.

#### WRESTLING

#### Dykstra, Marcotte perfect

Nate Dykstra was 2-0 at 126 points and Matt Marcotte was 2-0 at 132 pounds, but Andover fell to Lawrence (55-12) and Greater Lawrence (44-24) last Tuesday. Kevin Kiley, Matt Meagher and Patrick Meagher each added solo victories for the Warriors.



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo

Devon Beasley fires a pass to teammate Jonathan Rodriguez during the third quarter of Andover's victory over Lawrence. Beasley came up huge down the stretch, including a pair of free throws in the final seconds to clinch the win.

#### BOYS HOCKEY

#### Warriors play to draw

Mike Reilly's third period goal gave Andover a 1-1 tie with Billerica last Wednesday. Andrew King and Steven Schuhwerk added assists and Andrew Santos made 16 saves for the Warriors.

#### GIRLS BASKETBALL

#### Webber's 14 for naught

Jillian Webber scored 14 points and freshman Gia Bramanti netted 10 points, but Andover fell to Billerica 56-42 last Tuesday. It was a rematch of last fall's Division 1 North title game, which the

Golden Warriors won in a 41-38 thriller.

#### GIRLS HOCKEY

#### Andover blanked

Andover fell to powerhouse Austin Prep 5-0 last Wednesday.

### 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 townsmen@andovertownsmen.com or call 978-475-7000, ext. 8733. We look forward to hearing from you.

# ROW GETTERS

## Despite late start, local rowers find fast success and earn Division 1 scholarships

By MAC CERULLO  
 mcerullo@eagletribune.com

Worn out by their old sports and looking for something new, Maddy Coady and Grace Bentley discovered rowing and found a new home on the water.

Now, after four years of competing with the Greater Lawrence Rowing team, both are set to continue their careers at the next level.

Coady, a senior at Haverhill High School, has committed to the University of Notre Dame, while Bentley, a senior at Andover High, has committed to the University of Virginia, which currently boasts the No. 4 rowing team in the country. Both schools compete at the Division 1 level and are members of the Atlantic Coast Conference, meaning that after years of sharing the same boat, the two close friends will soon become rivals.

"Through the whole recruiting process, it was like how funny would it be if we end up racing against each other," Coady said. "It was so funny how things worked out that way."

Unlike with most sports where college prospects have to start early or risk being left behind, many

high-level rowers don't discover the sport until they're older. Case in point, Bentley didn't pick up rowing until she was a freshman in high school, and Coady was only in eighth grade when she first gave it a try.

"It's one of those sports where you either have it or you don't," said Harry Finch, head coach at Greater Lawrence Rowing. "Coaches and athletes can be told early on if they're in contention for a Division 1 scholarship. It's not bad to get into it early, but it's one of those sports where people are successful joining later in life, whether in high school or even as walk-ons in college."

Finch said it was apparent right away that Bentley and Coady had the potential to be great. He said both were high-caliber athletes on land and on water, and as time went on they quickly became two of the strongest athletes in the program. The two originally played other sports — both swam and Bentley also skied and played lacrosse — but upon discovering rowing, it didn't take long before they were hooked.

"Once I started, I fell for it hard," Coady said. "I'm a very Type A person, I like to take control, and that's



Courtesy photo

Andover's Grace Bentley, left, and Haverhill's Maddy Coady compete for the Greater Lawrence Rowing team. Both athletes have committed to row in college next year, with Bentley headed to the University of Virginia and Coady to the University of Notre Dame.

exactly what rowing is for me. It's something I can be in charge of and push myself."

Bentley and Coady's big break came this past spring when the two competed at the 2015 U.S. Rowing Youth National Championships in Sarasota, Florida. The two were part of a four-person boat that successfully petitioned its way into the championships after finishing

a very narrow fourth at regionals.

"We didn't really make it as far as we wanted to, but it was a really big deal to qualify, our team hasn't done that in six years, so it was really cool to go," Bentley said. "That's like a huge recruiting event for college coaches, there were a bunch of them there, so we talked to a few once we were done racing."

The event opened all kinds of doors for the girls. Bentley went on to row for the U.S. Junior World Development Team, which spent seven weeks training and competing in Spain this summer, and Coady was honored as a U.S. Rowing Scholastic Honor Roll selection, roughly equivalent to an All-American Honorable Mention in other sports.

The girls also built impressive resumes off the water too. Both have 3.8 GPAs and are ranked in the top 10 of their respective classes, and outside of school Bentley works as a volunteer for her local church and Coady serves as the chair of the Northeast Regional Student Advisory Council, which advises the student member of the state's Board of Education.

Not surprisingly, the two began attracting interest from some pretty high level schools. Bentley said her other top choices included Princeton, Yale and Harvard, and Coady said her finalists included Georgetown, Syracuse and UMass Amherst.

Ultimately, both said they made their final choices because they were blown away by the school spirit on each campus, and also because they were welcomed by their new teammates with open arms.

"I think went I went on my visit, it felt like a team I wanted to be a part of," Bentley said. "They had a better rowing program and a great balance of academics, plus the whole school atmosphere and the whole student body, I could really see myself there."

## Andover High School girls receive soccer recognitions

The Andover High School girls soccer banquet was recently held at Andover Country Club. Players from all three teams at the school were honored.

Freshman Team Awards went to: MVP: Kassie Brink, MVP-Offense: Nicole Blanchard, MVP-Defense: Daniella Tagliaferri, Most Improved Player: Grace Dunn, Coach's Award: Chloe Fields, Unsung Hero: Becca Nash

JV Team Awards: MVP: Kyra Morrisette, Attacking Player of the Year: Taylor Landry, Defending Player of the Year: Emma Joel, Warrior Spirit Award: Jess Moses,

Coach's Award: Jill Powers, Unsung Hero Award: Grace O'Hara

Varsity Team Awards: MVP: Veronica Alois, MVP-Offense: Emily O'Hara, MVP-Defense: Brianna Knight, Unsung Hero Award: Isabelle Russo, Most Improved Player: Sara Dever, Sportsmanship Award: Simran Jackson, Mal Lynch Warrior Award: Courtney Campbell, Hardock-Corkery Award: Meredith VanAntwerp

MVC All-Conference All-Stars: Veronica Alois, Emily O'Hara (both seniors)

MVA All-Stars: Isabelle Russo, Jenna Davison, Meredith Van Antwerp (all seniors)



AHS Girls JV soccer team, bottom row, left to right: Christie Morin, Alyssa Smith, Mikayla Goodwin, Taylor Landry, Jill Powers, Julianna Kennedy, Kyra Morrisette, Hannah Lansberry, top row from left: Coach Dave Cudmore, Jessica Shay, Scarlet Gillette, Jess Moses, Emma Joel, Emalie Tjalsma, Hope Joel, Caroline Ross, Grace O'Hara.

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3 RABBIT RUN LONDON DERRY \$390,000
15 CRYSTAL HILL, ATKINSON \$399,000
39 SAWTELLE ROAD, WINDHAM \$345,000
1 GOODRIDGE AVE, SALEM \$395,000
1 BIRCH HILL ROAD, SALEM \$395,000
7021 PLEASANT ST LOUDON \$313,000
30 GOODHUE ROAD, DERRY \$325,670
32 OLD COACH RD, ATKINSON \$305,000
121 LAURA LN, HAMPSTEAD, NH \$319,000
5 BENJAMIN WAY, EPPING, NH \$305,000
29 MOUNTAIN, LONDON DERRY \$305,000
11 FAIRWAY RD, LONDON DERRY \$326,900
14 ROCKY HILL, NOTTINGHAM \$320,000
25 WALKER ROAD, ATKINSON \$309,900
17 GORDON DR, LONDON DERRY \$324,900
4 WILLIAM DRIVE, PELHAM, NH \$320,000
154 MAIN STREET, AKINSON NH \$390,000
34 MORRISON RD, WINDHAM, NH \$390,000
9 MITCHELL POND, WINDHAM, NH \$400,000
10 MEETINGHOUSE, WINDHAM, NH \$405,000
242 NO MAIN STREET, SALEM, NH \$399,000
51 JENKINS FARM RD, CHESTER, NH \$415,000
52 MILL ROAD, DERRY, NH \$419,000
45 MACY STREET #305 AMEBURY \$116,500
365 AIKEN AVENUE #1, LOWELL \$137,000
43 STEVENS ST, WEST METHUEN \$265,000
3 FERNVIEW AVE #8, NO ANDOVER \$124,000
68 JEFFERSON ST, NORTH ANDOVER \$132,000
34 HEMLOCK, LONDON DERRY \$455,000
7 CRICKET RIDGE, WINDHAM \$460,000
61 GOWING RD, HUDSON, NH \$400,000
LOT 13 ASPEN DRIVE, PELHAM \$470,808
LOT 2 ISAAC FOSS RD, CHESTER \$475,000
3 WILDFLOWER LANE, SALEM \$470,000
24 ROSEWOOD LANE, MADISON \$445,000
30 HARVEST DRIVE, DERRY, NH \$595,000
10 TANGER WAY LONDON DERRY \$429,900
3 BRIMSTONE DRIVE, SALEM \$475,000
33 CARDINAL DRIVE, DOVER \$420,000
23 WINTER STREET, HOOKSETT \$424,900
8 MOCCASIN PATH, ATKINSON \$407,000
15 TANGER WAY LONDON DERRY \$429,900
19 BRENNER DRIVE, NEWTON \$412,500
19 CORLISS ROAD, WINDHAM \$417,500
20 HARVEST DRIVE, DERRY, NH \$522,160
0 LAKE SHORE RD, DERRY, NH \$169,650
34 FISH ROAD, WINDHAM, NH \$185,000
106 MILLVILLE CIRCLE, SALEM \$173,500
235 HIGHS RANGE, LONDON DERRY \$215,000
86 BARSTOW WAY, MANCHESTER \$197,000
11 PINE ACRES, ALLENSTOWN \$205,000
29 RYAN CIRCLE, ROCHESTER \$207,000
18 JEWELL ST, SO HAMPTON, NH \$165,000
18 AMHERST DRIVE, DERRY, NH \$215,000
33 SCENIC DR, DERRY, NH \$227,000
92 GRAY ST, MANCHESTER, NH \$227,000
232 RANGE RD, WINDHAM, NH \$200,000
57 OLD DERRY RD, LONDON DERRY \$229,900
15 BLUNT DRIVE, DERRY, NH \$229,120
229 RAYMOND RD, DEERFIELD \$223,000
50 MARSHALL STREET, NASHUA \$242,000
67 BURNS ROAD, PELHAM, NH \$245,000
75 ELM STREET, GOFFSTOWN \$243,000
15 GENERAL PULASKI, SALEM \$245,000
8 WILDWOOD RD, WINDHAM \$180,000
9 HEMLOCK SHORE, ATKINSON \$255,000
897 MAMMOTH RD, PELHAM, NH \$250,000
9 NUTMEG LANE, MERRIMACK \$270,000
25 LINWOOD AVE, SALEM, NH \$281,200
2 INWOOD CIRCLE, PELHAM, NH \$149,625
42 PROVIDENCE HILL, ATKINSON \$275,500
9 CRESTWOOD CIR, SALEM, NH \$285,000
70 ARNOLD STREET, METHUEN \$230,000
105 OAKLAND AVE, W. METHUEN \$260,000
41 SANDRA LANE, METHUEN \$249,900
43 PONDEROSA AVE, METHUEN \$249,900
70 PLEASANT STREET, METHUEN \$250,000
30 CAPITOL STREET, METHUEN \$259,900
25-27 FOSTER ST, LAWRENCE \$232,000
70-72 RAILROAD ST, LAWRENCE \$245,900
45 PERRY ST, LAWRENCE \$250,000
99 WEARE STREET, LAWRENCE \$230,000
36 BOOTH ST, METHUEN \$325,000
10 CLEMENTI LANE, METHUEN \$344,500
82 BUTTERNUT LANE, METHUEN \$366,400
39 OLYMPIC VILLAGE, METHUEN \$385,000
4 COX LANE, METHUEN, MA \$400,000
536 JACKSON STREET, METHUEN \$396,000
24 HUNTER AVE, METHUEN \$440,000
14 SUGAR PINE LN, W. METHUEN \$450,000
9 CRANE CROSSING, PLAISTOW \$170,000
2 AUTUMN CIR, PLAISTOW \$205,000
4 PARK AVENUE, PLAISTOW \$216,000
22 WESTVILLE RD, PLAISTOW \$230,000
5 KINGSTON RD, PLAISTOW \$211,000
12 PARK AVENUE, PLAISTOW \$240,000
32 KELLEY ROAD, PLAISTOW \$317,500
67 SWEET HILL RD, PLAISTOW \$350,000
20 SMITH CORNER, PLAISTOW \$360,000
7 RED OAK DR, PLAISTOW, NH \$459,900
68 FORREST ST #4, PLAISTOW \$149,900
135 FORREST ST, PLAISTOW \$167,000
15 CLUIVER ST #36, PLAISTOW \$175,000
68 FORREST 4A, PLAISTOW, NH \$184,000
11 GREENOUGH RD, PLAISTOW \$177,000
20 AUGUSTA DR, PLAISTOW \$324,900
8 AUGUSTA DRIVE, PLAISTOW \$357,845
9 MARILYN PARK, HAMPSTEAD \$214,900
2 LINCOLN ROAD, HAMPSTEAD \$232,000
69 BEVERLY DR, HAMPSTEAD \$329,900
9 HALL STREET, METHUEN \$280,000
40 PIEDMONT ST, METHUEN \$287,500
22 CLAYTON AVE, METHUEN \$294,900
11 COOLIDGE ST, METHUEN \$304,900
81 AYER STREET, METHUEN \$299,900
3 WOELK TERRACE, METHUEN \$285,000
57 SUNSET AVE, LAWRENCE \$285,000
36 BOXFORD ST, LAWRENCE \$303,000
178 UNION STREET, LAWRENCE \$295,900
5 KILIER COURT, LAWRENCE \$335,000
94 NASHUA ROAD, PEPPERELL \$230,000
116 JEWETT STREET, PEPPERELL \$305,000
29 SUMMIT STREET, SALEM, MA \$335,000
1 GIDEON LANE, SHIRLEY \$440,000
72 GLENDALE AVE, TYNSBORO \$240,000
1 STENBECK ST, TYNSBORO \$425,000
31 OLD MILL CIRCLE, WESTMINSTER \$306,820
27 PINE STREET, WOBURN \$330,000
20 GLEN DEVIN #20, AMESBURY \$149,900
299 SUMMER ST #2, BOSTON \$459,000
57 TURTLE BROOK RD, CANTON \$315,000
23-33 MIDDLE ST, LOWELL \$157,900
945 RIVERSIDE 17B, METHUEN \$110,900
64 GASTON ST #64, METHUEN \$142,000
20 WASHINGTON #28, METHUEN \$169,500
1 RIVERVIEW #205 METHUEN \$179,000
21 HAMPSHIRE RD #314, METHUEN \$184,500
19 HAMPSHIRE RD #209 METHUEN \$213,000
25 FARRWOOD AVE #1, NO ANDOVER \$121,000
69 FERNVIEW #7, NO ANDOVER \$147,000
1 MILL POND #1, NORTH ANDOVER \$199,000
106-108 LEACH ST #3, SALEM, MA \$286,000
10 VILLAGE LANE #1, TYNSBORO \$137,000
263 PLACE LANE #263, WOBURN \$306,000
158 PARK STREET #1, BEVERLY \$129,900
25 LORDEN COM, LONDON DERRY \$512,234
229 OLD GAGE RD, PELHAM \$494,000
26 HARVEST DRIVE, DERRY \$519,000
15 JACKMAN RIDGE WINDHAM \$524,000
39 WINSLOW DR, ATKINSON, NH \$525,000
130 RANGE RD, WINDHAM, NH \$534,900
5 LEEDS ROAD, WINDHAM, NH \$525,000
13 CLARK FARM RD, WINDHAM \$534,000
35 FLAT ROCK RD, WINDHAM \$535,000
10 DRUMMER RD, PELHAM, NH \$550,000
25 FLINTLOCK RD, SALEM, NH \$538,000
48 MARBLEHEAD RD, WINDHAM \$537,500
11 FLINTLOCK RD, SALEM, NH \$560,000
272 HIGH STREET, CANDIA \$577,500
10 GLENWOOD RD, WINDHAM \$599,900
53 BLOSSOM ROAD, WINDHAM \$565,000
719 NO OCEAN BLVD, HAMPTON \$606,000
10 CROSS STREET, WINDHAM \$620,000
10 NIRVANA DRIVE, SALEM, NH \$620,000
10 CAMELOT RD, WINDHAM, NH \$650,000
8 BRAMBLE HILL RD, WINDHAM \$617,000
2 MONTICELLO DR, AMHERST \$670,000
15 WESTON RD, WINDHAM, NH \$709,564
39 MERRIMACK ST, METHUEN \$259,900
105 ARNOLD STREET, METHUEN \$250,000
534 HAMPSHIRE RD, METHUEN \$262,500
9 OAK MEADOW LN, METHUEN \$269,900
19 SUNSET AVE, METHUEN \$255,000
132 WEST MEADOW, HAVERHILL \$179,000
647 S MAIN STREET, HAVERHILL \$189,000
81 EUDORA STREET, HAVERHILL \$175,000
10 OLIVER ST A, HAVERHILL \$189,000
36 OAK TERRACE, HAVERHILL \$235,000
127 GROVE STREET, HAVERHILL \$270,000
40 VARNUM STREET, HAVERHILL \$270,000
168-170 PHILLIPS ST, LAWRENCE \$220,000
29 WOODLAND ST, LAWRENCE \$205,000
10 DUNROBIN CIR, METHUEN \$559,900
17 ARCHIBALD AVE, METHUEN \$539,900
9 MUIRFIELD LN, METHUEN \$595,000
22 ARROWWOOD ST, METHUEN \$610,000
113 MIDDLE ST, NO ANDOVER \$477,000
94 NASHUA RD, PEPPERELL \$230,000
37 BENNINGTON ST, LAWRENCE \$235,000
5 WAYNE STREET, LAWRENCE \$225,000
57 W KENNETH, LAWRENCE \$250,000
8 OLIVER DRIVE, HAVERHILL \$189,900
77 STERLING LN, HAVERHILL \$209,900
79 EUDORA ST, HAVERHILL \$230,000
13 CARRINGTON, BRADFORD \$269,900
8 WEST MEADOW, HAVERHILL \$250,000
82 NEWBURY ST, LAWRENCE \$110,900
4 KENWOOD, LAWRENCE \$127,500
19 HAMPSHIRE 3204, METHUEN \$180,000
20 WASHINGTON, METHUEN \$180,000
1 RIVERVIEW #104, METHUEN \$190,000
1 RIVERVIEW #204, METHUEN \$225,000
13 AUGUSTA DRIVE, PLAISTOW \$364,900
2 AUGUSTA DRIVE, PLAISTOW \$367,303
600 HAVERHILL ST, LAWRENCE \$348,000
23 KENDALL STREET, LAWRENCE \$345,000
645 LOWELL STREET, LAWRENCE \$335,000
13 PEASLEE TERRACE, METHUEN \$269,000
102 PLEASANT ST, METHUEN \$278,500
57 AMES STREET, METHUEN \$280,000
175 EDGEWOOD AVE, METHUEN \$275,000
15 MOISON AVE, W. METHUEN \$275,750
401 FOREST ST, W. METHUEN \$290,000
35 GREENHALGE ST, METHUEN \$280,000
10 ANDERSON DR, METHUEN \$290,000
21 KEACH ST, W. METHUEN \$300,000
20 BUMPY LANE, METHUEN \$309,000
71 SEVOIAN DR, METHUEN \$335,000
63 RIVERDALE ST, E. METHUEN \$315,000
30 GAGE STREET, METHUEN \$338,000
33 LYNDAL AVE, METHUEN \$313,000
47 BONANGE COURT, METHUEN \$334,900
9 GAGE STREET, METHUEN \$328,900
6 ASHFORD STREET, METHUEN \$350,000
20 IRVING RD, LYNN MA \$405,000
37 HARRIMAN RD, MERRIMACK \$278,500
12 PARKER STREET, ACTON, MA \$490,000
6 WINTERGREEN CIR, ANDOVER \$619,900
6 NEWMAN HILL, ANDOVER \$915,000
4 TAFT STREET, AYER, MASS \$272,500
7 WAYLAND ROAD, BEVERLY \$429,900
93 GOLDEN RUN ROAD, BOLTON \$429,000
23 DESROSIERS STREET, LOWELL \$335,000
100 HANKS STREET, LOWELL \$370,000
98 HILL STREET, MALDEN \$415,000
16 DAMON AVENUE, MELROSE \$522,500
31 EMERY STREET, MERRIMACK \$210,000
45 WEST MAIN ST, MERRIMACK \$333,777
10 PARKER COURT, METHUEN \$132,500
216 HAMPSTEAD ST, METHUEN \$175,000
113 MIDDLESEX ST, NO ANDOVER \$477,000
21 VINE STREET, AMESBURY \$339,000
179 ELM STREET, ANDOVER \$364,175
12 ELYSIAN DRIVE, ANDOVER \$540,000
25 BLUEBERRY HILL, ANDOVER \$1,049,000
108 SALEM ROAD, DRACUT \$365,247
25 7 STAR ROAD, GROVELAND \$345,000
13 DAWN CIRCLE, HAVERHILL \$394,512
21 TEXAS AVENUE, LAWRENCE \$199,900
69 MIDDLEBURY ST, LAWRENCE \$243,000
87 WESLEY STREET, LAWRENCE \$250,000
1 OAKLAND STREET, MALDEN \$230,000
5 RIDGEWOOD LANE, METHUEN \$65,000
6 SANDRA LANE, METHUEN \$250,000
29 SPRING STREET, WAKEFIELD \$609,000
14 DEERING AVENUE, METHUEN \$320,500
65 WEST STREET, METHUEN \$309,000
58 BELLEVUE ROAD, ANDOVER \$436,000
34 YORK STREET, ANDOVER \$419,000
100 RED STRING ROAD, ANDOVER \$460,140
14 CRESTWOOD DR, ANDOVER \$540,000
8 GOVERNORS RD, GROVELAND \$206,000
50 PEAR TREE ROAD, HAVERHILL \$374,900
37 BRADLEY AVENUE, HAVERHILL \$369,000
5 WINONA ROAD, HAVERHILL \$376,000
137 BAILEY STREET, LAWRENCE \$140,000
83 ABBOTT STREET, LAWRENCE \$215,000
63 HIGHLAND VIEW, NO ANDOVER \$379,878
32 MARIE STREET, TEWKSBURY \$285,000
123 GREENHILL RD, TOWNSEND \$325,000
23 POLLEY STREET, WESTFORD \$370,000
3 LORWOOD DR #2, ANDOVER \$175,000
105 FARRWOOD, NO ANDOVER \$143,000
4 STACY DR, NORTH ANDOVER \$160,000
157 FRANKLIN STREET, STONEHAM \$160,000
105 CARDINAL, TYNSBORO \$190,000
27 WASHINGTON AVE, CHELSEA \$529,000
93 HIGH STREET, HAVERHILL \$333,000
26-28 ROSEMONT ST, HAVERHILL \$410,000
109-111 HIGH STREET, HAVERHILL \$427,500
27-29 EUTAW STREET, LAWRENCE \$87,000
47 EARL STREET, MALDEN \$589,000
17 CENTRAL AVENUE, MEDFORD \$528,220
57 LAWRENCE STREET, MEDFORD \$670,000
372 RICHARDSON ROAD, DRACUT \$235,000
100 CASS AVENUE #B13, DRACUT \$136,000
2320 SKYLINE DRIVE, LOWELL \$115,000
234 BEACON STREET #3, LOWELL \$217,500
30 SUMMIT STREET, NO ANDOVER \$225,000
3 HARVEST DRIVE, NO ANDOVER \$278,000
111 FOSTER STREET #210, PEABODY \$139,000
12 WILLIAMS STREET #3, SALEM, MA \$315,000
263-265 WEST 6TH, LOWELL \$208,000
160-162 OAKLAND AVE, METHUEN \$337,000
184-186 WAYERLY RD, NO ANDOVER \$315,000
11-13 COMMONWEALTH, ANDOVER \$323,200
300-302 PLEASANT ST, NO ANDOVER \$55,000
1236 MAIN STREET, ASHBY \$62,000
10 CORTHELL ROAD, BILLERICA \$340,000
22 EVERGREEN STREET, CHELMSFORD \$375,900
4 CONGRESS STREET, DRACUT \$245,000
22 JOSEPH AVENUE, DRACUT \$263,000
448 MERRIMACK AVENUE, DRACUT \$278,000
3 CHEEVER AVENUE, DRACUT \$320,000
67 SCOTT STREET, DRACUT \$341,000
80 SUE ANN DRIVE, DRACUT \$387,000
42 CORAL DRIVE, DRACUT \$387,000
155 KENWOOD ROAD, DRACUT \$410,000
37 RACHEL ROAD, DRACUT \$445,000
18 REGENCY DRIVE, DRACUT \$572,000
46R EVERETT STREET, EVERETT \$291,500
56 DYER STREET, GARDNER \$215,000
47 OVERTON ROAD, WINDHAM \$725,000
20-26 BURNHAM, WINDHAM \$764,308
192 ATLANTIC AVE, SEABROOK \$725,000
5 WINSLOW LANE, WINDHAM \$805,500
2 LINK STREET, WINDHAM \$775,000
29 LONDON BRIDGE, WINDHAM \$820,000
6 SHERWOOD RD, WINDHAM \$829,000
47 BOULDER COVE, ATKINSON \$815,000
9 BUCK HIDE RD, WINDHAM \$860,000
32 BURNHAM RD, WINDHAM \$1,029,984
20 STOENHEDGE RD, WINDHAM \$435,500
11 ROCKING CHAIR, ATKINSON \$439,900
10 FINEVIEW RD, WINDHAM, NH \$437,000
31 HAWKINS GLEN DR, SALEM \$435,000
10 WASSERMAN, MERRIMACK \$432,000
9 MALLARD LN, SANDOWN \$440,000
109 SOUTH RD, DEERFIELD, NH \$449,000
8 EVERGREEN LN, AMHERST, NH \$445,000
49 HUNTER, LONDON DERRY \$454,743
LOT 14 ASPEN DRIVE, PELHAM \$449,900

\* Coco, Early & Associates participated in either the listing side and/or the selling side of the transactions listed above.

ANDOVER: (978) 475-1009 / METHUEN: (978) 687-8484 / BRADFORD: (978) 374-8484
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EPPING, NH: (603) 679-2300 / DERRY, NH: (603) 432-0100 / PLAISTOW, NH: (603) 382-2100
HAMPSTEAD, NH: (603) 382-2121 / WINDHAM, NH: (603) 893-343-3433



**TOWNHOMES/CONDOS**  
Lynn - 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath townhouse. 2 decks, off street parking on private setting close to Swampscott line. Priced to sell! \$174,900

**Tache RE**  
**(978) 745-2004**

Marblehead - Enjoy beautiful views of Marblehead harbor in this updated 2 bedroom, townhouse at Glover Landing. Modernized kitchen features granite counters and stainless steel appliances. \$498,000

**Armstrong Field RE**  
**(978) 740-8700**  
armstrongfield.com

Salem - Charming 2 bedroom unit in Salem McIntyre Historic District. Open floor plan, large windows and bonus room. \$209,900

**Tache RE**  
**(978) 745-2004**

Salem - 2 bedroom, ocean front condo in Salem Willows Neighborhood. Features include a gourmet kitchen, exclusive ocean front deck, private beach and more. \$449,900

**Armstrong Field RE**  
**(978) 740-8700**  
armstrongfield.com

Salem - Large & updated 3 bedroom penthouse condo in Osgood Park. Updated kitchen with granite counters and stainless appliances. Spacious rooms and use of private beach and park. \$284,800

**Armstrong Field RE**  
**(978) 740-8700**  
armstrongfield.com

Salem - Perfect condo for the buyer looking to be in the heart of downtown. 2 fireplaces, period detail throughout, easy access to restaurants, public transportation and water front. \$174,000

**Tache RE**  
**(978) 745-2004**

Stoneham - Freshly painted one bedroom unit features walk-in closet in bedroom, new carpeting, sliders off livingroom to private balcony, common laundry and parking. \$189,900.

**Tache RE**  
**(978) 745-2004**

Tewksbury - Updated, 3 bedroom condo in Livingston Place Condominiums. Attached 2 car garage, stainless steel kitchen appliances, hardwood flooring and more. \$429,900

**Armstrong Field RE**  
**(978) 740-8700**  
armstrongfield.com

Gloucester - Short-Term, 5-6 month two-bedroom rental. Meticulously maintained single-level unit with spacious and open living, fully appointed kitchen, two-car parking, interior storage area and washer-dryer hookups. Lease for 5-6 months followed by month to month Tenant-at-Will/Extended Lease. No-Fee Application with minimum credit score of 675 to qualify. No pets please. \$1,225/mo

**Rick Petralia**  
**J. Barrett & Company**  
**978-865-1203**

Gloucester - Good Harbor Beach Neighborhood! Build your year round or summer home in this .30 acre parcel within very close proximity to Good Harbor Beach. Natural gas, water and electric on street. Super location! Offered at \$335,000

**Mary Ciaraldi**  
**J Barrett & Company**  
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maryciaraldi@barrettrealty.com

Gloucester-NEW TO MARKET! Build your dream home on this .30 acre parcel within very close proximity to Good Harbor Beach. Natural gas, water and electric on street. Super location! Offered at \$335,000

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**978-778-6351**  
maryciaraldi@barrettrealty.com

NEWBURY - Building lot in excellent Plum Island location! Fine natural trees/grasses, will have city water and sewer, plus expansive marsh and city views! Oversized lot will accommodate a very large new house in an area of fabulous new homes! \$315,000  
Call Pat Skibbee

**RIVER VALLEY RE**  
978-502-4782/office 800-773-9990

Rockport - 2 Parcels - .59 acre parcel with accessory building in the Long Beach area of Rockport. Offered at \$149,900  
.46 acre parcel in the South End of Rockport. Potential for an accessory building/garage. Backs up to conservation land. Offered at \$99,900.

**Mary Ciaraldi**  
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**Rentals**

**HOMES**  
Gloucester- Long-Term Gloucester Three-Bedroom House Rental. First and security. Spacious interior with ample basement storage and parking. Easy access to highway and MBTA to Boston. No Pets. First and security \$1,675/mo

**Rick Petralia**  
**J. Barrett & Company**  
**978-865-1203**

Rockport - Spacious Year-Round upper level four-room, one-bedroom apartment overlooking all of beautiful Rockport Harbor, enjoy the quiet tranquility and the expansive panoramic views. This extraordinary apartment offers additional storage space, sun-drenched living areas, washer-dryer in unit and centered dining room. Clean and comfortable. No pets please. First and one-month's security require for entry. No fee application required with minimum credit score of 675 to qualify. \$1375

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**J. Barrett & Company**  
**978-865-1203**

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**J. Barrett & Company**  
**978-865-1203**

Salem - Large & updated 3 bedroom penthouse condo in Osgood Park. Updated kitchen with granite counters and stainless appliances. Spacious rooms and use of private beach and park. \$284,800

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**(978) 740-8700**  
armstrongfield.com

Salem - Perfect condo for the buyer looking to be in the heart of downtown. 2 fireplaces, period detail throughout, easy access to restaurants, public transportation and water front. \$174,000

**Tache RE**  
**(978) 745-2004**

Stoneham - Freshly painted one bedroom unit features walk-in closet in bedroom, new carpeting, sliders off livingroom to private balcony, common laundry and parking. \$189,900.

**Tache RE**  
**(978) 745-2004**

Tewksbury - Updated, 3 bedroom condo in Livingston Place Condominiums. Attached 2 car garage, stainless steel kitchen appliances, hardwood flooring and more. \$429,900

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**(978) 740-8700**  
armstrongfield.com

Gloucester - Short-Term, 5-6 month two-bedroom rental. Meticulously maintained single-level unit with spacious and open living, fully appointed kitchen, two-car parking, interior storage area and washer-dryer hookups. Lease for 5-6 months followed by month to month Tenant-at-Will/Extended Lease. No-Fee Application with minimum credit score of 675 to qualify. No pets please. \$1,225/mo

**Rick Petralia**  
**J. Barrett & Company**  
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BUICK LESABRE 2004 - Custom black with gray leather interior, 104,000 miles. Great running condition. Non-smoker car. Great A/C, heat, brakes & motor. tires like new, \$3000 or best offer. Call 978-682-4072

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CADILLAC DEVILLE 2002 79,000 miles, FWD NO RUST, all power. Blue metallic/gray leather runs & drives excellent. New tires/good motor, great engine NEEDS NOTHING!! \$3699 Call 978-360-2809

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FORD 2003 TAURUS WAGON TIRES, BRAKES, BATTERY, STARTER, ALL NEW! Good on gas, front wheel drive, mechanically sound, adj roof rack, long list of extras. 137k miles. Good condition, some rust. Asking \$2500. (978) 683-8419

FORD FOCUS ZTS 2004 sedan, white/gray inter, 110K, automatic, all power options, alloy wheels rear spoiler, needs nothing \$3950 (781) 640-9858

FORD TAURUS 2005 4 door sedan, V6, all power. 69K Leather, moonroof, silver. Like new condition. \$3300 978-332-1304

FORD TAURUS SE 2002, Silver/Gray, Tilt, CD, Cruise, Power Windows/Door Locks/Seats, 94k, NEEDS NOTHING, NO RUST/NO DENTS, PRICED FOR QUICK SALE \$2950 Call (781) 640-9858

HONDA Accord EX-L 2009 Like new condition, 100,000 miles, options include leather, navigation, all power, power moonroof, Premium Sound and Michelin tires \$12,900. Call 978-462-3088

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HONDA CIVIC LX 2012 - Automatic, like new, red, 45k miles, 1 owner nonsmoker, needs nothing. Tires in good shape, snow tires included. Recently detailed. Asking \$11,750. Call 603-548-8326

KIA 2005 SPECTRA A5 Hatchback, blue, 116k miles. Very good condition, 1 owner, lady, \$3400. Call 978-337-0934

AUTOS

KIA, SpectraS, 2006, 94,500 miles. Air Conditioning, Power Windows, Power Door Locks, Cruise Control, Power Steering, Tilt Wheel, AM/FM Stereo, CD (Single Disc), Dual Air Bags, Side Air Bags, Sun Roof (Sliding), Rear Spoiler. Full service records available. \$2500.00. 617.694.2420

LINCOLN TOWN CAR Cartier Edition 2003, 80,000 miles, always garaged, new priced at \$49,000 asking \$8000 603-890-6941

MERCEDES SL 600 - 1995 Selling my 1995 Mercedes SL 600 - One owner. Nice condition inside and out, Florida car, 2 tops, no dents or rips. Paint shines like new! Low miles. Red exterior, beige interior. Call 617-719-1933

PRICED TO SELL NISSAN 2.5L SL, Altima Hybrid 2007, 157,200 miles. 32-34 MPG! Car is in great condition. Altima has beautiful wood veneer interior, heated leather seats, and an upgraded sound system. The asking price includes four snow tires! All scheduled maintenance with no accidents. One owner. Priced below Kelly Blue Book value. Pictures on autotrader.com. \$4,299. 978-621-4680

NISSAN 3.5 SL, Altima 2007, 108,000 miles. 1 owner Gray/black leather. Meticulously maintained. Very clean. Car fax/Vin check in hand. All options - too many to list. Awesome condition in/out. Everything in working order. Always garaged. Still registered/insured for test run. \$7,700. 978-760-3136

NISSAN ALTIMA 2001 4 cylinder, pretty blue, 96k miles. Very good condition. Previous owner elderly, \$2400. 978-337-0934

NISSAN ALTIMA S 2003 SEDAN Silver/black interior, automatic, tilt, cruise, cd, power windows, door locks, 1 owner 80,000 miles:FAST SALE!! \$4850 Call (781) 640-9858

SATURN ION 2006 4 cyl., 80,000 miles, 3 door, pwr door locks, cruise, tilt CD player Med blue/gray cloth, NEEDS NOTHING! No rust book value \$7000, Quick Sale \$3400. Call 978-360-2809

TOYOTA CAROLLA LE 2006 Silver/Gray inter automatic pwr door locks, tilt, cruise, CD ABS, 4cyl., Pristine condition in and out priced for quick sale \$5950 Call (781) 640-9858

Season's Greetings TOYOTA CELICA 1997 2 door, 5 speed, loaded 200,000 miles, still runs like new, all good tires, No Rust No Dents, new inspection sticker NEEDS NOTHING!! \$950 978-397-3444

TOYOTA COROLLA 2014 LE - 4 door, 1-owner, showroom condition, fully equipped. White, automatic, 28,000 low low miles. This car is like brand new. Call now. Very sharp \$14,800. Fully warranted. Guaranteed inspection. Call 603-948-8912

VOLKSWAGEN, Cabrio 1999, 78,300 miles. 4 cylinder, 5 speed, A/C & heat work great. 1 owner, garage kept, great condition, runs & drives great! No check engine lights. New tires, needs nothing. \$2800 b.o. 978-745-8500

VOLVO S40 2008 4 door, loaded with all power, leather and moonroof, FWD, 104,000 miles. Only \$7900 Call 978-462-3088

VW GTI 2007 2.0 Turbo, 6 speed, Triple black/leather, moon roof, Ice Cold AC, Alloy Wheels, Needs Nothing, Pristine Condition \$4550 (781) 640-9858

LOOK VW PASSAT 2007 Charcoal w/ tan leather Moonroof, Automatic, 4cyl., 120,000 miles, All pwr, A/C, heated seats, new brakes, all good tires, runs great, very clean no rust \$3950 (978) 807-3240

First Run \$300 Cash Reward WANTED Dead or Alive \$300 cash on the spot for anyone who sends me a customer for any pre-owned vehicle. Up to \$300 cash on the spot upon delivery. Auto dealer or regular citizen. Extra cash paid call Ken G 603-948-8912

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HARLEY DAVIDSON FLH parts thru 1990 new 2 pc rain suit,XL \$150, new jumper cable runs off cigarette lighter \$30, new stereo antenna extension cord \$30, new right floor board rubber pad with connecting grommets \$25, used luggage rack with back pad \$250, 2 used taillights \$10 Vincent 978-778-0713

BMW X5 2008 AWD, certified, 1-owner, High Tech package. Backup camera. Fully equipped. Silver leather interior. Like new. \$68,000 retail. ONLY \$15,900 special price. Brand new all season radial tires. Very sharp! Fully warranted. Guaranteed inspection. 603-948-8912

Chevrolet Suburban 2005 1500 LS 4 WD, 4 door SUV, 5.3L V-8, automatic, all power, 7 passenger. No accidents. Runs great! 150,000 miles. \$6900. Call 978-462-3088

Chevrolet Tahoe LT 2007 4 WD SUV 7 Passenger, white/black leather interior, moonroof, all power, 117K miles, automatic, super clean, well maintained. \$17,900. Call 978-462-3088

CHEVROLET Tahoe LT 2008, 7 passenger High Tech package, 1-owner, black/gray leather, 4 WD, brand new all season radial tires. Every option avail. Power moonroof. Showroom cond \$50,000 new retail. Only \$15,900. Fully warranted. Guaranteed inspection. 603-948-8912

CHEVROLET TrailBlazer 2003 Black/Gray leather, moonroof, 4WD, pristine condition, 99k, \$5500 Call (781) 640-9858

FORD ESCAPE XLT 2008 AWD 4 door SUV, V-6, automatic, black/black, loaded with all power options and moonroof, 105,000 miles. Priced right \$8900. Call 978-462-3088

FORD EXPEDITION 2001 automatic, AWD, no rust, new tires and no radio \$1650 or Best offer, 978-465-2016

Ford Explorer XLT 2005 Dark Blue/ Gray interior all power, 4WD, 3rd row seat, loaded clean 109K, 40 day guarantee Book value \$6500 Sell \$4550 Call (978) 807-3240

FORD Explorer XLT 2006 4x4 SUV, One-owner, 29 service records. Super clean inside & out. V-6 automatic, XLT option package. 104K miles. \$9900. Call 978-462-3088

Grand Cherokee Loradeo 2003 Gray/Gray runs great NEEDS NOTHING!! QUICK SALE \$2700 (781) 640-9858

HONDA CR-V 2005 Black, black interior AWD 4 door, 146K miles, runs great. This SUV is in great condition but does have a few scratches on it. Great winter, first car or second reliable AWD SUV. \$4900. Call 978-621-0675 today

HUMMER H2 2007 4-door SUV, 6.0 liter V8, automatic, black with black leather interior, completely loaded. All Terrain luxury vehicle, only 61000 miles. \$28,900. Call 978-462-3088

SUBARU 2011 Forester Premier, AWD, 1-owner, High Tech package. Brand new all season radial tires. Fully serviced. Showroom condition. Black/black leather, power moonroof, every option available. Only \$13,900. Fully warranted. Guaranteed inspection. 603-948-8912

VOLVO XC70 2008 AWD, New body style, same as 2014, White with Black interior. Excellent condition with low mileage 83,150 miles Clean CarFax, no accidents, etc \$14,500 firm 978-830-1168

SUV

HONDA, Pilot 2005. 88200 miles. Very good condition, low mileage, towing package, roof rack, black exterior, tan interior. \$6400 978-828-1487

CHEVROLET Silverado 1500 2008 - 2 WD, regular cab shortbed pickup. Factory sport aluminum rims. Bedliner tow package. Special Chevy grill. Super sharp. Remote start. 118K miles. Only \$11,900. Call 978-462-3088

CHEVROLET Silverado 2012 4 door LT extended cab, blue/blue interior, 4 WD 1-owner. Showroom cond. Brand new all season radial tires. Like new. Fully serviced. Fully equipped. \$50,000 new, ONLY \$17,900. Sharp! Fully warranted. Guaranteed inspection. 603-948-8912

QUAD CAB 6 cyl., 4WD, automatic, Great work truck, bed liner, runs good 170K, Clean Car fax \$2500 or Best Offer Call 978-473-2319

DODGE DAKOTA 2003 QUAD CAB 6 cyl., 4WD, automatic, Great work truck, bed liner, runs good 170K, Clean Car fax \$2500 or Best Offer Call 978-473-2319

FORD F-150 XL 2006 pickup truck automatic, V-6 engine, rear wheel drive, one owner. Looks and runs great. \$5,900 Call 978-462-3088

FORD F-150 XLT CUSTOM 2010 76K miles, has leveling kit, custom 20" wheels, custom exhaust, Weathertech floor mats. Clean & well maintained \$18,000. 978- 500-3279

Jobs-Professionals

NORTH of BOSTON MEDIA GROUP THE EAGLE-TRIBUNE THE SALEM NEWS THE DAILY NEWS OF NEWBURYPORT GLOUCESTER DAILY TIMES ANDOVER TOWNSMAN HAVERHILL GAZETTE DERRY NEWS CARRIAGE TOWNE NEWS

DISTRICT MANAGER - The Salem News, Beverly, MA Full-time. Maintain and increase circulation in assigned district; determine sales objectives for the district; serve as a liaison between independent contractors and the company regarding issues such as collections, sales and customer service; responsible for down routes; ensure that service standards are being met. High school diploma or GED required, college degree preferred. Proficiency with figures and Microsoft office is essential. Candidates must have a valid driver's license with a good driving record, reliable transportation and current auto insurance.

BOX TRUCK DRIVER - Daily News of Newburyport, Newburyport, MA Full-time (30 hours). We are looking for a driver to transport newspapers from our North Andover plant to our Newburyport and Beverly locations. Load and unload newspaper skins from the truck with the aid of a floor jack. Must be at least 21 years old and have at least three years driving experience. Must possess a valid driver's license (regular or CDL) with a good driving record and must be able to pass a D.O.T. physical exam. Hours: Sunday to Tuesday 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.; Wednesday to Thursday 7:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m and Friday 10:30 p.m. to 4:30 a.m.

DIGITAL SALES SPECIALIST - North of Boston Media Group, North Andover, MA Full-time. We are looking to add to our sales force to match its amazing growth of our digital products. You will engage and strategize with advertisers to demonstrate North of Boston's value and how we can assist them in meeting their marketing objectives through a variety of digital platforms. Assist our advertising executives on four-legged calls and training on digital products. Two to three years sales experience preferred. Internet savvy. Exceptional written and verbal communication skills. Strong organizational skills, ability to set priorities and meet deadlines.

GRAPHIC ARTIST - North of Boston Media Group, North Andover, MA Full-time. Graphic artist needed to produce advertisements for daily and weekly publications. Minimum of one year experience with InDesign on a MAC platform required. Knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator preferred. Strong organizational skills and the ability to work well under deadline pressure a must. Hours are Monday through Friday 3:30 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

SECOND SHIFT MATERIAL HANDLER - North of Boston Media Group, North Andover, MA Full-time. Come work in our state-of-the-art packaging center to load fliers into machines for distribution in the newspaper. Entry level position. Some moderate lifting is involved. Training is provided. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age. The hours of this position are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a rotating schedule including some weekends. Starting hourly rate is \$10.00.

THIRD SHIFT MATERIAL HANDLER - North of Boston Media Group, North Andover, MA Full-time. Come work in our state-of-the-art packaging center to load fliers into machines for distribution in the newspaper. Entry level position. Some moderate lifting is involved. Training is provided. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age. The hours of this position are 9:00 p.m. to 5:30 a.m., Sunday through Thursday. Starting hourly rate is \$10.50.

REPORTER - Gloucester Daily Times, Gloucester, MA Part-time. This position will cover local high school sports, local athletes, and various local sporting events. Must have prior experience as a sports writer and/or editor, preferably at a daily newspaper. Bachelor's degree in journalism, communications, English required and at least two years' experience working in a newsroom required. The ability to take photos, video, and use social media strongly desired. Candidates must have a valid driver's license with a good driving record, reliable transportation and current auto insurance. Please include examples of materials demonstrating your skills and experience when emailing your resume.

REPORTER - The Salem News, Beverly, MA Part-time. We're looking for an energetic, enthusiastic self-starter who is comfortable working in multiple types of media; reporting and writing stories; shooting simple photos and videos to accompany their work when appropriate; and immersed in the networks of social media. You should be nimble and able to tailor your approach to stories to satisfy audiences viewing your work in print, on a desktop browser, mobile device or tablet. Candidates should be organized and tenacious and have a passion for journalism in the digital age. You'll be expected to develop sources, generate story ideas and break news. This is a 20 hour per week position. Ideal candidates should have a bachelor's degree in journalism or a related field, but we really want to know what you're able to do in a modern newsroom. Three years' experience writing for a daily publication required. Candidates must have a valid driver's license with a good driving record, reliable transportation and current auto insurance. Please include clips when emailing your resume.

Comprehensive benefits package offered to all full-time (30+ hours) employees. For consideration, please e-mail resume and cover letter, with salary requirements, to hr@northofboston.com. Resumes received without salary requirements will not be considered. Applications may also be obtained in the lobby of any of our publications Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. An Equal Opportunity Employer

TRUCKS

Low Mileage! CHEVY SILVERADO 2012 2500 HD extended cab, 6.0 liter, Automatic. 4 wheel drive. Less than 24K miles. Factory warranty, Z71 package. LOADED. \$32500. Call for details 8 am to 8 pm only. No text. 603-362-8358

FORD Ranger 2011 XL pickup regular cab, auto. 6 cyl. fully equipped. Showroom condition. Low miles. Brand new all season radial Michelin tires. Fully serviced. White/gray interior. Sharp economical pickup. ONLY \$12,500. Fully warranted. Guaranteed inspection 603-948-8912

FORD Ranger XLT 2001 Super Duty, extended cab, auto. on demand 4 WD, Aluminum Alloy mag wheels. Brand new tires, brakes. AM/FM stereo CD. Heavy duty trailer tow package w/ hitch, bedliner. Excellent cond. White/gray. \$2800. Will finance anyone. 603-948-8912

GMC, Sierra C/K1500 2002. 158,000 miles. Top of the line AWD Denali with Four Wheel Steering for tight cornering, 6.0 Liter V8 with remote starter. Truck is well taken care of. Some rust over passenger side front fender. \$6,500. 978-764-7176

FORD RANGER XLT 2002 XTRA Cab automatic, Black/Gray all power options runs great 65,000, \$3450 (781) 640-9858

CHEVROLET CARGO 2009 Van Express 1500 White/White interior, AC, pwr. steering, fwd, AM/FM, Like new low miles 39,700. \$15, 500 Call (978) 777-2278

CHEVROLET EXPRESS 3500 LS 2005 EXTENDED PASSENGER/CARGO VAN. Automatic, loaded with options, only 62,000 miles. This van can hold 15 passengers or is great to transport cargo. Only \$10,900. Call 978-462-3088

Jobs-Professionals

THE EAGLE-TRIBUNE THE SALEM NEWS THE DAILY NEWS OF NEWBURYPORT GLOUCESTER DAILY TIMES ANDOVER TOWNSMAN HAVERHILL GAZETTE DERRY NEWS CARRIAGE TOWNE NEWS

DISTRICT MANAGER - The Salem News, Beverly, MA Full-time. Maintain and increase circulation in assigned district; determine sales objectives for the district; serve as a liaison between independent contractors and the company regarding issues such as collections, sales and customer service; responsible for down routes; ensure that service standards are being met. High school diploma or GED required, college degree preferred. Proficiency with figures and Microsoft office is essential. Candidates must have a valid driver's license with a good driving record, reliable transportation and current auto insurance.

BOX TRUCK DRIVER - Daily News of Newburyport, Newburyport, MA Full-time (30 hours). We are looking for a driver to transport newspapers from our North Andover plant to our Newburyport and Beverly locations. Load and unload newspaper skins from the truck with the aid of a floor jack. Must be at least 21 years old and have at least three years driving experience. Must possess a valid driver's license (regular or CDL) with a good driving record and must be able to pass a D.O.T. physical exam. Hours: Sunday to Tuesday 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.; Wednesday to Thursday 7:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m and Friday 10:30 p.m. to 4:30 a.m.

DIGITAL SALES SPECIALIST - North of Boston Media Group, North Andover, MA Full-time. We are looking to add to our sales force to match its amazing growth of our digital products. You will engage and strategize with advertisers to demonstrate North of Boston's value and how we can assist them in meeting their marketing objectives through a variety of digital platforms. Assist our advertising executives on four-legged calls and training on digital products. Two to three years sales experience preferred. Internet savvy. Exceptional written and verbal communication skills. Strong organizational skills, ability to set priorities and meet deadlines.

GRAPHIC ARTIST - North of Boston Media Group, North Andover, MA Full-time. Graphic artist needed to produce advertisements for daily and weekly publications. Minimum of one year experience with InDesign on a MAC platform required. Knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator preferred. Strong organizational skills and the ability to work well under deadline pressure a must. Hours are Monday through Friday 3:30 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

SECOND SHIFT MATERIAL HANDLER - North of Boston Media Group, North Andover, MA Full-time. Come work in our state-of-the-art packaging center to load fliers into machines for distribution in the newspaper. Entry level position. Some moderate lifting is involved. Training is provided. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age. The hours of this position are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a rotating schedule including some weekends. Starting hourly rate is \$10.00.

THIRD SHIFT MATERIAL HANDLER - North of Boston Media Group, North Andover, MA Full-time. Come work in our state-of-the-art packaging center to load fliers into machines for distribution in the newspaper. Entry level position. Some moderate lifting is involved. Training is provided. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age. The hours of this position are 9:00 p.m. to 5:30 a.m., Sunday through Thursday. Starting hourly rate is \$10.50.

REPORTER - Gloucester Daily Times, Gloucester, MA Part-time. This position will cover local high school sports, local athletes, and various local sporting events. Must have prior experience as a sports writer and/or editor, preferably at a daily newspaper. Bachelor's degree in journalism, communications, English required and at least two years' experience working in a newsroom required. The ability to take photos, video, and use social media strongly desired. Candidates must have a valid driver's license with a good driving record, reliable transportation and current auto insurance. Please include examples of materials demonstrating your skills and experience when emailing your resume.

REPORTER - The Salem News, Beverly, MA Part-time. We're looking for an energetic, enthusiastic self-starter who is comfortable working in multiple types of media; reporting and writing stories; shooting simple photos and videos to accompany their work when appropriate; and immersed in the networks of social media. You should be nimble and able to tailor your approach to stories to satisfy audiences viewing your work in print, on a desktop browser, mobile device or tablet. Candidates should be organized and tenacious and have a passion for journalism in the digital age. You'll be expected to develop sources, generate story ideas and break news. This is a 20 hour per week position. Ideal candidates should have a bachelor's degree in journalism or a related field, but we really want to know what you're able to do in a modern newsroom. Three years' experience writing for a daily publication required. Candidates must have a valid driver's license with a good driving record, reliable transportation and current auto insurance. Please include clips when emailing your resume.

Comprehensive benefits package offered to all full-time (30+ hours) employees. For consideration, please e-mail resume and cover letter, with salary requirements, to hr@northofboston.com. Resumes received without salary requirements will not be considered. Applications may also be obtained in the lobby of any of our publications Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. An Equal Opportunity Employer

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DISTRICT MANAGER - The Salem News, Beverly, MA Full-time. Maintain and increase circulation in assigned district; determine sales objectives for the district; serve as a liaison between independent contractors and the company regarding issues such as collections, sales and customer service; responsible for down routes; ensure that service standards are being met. High school diploma or GED required, college degree preferred. Proficiency with figures and Microsoft office is essential. Candidates must have a valid driver's license with a good driving record, reliable transportation and current auto insurance.

BOX TRUCK DRIVER - Daily News of Newburyport, Newburyport, MA Full-time (30 hours). We are looking for a driver to transport newspapers from our North Andover plant to our Newburyport and Beverly locations. Load and unload newspaper skins from the truck with the aid of a floor jack. Must be at least 21 years old and have at least three years driving experience. Must possess a valid driver's license (regular or CDL) with a good driving record and must be able to pass a D.O.T. physical exam. Hours: Sunday to Tuesday 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.; Wednesday to Thursday 7:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m and Friday 10:30 p.m. to 4:30 a.m.

DIGITAL SALES SPECIALIST - North of Boston Media Group, North Andover, MA Full-time. We are looking to add to our sales force to match its amazing growth of our digital products. You will engage and strategize with advertisers to demonstrate North of Boston's value and how we can assist them in meeting their marketing objectives through a variety of digital platforms. Assist our advertising executives on four-legged calls and training on digital products. Two to three years sales experience preferred. Internet savvy. Exceptional written and verbal communication skills. Strong organizational skills, ability to set priorities and meet deadlines.

GRAPHIC ARTIST - North of Boston Media Group, North Andover, MA Full-time. Graphic artist needed to produce advertisements for daily and weekly publications. Minimum of one year experience with InDesign on a MAC platform required. Knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator preferred. Strong organizational skills and the ability to work well under deadline pressure a must. Hours are Monday through Friday 3:30 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

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

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mainly cloudy	Mostly cloudy	Breezy with some sun	Partly sunny; breezy	Sunny	Partly sunny	Plenty of sunshine
<b>High: 40°</b> <b>Low: 34°</b>	<b>High: 45°</b> <b>Low: 30°</b>	<b>High: 40°</b> <b>Low: 26°</b>	<b>High: 36°</b> <b>Low: 25°</b>	<b>High: 39°</b> <b>Low: 26°</b>	<b>High: 36°</b> <b>Low: 26°</b>	<b>High: 41°</b> <b>Low: 25°</b>

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 <b>ANDOVER \$424,900</b> <b>SOLD</b>	 <b>ANDOVER \$479,900</b> <b>SOLD</b>	 <b>N. ANDOVER \$99,900</b> <b>SOLD</b>	 <b>ANDOVER \$559,900</b> <b>SOLD</b>	 <b>ANDOVER \$749,900</b> <b>SOLD</b>
 <b>ANDOVER \$659,900</b> <b>SOLD</b>	 <b>N. ANDOVER \$537,900</b> <b>SOLD</b>	 <b>N. ANDOVER \$600,000</b> <b>SOLD</b>	 <b>ANDOVER \$666,000</b> <b>SOLD</b>	 <b>ANDOVER \$665,000</b> <b>SOLD</b>
 <b>ANDOVER \$855,000</b> <b>SOLD</b>	 <b>ANDOVER \$1,099,900</b> <b>SOLD</b>	 <b>ANDOVER \$1,215,000</b> <b>SOLD</b>	 <b>ANDOVER \$1,210,000</b> <b>SOLD</b>	 <b>ANDOVER \$1,610,000</b> <b>SOLD</b>

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# THE ANDOVERS

North of Boston Living

The Andovers full-color, glossy magazine will be mailed to the top 4,500 households in two of the region's most prestigious communities - towns that, overall, both rank in the top 10% for median home value. With average household income of \$110,000, Andover and North Andover are home to the area's most sought-after consumers - and The Andovers will cherry-pick the very best of those shoppers for you and your business!

**THE ANDOVERS**  
North of Boston Living  
100 Turnpike St., North Andover  
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