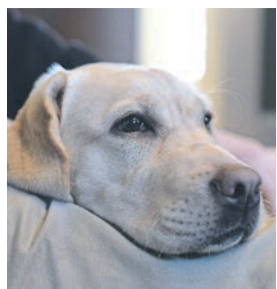




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**IT TAKES A
FAMILY TO
RAISE A
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**NOT PERFECT,
BUT WRESTLING
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BETTER**
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OUR 128TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 16

MARCH 3, 2016

75 CENTS



KEN YUSZKUS/Staff photo

Colleen Ritzer's sister Laura gives her prepared witness impact statement in Salem Superior Court last Friday during the sentencing of Philip Chism.

Ritzer family 'devastated' by Chism sentence

By JILL HARMACINSKI
jharmacinski@eagletribune.com

SALEM, Mass. - The family of Colleen Ritzer, a 24-year-old math teacher, were outraged and disgusted by the sentence handed down to her murderer, Philip Chism, 17, last Friday afternoon.

Ritzer, of Andover, was in her second year of teaching at Danvers High School when Chism, then 14, raped, robbed and murdered her on Oct. 22, 2013.

On the first-degree murder

MORE INSIDE

■ FOR LOCALS' REACTIONS TO CHISM'S SENTENCING, SEE PAGE 5

conviction, Salem Superior Court Judge David Lowy sentenced Chism to life in prison with the possibility of parole in 25 years. He received 40-year concurrent sentences on rape and robbery charges. The trio of sentences handed down

mean Chism must serve at least 40 years in prison and he received 857 days credit for time he's already served.

The Ritzer family called the sentences unacceptable and said laws must be changed.

"We are devastated and feel betrayed with Judge Lowy's inability to give three consecutive life sentences without the eligibility of parole to the individual that took Colleen's life in such a horrific manner," the family said in a statement issued

after the verdict was handed down at 2:30 p.m. Friday.

"We are disgusted and personally offended with the defense's repulsive recommendation that Colleen's killer be parole eligible within 15 years, therefore putting him back into society at age 29 to kill again. The defense's legal maneuvering is despicable and demonstrates utmost disrespect for our daughter and sister, Colleen's, life. Evil cannot

See CHISM, Page 5

Local election hits full-stride



CARL RUSSO STAFF PHOTO

In a long-held Andover tradition, candidates and their supporters hold campaign signs and talk to residents on Saturday mornings in March in front of Old Town Hall on Main Street.

Vispoli, Gilbert and Salafia differ on property tax increase

By TERRY DATE
tdate@andovertownsman.com

ANDOVER — Selectmen candidates' opinions diverged on at least one part of the town manager's recommended budget for Fiscal 2017, his decision

to tax to almost the levy limit. And even at that, two of the three candidates, incumbent Paul Salafia and challenger Annie Gilbert, were of a similar mind, that Town Manager Andrew Flanagan's proposal to tax to within \$320,000 of what

the law allows will later pay dividends in the form of debt relief.

Meanwhile, incumbent Alex Vispoli adamantly opposes the manager's proposal, a reversal of an earlier Board of Selectmen's vote to not tax to the

levy limit. Vispoli wants the town to pull back from the taxation limit and for the town to capture dollars either to return to taxpayers or for other needs.

See CANDIDATES, Page 2

Scully: Schools not as great as they could be

By GABRIELLA CRUZ
gcruz@andovertownsman.com

Shannon Scully moved to Andover five years ago for its schools because at the time, they had a reputation for being some of the best in the state.

"I am a very data-driven person and we set out on a search to figure out where in Massachusetts we wanted to be," Scully said. "And Andover rose to the top, specifically for the schools." Scully and her husband, Matt, decided to move to Andover because of the district's academic reputation and its investment in facilities. After moving here, though, Scully realized there was more to Andover schools than what was on the surface. "We got here, and the teachers went work-to-rule and there was a lot of strife about teachers' contracts," Scully said. "It really gave me pause to think that perhaps we weren't walking into the high-performing school district that we thought it was from the outside. That's really one of the things that propelled me to get pretty actively involved."

MORE INSIDE

■ ELECTION PAGE INSIDE WITH SURVEY ANSWERS BY SCHOOL COMMITTEE CANDIDATES, PAGE 12
■ VISIT WWW.ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM FOR VIDEOS

Almost immediately, Scully became involved with the

See SCULLY, Page 2

Perkins: Schools need a business-minded approach

By GABRIELLA CRUZ
gcruz@andovertownsman.com

As Bill Perkins sees it, improving Andover schools starts from the ground up — literally.

Perkins has lived in Andover for 35 years and has sent all five of his children through Andover

schools. Throughout that time, he's also done a lot of volunteer work and feels that serving on the School Committee is the next logical step toward giving back to the town.

"This town has been good to me," he said. He's also been good to the town.

Working with other parents, Perkins, an engineer, has been

See PERKINS, Page 2

New H.S. schedule may be shelved

After four years of rancor and planning, full-year plan could be too expensive

By GABRIELLA CRUZ
gcruz@andovertownsman.com

Unless Andover schools can find money to hire six new teachers, the high school's new schedule may never happen.

Based on the School Committee's meeting Monday night, it's likely that the new high school schedule, which has been four years in the making, may not be implemented next year, if at all.

After a lengthy discussion about budget priorities, specifically the high school schedule and reducing class sizes at the elementary level, school committee members and Superintendent Sheldon Berman were doubtful that the new schedule would become a reality for the 2016-2017 school year.

"The high school staff and I have continued to look at what we need in order to implement the new schedule," Andover High School Principal Philip Conrad said during the meeting.

See MATH, Page 3

Residents: Schools, parking biggest concern for town

By GABRIELLA CRUZ
gcruz@andovertownsman.com

Nearly 75 residents turned out last Thursday night to give their input on the conditions of school and town facilities.

The meeting, held in the Cormier Youth Center, was hosted by town officials and representatives from MGT of America, the firm conducting a townwide facilities study.

"MGT of America is the company we brought on board to do the evaluation of our

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March 22, 2016 VOTE

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Candidates' debate March 8

Voters will have two chances in March to see and hear candidates for local contested races respond to questions and each other.

The Service Club of Andover will host a Candidates Forum on Tuesday, March 8, at 6:30 p.m. at the Safety Complex, 32 North Main St.; and, a week later, the League of Women Voters

will host an Andover Candidates' Night on Tuesday, March 15, at 7 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library, 2 N. Main Street

Both events are limited to candidates from the two contested races: two three-year seats on the Board of Selectmen; and two three-year seats on the School Committee.

For selectmen, incumbents

Paul Salafia and Alex Vispoli, and School Committee Chairwoman Annie Gilbert are in the running.

For School Committee, the candidates are Paul Murphy, Bill Perkins, Bob Pokress and Shannon Scully.

The Service Club of Andover debate will include questions from the moderator as well as from the audience,

and last about two hours, one hour for each race.

Send questions by email to raydurling@verizon.net.

On Tuesday, March 15, upstairs in Memorial Hall at the Memorial Hall Library, the League of Women Voters will host their Andover Candidates' Night.

The moderator is Eva Valentine, a former president of

the League of Women Voters Massachusetts and member of LWV of Greater Haverhill. Submit questions by email to LeagueForum@lwv-andovers.org by Monday, March 14.

Organizer Stefani Traina, treasurer for the Andover LWV, said the Andover branch has been hosting candidate nights each year since

the 1930s.

The League neither supports nor opposes any candidate, and it has a long-standing reputation for being truly nonpartisan.

"The League is known for treating people fairly," she said.

Andover voters go to the polls Tuesday, March 22.

CANDIDATES

Continued from Page 1

This week, in advance of the March 22 election, candidates were asked about the town manager's budget.

Specifically, they were asked how they felt about the levy limit question and the town manager's plan for setting aside money to meet impending pension and other post-employment benefits obligations, also known as OPEB.

The three candidates' opinions were more in line when it came to Flanagan's OPEB strategy.

Budget and taxes

Flanagan's recommended budget comes with a 2.91 percent increase over current spending and draws on free cash, paying off debt and general taxation as opposed to overriding the levy limit for major projects. The plan would result in an average tax bill increase of \$350.

Vispoli said he has been and continues to be a vocal supporter of not taxing to the limit the law allows. He said this philosophy over the past two years has saved taxpayers more than \$2 million.

"I am, and have been, absolutely consistent," Vispoli said, later adding — "It's a black and white issue."

He said he was the lone selectman to support retaining taxation at the existing level, when in January, he



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

School Committee candidate Shannon Scully and Selectman challenger and present School Committee Chairwoman Annie Gilbert campaign in front of Old Town Hall last Saturday morning. They and other candidates, along with dozens of supporters, will gather every in front of Old Town Hall every Saturday morning leading up to the March 22 election.

voted against the town manager's plan to increase the amount of taxation.

"I do not think there was enough dialogue around that, and I do not think it was necessary," he said. "We have enough money in the budget to do what we need to do around capital projects."

Meanwhile, Salafia and Gilbert do not think the question is black and white.

They say paying a little extra now to fund a needed capital project will save more money down the road.

"He (Flanagan) is looking at the long-term financial health of the community, it is designed to reduce

borrowing," Salafia said of the budget's plan to spend excess levy capacity on capital projects such as the town yard.

"Over time that fund builds up, and you do not have to go out and borrow money, and for every dollar you borrow, you pay interest," Salafia said.

Candidate Gilbert supports Flanagan's plan, saying it is a strong proposal to address future building needs — not large ones, such as a new school, mind you — without the need for an override.

"I think we've had a number needed capital projects that have gone unfunded for too long, the town yard is one of them," Gilbert said.

SCULLY

Continued from Page 1

Bancroft PTO, of which she is currently vice president. She also serves on the board of the Andover Coalition for Education and is a member of the League of Women Voters of Andover-North Andover.

For some candidates, Andover's rankings compared to similar communities are paramount. For Scully, however, the state of a district goes much further than that. A parent to two Bancroft students, Scully said she understands the

skills needed to excel academically, but also wants Andover schools to strive for more than just high rankings.

"I think you really need to dig down into what comprises rankings," Scully said. "I don't think you can take a narrow view on the health of a school system based on test scores or the number of people that take AP classes. I'm more concerned with the overall health of the student community, a broader look into how they're being educated and the things they're learning."

Scully grew up in Reading and was raised by a retired

U.S. Air Force fighter pilot and a school teacher. After graduating from Reading Memorial High School, she went to the University of Pennsylvania and earned a degree in engineering before receiving an MBA with honors from the Boston College Carroll Graduate School of Management, where she took night classes while working full time.

Having spent most of her career in high technology, Scully knows what's needed to become a successful engineer. While she believes that Andover certainly has a math problem that needs solving,

she doesn't think she or the other candidates will have a part in finding a solution.

"It's the type of issue that will come and go, and will largely be dealt with by the school committee before this election even happens," Scully said. "So I'd like to hope that the election will be about finding people that can make the best decisions around issues that haven't even been identified yet."

If elected, one of those issues Scully anticipates being involved in are teacher contract negotiations that will happen next year. Scully

said that maintaining respect between the union and the district will be key, but that changes definitely need to be made.

"I think everyone recognizes that this is an area that needs adjustment because it's really difficult to talk about an operational budget when you have so much already spoken for," Scully said. "I think as long as you recognize that there's a common goal of enhancing the education for our kids and being responsible in the ways that you can implement services across the community, then you can reach reasonable

conclusions."

While she maintains that problems facing the district today are not problems facing school committee candidates, Scully said that as a member of the school committee, she would make decisions that help challenge students in every aspect of their curricula.

"There needs to be a broader discussion on how we get challenging curriculum," Scully said. "Every aspect of the curriculum should be challenging to students, and opportunities for enrichment should exist in all areas, for all subjects, for all students."

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PERKINS

Continued from Page 1

deeply involved in the planning and construction of a number of major projects in town, including the skate park, the high school baseball field, the high school football concession stand, and the Cormier Youth Center.

He noted, wryly, that if it weren't for parents, none of the town's outdoor athletic facilities would be as good as they are. It took legions of volunteers and millions of dollars in fund-raising over a number of years to pull it all off.

"While these are all great achievements and a testament of the commitment of Andover's citizens to the betterment of its town, it is sad that they (parents) have had to do so much at Andover High School," Perkins wrote in a letter to the Townsman.

Meanwhile, he added, the School Committee has been a disaster.

"There needs to be changes at the School Committee level so the taxpayer can get answers to several difficult questions regarding ranking, spending and facility 'quality,'" he said.

Over the last 10 years, spending on schools, especially the high school, has skyrocketed, while enrollment has remained steady and test scores and other metrics of the school system have plummeted.

"You can't say the last 10 years have been a shining example of how a School Committee should be run," he said.

Contributing to this has been a revolving door of administrators, including three athletic directors, four principals and three superintendents.

"No wonder our rankings have dropped so low," he said. He blamed "management at the highest level" for the department's failings, including past School Committee members who have ruled over the school

system's demise.

"The taxpayers have given the schools everything they've ever asked for," he said, noting that the budget for schools is at \$100 million and rising. "It's time the schools showed something for their investment. Nobody is focusing on the cost to the community."

He said the math issue is a perfect example of the consequences resulting from the district's wayward focus.

"Someone was asleep at the switch," he said, adding that the next big issue will be the new high school schedule, which he has grave doubts about.

"I don't see how they're going to do it," he said, referring to the school administrators, teachers, staff and students implementing a new system based on year-long courses as opposed to two semesters. He thinks even administrators aren't happy with it.

"I haven't heard the principal or the superintendent say they love the new schedule," he said. The idea of having so-called "advisory classes" is absurd, he said.

"That doesn't improve learning," he said, adding that as a school committee member he would tackle these and other problems head-on.

"I'm a problem-solver," he said. "In the next 10 years, the school budget will be over \$160 million. The school committee needs someone more business-like."

Perkins is president of Hearshstone Realty and has more than 25 years of experience in engineering and real estate development. A graduate of Cornell University School of Engineering, Perkins was also formerly a senior design engineer and partner with Dana F. Perkins, Inc.

Aside from his professional work, Perkins volunteered his time and efforts in Haiti just after the earthquake. He proposed new construction projects, built and stocked pantries, and coordinated medical treatment for orphans. He's also spent time in Ecuador and Mexico helping build houses, community centers and rebuilding clean water systems.

While the state of Andover's school facilities are state-of-the-art compared to those in the developing countries Perkins has visited, they nonetheless require work and attention.

Citing a recent survey by Niche.com, Perkins said that Andover High School is currently ranked at number 51 of all Massachusetts high schools, primarily because of the condition of its buildings.

As the schools go down, he said, so do property values.

"We've got to take these rankings seriously," he said. "It relates to real estate prices."

Although his professional background certainly fuels his candidacy, Perkins said his ultimate goal is helping recreate a district that the community can be proud of.

"Parents feel shut out," he said. "They feel like they've been patted on the head and pushed out the door. I want to involve all the stakeholders, and as a school committee member, I will do that."

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ISSUES

Continued from Page 1

buildings,” Superintendent Sheldon Berman said. “I became familiar with them when I was superintendent in Louisville, Kentucky...they then came to the Eugene district, where I was, to do a similar kind of evaluation.”

Berman said Dodds Cromwell and Joe Clark, consultants for MGT of America, did an “extraordinary job of planning” in both Kentucky and Eugene, Ore., that resulted in a “real

revitalization, plan and direction for the future.”

Berman was superintendent in Louisville, Kentucky and Eugene prior to moving to Andover.

MGT of America was hired by the town in December 2015 to evaluate all town and school buildings. The result of the study, Berman said, would be “a master plan to guide capital improvement decisions and resource allocations for the next 10 years or even longer.”

“We released the budget just a few weeks ago that included provisions to really

increase our capital capacity and increase our investment in our facilities,” said Town Manager Andrew Flanagan in opening remarks. “I think the product of the input we get tonight ... will really serve as a road map for how we address and prioritize the work to maintain our facilities.”

Cromwell and Clark led the survey portion of the forum by asking questions about school and town buildings that they said would help determine the “facility needs and priorities” for the town.

Overall, 44 percent of

people believed improving the quality of education in Andover should be the study’s top priority, while 32 percent believed managing financial considerations is paramount.

After the general survey questions, Cromwell and Clark broke everyone up into groups of 15 for more in-depth conversations about the questions asked. The small groups filled circles of chairs and were encouraged to elaborate or ask questions on any of the topics mentioned during the general survey session.

Improving Andover schools’ learning facilities and parking at town facilities were popular topics in the small groups. Other’s mentioned special education reform, the high school schedule and downtown parking issues during the small-group discussions.

“I was pleasantly surprised tonight that was well attended and professionally run,” said School Committee candidate Bill Perkins. “It was nice to see different stakeholders come together in the breakout sessions. All

of us want great schools and town facilities, and having a professional master plan should help make it happen.”

The schools phase of the study carried a price tag of \$91,567 and was projected to be completed by the end of February. The town buildings phase of the study was priced at \$85,019 and is expected to be complete by the end of March. After the studies are completed, the town will be able to use the data and observations compiled to help make decisions and investments over the next decade.

MATH

Continued from Page 1

“We have whittled down our requests, but some things will be impossible to do if we don’t get everything we’ve asked for.”

In order to implement the new schedule, the district would need to hire almost six new full-time employees, which would require nearly \$400,000.

Berman and committee members came to a realization during the meeting that unless Town Manager Andrew Flanagan can increase his recommendation for the school department’s budget, smaller class sizes at the elementary level would take top priority and the new schedule would have to be put on hold.

The superintendent’s recommended budget for 2017 is a 5.46 percent increase over last year’s budget. The difficulty with next year’s budget, Berman said, revolves around teacher salary increases and state mandates, both of which the district is required to pay.

Step-scale teacher salaries alone make up 3.5 percent of the budget increase, while special education compliance mandates add

another 1 percent increase.

Although the district is obligated to increase its budget by roughly 4.5 percent to stay level and adhere to state mandates, the Town Manager’s recommendation carves out only a 3 percent increase.

Berman said that his conversations with Flanagan about the \$1.8 million difference between the two budget recommendations have not been conclusive and that there is still time for adjustments to be made. Even if Flanagan’s recommendation increases to just cover the district’s immovable costs, there would be little room for other requests.

“During budget presentations, I have heard from administrators that class sizes are the number one priority,” Berman said. “That means that the first thing that will suffer is the high school schedule.”

The new, year-long schedule was decided upon in 2012 partly in response to teacher contract negotiations. The Andover Education Association wanted the schedule to include an advisory period that would increase “the amount of student-to-teacher contact time every day of the school year,

“A lot of work has gone into the high school schedule, and I am highly doubtful that if we do not implement it this year, it will never happen.”

AEA President Kerry Costello

and would have provided a more personalized learning environment in which students would be offered one-on-one instruction,” AEA President Kerry Costello wrote in a 2012 statement.

Monday night, Costello said the new schedule may be in peril.

“A lot of work has gone into the high school schedule, and I am highly doubtful that if we do not implement it this year, it will never happen,” Costello said to the committee during Monday’s meeting. “I’ll remind you all that any change to

working conditions will require impact bargaining.”

While committee members acknowledged that waiting another year or more to implement the new schedule would be difficult, the reality created by the district’s budget restrictions may leave no choice.

“I don’t want to have to make this decision, but I feel like we have to,” chairman Annie Gilbert said about deciding whether or not to postpone the high school schedule again.

Vice-chairwoman Paula

Colby-Clements suggested that the committee ask Flanagan to help cover out-of-district special education costs, which total \$900,000, while other committee members suggested using the district’s emergency fund, known as the “circuit-breaker,” to pay for the out-of-district costs.

“You can argue that we’d be using the circuit breaker for what it’s there for: extraordinary expenses,” committee member Joel Blumstein said. “There’s no guarantee, though, that money for six full-time employees will be there for the high school next year.”

Either option would free up money for the high school schedule, but Berman was doubtful that Flanagan would agree to helping with the out-of-district costs and also said that draining the circuit breaker

may not be the best decision either.

“I feel like it’s clear that we’re not getting 5.46 percent,” Gilbert said. “It’s also clear, from what the (school) administration team has said, that their priority is elementary class sizes. So I just don’t see it happening that we’re going to be able to fully fund the high school schedule. There’s only a certain number of dollars and I don’t want to have to make this decision, but I’m just trying to be realistic.”

The committee did not vote on whether or not to postpone the high school schedule during Monday’s meeting, but Gilbert said the discussion around the schedule may need to be about which parts can be implemented with no funding rather than how to fully fund the schedule as a whole.



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Constance A. Boileau, 64

December 13, 1951 — February 21, 2016

DOVER, NH — Constance “Connie” A. (Cole) Boileau, passed away on Sunday, February 21, 2016 in Dover, N.H., after a long illness.

Born December 13, 1951 in Lawrence, she was the daughter of R. Milton and Virginia (Hetherington) Cole. She grew up in Andover and attended Andover schools. She later moved to New Hampshire to raise her children. Family was important to Connie, and she enjoyed spending time with

her children and grandchildren.

Surviving members of her family include daughter, Mandy Wentworth and son-in-law, Jason; daughter, Heidi Ellis; grandchildren, Sabrina Ellis and Autumn, Drifter, and Olivia Wentworth; sisters, Susan Adams and Diana Cole, as well as several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

ARRANGEMENTS: Services for Connie will be held privately by her request.

Gayle A. Nigro (Keene), 70

August 1, 1945 — February 27, 2016

HAVERHILL — Gayle A. Nigro (Keene), 70, of Haverhill, passed away Saturday, February 27, 2016 at Merrimack Valley Hospice House in Haverhill with her family by her side. She was born in Meadville, Pa. the daughter of the late Rudolph and Lily Mae (Pritchard) Anderson. Gayle was raised and educated in Pennsylvania where she attended Penn State but later graduated from Franklin Pierce University.

Gayle spent the last 15 years as the General Manager of the Loop in Methuen, having just retired in October. She was looking forward to many years of travel with her adventurous husband Paul to include as much time as possible exploring in their cherished Ford Shelby Mustang she had christened “Shelbina.”

When not spending “Grammie time” with her grandchildren, Gayle volunteered for and supported many local charities.

She is survived by her beloved husband, Paul A. Nigro; her son, David M. Keene and his wife, Shelley Kobrenski of Acton; her daughter, Hallie L. Twomey and her husband, John of Auburn, Maine; her stepsons, Gregory Nigro of Haverhill and Nicholas Nigro of Washington, D.C. and her grandchildren, Connor Twom-

ey, Sarah and Charlotte Keene. She was predeceased by her grandson, C.J. Twomey.

In lieu of flowers, Gayle requested donations be made to either the Patrick Dempsey Center for Cancer Hope & Healing in Lewiston, Maine or the New England Organ Bank in Waltham, Mass.

ARRANGEMENTS: Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend visiting hours on Saturday, March 5, 2016 from 1 to 5 p.m. at Cataudella Funeral Home, 126 Pleasant Valley St. Methuen. Funeral services will take place at the conclusion of visiting hours at 5 p.m. in the funeral home. For directions or to send condolences, please visit www.cataudella.com.



BY TERRY DATE
tdate@andovertownsmen.com

Town Clerk Larry Murphy was expecting a 50 percent turnout on election day Tuesday, as voters were flocking to the polls in droves to cast their ballots for - or against - certain candidates for president.

Town Clerk Larry Murphy eyeballed totals displayed on voting machines for precincts 2, 4, 5 and 6 at Wood Hill Middle School. They averaged about 500 votes after five hours.

“The rule of thumb is an average of about one hundred votes an hour puts us at 50 percent (turnout),” Murphy said.

Meanwhile, GOP candidate Donald Trump was a lightning rod for motivation.

Mom Heather Nichols, at

the senior center with her baby Ethan, said she is an unenrolled voter but asked for the Republican ballot.

Why? “To vote against Trump,” she said.

Nina Asgeirsson has been voting in primaries since John F. Kennedy ran for president in 1960, but she said she was disappointed in the number of people who were supporting Trump.

She said she was turned off by his message of hate.

Art Tucker said he was out to vote for John Kasich, saying he is the only candidate who acts like an adult.

“They all look like schoolyard kids except for Mr. Kasich,” he said.

Trump sign totes stood at all three locations, the senior citizen center at Punchard, Andover High School and

Wood Hill Middle School. They were the only campaigners holding a candidate’s sign at times.

Roy Dobbelaar held a sign for Trump outside the senior center and said the candidate’s organization was strong in Andover. Dobbelaar said supporters would be holding Trump signs throughout the day at all polling locations in town.

He said he supports Trump for economic reasons.

“Very simple, because he is a businessman — the one thing our country needs to be successful and for our economic prosperity,” he said.

This was the first election that Andover had three voting locations.

The change, adding Wood Middle School, led to some confusion.

After about two-and-a-half

hours about six voters had come to the wrong place, said Precinct 3 Warden Calvin Perry.

The town clerk said the change was going okay, overall.

“Pretty well, all things considered,” he said. “There has been some confusion ... but I’m pleased with the suitability of the polling place.”

Murphy gave an impromptu tour to Kathy Conti’s seventh-grade social studies class, explaining the balloting procedure and how the precincts were broken up in town.

Editor’s note: The Townsman went to press before final results were tallied. For more information on the election results check out *The Eagle-Tribune* and *andovertownsmen.com*.

Town mourns loss of ‘caring, engaging’ teen

BY GABRIELLA CRUZ
gcruz@andovertownsmen.com

Friends, relatives and well-wishers gathered in different places in Andover over the course of the last two weeks to remember the bright light of a 15-year-old girl that was extinguished when she took her own life in February.

Last Sunday, more than 600 people gathered at Christ Church on Central Street, filling all the pews and two spillover rooms as they mourned the passing of Kristen Stark, who was a sophomore at Andover High School.

Her father Peter described her as an active high school student who was kind to everyone, invested in her community, and who “made the Energizer Bunny look like a sloth.”

During the previous week, last Tuesday evening, Andover Public Schools hosted a forum for parents in the music room at Andover West Middle School. Stark was described as a “friend, role model and beautiful young woman” on the Facebook page of the Amnesty International Club, which she was a member of. She was also a cheerleader, member of the YMCA Hurricanes Swim Team and part of the Andover High School Science Team.

On Monday, Feb. 15, Andover police responded to a 911 call just after 9 p.m., from the Stark residence.

“This is a tragic, sad loss that will affect many of us in many different ways,” Superintendent Sheldon Berman wrote in a letter to parents. “We know that Kristen

touched many people’s lives with her caring, engaging and compassionate personality ...

Loss, particularly suicide, can be a difficult subject to talk about with young people.”

The forum focused on how to talk to young people about suicide, whether it’s the death of a classmate or a person having thoughts about ending his or her life. Berman said Andover schools offer “excellent resources” for both parents and students, and that parents should not hesitate to call the School Department if they fear their kids might be having suicidal thoughts.

Berman also said he and other educators want to encourage kids who are feeling overwhelmed and thinking about suicide “to talk to someone.”

Larry Berkowitz, program director for the Riverside Trauma Center, based in Needham, said if a student talks about ending his or her life, whether the thoughts were mentioned privately or publicly, school authorities should be notified. Parents, Berkowitz said, should be aware of changes in their kids’ behavior — uncontrollable crying, abrupt drop in grades, sleeplessness, increased agitation — and should talk to their children about the causes behind such behaviors.

Berkowitz also said pediatricians are now asking kids if they feel depressed. Ninety percent of people who commit suicide, he said, suffer from mental health issues, so addressing underlying causes of suicidal thoughts is a good proactive measure to use.

To help students and families cope with the death of

their peer, counselors were made available at the high school following the incident “for individuals or families who need time to talk through their feelings and responses to this tragedy,” Berman wrote in a letter to parents.

Rabbi Robert Goldstein of Temple Emanuel invited members of the congregation, residents and students to join him for hot chocolate and donuts on the morning of Sunday, Feb. 21. Goldstein said in a Facebook post that regardless of religion or connection to the Stark family, he wanted to offer residents a place to grieve or share their feelings.

“I believe it is important to acknowledge that there are times when we may feel overwhelmed by sadness and disappointment,” Goldstein wrote. “But life is ultimately good, and even beautiful. No pressure, just an opportunity to be together.”

On Monday, Feb. 22, members of the Amnesty International club encouraged the community to wear green, Kristen’s favorite color, to honor her memory.

This isn’t the first time the town has dealt with this kind of tragedy.

In 2007, there were eight attempted suicides in Andover. At the time, school district staff and administrators were told not to comment on the incidents and were also advised not to share information with students. In 1993, there were three suicides in town and shortly after, Bill Fahey was hired as the director of Andover Youth Services, in

large part, to reach out to the town’s younger residents to address feelings that could lead to similar tragic events.

“We will keep a lookout for anyone who needs support over the next few weeks and beyond,” Fahey said about offering support to the community.

On Sunday, Feb. 21, a close friend of the Stark family started a GoFundMe.com page to raise money for funeral expenses with a goal of \$6,000. In just two days, donations to the fund totaled almost \$15,000 from those who knew Kristen and also people she’d never met.

“My daughter Jennifer was a very close friend of Kristen’s since they were 4,” Diane Morris, who started the fundraiser, wrote on the page. “We are devastated by the loss of this young woman, who was a kind, generous, and beautiful person, loved by so many.”

Morris also said that any additional funds raised, past \$6,000, would be donated to some of Kristen’s favorite charities. Kristen’s father, Peter, commented on the page shortly after it was established and expressed his hope that people join his family in remembering Kristen’s life.

“You may meet a new friend. You may change your mind about telling someone how important they are to you. You may love your parents more. You may love your children more,” her father wrote on the fundraiser’s page. “You may just become more aware of the people around you. Kristen loves every one of you. I know. She told me.”

Ruth Howe Dougherty, 91

October 28, 1924 — February 20, 2016

ANDOVER — Ruth Howe Dougherty, who made selfless devotion to the welfare of her family and her community her highest goal, died February 20th in Andover at the age of 91.

She was born October 28, 1924 in New Rochelle, N.Y. She and her twin sister Joan were the last of 11 children born to Mabel Sherwood Howe and Anthony

scrupulously studying church and county records, and visiting the Fairfield area’s graveyards. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Her husband, Vincent, died in 1989. She is survived by six children, Jill Dougherty and her partner, Molly Jay of Seattle, Pamela, widow, Manfred Meyer, of Marbella, Spain, Linda



Borland of North Andover, Brian Dougherty and his wife, Pushpa of Alexandria, Va., Gerard Dougherty and his wife, Nancy of Dedham, and Joan Dougherty and her partner, John Farkas of Brooklyn, N.Y. She leaves nine grandchildren, Rives and Ted Borland; Steven Meyer, Christopher, Alexander, Olivia, Reed, Grace and Victoria Dougherty.

Ruth Dougherty was an active swimmer, avid golfer, and skilled seamstress but she found time to contemplate solitude, and its role in happiness. There is much joy in solitude, she wrote “Keep a diary of your joys each day. It may be an unexpected call from an old friend far away or a rejuvenating walk on the canal. But each day something special will happen to you to warm your memories.”

ARRANGEMENTS: A memorial service will be held March 14, 2016 at 11 a.m. at Christ Church, Andover. A reception will follow. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, contribution to the American Cancer Society and the Alzheimer’s Association are appreciated.

Please visit www.confetfuneralhomes.com.

Ruth Howe Dougherty was a descendant of Thomas Sherwood, an early settler of Fairfield, Conn., who set sail from England in 1634. She spent several years researching Thomas Sherwood’s history,

related charges.

On Monday around 2:30 p.m., an officer on patrol on Lowell Street noticed a silver Toyota Corolla, operated by a man, drive in the middle of the road in an attempt to pass vehicles in traffic.

The officer followed the car and conducted a motor vehicle stop on Haggetts Pond Road. The driver was identified as Simmons.

While on the scene, another vehicle with a man and woman inside, stopped to tell the officer they had been following the silver sedan. They had just witnessed it leaving their driveway in Tewksbury after returning home to find their residence had been burglarized.

As a result of the on-scene investigation, the officer arrested Simmons.

At the same time, police

Andover P.D. collars two wanted housebreak suspects

STAFF REPORT

Andover police arrested two men on Monday in connection with a breaking and entering incident. The suspects are believed to be involved in several house breaks in neighboring communities, including Newburyport, Tewksbury and Ayer.

Police arrested Brandon Simmons, 28, of Seabrook, N.H., and charged him with possession of a burglary tool, operating a motor vehicle to endanger and a marked lanes violation.

They also arrested Keith Babcock, 33, also of Seabrook, and charged him with possession of heroin and breaking and entering during the daytime for a felony. He also has warrants out of Newburyport and Ayer District Courts for

received a report of a man

running through backyards in the area of Bellevue Road and Osgood Street. Police, including officers from Tewksbury, were dispatched to the area, along with the Wilmington K-9 unit.

The Wilmington K-9 unit tracked toward a shed on Bellevue Road and Osgood Street. Inside, police located a man identified as Babcock, along with heroin and related paraphernalia.

“I commend the work of Andover for recognizing and responding to these two related incidents,” said Andover Police Chief Patrick Keefe. “Thank you to the Wilmington K-9 unit and Tewksbury officers for assisting us in locating this suspect.”

During booking, it was revealed that Babcock had warrants out of Newburyport and Ayer.

“We have been actively searching for Babcock,” said Newburyport City Marshal Mark Murray. “We can connect (him) to at least one breaking and entering in our community, but we believe (he is) involved in multiple house breaks in our city. We thank Andover Police and all those involved for apprehending this suspect so these crimes will not continue to occur in other communities.”

Andover police are currently working with six area police departments who believe Babcock and Simmons may be connected to incidents in their cities and towns.

Both suspects were arraigned Tuesday in Lawrence District Court. Babcock was ordered held on \$10,000 cash bail and is due back in court, via video conference, March 21.

struck their parked car on Highland Road. Timothy A. Prishby, 49, of 49 Royal Crest Dr., Apt. 10, North Andover, was arrested and charged with operating under the influence of liquor and a stop sign violation.

SUNDAY, FEB. 28

At 1:14 p.m., Michael Ubilez, 40, of 1082 Main Street, Woburn, was arrested on River Road and charged with operating a vehicle with a suspended license.

■ POLICE LOG

COMPILED BY GABRIELLA CRUZ

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24

At 10:07 a.m., Anthony T. Waweru, 46, of 109 Mulberry Lane, Pelham, N.H., was arrested on Minuteman Road on a warrant for attempting to commit a crime.

At 3:58 p.m., on 93 North and Route 133, Gordon Kenneth Murray, 43, of 8 C High Street, Penacook, N.H., was arrested and charged with heroin possession as

a subsequent offense and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

THURSDAY, FEB. 25

Police received a call at 7:38 a.m., reporting three men wearing long gray robes walking down South Main Street. Responding officers arrested Cecilio E. Aguilera, 27, of 10 Highgate Street, Lawrence, on a warrant for operating without a license.

Amy W. Barron, 43, of 11 Tiffany Lane, was arrested at 10:45 a.m., at her home on

a fugitive from justice court warrant.

FRIDAY, FEB. 26

Police received multiple 911 calls just before 8 a.m., reporting a two-car crash on Phillips Street. A responding officer reported a 23-year-old female with a possible broken arm. She was transported to the hospital by the Rescue Squad.

SATURDAY, FEB. 27

At 1:02 a.m., a 911 caller reported that a vehicle

ST. JUDE'S NOVENA
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day, by the 8th day your prayer will be answered.
AME

Please recycle this newspaper.

CHISM

Continued from Page 1

be rehabilitated," the family said.

On Friday, nine people, including Colleen Ritzer's parents, Tom and Peggie, and her sister and brother, Laura and Dan, gave victim impact statements to the court during the sentencing hearing.

"We raised our children to be good kind and loving people. And in a matter of minutes, that evil took that away," Peggie Ritter said in her impact statement to the court.

All four members of the Ritzer family sat at the front of the courtroom, on the witness stand next to the judge, as they give impact statements. Every family member was wearing something in a shade of pink - which was Colleen's favorite color.

"I lost my beautiful little girl," said Tom Ritzer, of Colleen, the eldest of his three children. "A dad's job is to fix things. I'd do anything to be able to fix this for her."

Chism was a freshman when he followed the 24-year-old Ritzer into a Danvers High school bathroom, strangled her, stabbed her at least 16 times and raped her. His lawyers argued he was mentally ill, a contention rejected by the jury when they convicted Chism on Dec. 15.

Prosecutors wanted Chism to stay in prison for at least 50 years. But the defense asked for a sentence that would make Chism eligible for parole around age 40.

The Ritzer family said the sentence did not provide justice for Colleen.

"Colleen's family, friends, student and those who admired her have been



Peggie Ritzer sits with her husband Tom as they listen to the sentence of Philip Chism in Salem Superior Court last Friday. Chism was accused of first-degree murder, rape and robbery, in the Oct. 22, 2013, slaying of the Ritzers' daughter Colleen Ritzer, 24.



Salem Superior Court Judge David Lowy sentenced Chism to life in prison with the possibility of parole in 25 years. He received 40-year concurrent sentences on rape and robbery charges. The trio of sentences handed down mean Chism must serve at least 40 years in prison.

given a life sentence without parole, but not the individual who committed this heinous act. This is wrong and unjust," the family said

in the statement issued at a press conference after the sentence was handed down. The Ritzer's said due to the sentence, the family "will

be forced to attend parole hearings in 38 years which is simply unimaginable to us." Tom and Peggie said as they age, Dan and Laura will have to assume the responsibility. "However, we want to be very clear. At every parole hearing our family's voice - Colleen's voice - will be heard ... We pledge as Colleen's loved ones, to apply the same vigor for life that Colleen demonstrated every day, to righting this moral wrong," the family said.

Colleen's sister, Laura, in her impact statement to the court, said the family will never give up on justice for Colleen.

"You picked the wrong family to mess with and we will never give up," she said.

'A ray of sunshine'

In impact statements, family members, friends and coworkers described Colleen

as a smiling, happy young woman who fiercely loved her family and her teaching career. Colleen still lived at home at the time of her death but was making plans to move out and also work towards her graduate degree.

Tom Ritzer said he told Colleen she could probably work in a career where she made more money. But Colleen didn't care. She wanted to be a teacher, he said.

He recalled the day of her murder, when she didn't return home from work on time. He left his job in nearby Beverly and went to Danvers High School to look for her. He found her classroom, which he'd never been to before. The door was locked but peered in through a window, excited to tell Colleen later he'd seen her room.

Later, he sat in the Danvers Police station, where he and Peggie had just reported Colleen missing. He heard a helicopter buzzing overhead. He overheard an officer say something about crime scene services. He prayed Colleen was alright.

"Our world ended that night," he said, recalling two officers telling them that Colleen's body had been found.

Later, he saw surveillance video from Danvers High School which showed Colleen walking towards the bathroom that day. And Chism following her closely.

"I wanted to tell her to stop. To go back. Don't go in the bathroom," Tom Ritzer said. He was also sickened when he realized he walked the same hallways as Chism had hours before.

Peggie Ritzer recalled Colleen's birth, which occurred on the day before Mother's Day. Her baby girl was the

best Mother's Day present she ever got, she said.

Reading from a note she received from a student, Peggie described Colleen as a "ray of sunshine." Colleen loved being a big sister and a teacher, she said.

Early every morning before she left for work, Colleen would go to her parents bedroom door and say goodbye. But Peggie said she can't remember if she said goodbye to her the day she was murdered and it something she struggles with.

"I will never see Colleen in a wedding dress ... I will never see her be a mother," Peggie Ritzer said.

Jennifer Berger, Colleen's best friend since kindergarten, also addressed the court. She and Colleen had an elementary school friendship that grew over the years into a forever friendship. The two were planning a trip together to celebrate 20 years of friendship, she said.

Colleen, she said, had simple dreams; "All she wanted was to love and be loved." Every day is a struggle without her and Berger said there's a piece of herself she remains scared to share with others because of the loss.

"I will miss doing things with Colleen nearly as much as I miss doing nothing with her," Berger said.

Dan Ritzer had not seen Colleen since he left for college in August 2013. Colleen inspired him but since her death, Dan said he struggles to sleep and focus.

"You don't know pain until you watch someone you love being lowered into the ground," she said.

Follow staff reporter Jill Harmacinski on Twitter @EagleTribJill.

Local residents: Forty years is not enough

BY TERRY DATE
tdate@eagletribune.com

Each morning Jim Topor drives to work in Andover he passes the home of Colleen Ritzer's parents and the anger rises in him as he thinks of the teen who murdered their daughter.

On Friday, that individual, Philip Chism, 17, was ordered to serve a minimum of 40 years in prison for rape and robbery counts, as well as life in prison, with eligibility for parole after 25 years, for murdering his Danvers High School math teacher.

"What he did was brutal, savage and barbaric," Topor said, standing inside Starbucks coffee on Main Street. "I don't care if he was 14 or 24. I'm just glad he's going to get 40 years."

Immediate responses on Andover streets to Chism's sentencing on Friday afternoon in Salem Superior Court were uniform in their support for his lengthy sentence.

They varied only in that some of the people in Ritzer's hometown did not think Chism's punishment was harsh enough and they wanted assurance that he would never be allowed to live outside prison walls.

Amy Finegold, an Andover resident bundled against the biting cold while walking on the Main Street sidewalk, thought 40 years may not be enough of a sentence for

Chism. "It was gruesome," she said of his crime. "There was some premeditation involved. I believe he is unstable. I don't think he deserves to, and should not be, on the streets again."

Andover resident Cheryl Hurchik, walking her small white dog nearby, also paused to talk in spite of the brutal cold.

"I don't think there is any sentence too long for (Chism)," she said.

Hurchik, whose daughter knew Colleen Ritzer, lamented the loss of such a bright an inspirational person with her whole life in front of her.

In the parking lot outside the Town Offices on Bartlet Street, Andover resident Christine Hayward spoke generally about the sentencing.

"It's unfortunate that such a terrible crime occurred and I think he should pay the price," she said. Hayward

was a high school chemistry and math teacher many years ago in Minnesota.

The crime Chism committed was so frightening, especially in someone so young, she said.

Others said the crime's brutality and randomness in a seemingly safe place had far reaching implications, devastating the Ritzer family, unnerving students and upsetting the general public.

Chism was 14 when he committed the murder at Danvers High School. He will not be eligible to seek parole until he's 54. Chism was given credit for 857 days he served behind bars before his sentencing.

A recurrent theme among those people asked about the Chism sentencing was that it wasn't enough.

"What he did was a barbaric crime that deserves more than forty years," said Dave LaPlante.

LaPlante is an Andover resident whose children

went to Andover schools.

He also said he disagreed with a recent Supreme Court decision that said individuals sentenced as teenagers to life in prison should be able to argue for the release from prison at some point.

He said the decision, and the elimination of life terms without parole for juveniles,

was a one-size-fits-all ruling that doesn't fit in cases such as the Chism case.

Many of the people questioned about the sentencing had some sort of connection to Colleen Ritzer or her family.

Topor, for instance, works at St. Augustine Elementary School.

The Ritzer family members are parishioners at St. Augustine Parish in Andover.

Topor said he hopes Chism never gets out of prison.

"All I can say is I hope that you don't get some liberal judge or parole (board) that is going to put him on the street," he said. "You can't reform an animal."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Scully will find 'common ground' as member of School Committee

Editor, Townsman:
Andover voters have an important choice to make in the upcoming School Committee election. I will be supporting Shannon Scully with my vote and I urge you to do the same.

Members of the Andover School Committee should be advocates for our children and champions of our schools. With a new superintendent and a new high school principal, we began this school year with forward momentum. Shannon will push for more positive change in our schools. Not by assuming the worst in our educators, but by expecting the best of them. Not by using a seat on the School Committee as a bully pulpit to berate administrators, but by working with them to achieve the best outcomes. Not by concentrating on areas of disagreement, but by finding common ground.

Shannon will not shy away from conflict or be a rubber stamp for the administration. She will be a voice of reason, someone who will listen, look at the facts and available data, and make decisions in the best interest of all students.

Shannon is the strong voice that our school committee needs. With two sons in the school system, Shannon has a vested interest in ensuring that Andover continues - and improves upon - its tradition of educational excellence. Please join me in casting your vote for Shannon Scully for School Committee on Tuesday, March 22.

CHRISTA DINAPOLI
95 Summer St., Andover

Salafia, Gilbert 'honest, intelligent and compassionate'

Editor, Townsman:
I enthusiastically support Paul Salafia and Annie Gilbert for Selectmen. I have

worked shoulder-to-shoulder with each of them and have seen first-hand their passion and commitment toward leading Andover respectfully and collaboratively. What has impressed me most about these two individuals is that even when we didn't agree on a way forward, we would have a professional conversation so that we could understand each other's points of view and then decide on a course of action that was in Andover's best interest.

Paul's service to our community is extremely impressive and includes two terms on the Board of Selectmen and six terms on the Planning Board. Borrowing a line from a good friend of mine, he has provided our Town with visionary leadership balanced with "uncommon" common sense. When Paul supports a cause you know it because his passion bleeds right through his heart into the action that is focused on making Andover great. Examples of his leadership include the Cormier Youth Center, the Town Yard project, the Historic Mill District and the Economic Development Council. Additionally, I'm really impressed with his work galvanizing the town behind the effort to address the opiate addiction problem in our community.

Annie has provided outstanding leadership while serving on the Andover School Committee and the Bancroft Building Committee. Her positive attitude and collaborative demeanor have set her apart as an outstanding leader who sincerely listens to all stakeholders before deciding on a balanced and informed decision. She has worked passionately to identify and recommend affordable educational programs and structure that have built a foundation of success for our young people.

Annie and Paul working together on the Board of Selectmen will be a tremendous asset to our community. They are both honest, intelligent and compassionate leaders who will continue to work

collaboratively with the other town boards and committees to keep Andover great. Please join me in voting for Paul Salafia and Annie Gilbert for Selectmen on Tuesday, March 22nd. Thank you.

BRIAN P. MAJOR
11 Odyssey Way, Andover

Murphy a 'thoughtful, experienced, collaborative educator'

Editor, Townsman:
This is an extraordinary year. The town of Andover has some very strong candidates for both the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee. Residents of the town have an opportunity to significantly strengthen the leadership of both of these town governing bodies. Please be sure to vote on March 22.

I have known Paul Murphy for more than 25 years. Paul grew up in Andover and returned to teach math at Phillips Academy when he completed college in 1988. In addition to teaching math, Paul has accepted many administrative responsibilities during the past two decades, including director of the Phillips Academy Summer Session and, most recently, as the residential Dean of Students, responsible for the quality of students' non-academic lives on campus. Paul's three children attended Andover schools, and his youngest is now at Doherty Middle School.

Paul is a thoughtful, experienced, collaborative educator, whose goal as a member of the School Committee will be to provide each child the best education possible. Paul began his campaign by reaching out to others who care about Andover schools to learn more about their concerns.

He will continue to listen to parents, teachers, administrators and students and ask good questions, seeking good answers to concerns we all share: about the math curriculum, about teenage drug use, about the high school schedule.

Paul will bring his experience as a teacher and coach, who works with high school students every day, to work with school committee members, administrators and teachers to take Andover schools to the next level. What is more important than the education

of the next generation?

Please join me in voting for Paul Murphy for School Committee on March 22.

SUSAN STOTT
30 Pasho St., Andover

Scully will bring 'practicality, calm, confidence' to School Committee

Editor, Townsman:
I am writing to encourage Andover voters to cast one of their two School Committee votes for Shannon Scully when they head to the polls on Tuesday, March 22.

Shannon not only possesses the experience, wisdom and intelligence to make the best choices on behalf of our children and our town, she is also a great communicator. Whether she is sharing information about happenings within the Bancroft PTO, encouraging administrators to take a second look before making a change in policy, or rallying parents around an important warrant at Town Meeting, Shannon is always prepared with research, facts and a sound assessment. I've seen her, both at School Committee meetings and Town Meeting, address even the most emotionally charged issues with a confidence and calm that comes only from understanding the underlying facts.

Andover needs Shannon's voice right now. Children need her commitment to improving education at all levels, and taxpayers need her practicality in addressing budget concerns and issues.

Please join me on March 22 and vote for the voice of reason - vote for Shannon.

BRYAN SWEENEY
Woodland Road, Andover

Residents should demand competent leadership

Editor, Townsman:
Andover is a beautiful town with many wonderful qualities. Whether or not they have children, most residents would agree they want excellent schools and opportunities for the next generation in addition to well-run town services. It's time for progressive leadership to

be transparent and strategic in making this happen.

After several years of a deflationary economy, most private sector workers have experienced few compensation gains during this period. Healthcare premiums have sharply escalated and cost-of-living raises are sadly too often a relic of the past. For instance, Social Security cost of living increases for seniors totaled only 8.7 percent over the past 6 years and 0 percent in 3 of those years—2010, 2011 and 2016.

Meanwhile, Andover's operating budget skyrocketed from \$124.7 million in 2008 to \$162.6 million in 2016, a jump of more than 30 percent. The proposed increase of \$5 million for the 2017 budget would put next year's total at \$167.6 million. This staggering increase—\$42.9 million in less than a decade—has no end in sight. The burden affects residents, local businesses, and companies in our town's industrial parks and cannot be sustained.

Budgets are nearly meaningless unless they underlie a baseline plan. Long overdue for Andover is the development of a 1-year operating plan supporting the financial budget and a five-year strategic plan for our schools and town departments before making major capital spending commitments.

Andover deserves from the new town manager and schools superintendent a bottoms-up analysis of the services being delivered. This differs from a top-down summary of annual spending levels and program running rates. We must be willing to honestly assess and cut certain top-heavy costs and waste in our schools and town.

Our leaders are well compensated and it's reasonable to expect them to address the interests of our community's many stakeholders, not to give us more of the same. All of us in Andover should work together to demand and deliver both better schools and fiscal sustainability for the town.

JOHN CARLSON
1 Golden Oaks Lane, Andover

Purpose of farm letter misinterpreted

Editor, Townsman:
In response to Charles Erban's self-serving misinterpretation of my opinion piece (Letters to the Editor, Feb. 11), I would like to make a few things clear.

First, I have no stake whatsoever in my family's property. Additionally, I was not writing about either my father or Strawberry Hill Farm. Nevertheless, it is a fact that his farm outlasted most of the others, which began disappearing in the early 60s.

He worked the farm not as a public service, but rather as his livelihood. Both he and the town were fortunate that it endured as long as it did, which was virtually until his last breath at 91. In truth, it was my brother Peter whose dedication and unwavering assistance enabled him to carry on with the work he loved. But nothing lasts forever, and the farmer is gone now.

A new purpose has been found for the land, one which is close to our hearts, as our mother's later years were spent in the oblivion of Alzheimer's disease. Thus the idea that it serve as a place for those needing care for memory loss, as well as for local senior citizens. Honoring our mother in this way does not "dishonor" our father.

Further, this plan will not result in "acres of pavement" or "a tarred commercial complex", as Mr. Erban states. In fact, there will be extensive landscaping, open space, and a walking path which will be open to the public. Need it be pointed out that within walking distance are a massive complex with hundreds of apartments and a new medical center which is about to double in size? This project, while vastly smaller, seems hardly out of place in such rapidly changing environs.

Which brings me back to my original point: the remaking of Andover's rural west began over 50 years ago. Like other upscale suburban communities (Lexington and Sudbury come to mind), Andover has long since moved on from its agricultural past. Regardless of the fate of one, 10-acre parcel, that fact is irreversible. As such, the town that historically referred to itself as "The Hill, the Mill and the Till" should find a meaningful way to honor and remember its former farming heritage.

LISA LOOSIGIAN
North Andover, MA

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More 'Letters to the Editor' on Page 7.

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Opinion

Sentence for Ritzer's killer not enough

"This broken world that we live in needed Colleen Ritzer."
-- Laura Fogarty, Colleen Ritzer's preschool teacher and long friend

Judge David Lowy last Friday sentenced Philip Chism to 40 years to life in prison for the October 2013 murder of Colleen Ritzer, his high school math teacher.

It was the toughest sentence Lowy could mete out, and yet it was not enough. Thanks to a misguided court ruling, we will still be hearing the name of her killer for years to come when it is Colleen Ritzer's legacy that should endure.

A Supreme Judicial Court decision handed down on Christmas Eve 2013, just two months after Chism carried out his plans to savagely attack and kill his teacher, opened the door to the possibility that the murderer might one day walk free.

The decision, which followed a 2012 Supreme Court ruling, held that juveniles convicted of first-degree murder -- Chism was 14 in 2013 -- could not be sentenced to life in prison without a chance at parole. What's worse, the court made the decision retroactive, granting Chism a ray of hope he does not deserve, and ensuring Ritzer's family decades of pain as they wonder if her daughter's murderer will someday be released from prison.

The unfairness was not lost on Essex County District Attorney Jonathan Blodgett.

"On the day that Colleen Ritzer's life was cruelly taken from her, the sentence for first-degree murder for a person over 14 was life without parole," he said after sentencing.

Ritzer's loved ones must now brace themselves for decades of parole hearings. Her family called the SJC decision "disrespectful." We agree.

The decision "was a betrayal to all victims and their families," said Tom Ritzer, Colleen's father.

The Ritzers will now be forced to attend parole hearings 38 years from now, "which is simply unimaginable to us," the family said in a statement. Colleen Ritzer's parents are now middle-aged, meaning the burden of tracking and testify at those parole hearings fall to their children, Colleen's siblings, Dan and Laura. It is a horrible burden to bear.

"However, we want to be very clear. At every parole hearing our family's voice -- Colleen's voice -- will be heard ... We pledge as Colleen's loved ones, to apply the same vigor for life that Colleen demonstrated every day, to righting this moral wrong," the family said.

While the SJC decision put unfair restrictions on Lowy, his ruling was the best result possible. The judge set Chism's sentence for the murder at 25 years to life, with possible parole -- the maximum time available. Lowy then imposed 40-year sentences for the rape and robbery convictions, meaning Chism must remain in prison for at least that long, even if he is granted parole for the murder.

"There is no 'right' sentence," Lowy said in his ruling. "No amount of prison time would ever be enough to be commensurate with this crime, and no math will ever erase the reality that this crime was committed by a 14-year-old boy."

"While this court is constitutionally required to consider that there is always the possibility of redemption, even if the defendant were to live a perfect life from this moment on, his repeated stab wounds to Colleen Ritzer's young body will remain indelible with (her) family, friends and community until the last person who knew (her) takes his or her last breath," he said.

We know Ritzer's family, friends and the community that learned of her talent and selflessness only after her death will continue to remember her as the upbeat, influential teacher she was, a point made several times at Friday's sentencing hearing.

"I was robbed of a friendship I treasured," Colleen Ritzer's colleague, Sarah Giaquinta, said, calling the second-year teacher a voice of reason.

Another friend, Jennifer Berger, said Colleen Ritzer had a simple wish: "To love and be loved."

It was Lowy, however, who put it best in his sentencing memorandum:

"Colleen Ritzer lived a life of quiet heroism. That's what most teachers do. Henry Adams believed that (a) teacher affects eternity; (she) can never tell where (her) influence stops. ... Colleen Ritzer loved her job, her family, friends, students and coworkers -- the depth of that love was manifest today. She was loved and valued by her family, friends, students and so many people whose lives she touched. To paraphrase the book of Proverbs: 'Who can find a woman of valor; her value is beyond words.'"

It is her gift that is worth remembering.

WEB QUESTION

This week's question:

Last Friday, a Salem Superior Court judge sentenced Philip Chism to 40 years to life in the rape, robbery and murder of Danvers High School teacher and Andover resident Colleen Ritzer. He is eligible for parole after 25 years.

Do you think the sentence was long enough?

Yes. He will be rehabilitated in prison and won't be a danger to society when he is eligible for parole in 25 years.

No. He should have been locked up for life with no eligibility for parole. Massachusetts law needs to change so that murderers, even teenage offenders, can be locked up forever.

Yes. As long as he is never allowed out. Hopefully people will challenge his release at every parole hearing he comes up for.

No. Too bad Massachusetts doesn't have the death penalty. He should have been executed.

Last week's question:

Do you agree with the Town Manager's proposed property tax hike to pay for capital projects, like a new town yard?

No. It will end up being way too expensive. Leave the town yard where it is - in a centralized location. 82 percent

Yes. Many of the town's buildings are in disrepair. This is a good thing to use the money on. 18 percent

Vote Vispoli for 'fiscal sanity'

Editor, Townsman:

Alex Vispoli's track record speaks for itself! During his current term as Selectman he has maintained a position of fiscal sanity in his tri-fold support for Andover's seniors, schools and youth.

Working in conjunction with our new town manager his focus has been, and will be on the most efficient use of our tax dollars in helping to make Andover an affordable town for our seniors, those on fixed incomes and especially for Andover's "townies."

Delivery of quality services to everyone requires a sense of timing and balance that Alex has shown to be his strong suit. These traits coupled with courage to ask the hard and challenging questions on critical issues is what make him the ideal candidate in his bid for reelection to the position of selectman.

Andover not only needs Alex's strong leadership in dealing with today's critical issues but deserves everyone's vote in the upcoming election. All voting age citizens are urged to make a positive contribution to Andover's future by not only coming out to vote, but to vote positively for Alex Vispoli.

JOSEPH PONTI
Marion Avenue, Andover

Gilbert will listen as a selectman

Editor, Townsman:

I am writing to express my strong support for Annie Gilbert for a seat on the Board of Selectman. Annie and I have served on the Andover School Committee for the past 6 years. Annie is a caring and engaged member of the Andover community and has a proven track record of being open minded, thoughtful, inclusive, and a dedicated public servant.

In the 6 years I have worked with Annie on the School Committee she has always taken her role as a public servant seriously. She takes the time to understand all sides of an issue. As a steward of new ideas, programs, and initiatives in the schools, Annie consistently demonstrated that she was inclusive and open to all points of view. Annie served as Chair for the School Committee 3 times during my tenure and she always made sure that everyone's voice was heard. It was clear that she was well prepared for meetings but did not come in so entrenched in her decisions that she couldn't be compelled by someone else's view or new data. In fact, it was always clear that she carefully deliberated ideas and opinions before landing on a decision. In addition she believes in outlining a solid process for change or for the implementation of new ideas so that all voices in the community that want to be heard can be heard. This is critical.

Another impressive thing about Annie is that when she has to make a decision or take a position on a tough issue, she does it. She doesn't falter or waiver at the slightest sign of push-back. As a member of the Board of Selectman this will serve Annie and, as a result, the community well. Too many times we have seen projects or studies in critical areas of our town falter or fade away because taking a vote was

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LETTERS POLICY

The Townsman accepts letters to the editor from the community. Letters should be typed, no longer than 350 words and must include writer's name, address and phone number (numbers will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters for length, clarity and style. Deadline is Monday at 9 a.m. for the next edition.
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just too difficult or controversial. We need members of the Board of Selectman to be able to be inclusive, listen to the concerns of the community and other board members and boards, process the data, and then be able to take a position. Annie has shown she can do that.

We are at an exciting time in our town. While it's true we face some tough challenges with the demands on revenue, issues regarding employee benefits, issues related to long-term capital planning, and issues surrounding revitalizing our town to attract new business; we face these challenges with a new town manager and new superintendent to lead us. We need members on the Board of Selectman who have shown a track record of collaboration, dedication, inclusiveness, the willingness to listen and internalize new ideas and the backbone to take a stand when necessary.

Annie Gilbert is that person. That is why she has my vote for Board of Selectman and I hope you will vote for her as well.

Sincerely,
PAULA COLBY-CLEMENTS
110 Chestnut St.

Gilbert will be a 'pragmatic' Selectman with 'work ethic, commitment'

Editor, Townsman:

I am writing to ask the residents of Andover to join me in voting for Annie Gilbert, candidate for selectman, in this year's town election. Based upon my service with Annie on the School Committee, I know Annie to be very pragmatic, always prepared, willing to consider multiple sides of an issue to work toward and achieve a solution.

Andover faces many challenges and opportunities. We must control the growth rate of our real estate taxes. However, we have not addressed factors that contribute to the growing budget including, employee retirement health insurance liability (OPEB), a \$6m annual sum, despite knowledge of the situation for more than 5 years. Andover consistently experiences a \$3 million to \$4 million annual surplus (free cash); a result of the Selectmen's setting the tax rate higher than needed. The surplus (free cash) is re-appropriated and not returned to the taxpayer.

Meanwhile, Andover has over 1.5 million square feet of municipal and school facilities to maintain. We have a 25-year-old Town Yard problem and a fire house in Ballardvale that needs to be addressed. According to Niche.com, (www.niche.com), an educational rating

service, the major reason for the drop in Andover High School's state ranking is its facilities.

If our new town and school leadership, together with the Board of Selectman, School and Finance Committees work collaboratively, Andover has the resources to both control and reduce the rate of property tax growth while addressing these and other challenges and opportunities.

This requires a Board of Selectmen that will work pragmatically, see multiple sides of an issue, and reach solutions that protect the taxpayer, reasonably addresses the Town's responsibility to its employees, and make critical investments into the community. These investments must protect the Town's assets, financial rating, and provide an educational system that supports our students and maintains our property values. No one selectman will ever have all the answers.

Annie Gilbert has the pragmatic qualities, work ethic and commitment to Andover to meet this challenge. I respectfully ask you to join me in voting for Annie Gilbert for Selectman.

DENNIS FORGUE
18 Reservation Road, Andover

Selectman Vispoli is a 'creative consensus-builder'

Editor, Townsman:

I served four terms on the Andover School Committee and had the opportunity to work closely with Selectman Alex Vispoli. On the topic of education, Alex is a big supporter of our schools. He initiated and led the creation of the town-wide technology department and pushed for multi-million dollar school investments. Thanks to Alex, our classrooms have state-of-the-art technology capabilities, and teachers have a modern computing environment, enabling them to advance student learning. Alex has also been instrumental in providing vital, additional funding to help the school district address prior funding shortfalls. With Alex's support, the town was able to avoid teacher layoffs. Alex is a community leader, consensus builder, and creative thinker. Please vote for Alex on March 22.

DAVID BIRNBACH
86 Osgood St., Andover

Vispoli always helped schools as a selectman

Editor, Townsman:

I have had the privilege of knowing Alex Vispoli since 1990 when we were both employed at a Fortune 500 company. On the job, I found him to be a man of integrity, thorough in his assignments, a straightforward communicator; creative, honest and ethical.

As a former member of the Andover School Committee, I found Selectman Vispoli to continue with these admirable traits. He could be counted upon to have no hidden agenda, to listen to all sides of a discussion, and key to me, to be a friend of our schools all while also remembering the needs of the entire town.

When the schools needed funding, he would ask tough, but fair questions. He would listen. He showed the ability

to be open minded.

Andover is facing a critical election. We need Alex and his steady hand to continue his battle for fiscal responsibility and to spend each dollar as if it were his own.

I hope the readers of this short letter will consider joining the Barber family and vote for Alex Vispoli, a true leader.

ARTHUR BARBER, FOUNDER OF ACE (ANDOVER COALITION FOR EDUCATION)
3 Sparta Way, Andover

Pokress will bring 'transparency, fiscal responsibility' to schools

Editor, Townsman:

Bob Pokress is a man with a mission to return Andover schools to the top rankings they achieved in years past; to open the door to greater transparency from our school committee/superintendent; to bring about a greater sense of fiscal responsibility to the town and taxpayers; and to hold our school system administrators, teaching staff and the school committee accountable for restoring the exceptional quality of education we used to have in our school system back when I moved my family here to Andover.

A vote for Bob Pokress will help bring necessary changes to our educational objectives.

MIKE ROLI
2 College Circle, Andover

Salafia's 'heart, mind and soul' go into work as selectman

Editor, Townsman:

It is truly an honor to write on behalf of Paul Salafia for Selectman. Paul's commitment to the town of Andover over the past 40 years has been extremely admirable. Paul's integrity and willingness to make difficult and "well thought out" decisions for the town has been duly noted. Paul has worked countless hours in partnership with the Rotary Club and "Andover Cares" projects to benefit Andover residents. Paul is "leading the charge" by working with other professionals to handle the heroin and opiate crisis that has sadly effected the lives of so many individuals.

Having served on the Cormier Youth Center Building Committee and proudly taught at Andover High School for over 30 years, of which 20 of those years were discussions and several meetings about the possible building of a youth center; it was the likes of the Paul Salafias of the world that actually helped make this amazing and beautiful structure come to fruition.

Paul's heart, mind and soul are always with the town of Andover, residents and taxpayers. I would personally like to extend my gratitude for Paul's genuine and kind demeanor and for his willingness to "carve out" quality time to listen to the concerns of others. It is without hesitation, I strongly believe that a vote for Paul Salafia is a vote for the betterment of the Town of Andover.

JOE SPANOS
North Street, Andover

More 'Letters to the Editor' on Page 6.

READER ACCESS

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Pride and joy in an Andover guide dog

BY TERRY DATE
tdate@andovertownsmen.com

Bunched skin wrinkles the pup's brow and she looks concerned. Especially when she peers up.

The five-month-old pup, Annie, looks up at the Smith family from her comfortable place on the living room floor, head tucked between oversized paws.

A family member pulls a vest over the yellow Labrador retriever and "shazam," she becomes Super Annie, guide dog in training. The vest signals to her it is time to go to work, to slip into unflappable mode — be all focus.

These are the two sides of Annie, who is destined to work as a guide dog, comes from a breeding line of guide dogs. She, if she successfully completes her training here and then in New York, will be a companion and eyes for a sight-impaired person.

The Smiths' mission is to teach Annie to be a stalwart friend and laser-focused assistant. Along the way Annie is teaching the family, too — about helping others, giving and receiving affection, having fun, and about learning itself.

This late afternoon in February on York Street, the lessons continue in the Smith household.

All the Smiths but Chris, the father, scatter through the house and take turns calling for Annie from their hiding places.

"Annie, come find me," calls Jennifer, the mom. Annie scampers to the mom.

"Annie, come find me," calls Grant, 15. Annie scampers to the boy, an Austin Prep student.

"Annie, come find me," calls Elizabeth, 12. Annie scampers to the girl, a West Middle School student.

"Annie, come find me," calls, Edmund, 10. Annie scampers to the boy, a West Elementary School student.

Chris Smith explains that the game the family is playing with Annie is hide and seek.

"So the dog can learn to use her ears to understand where the people are who are calling her — so she can develop those senses," he said.

For the next year or so Annie will remain here with the Smiths, making frequent trips outside the house, to downtown streets, the kids' hockey practices and games, and to the mom's and dad's workplace in Woburn.

Before Thanksgiving, Annie came to the Smiths from the Guide Dog Foundation in Long Island, New York, arriving with a collar, bowl and 150-page training manual.

She soon became part of the family, and extended family, piling into the car for a road trip to Mechanicsburg, PA, and a old-fashioned Thanksgiving gathering of 50 people. She even visited a theme park, Hersheypark, spread over 110 acres, with 70 rides and attractions and a zoo.

Each month since Annie arrived to Andover the Guide Dog Foundation has sent an



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo

Annie, a seeing eye dog in training with the Smith family in Andover, dons her yellow work vest in the family's living room.



Annie rests on the leg of Grant Smith, 15, as his father Chris and mother Jennifer talk about Annie's training in the background.



Annie sits with Chris Smith and his daughter Elizabeth, 12, in the family's living room.

observer to the Smiths to measure the dog's progress.

After Annie makes the necessary progress in Andover — it usually takes 18-24 months — she'll enter more rigorous training at the Foundation. Not all the dogs make the grade; those that do not make it as guide dogs become pets.

The Foundation has been around since 1946, after World War II, as helpers for soldiers who returned home without their sight.

Ever since then the Foundation has been providing guide dogs to seeing impaired people free of charge, as well as training the people to work as a team with their dogs.

It costs more than \$50,000 to complete the training of one guide dog, including all expenses from breeding to training it and matching it with a blind person. The Foundation depends upon donations and the early training help of people such as the Smiths.

Chris Smith discovered the Foundation through his work



Edward Smith, 10, tries to wrangle Annie during the dog's non-work time.

as a web designer for sight-impaired people.

He thought it would be good for the family to have a shared mission, and for the children to give back to others.

That philosophy dovetails with the mission at Grant's school, which emphasizes doing good works, helping others.

Grant said he took Annie

to a Christmas concert at his school back in December and they sat among a group of his friends.

Annie slept the whole time, even though there were hundreds of people at the concert and lots of singing.

She was in working mode. She had her vest on.

Grant says Annie has been a welcome addition to the Smith family.

"The house seems to be happier with her around because it is fun to be around her, cuddling with her, and she's cute, and it's like having another member of the family here," he said.

Grant's father said his son will sit on the floor in the living room and do homework and Annie will curl around his feet.

"I've never seen Grant smile when studying for a math test unless the dog has come over and sit in his lap," Chris Smith said.

The two youngest Smith children, Edmund and Elizabeth, are more playmates for Annie than teachers.

Elizabeth, a sleepy head in the morning, says Annie helps her get up sooner in the morning.

"Now, we have this goal to help the guide dog succeed," she said.

Chris Smith and his wife,

Jennifer, who work for the same company in Woburn, take Annie to work with them, Annie always on the front passenger side curled up in the foot well.

Annie is becoming more and familiar with crowds, and this is an essential part of her training, for her to remain undistracted no matter the circumstances, said Jennifer Smith.

"She is learning rules," the mom said.

If family members wants to cuddle with Annie they have to get down to her level. She is trained to never jump on furniture or beds. These and other rules have important implications for Annie's future work as the eyes for a sight-impaired person, and the Smith family recognize this.

Another Andover resident

See ANNIE, Page 10

Dam removal on the menu for AVIS annual dinner

The Balmoral Dam, seen here, is scheduled to be dismantled this year. A speaker will discuss the value of dam removal at the annual AVIS dinner March 8.

FILE PHOTO



STAFF REPORT

The Andover Village Improvement Society (AVIS) will hold its annual dinner and meeting on Tuesday, March 8, at 6 p.m. at Old Town Hall at 20 Main St.

"Dam Removal and River Restoration in Massachusetts," will be the topic of discussion, with guest speaker Nick Wildman from the Department of Fish & Game, Division of Ecological Restoration. There are three dams in the Shawsheen River and two of them are to be removed over the next year. This project will start in the summer of 2016.

Early colonists harnessed the power of New England's rivers for a number of purposes that formed the backbone of the Industrial Revolution. Initially, these dams were often seasonally

operated so that valuable fish runs could still continue.

Today, the vast majority of our dams are iconic parts of our communities, but largely without practical use. As climate forces continue to stress these aging structures, many owners have become interested in eliminating the risks posed by the dams while restoring the rivers' historic functions.

The talk will cover the past, present, and future of dams in Massachusetts as well as the dramatic environmental benefits that can come from removing aging dams, including the two in Andover.

Price for dinner is \$28. For further information please contact Libby Poland at (978) 475-6159 or send checks made out to Andover Village Improvement Society to Libby Poland, 22 Wolcott St., Andover, MA 01810.

A new home for the Peguero family



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Jim Buhner, right, owner of Refined Renovations in Andover, who sponsored the Peguero family and donated time and money to their home, hands over the keys to Hector and Claritza Peguero and their son Emmanuel, 5, to their new home as Randy Larson, executive director for Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity, looks on. The former convent of St. Patrick's Parish in South Lawrence was converted to 10 homes.

St. A's preschoolers in new building

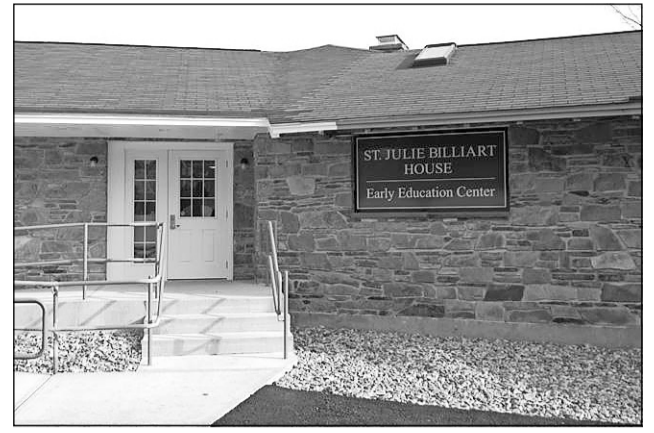
STAFF REPORT

St. Augustine School has just opened its new nursery and pre-school school facility — the Saint Julie Billiard House Early Education Center.

Previously housed in lower level of the St. Augustine Church building on Essex Street, the preschool and nursery students now attend the new facility located on the school's main campus at 26 Central St. The St. Julie Billiard House Early Education Center is named after the founder of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur.

The school's campus also has another new building — the James D. Doherty Centennial Gymnasium — which opened last year.

"What was once a distant vision in many of our minds has finally reached fruition as we open the doors to our early education center," St. Augustine School Principal Paula O'Dea said in a press release. "For years, we have operated our school in multiple locations. We previously rented gymnasium



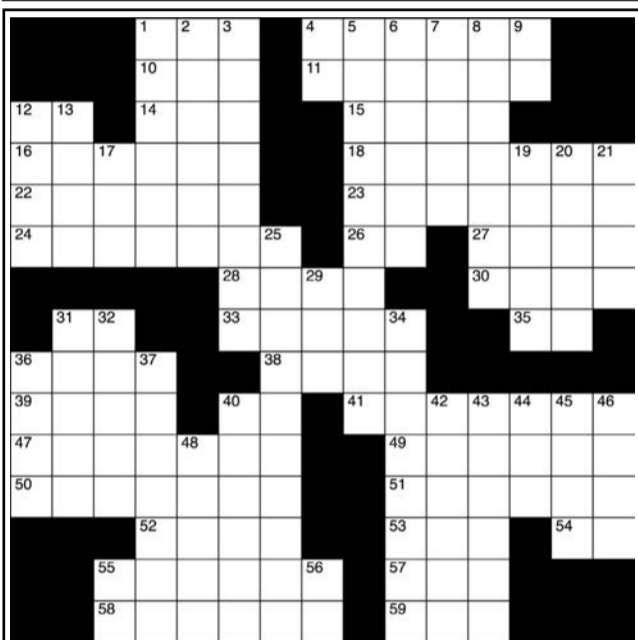
Courtesy photo

St. Augustine School of Andover just opened the doors to a new nursery and preschool building, the Saint Julie Billiard House Early Education Center.

space from the Knights of Columbus, and used rooms at the church building for our preschool and nursery students. This week marks a joyful and major turning point as all our students, families and activities will now reside on one main campus. To be a part of the school's amazing transformation is truly a dream realized."

"Saint Julie Billiard and the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur have made and

continue to make, historic and valuable contributions," the Rev. Peter G. Gori, O.S.A., Pastor of Saint Augustine Parish said in the release. "Naming our newest, integral school structure after the founder of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur made complete sense as it honors both St. Julie's inspiration, and what our school continues to represent — a focus on education, service and our Catholic faith."



ANNIE

Continued from Page 9

who is training a dog to help people is Sara Hidalgo.

Since November, Hidalgo has been training her dog Lucy, a King Charles Cavalier, from the spaniel family, to be a hearing alert dog.

Hidalgo said there is a lot to teach a dog, and there is a lot to learn from them. This is especially the case with a service dog.

"They really devote their whole life to us," she said. "And a service dog even more so. They are happy to do it. They are always willing to do it. Some how, when they get their vest on, they know they are on duty."

The Smiths say that Annie is absolutely part of the family.

Chris Smith thinks that Annie feels pride in doing a good job.

"You almost see a sense of pride in her in her work," he said. "You'll see that when you are walking with her and you face her and she looks up at you and then will continue doing whatever it is because she loves that praise."

CLUES ACROSS

- Exclamation that denotes disgust
- Climbed over
- Has 50 states
- Able to move
- Prime Minister (abbr.)
- Cotangent (abbr.)
- Particle
- Fastened
- Wonders
- Surpassing all others
- Provides basement access
- Daily
- North Dakota
- Related to gulls
- Provoke
- Lake __, one of the Great
- Police department
- Throat illness

Solution in Classified Section

- South Dakota
- Contains iron (Brit.)
- Sees what the future holds
- The extended location of something
- Cobalt
- Dwells
- Reprimand
- Agree to a demand
- Talented in or devoted to music
- Gospels
- European defense organization (abbr.)
- Edge of a cloth
- Equally
- Experience again
- Female sheep
- Made vanish
- Unit of force (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- __ up
- Rear of (nautical)
- Purses
- Samarium
- A way to take forcibly
- On or into
- Metric capacity unit (Brit.)
- Assign to a higher position
- Delaware
- Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Island
- Central processing unit
- Pitchers
- Long-winged member of the gull family
- Auld lang __, good old days

- Term of affection
- They __
- Polynesian wrapped skirt
- Far down areas in the sea
- Delivered a sermon
- A physical damage
- A Seattle ballplayer
- Raccoonlike animals
- Odd
- Delivery boys
- Billy __ Williams
- Icelandic poems
- A Scottish tax
- Central Florida city
- Rhenium
- __, denotes past

3/3/16



TERRY DATE/Staff photo

Dean Baumeister, head of reference at Memorial Hall Library, stands with the library's new overhead scanner, a gift from the Friends' Board at Memorial Hall Library. The state-of-the-art Vimeo scanner is ideal for delicate old books and can scan 3-D items into images.

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Books make room for new scanner at library

BY JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

It was an historical old book from the Memorial Hall Library's collection that got the discussion going several months ago. A library patron wanted to

copy several pages of the book but was very worried about causing more damage to the book's already delicate binding as the book was published about 100 years ago.

A new overhead scanner at MHL saved the day.

It's a Vimeo scanner and it can automatically scan book pages placed flat on its surface and with a push of a button, several pages can be automatically scanned so dangerous page-turning is no longer a worry for old books with delicate bindings. Plus, the scanner can scan 3D items, like a pair of earrings.

The scanner can connect to a cell phone or flash drive so scanned items can be quickly posted for sale on selling websites like eBay.

"This overhead scanner is really state-of-the-art," Helene Spoto, Secretary of the Friends' Board at Memorial Hall Library, wrote in an email. "Our library now has this incredible scanner and I think we are the only library within a very large area that has it."

The Friends group bought the scanner for about \$2,500, said Dean Baumeister, Head of Reference at MHL.

"Many of our patrons are using it (the scanner) and they really like it," he said. "We talked about the purchase and we researched for months...we are glad to have it."

Located in the reference department on the library's main floor, Baumeister said the scanner has been available for a few months.

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the tires, with only a charge for balancing."

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Learning through laughter

ImprovBoston helped Doherty students learn through comedy sketches

By GABRIELLA CRUZ
geruz@andovertownsman.com

Normally, learning at school is no joke. But for Doherty Middle School students, learning was all about laughing last week during a school-wide improv performance.

Four ImprovBoston comedians took the stage at Doherty Middle School on Monday, Feb. 22 to present the "4 C's: Lessons of Improv" to Doherty students. The four C's, communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking, were all explored through hands-on

entertainment between the ImprovBoston comedians and students.

"The ImprovBoston cast facilitated the process in such a way, it made the experience very entertaining and educational all at the same time," said Pamela Kline, a member of the Doherty Middle School Cultural Enrichment Committee.

Kelly McFarlan, Ben Scurry, Gregory Scott and Marc Hirsh led the hour-long performance, during which students were invited to volunteer to join the group onstage to participate in various sketches.

Ideas came straight from the students in the audience, and the comedians incorporated those ideas into sketches related to the four C's.

"Because students are so actively engaged in the process," Kline said, "they are invested in the outcome. This was a key consideration when (we) recommended ImprovBoston for the all-school performance at Doherty for this year."

Students also praised the ImprovBoston comedians not only for their humor, but also for their ability to make learning fun.

"I really enjoyed watching



Emma Accardi, an 8th-grader, reacts to comedian Marc Hirsh during ImprovBoston's "4 C's Lessons of Improv" at Doherty Middle School.

PAUL BILODEAU/Staff photo

together," added 6th grader Justin Hsu. "I enjoyed the program because it was fun and I learned a lot about working together," added 6th grader Tatum Nelson. "They did a great job getting us involved and excited!"

Quota International donates to Esperanza

STAFF REPORT

Esperanza Academy in Lawrence will take some high-tech steps thanks to an Andover organization.

On Thursday, Feb. 11, members of Quota International of Andover presented a check to Esperanza Academy to create a computer lab which will serve all current and future students, as well as many graduates and their parents.

"Creating a computer lab will allow Esperanza students to build their technology, research, and critical thinking skills," said Quota International member Alice Flynn. "It will help them become true 21st century leaders."

Quota International worldwide organization, and the local Andover branch works to "empower families in need, the deaf, hard of hearing, and speech impaired in the Merrimack Valley."

Esperanza Academy in Lawrence is a tuition-free, independent middle school in the



COURTESY PHOTO

Top row left to right, from Esperanza Academy: Annmarie Quezada, principal; Bethany Wieczorsk, technology coordinator; from Quota International of Andover: Lisa Green, Tish Bachmann, Alice Flynn, Louise Haddad, Vena Coco, Mary Beth Nason, president. Bottom row: Students from Esperanza Academy.

Episcopal tradition, that welcomes girls of diverse faiths, races and cultures from Lawrence, Flynn said.

"For anyone looking for a new way to make a difference in the lives of people in need,"

Flynn said. "Quota International of Andover might be just what you are looking for."

For more information, contact MB Nason, Quota International of Andover, PO Box 221, Andover, MA 01810.

ON CAMPUS

College planning workshop offered

College Planning Services will host a workshop and free dinner seminar on Tuesday, March 8, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Chateau Restaurant, 131 River Road, Andover.

Attendees of the workshop titled, "How to Go to College... Without Going Broke," will learn how to save \$25,000 per year on college tuition bills. Reservations are required.

Visit www.collegeplanningservices.org to sign up or call John DeLorey of College Planning Services at 978-462-1666.

Meghan A. Buggy was named to the president's list for the fall 2015 semester at Bentley University. She is a 2014 graduate of Andover High School.

Jaymi Cohen earned dean's list honors for the fall 2015 semester at Tufts University. She is a senior at Tufts.

Sarah Arvidson, Elizabeth Donohue, Paige Hartnett, Catherine Haut, and Laura Morissette were named to the fall 2015 semester dean's list at Colby College in Waterville, Maine.


Andover resident, Paul Properzio, has joined the Classics Department faculty at Noble and Greenough School (commonly known as "Nobles") in Dedham to teach Latin.

Prior to his new position, Properzio taught Latin, Greek, and the Myth Tradition at Boston Latin Academy for many years. He serves on the Editorial Board of

the journal, "Amphora," published by the Society of Classical Studies. He is also vice president of the Boston Society of the Archaeological Institute of America. He holds a Ph.D. in Classical Studies from Loyola University Chicago. He is married to Deborah Properzio. Their daughter, Lucy, was recently married to Kevin Kropiwnicki of Andover.


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► School Committee Candidates


PAUL MURPHY

Age: 49
Lived in Andover: 49 years
Immediate family members: Debby Burdett Murphy, wife; Maddie Murphy, daughter, 17; Tyler Murphy, son, 14; Sydney Murphy, daughter, 11. Maddie and Tyler, both now at Phillips, attended Bancroft and Doherty; Sydney attended Bancroft and currently attends Doherty.
Civic/municipal experience: Member of the town's 350th Celebration Committee, 1994-1996.




BILL PERKINS

Age: 57
Lived in Andover: 35 years
Immediate family members: Wife: Annie, Daughters: Laura, Ashley, Mikaila, Cassandra, Sons: Benjamin, James James is a senior at Andover High School; Laura, Ashley, Mikaila and Benjamin already graduated AHS.
Civic/municipal experience: Andover Youth Services, Youth Center Building Committee, Andover School of Montessori, Andover Community Trust, Friends of Andover Football, Andover Little League, Andover Junior Football, A-NA YMCA, Free Christian Church, ABC House, Various PTO memberships



BOB POKRESS

Age: 68
Lived in Andover: 31 years
Immediate family members: Wife, Susan, children Matt and Becca (both graduated AHS) and five grandchildren.
Civic/municipal experience: School Committee member Little Silver, N.J., in the 1980s; Boy Scouts Merit Badges Counselor for the Essex County Council of the Boy Scouts of America.



SHANNON SCULLY

Age: 42
Lived in Andover: 5 years
Immediate family members: Husband Matt, sons Declan (5th grade at Bancroft) and Finnegan (3rd grade at Bancroft)
Political/civic involvement: Bancroft PTO (board member 2012 to present, currently vice president); Andover Coalition for Education (board member 2015 to present); League of Women Voters of Andover-North Andover (2015 to present); Penn Alumni Interview Program (Phillips Academy committee co-chair, 2012 to present).



CANDIDATE Q & A

Top priority

Question: What would be your number one priority as a member of the school committee?

PAUL MURPHY: Transparency and communication. Communities expect that decisions and data will be

available to all community members. I will work to ask the hard question, request the data that will inform our decisions going forward, and communicate those decisions to all stakeholders.

BILL PERKINS: To restore confidence in the schools to the point that all parents, taxpayers, teachers and students are proud of the education the town is receiving for the amount invested.

BOB POKRESS: Setting the bar high in terms of concrete, measurable levels of academic achievement we want to see achieved over the next three years for each grade level; restore the

quality of and exceptionalism in education, K-12, we once had in our school system.

SHANNON SCULLY: It is mistaken to suggest board members have the luxury

of assigning priority to just one challenge. The number one job of the Committee is to make reasoned judgments that provide the best educational value to students.

Issue 1: High School Schedule

Question: Are you in favor of the new high school schedule? If so, why? If not, what would you do differently?

PAUL MURPHY: Good schools change their schedules when it is clear that the quality of instruction can be improved by a change. School leaders have felt that a switch away from the semester system will benefit students at AHS. I have just been involved in a vote to change the schedule at Phillips Academy for the fall of 2017. The process of change includes looking closely at the flow and consistency of educational disciplines, effective class learning time, and opportunities for our students to have the best education we can provide for them within normal limitations. I know this process is underway, and I would continue to engage with the school leadership to further develop the most effective schedule we can create for our students.

BILL PERKINS: No, and this is just the latest controversy. The policy manual states that of all decisions, the "... most crucial... is the optimal learning of the children enrolled in our schools." Is it in the student's best interest to have fewer slots for education? Is there a cost-benefit analysis or exactly why the current schedule is being abandoned instead of modified? Are they counting on extra funds from Town Meeting? It is even unclear if the teachers and school administration are in favor of this. Without specific answers this should go no further as the time is getting late. It is entirely possible that the cost could be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars per year and may require classroom space we do not have.

BOB POKRESS: No. This proposed new schedule is an educational gimmick that is essentially a glorified study hall that will erode the quality of education in our high school by making it impossible for our kids to take all the courses they otherwise would have been able to take given that the length of the school day or length of the school year is not being increased to compensate for lost class/instructional contact time. This proposed "H Block" scheme is modeled, unbelievably, after a schedule used at a failing high school in New Hampshire! Rather than using gimmicks, we should go back to the academically successful schedule of eight periods a day, 55 minutes per period. The top-rated public high schools both nationally and here in the Commonwealth deliver exceptional educations without resorting to class-schedule gimmickery.

SHANNON SCULLY: There is no perfect schedule and transition is always challenging. But on balance the newly proposed schedule brings enough forward thinking advancements to the district that it is worth the difficulty of implementation. Under the status quo, year-long gaps can exist between subjects and teenage attention can wane during long classes. Most strikingly, almost every district in the state that tried semester blocks has abandoned it in favor of year-long courses. The scheduling committee has now spent more than two years evaluating best practices and determining options, including allowance for guidance time (H block) as suggested by NEASC accreditation. The School Committee was right to accept the scheduling committee's recommendation.

Issue 2: Changing math curriculum

Question: Do you think it's fair to make parents pay for either summer school or private tutor math courses? If so, why? If not, what would you have proposed for the committee to do differently?

PAUL MURPHY: Creating paths toward calculus will always be important to students and parents as long as taking Calculus is part of the application process for some colleges. Understanding the longitudinal effects of changing the high school schedule on the middle school math curriculum seems to have been the responsibility of a number of school leaders; parents and students are not responsible for this oversight. It is troublesome to me that funds were not available to remedy this problem for the approximately 100 students that this has/will affect this year and next. If elected and we were faced with a similar challenge, I would ask in-depth questions, seek solutions from a wide range of constituencies, and find the funding in the School Dept. budget.

BILL PERKINS: No. This is due to poor planning by officials in the School Department, and parents and students should not be penalized for this. The school department should step up and take responsibility and offer an amicable solution to maintain education equity. Mistakes happen, but at the very least there should be no cost for the extra classes. The new schedule will only exacerbate the math situation for our students moving forward.

BOB POKRESS: No. The School Committee intentionally degraded the Middle School math curricula back in 2011 and should not expect that parents of the children who have been denied being able to take math courses in Middle School their predecessors in Andover were able to take to now have to pay for summer school math courses the School Department is proposing as a band-aid for the problem the School Department itself created. The School Committee has an obligation to all affected students to fix, at no charge to the students or to their parents, what the School Committee broke.

SHANNON SCULLY: It is disappointing that Andover parents are required to pay out of pocket for many services reasonably expected of a good public school system. In addition to taxes, parents pay for busing, athletics, home-work planners, clubs, full-day kindergarten, parking, and a multitude of academic enrichment activities outside the curriculum, from the arts to robotics to music and more. In an ideal world, schools would have money to fund challenging accelerated programs in all academic disciplines, and parents would not be asked for add-ons. But under realistic budget constraints, parents keep picking up the tab. The math problem faced by some current 8th and 9th graders is just one example of an issue that needs to be addressed at a larger level.

Issue 3: Superintendent hiring process

Question: Did you agree with the school committee's process in hiring Sheldon Berman? If so, why? If not, what would you have proposed for the committee to do differently?

PAUL MURPHY: With all due respect to the Townsman and this question, this decision was made by the elected officials on the School Committee this past year. It is not my place to second-guess their decision at this time. Given the information and data they had before them at the time, I may have made the same decision or I may not have; I can't say. I can tell the voters in the town of Andover, that I will work very hard to continually hold our Superintendent to the goals that the School Committee sets for him. The education of our children is at stake and I will take that responsibility very seriously.

BILL PERKINS: No, since it seems clear that the hiring process was misrepresented to certain parent groups who were promised a more open hiring process. While Dr. Berman seems to be well qualified for the position and we are all hopeful that it will work out, the parents are the client and their interests should be paramount. As stated in the SC Policy Manual: "The Committee... believes that decision-making control over the children's learning should be in the hands of local citizens as much as possible."

BOB POKRESS: No. The School Committee broke a major promise they made to town residents to appoint an interim Superintendent and then conduct, during the current academic year, a rigorous search that, as residents were promised, would involve parents and residents in the interview,

due diligence and selection process, in order to find the best candidate to be our school system Superintendent. The candidate search/interview/due diligence process was short-circuited by the School Committee and our town lost the opportunity to have the best possible candidate become our new Superintendent. We should have appointed one of our Assistant Superintendents as interim superintendent and then conducted a rigorous search of candidates from across the educational spectrum, involving parents and residents in the due diligence evaluation and vetting of candidates just as the Selectmen involved residents as part of their due diligence process to identify, interview and vet Town Manager candidates.

SHANNON SCULLY: Over the course of many public meetings, it became clear that each School Committee member had high regard for Dr. Berman, gained through personal experience, a broad range of community feedback, and other areas of research. The Committee looked favorably upon his continuation as Superintendent, and to launch an intergalactic search for a potential replacement (at the same time 22 other Mass districts were doing the same) would have been window dressing and, therefore, a distracting waste of time and taxpayer money. With his new contract, Dr. Berman will be Andover's Superintendent for the foreseeable future and it serves no purpose to revisit the decision. Regardless of how one feels about the process, it is time to move on.

Issue 4: 2017 Budget

Question: Do you agree with the initial fiscal year 2017 budget? If you think it should be higher, what would you suggest be included? If you think it should be lower, what would you suggest be cut?

PAUL MURPHY: Yearly increases in the total budget that exceed the town's revenue capacity are not sustainable. Fixed costs are rising. We must work with state leaders to help Andover with rising fixed costs so that we as a community may make the quality-improving decisions that we all want to see each year. A top rate education does not come from throwing money at it; it comes from all adults — parents, teachers and leaders — working toward the same goal: an outstanding classroom experience for each child.

BILL PERKINS: The process should be less adversarial as it is in other towns such as North Andover. I know the new Town Manager and Dr. Berman are hoping that they will be able to work out an agreement on general budget requirements before presenting to their respective boards. With \$100,000,000-plus to work with, there

should not be a fight at the annual town meeting for even more money. There will likely never be a real decrease in the budget but the department heads should develop a budget within levy limits as a maximum before presenting it to the public. My understanding is that they are hopeful to get to that point during the process of negotiation.

BOB POKRESS: The FY 2017 spending level proposed by Town Manager Flanagan is much more appropriate for our school system than the budget proposed by the Superintendent that the current School Committee has accepted uncritically. The proposed budget is based upon numerous unexamined assumptions used to justify extrapolated spending levels that already exceed per student spending levels in school systems that academically outperform Andover. It is not a School Committee's responsibility to micromanage a school system budget but rather to give a Superintendent an overall budget target and have the Superintendent propose the best allocation

of that budget target to meet the specific, measurable educational goals the School Committee should be setting for K through 12 for each school year and then holding the Superintendent accountable for achieving.

SHANNON SCULLY: The School Committee should develop an initial budget that reflects the needs of the district, but rarely is that the budget presented for approval at Town Meeting. The hard part of the budget process comes in whittling financial requests to a reasonable proposal, balancing services being provided with fiscal responsibility. Already, not many service additions have survived the initial school budget. The largest challenge to the FY '17 school budget is that roughly 4 percent of cost increases are fixed, going to contracted pay increases and Special Education mandates. Even after continuing to find efficiencies within school operations, this leaves little-to-no money to fund improvements to the district. This annual problem needs a thoughtful long-term solution.

Issue 5: Building maintenance

Question: Has the district spent enough on building upkeep and maintenance? If so, why do you think so? If not, what do you think should be done to change that?

PAUL MURPHY: The fiscal crisis of 2008 continues to reverberate through many institutions with regard to deferred maintenance. A long-term plan to address long term needs and avoid exponential growth of maintenance costs is our best plan. I look forward to reading the facilities maintenance plan that the School Department initiated and to working toward implementing a plan for school maintenance in the future budgets of the town.

BILL PERKINS: Maintaining the physical plant is a basic budget requirement each year and it seems that funds necessary for this purpose have either not been provided or have been misallocated. The great efforts on the part of parents to step up with improvements outside AHS (tennis, baseball, football, skate park, etc.) has masked the general condition of the facilities inside. The school ranking companies all mark down Andover

for the "quality" of its facilities and our rank will not change until the situation improves significantly. The School Committee needs to work with town departments to improve the sustainability of the facilities and I feel that as an experienced engineer in this area I am uniquely qualified to help.

BOB POKRESS: It varies from school to school, as we learned from the abject physical condition of the original Bancroft School prior to its replacement to the schools built prior to Bancroft that are still highly functional with many years of life left in them. Every school building, like every major bridge in the U.S., should have a rolling 10-year maintenance plan that specifies the requisite maintenance that should be performed in each of the next 10 years. By requiring our Superintendent to maintain and publish annual engineering inspections of every school building and a rolling 10-year maintenance plan for every school, we take control of maintenance costs and, very importantly, we can project over long

time horizons how much will need to be budgeted in each year of the coming next 10 years to insure proper maintenance of every school building. Well-run businesses and public institutions call this process "no surprises" management.

SHANNON SCULLY: Investment in building maintenance reduces longer-term facility costs by slowing deterioration. The schools collaborate with town resources for building upkeep, but there is always competition for funds allocated to a thinly stretched plant and facilities department. Unfortunately, the Collins Center façade is a recent example of unanticipated expense from overlooked or deferred maintenance. Physical space has an impact on student health, safety, educational programming and, ultimately, achievement. The joint school/town study currently underway will produce a comprehensive look at the state of Andover facilities, and the community can use this to weigh investment priorities for modernization programs and maintenance to curb future repairs.

TownsBeat

Local children's author shares traveling abroad stories in rhyme

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
JWAKEFIELD@ANDOVERTOWNSMAN.COM

It started as a poem written on a worn envelope that fit comfortably in the writer's pocket. He lived in Maui, Hawaii, back then and he carried the poem, faithfully knowing that he would someday expand it into a book.

The writer is Ryan Kemp, an Andover native. And his poem is now a book that he self-published and released last month.



Ryan Kemp

The autobiographical book is entitled "My Day with the Monk." A very short tome at just 23 rhyming paperback pages - each accompanied with a colorful illustration - it's a quick read about Kemp's time shared with a monk.

The book shares the monk's advice to enjoy the present moment in one's life.

"All of us people are one; they get caught up in life and forget to have fun," is advice on page 17.

Kemp, just 24, graduated from Central Catholic High School in Lawrence in 2008 and went on to Northeastern University in Boston. Since graduating from college he has traveled and volunteered around the world - throughout Africa, Hawaii, Israel, Europe, the Caribbean, Australia and Asia.

It was during Kemp's time in Hawaii that a friend introduced him to illustrator Meryl Haywood whose large, colorful prints were downsized so her art was perfect for the book, he said. And then a lost tourist asking him for directions on another trip led him to a book publisher who offered great tips on self-publishing. All this book-related happenstance made him realize the book was meant to be.

"I really believe this book was meant to be because months would go by and then, something related to the book would happen, like meeting Meryl," he said.

Kemp is also a young entrepreneur specializing in international trade and development. He is the Head of International Operations at Cameroon International Business Consulting Company based in Cameroon, Africa. He is also active with the non-profit group, Rides for Lives, which supports programs promoting access to quality healthcare in Uganda. The organization is based in San Francisco, where he now lives.

Kemp was in Andover last week to attend a birthday party for his grandmother, who turned



Andover native Ryan Kemp worked with illustrator Meryl Haywood to put together a short but sweet book on his travels with a monk.

100-years-old. He stopped by the Townsman to talk about his book which starts with this dedication rhyme: "...to children of all ages, readers on all different pages. Life-long learners who strive to grow, and those who may think that they know what they know."

This author said extensive traveling has let him meet many people. They have influenced him so much that he wanted to begin to share his stories with a children's book.

"It's like a pizza," he said of his traveling experiences. "I call Andover the cheese slice ... and I have all these other flavors ... when your eyes get opened you see differently and I hope the book tells a story of learning to open your eyes and see the world differently."

Kemp tells readers not to forget about the little things surrounding us, like "beaches with singing pink sands and fish in faraway lands."

"We are all one," he said. "I hope the book reminds all readers of that."



Illustrator Meryl Haywood did the artwork for a self-published book by Andover native Ryan Kemp, age 24.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MARCH SATURDAY, MARCH 5

BRING OUT THE TOMTE: A DAY OF WINTER GNOMES, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., The Stevens-Coolidge Place, 137 Andover St., North Andover. Say goodbye to winter and hello to spring while celebrating the mischievous Swedish gnomes called Tomtes; keep warm by the fire, play in the snow, and make crafts; hot chocolate and cookies will be served; dress warmly; \$5 per person or \$15 per family for Trustees members, \$10 per person or \$25 per family for nonmembers; pre-registration is not necessary; www.thetrustees.org.

"DEATH AND RESURRECTION," 7:30 p.m., St. Augustine's Church, 43 Essex St., Andover. The New England Classical Singers, under the artistic direction of David Hodgkins, will perform Part 2 of Handel's "Messiah"; Andrew Shryock, musicologist, will give a pre-concert talk at 6:30 p.m.; soloists for this performance are Wendy Heckman, soprano, Julia Cavallaro, alto, Matthew Anderson, tenor, and Thomas Jones, bass; \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors, \$15 for groups of 10 or more, free for children and students with ID; www.newenglandclassical.org, 978-374-NECS.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

CHORAL EVENSONG, 5 p.m., Christ Church, 33 Central St., Andover. The combined choirs of Christ Church in Andover and Christ Church in Hamilton-Wenham, under the direction of John Russell with the chamber orchestra and organ, will perform; the program will feature Cantata BWV 150 "Nach dir, Herr, verlanget mich" of Johann Sebastian Bach; a half-hour organ recital, given by Henry Lowe, director of music at the Church of the Redeemer in Baltimore, Md., will precede the service at 4:30 p.m.; this program will feature the works of Charles Marie Widor, Johann Sebastian Bach and Herbert Howells; 978-475-0529.

23RD ANNUAL CLADDAGH PUB ROAD RACE, 11 a.m., beginning at 399 Canal St., Lawrence. Held rain or shine; www.runthecladdagh.com.

WHITE FUND LECTURE, 2 p.m., Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitors Center, 1 Jackson St. Michael Quinlin will present a lecture titled, "Massachusetts and the 1916 Irish Rising"; sponsored by the White Fund and the Division 8 Ancient Order of Hibernians; admission is free and the venue is handicap accessible; email mark.alaimo@gmail.com.

FREE RIDING LESSONS, 12:30 to 3 p.m., Ironstone Farm, 450 Lowell St. (Route 133), Andover. A limited number of free horseback-riding lessons for new riders will be available; people must sign up in advance; riders must be 6 or older; the free lessons will be awarded on a first-registered, first served basis; riders with a diagnosis or who are on medication will need a physician's approval; 978-475-4056, email programs@challengeunlimited.org.

MONDAY, MARCH 7

MERRIMACK VALLEY ESTATE PLANNING COUNCIL EVENT, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Palmers Restaurant and Tavern, 18 Elm St., Andover. Jason Pierce, CPA, will discuss "Minimizing Client Risks for Estate and Gift Evaluations"; reservations are required; email msullivan@andoverlaw.com if planning to attend.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

"HOW TO GO TO COLLEGE... WITHOUT GOING BROKE," 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Chateau Restaurant, 131 River Road, Andover. The college planning workshop and free dinner seminar is being hosted by College Planning Services; attendees will learn how to save \$25,000 per year on college tuition bills; reservations are required; www.collegeplanningservices.org.

Take a peek at the secrets behind town history

If you enjoyed the Historical Society's historic dress exhibit in 2013, you'll love the behind-the-scenes tours that may reveal the stories behind the dresses.

FILE PHOTO



STAFF REPORT

Peek inside closets, pull aside curtains, and explore behind the scenes in the Blanchard House and Andover Historical Society.

It's a chance to give in to that irresistible urge to look behind the "staff only" and "no entry" signs you always see in museums. What will you find? What treasures lie in store rooms and archives? What secrets are hidden behind the closed doors? Where is the Blanchard House's "Harry Potter closet?"

The Andover Historical Society is offering the "Behind the Scenes" tours with a fun twist. As you tour the Blanchard House attics, closets, nooks and crannies, you'll also hear stories about rarely seen collections items. The stories will change with

every tour, so there will always be something new to learn. Maybe you'll hear about a Civil War artifact, a pair of leather pants from the 1970s, or an early 20th century bob sled - each with a unique Andover story.

Upcoming "Behind the Scenes" tour days and times are:

Saturday, March 12, 10 to 11 a.m.; Tuesday, March 23, 7 to 8 p.m.; Tuesday, April 12, 1 to 2 p.m.; Tuesday, April 26, 7 to 8 p.m.; Wednesday, May 11, 1 to 2 p.m. and Wednesday, May 18, 7 to 8 p.m.

Register online for the free tours at www.andoverhistorical.org/behind-the-scenes. Or call 978-475-2236 to register. Email inquiries info@andoverhistorical.org. Group tours of 8 to 12 guests can be arranged by calling 978-475-2236.

All Those Years Ago

Compiled by Susan McKelliget

100 Years Ago March 3, 1916

Work has been started on the tearing down of the old building of the Hardy & Cole firm, purchased by George F. Smith on Essex Street.

One of the heaviest snowstorms of the year struck Andover yesterday, about 10 inches of snow covering the ground.

James Salta, proprietor of the Andover Candy Kitchen, has purchased from Michael F. Lane, of Lawrence, the tobacco and candy store located at 578 Essex Street, Lawrence, near the transfer station. Mr. Lane will retain his interest in the poolroom and cigar store which have

been conducted as part of the candy store.

In common with many others who are so unfortunate as to have a birthday but once in four years, Miss Grace Bentley passed her eleventh birthday last Tuesday. She is the eldest daughter of T.H. Bentley, formerly of Haverhill Street, Frye village.

75 Years Ago March 6, 1941

Announcement: \$1,700 to be raised Saturday in one day drive for Andover Guild Rolling Kitchen for Britain-Tyler Rubber Whistle to Blow for every \$100 reported. The whirlwind drive for the Rolling Kitchen is being preceded by feverish activity on the part of boys and girls in town. The Guild has been working overtime making about 150 signs, distributing 200

printed posters, 2,000 automobile stickers, and 2,500 buttons—all for the purpose of letting people know that on March 8 about 125 boys and girls will be on the road soliciting for funds.

Another group of Andover draft men leave tomorrow morning for a year's training, provided they pass the Boston physical check-up. Included will be two volunteers: John F. Broderick and William J. Greene, both of Andover.

Barry Grecoe of Florence Street is ill with pneumonia at the Lawrence General Hospital.

50 Years Ago March 3, 1966

Town Counsel Frederic S. O'Brien takes the legal view that Andover's public school administrators are

not eligible for membership in the same bargaining unit as the employees whom they supervise. He relayed this opinion in a letter reviewed by the School Committee at Tuesday's meeting.

Candidates for municipal office will make their last group appearance tonight at the second of two Candidates' Night programs. The annual election will be held Monday. Thayer Warshaw, 16 Carisbrooke Street, will moderate the meeting which is scheduled for 8 p.m. at Central School. The Andover League of Women Voters is the sponsor. Mrs. George Sherrerd, chairman of the League's voters service committee, suggests that voters first read the candidates sheets received in the mail and follow this with attendance at Candidate's night.

25 Years Ago March 7, 1991

A unarmed robber at the Mobil gas station, at 320 Lowell St., took an undetermined amount of cash and escaped at about 5:50 p.m. Sunday. The robber walked into the station and went to the cold drink machine before coming up behind the attendant with a can in his hand and demanding cash. No weapon was shown. The attendant pleaded with the robber not to take the money but the suspect scooped the money out of the register.

Four people are running for two three-year terms on the School Committee: incumbent Michael Frishman, Susan Jenkins, incumbent Susan Poore and John Wragg.

Sports

ON THE RISE

Wrestling improves by leaps and bounds this winter under Bolduc

BY DAVE DYER
STAFF WRITER

A newcomer to the Merrimack Valley might not think much about the Andover High wrestling.

The Warriors, after all, finished 12-16-2, had only one qualifier (Matt Marcotte) for the Division 1 state meet and no one for All-State.

That newcomer should think again, however.

The Warriors under first-year coach Mike Bolduc are clearly on the rise.

Those 12 wins may not seem like a lot, but consider that Andover's record the previous four years was 7-72 with very few close meets against MVC foes.

And the Warriors wrestled their best late in this season, tying traditionally superpower North Andover and a 16-5-1 Whittier club.

"I looked at the schedule and told the guys to set a goal of double digit wins, so we're happy to get that and, with a little luck, we could have had a couple of other wins," said Bolduc.

"I didn't think we'd be wrestling as well as we did, just from the start of the season to the end. The kids were wrestling tougher with a lot of six-minute matches. I looked back at last year and there were a lot of pins so we stressed staying off your back.

"I loved the fight they were showing. Even the parents

were saying that they were showing more pride."

Different training and different techniques certainly helped, but it may have been more of a mindset that Bolduc tried to establish from the get-go.

"We tried to stress what wrestling is all about," said Bolduc, who gives ample credit to assistant Ken Najem. "It's about working hard, having discipline, showing pride, not getting pinned."

A strong senior class that included Nate Dykstra, Marcotte and football offensive lineman Matt Stamas helped increase the win total. But nine starters will return next year, several from a promising sophomore class led by Kevin Kiely, Matt Meagher and Payton Heidtke. There is promise that the future will be bright.

Of course, consistent success in wrestling depends on good numbers and Bolduc is hopeful that there will be an increase next year from the 21 wrestlers who completed the season. That was enough to fill every weight class, which isn't always possible, even for highly-regarded long-established programs.

"The youth program has done a pretty good job and kids and parents have started recruiting," said Bolduc. "We're hoping for at least 27 next year and then go up five or more every year."

Most of the top wrestling



CARL RUSSO STAFF PHOTO

Andover head wrestling coach Mike Bolduc with his underclass starters, from left, sophomores Matt Donahue and Kevin Kiely, freshman Josh Paige, sophomores Matt Meagher and Payton Heidtke, freshman Patrick Fragala, junior Jacob Ruthazer and sophomore Kelly Howard. The Warriors made huge improvements this winter.

programs have a strong relationship with the football team and Bolduc believes that situation is developing at Andover with gridiron coach E.J. Perry.

"He (Perry) actively doesn't discourage wrestling, but we need him to encourage it," said Bolduc. "I tell him that I'll make them better football players."

Heidtke was one of five football players on this year's squad and he would be a good example for Bolduc.

"It (wrestling) has helped me an incredible amount for football, with speed, agility and being able to track plays," said Heidtke, a 220-pound lineman who lettered this year. "I think coach Perry is starting to see how it's helped me."

Heidtke is one of several sophomores sold on the

overall direction Bolduc is taking the Warriors on the mat and, as such, plans on working out some in the offseason at the Fire Pit in Lawrence.

"There's a different feel to the team now," said Heidtke, who had a .500 record wrestling at both 220 and heavy-weight. "It's always been fun, but he was able to bring more people in, which makes it better, and made us more competitive."

Heidtke has been playing football far longer than he's wrestled, but his love of the mat is definitely on the rise.

"I consider myself a football player who wrestles now, but I'd enjoy being a wrestler who plays football," he said.

That's the kind of sentiment that is music to Bolduc's ears and should keep the Warriors on a steady rise.



CARL RUSSO STAFF PHOTO

Andover wrestlers Kevin Kiely, top, practices with Matt Meagher earlier this winter. The Golden Warriors made huge improvements and upset a state power this winter.

Local Sports Roundup

5-1 win over Acton-Boxboro gives Warriors MVC D-1 title



CARL RUSSO/Staff Photo

Nate O'Neil fires home his first of two goals as Andover rolled over Acton-Boxboro 5-1 to clinch a share of the Merrimack Valley Conference Division 1 title. The Warriors open the tournament this week.

BOYS HOCKEY

MVC champs

Heading into the game with just one goal on the season, Matthew Croston netted a pair of goals as Andover beat Acton-Boxboro 5-1 to become co-Merrimack Valley Conference Division 1 champions last Monday.

Nate O'Neil added two goals, Caeden Dillman scored one goal and Nate Abbott, Brendan Croston and Jeff Hunt each had two assists for the winners. Zach Laramie made 18 saves.

BOYS TRACK

The Andover 4x200 relay hit its stride on the biggest stage, taking first place in 1:31.29 at the New England Championship on Saturday. Jeremy Chan, Andrew Lucia, Ray Gorzela and Jeremy Travaglini ran to the gold medal.

Lucia, Gorzela and

Travaglini then teamed with Evan Chan to place sixth in the 4x400 in 3:26.76.

BOYS SKIING

Denoncourt take sixth

Jason Denoncourt placed sixth overall in the slalom (39.29) and scored a 62.36 in the giant slalom at the State Meet last Monday.

GIRLS SKIING

Lawler shines

Olivia Lawler was 17th overall in the slalom (40.98) and was 20th in the giant slalom (61.79) to lead Andover at the State Meet on Monday. Golden Warrior Cailey Denoncourt added a 47th in the slalom (43.73).

GYMNASTICS

Aronov in seventh

Joe Aronov was seventh overall in the vault with a 9.3 as Andover placed sixth as a team at the State Meet on Saturday. Kaitlyn McDonald took

13th in the all-around with a 33.9, led by a 10th in the beam, while Beatrice Ward was 15th in the beam, Madison Quill was 15th in the all-around and 20th in the bars and Audrey Tarbox was 20th in the floor exercise.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Beasley's effort for naught

Devon Beasley continued to shine with 17 points but Andover fell to Lowell 75-67 last Monday. E.J. Perry IV scored 15 points, Jonathan Rodriguez added 11 points and Michael Briggs had two baskets for the Golden Warriors.

GIRLS TRACK

Lawrence leads Warriors

Miranda Lawrence scored 2,447 points to place 28th overall in the Mass. State Girls Pentathlon last Monday.

Fox was a college national champ, Perry went from Andover to the NFL

BY DAVE NICHOLS

Special to the Andover Townsman
NOTE: The Andover-Punchard Hall of Fame has selected its first class since 2006. Leading up to the April 8 induction, each week the Andover Townsman will take a look at the legends that are being added to the legendary class.

Tickets to the event are \$55 and now available by contacting the athletic office at 978-623-8670.

RACHEL FOX
Lacrosse/Track & Field/Soccer



Rachel Fox

Class of 2007 Rachel Fox is the most heralded lacrosse player since the Andover High program's inception, and was a track and field standout.

Playing three sports at Andover High, Rachel received 11 varsity letters and was the

ANDOVER-PUNCHARD



ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

2007 Andover High School Eugene Lovely Award winner for Excellence in Athletics.

A highly touted runner in indoor track, Rachel was named Merrimack Valley All-Conference four times. As the champion of the Auerbach Freshman/Sophomore Meet in 2005, she was selected as the outstanding runner.

In 2006 and 2007, Rachel was the Division 1 state champion in the 600 meters and both years was named to Boston Globe and Herald All-Scholastic.

Taking up lacrosse in the spring, Rachel became the leading scorer in program history with 256 goals, 125 assists and 381 total points. A three-time All-Conference selection,

Rachel was twice Eagle Tribune MVP. In 2006 and 2007 she was again selected for the Boston Globe and Herald All-Scholastic teams and was named to the All-American Team.

Much sought after, Rachel attended college lacrosse powerhouse Northwestern University, where her team was 4X Big Ten Conference champions and three-time Division 1 NCAA National Champion. Her 2010 team was selected by the Chicago Tribune as sports "Team of the Decade."



John Perry

JOHN PERRY
Football/Basketball/Track

Class of 1988

Current

NFL coach John Perry was one of the best multi-sport athlete of his era.

John played three varsity sports for three consecutive years at Andover High School. He was captain of the football,



STAFF FILE PHOTO

Rachel Fox was a three-sport superstar for Andover including state championships in track. But lacrosse was her premier sport, and she went on to win three Division 1 national titles at Northwestern University.

basketball, and track teams his senior year.

In football John was a wide receiver and safety. In his first varsity game ever, he had three interceptions, two touchdowns and ten catches against Lawrence. At Andover John compiled 117 total receptions. He was named the offensive Player of the Year by the Eagle-Tribune and named to the

All-Scholastic Team.

John accepted a college scholarship to the University of New Hampshire, where he went on to catch a pass in 42 consecutive games and total 191 catches in his college career. He was first-team All-Yankee Conference and at one time ranked as the No. 1 Division 1-AA wide receiver in the country.

In basketball at Andover

High, John scored 956 points. He was named the Greater Lawrence Christmas Tournament MVP in his senior year. He was named to the Boston Herald All-Scholastic Team his senior year, making him one of the few athletes to be awarded the honor in both basketball and football.

Remarkably John started for the Division 1 University of New Hampshire Wildcat basketball team while on a football scholarship.

John was also an outstanding track and field athlete. He was a sprinter and a jumper who ran the 100 meters in 11.1 seconds and long jumped over 22 feet.

He is, of course, a member of the legendary Perry athletic family.

After graduating from UNH John became a football coach. He has been the receivers coach at UNH, offensive coordinator at Dartmouth and Hofstra, head coach at Merrimack, and is presently the tight ends Coach for the NFL's Houston Texans.

GET SMART

Female engineers from Raytheon's Andover plant offer their expertise on 'Girl Day'

By ZOE MATHEWS
zmathews@eagletribune.com

LAWRENCE — The Boys & Girls Club teamed up with a group of engineers from the defense contractor Raytheon last week for Girl Day, a program within a national Engineers Week movement, in some friendly competition. Some 60 girls donned red Raytheon T-shirts and worked in teams to build the strongest and tallest tower out of popsicle sticks, clay, and tape, with guidance from the engineers.

"We basically trick these girls into learning about science by doing activities like this," said Meredith Monaco, a manufacturing program manager at Raytheon who has volunteered consistently at the Lawrence Boys & Girls Club since 2012.

Raytheon is a sponsor of Girl Day, a program by the volunteer network nonprofit DiscoverE. DiscoverE also coordinates the national Engineers Week movement for Feb. 21-27, encouraging volunteers to engage kids in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) learning.

Although women make up nearly half of the work force, their representation in science and technology fields is only about 14 percent, according to statistics from the National Science Foundation.

Fourteen engineers from Raytheon's Andover and Tewksbury offices volunteered on Thursday for Girl Day, and most said they did it because they want girls to have the same opportunities in STEM learning that they did.

"There's a huge divide in the STEM field," said Chloe Cullen, a mechanical engineer at Raytheon who graduated from Boston University in May. "I was lucky enough to have someone sort of push me into

engineering, and I want to be able to inspire that confidence in others as well."

Le Anna Talarico, a recent Northeastern grad and manufacturing engineer at Raytheon's Andover office, said she would have loved activities like this when she was growing up.

"Being able to work in a group of girls like this is great," she said, "because you can keep your sense of self. When I was a kid and interested in science, I felt like I had to act like one of the boys in order to be accepted into that group, and that can be intimidating."

Some of the girls that participated in the tower building competition, open to girls in the fourth through eighth grades, already had expressed interest in science and engineering.

"People tell me I'm creative, and I like building things," said Yahira Rivas, 10. "I want to be a creator, like my cousin. He lives bad, but he pushed through it and draws really well. I could do the same thing with science."

Teams of four or five girls designed and built their own towers that were tested for strength and height after an hour. Some teams were more focused than others, some went for strength but not height, and some picked up the concepts quickly. Towers that had a triangle-shaped base had the optimum height to strength ratio, because the weight is evenly distributed through all three sides.

"It's really interesting to see who picks up the triangle," said Monaco. "Obviously some of the older girls get it a bit faster, and with the younger ones we kind of help them along."

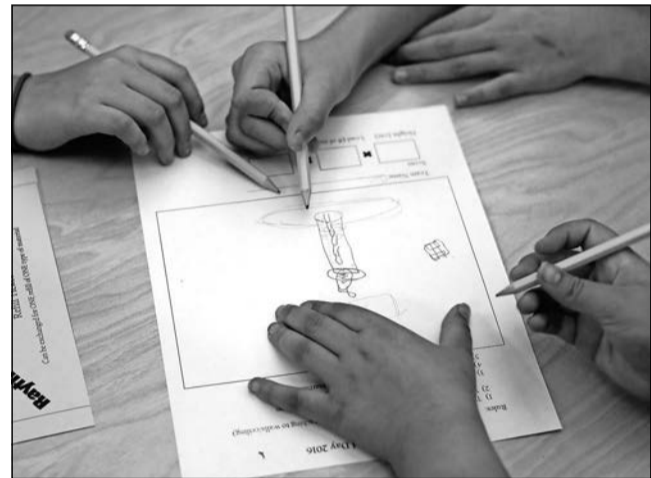
Monaco also runs Girl Lab, a science team for fifth- to eighth-grade girls that has been running out of the Boys & Girls Club in



Jahady Morales, 9, center, gets advice from Emily Cislo, an engineer at Raytheon, while her team builds a tower that is both tall and strong at the Lawrence Boys & Girls Club during a "Girl Day" event as part of National Engineer Week.



Michelle Batista, 10, left, and Samantha Nuzzev, 10, right, build a tower out of clay and popsicle sticks at the Lawrence Boys & Girls Club during a "Girl Day" event as part of National Engineer Week.



A team works on the tower design at the Lawrence Boys & Girls Club last week.

Lawrence since last year.

"We do STEM activities that skew feminine," she said, "like one activity they loved, we made homemade

lip balm, and they could see how oil and water don't mix."

Girl Lab did the tower-building activity in one of

their sessions, so Monaco said she had a rough idea of how it would pan out at the Girl Day event.

At the end of the event,

the team with the strongest and tallest tower was awarded fridge-climbing toy cars, and all received participation certificates.

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Free riding lessons at Ironstone Farm in Andover

Have you or your kids ever wanted to learn to ride a horse? Now, you can try for free!

Ironstone Farm, 450 Lowell St. (Route 133), Andover is offering a limited number of free horseback-riding lessons for new riders on Sunday, March 6, one week before Daylight Savings time takes effect. People must sign up in advance for the lessons, which will be available from 12:30 to 3 p.m. What better way to look forward to the longer, brighter days of spring?

Ironstone Farm is open 12 months a year, six days a week.

While spring, summer and fall are the most popular times to ride, approximately 300 people ride recreationally or have their therapeutic riding each week at Ironstone during the winter. Like skiing, horseback-riding is a wonderful and popular way to get outdoor exercise during the winter. Unlike skiing, it can be done when the weather warms, too.

Ironstone has two indoor arenas for riders, but many people prefer to be outside regardless of the weather. Many say the heat of the horse helps keep them warm. Of course, Daylight Savings Time is a sign that spring -- and its warmer weather -- is around the corner.

A similar free-riding opportunity offered by Ironstone Farm after last year's brutal blizzards filled quickly.

People must preregister for the free riding opportunity, available from 12:30 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 6. Riders must be 6 or older. There are a limited number of lessons available, and they will be awarded on first-registered, first served basis. Riders with a diagnosis or who are on medication will need a physician's approval. Forms should be returned by Wednesday, March 2. Call Ironstone Farm at 978-475-4056, or email programs@challengeunlimited.org for more information.



Annie Barnhart of Andover rides at Ironstone Farm. During February school vacation she and her mother, Suzanne, were part of a special family riding program, where young riders and their parents rode together.

ABOUT IRONSTONE FARM

Ironstone Farm offers recreational riding and a summer camp that has sold out since 2000.

It is also home to two nonprofit programs that benefit children with special needs, veterans, people diagnosed with cancer and others. More than 200 people volunteer their time each week to help keep Ironstone Farm's nonprofit programs running strong. Clients come from more than 90 communities in Greater Boston, the Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire. Top doctors and major medical institutions refer clients to Ironstone Farm because of its successful programs and reputation.

On Saturday, May 7, Ironstone will host the Ironstone Derby 5K & Kentucky Derby Party on the afternoon of the Kentucky Derby. People can run or walk the race and then stay at the Andover horse farm for a Kentucky Derby party with food, games, prizes and a showing of the Kentucky Derby live on a big screen in the indoor arena. There's even a stick-horse race for kids. To sign up, visit www.ironstonefarm.org/derby. For more information about Ironstone Farm's nonprofit programs visit www.ironstonefarm.org.

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Sunday paper.....5pm Friday

weeklies:

Carriage Towne News: 12pm Friday
Andover Townsman, Derry News &
Haverhill Gazette: 5pm Tuesday

Cancellation/change deadlines:
same as publication deadlines



Announcements

HAPPY ADS

Place a happy ad in this section to wish a special someone a Happy Birthday, Anniversary, Retirement, Thinking of You, Love You or Just Wish Them a Nice Day. Only \$5.00 for 3 lines (\$1.00 each additional line. Call today The Classified Connection 800-927-9200

INSTRUCTIONAL

G/C BUILDER'S LICENSE COURSE Register by APR. 1st., for Danvers, Lowell, Haverhill, MA 1-888-833-5207 www.StateCertification.com

LOST & FOUND

First Run

Black I-6 Smart phone with Patriot cover in or around Red's Sandwich shop on Rte. 1 Peabody. REWARD 978-532-3441

LOST & FOUND

FOUND CAT near Mason Street in Salem, MA. Spayed female calico. No microchip. Proof of ownership required. Please call or text 339-201-1491 for more information. Thank you.

LOST & FOUND

FOUND CAT near Mason Street in Salem, MA. Spayed female calico. No microchip. Proof of ownership required. Please call or text 339-201-1491 for more information. Thank you.

YOUR DOWN-SIZING SOLUTION

STONE BRIDGE ESTATES of SALEM, NH

a 55+ Community, a Condominium!

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAYS 1 to 4pm
Directions: GPS 67 Pond St or Renaissance Circle, Salem, NH - Just over the MA line.
Rtes 93/495 to Rte 213, exit 3/Howe St to Pond St, site on your right

A LOZIER LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

Award-Winning, Historic Site. 46 single family detached homes on a common 27 acres. Boating, fishing, birding, walking paths, golf nearby. Convenient to all your needs. You are going to love living here!

- Four Home Styles, all with open concept
- 2,200 to 2,500+ sf
- 1st Floor Master Bedroom/bath & laundry
- 2 car garages
- Full basements
- Municipal Water, Sewer
- Natural Gas Heat.

Pricing from \$482,900

For more detailed information go to: www.stonebridgenh.com

Call Today - for a private viewing or visit us on Sundays from 1 to 4pm
ROYAL COUNTRY HOMES, INC-978-685-1067
Exclusive Agent: **Tina Habeeb**, PRES., THE ROYAL COMPANIES
Maria Cristina Habeeb
Senior Real Estate Services - **Mobile: 978-618-3707**
GRI, CRS, GBA, SRES, Realtor

LOST & FOUND

LOST GREY/WHITE INDOOR CAT. REWARD FOR HIS SAFE RETURN. NO QUESTIONS ASKED. PEABODY/SALEM LINE.

Mini Max is shy and may be hiding. He may be limping or injured. He fell out my window in August. Please check your yards, garages, sheds & under porches.

Are you or one of your neighbors feeding a new stray cat? Does the cat look like Mini Max? If so, please call or text me. Please send a photo if possible. Thank you. 339-201-1491

First Run

LOST Hearing Aid in black leather case Market Basket area in Newburyport Call 508-878-5250

First Run

LOST WALKING Stick with Brass handle at Petco in Peabody on Monday Feb 29th. Please return to Petco - no questions asked.

PERSONALS

LOOKING for the person from Newburyport who adopted my SHIH TZU, "Cello" I still have papers. Please call 978-317-4035

SPECIAL NOTICES

INVESTING \$500 w/ 500 people in a certain way could pay for College Tuition. For details Fax/Tel. 781-598-0602

Real Estate

HOMES

A BETTER CHOICE FOR BUYING OR SELLING YOUR Home here or anywhere in the USA. Free confidential referrals. Call K.E. 978-283-7766

Real Estate

HOMES

A BETTER CHOICE FOR BUYING OR SELLING YOUR Home here or anywhere in the USA. Free confidential referrals. Call K.E. 978-283-7766

Real Estate

HOMES

A BETTER CHOICE FOR BUYING OR SELLING YOUR Home here or anywhere in the USA. Free confidential referrals. Call K.E. 978-283-7766

HOMES

ATKINSON NH Ranch with Many upgrades, fresh paint and mostly finished basement. Fireplace in living room. Well landscaped and great curb appeal. \$274,000. 603-382-0360
CLASSIC HOMES REALTY

Danvers - Beautifully restored 4 bedroom colonial in Danvers with upgraded kitchen and bathroom and new electrical and heating systems. \$469,000
Armstrong Field RE
(978) 740-8700
armstrongfield.com

DANVILLE - 3 Bed Colonial, Upgraded kitchen cabinetry, SS appliances, Juliet Balcony, lush landscaping, Koi Pond, LL Game & Media rooms TOO MUCH TO LIST!!! \$489,900 603-382-0360
CLASSIC HOMES RE

Gloucester-Enjoy oceanfront sunrises with panoramic vistas from almost every room. Offering privacy on over 1.6 acres abutting 11.2 acres onto a private golf course. An ideal home for entertaining. Half mile from Good Harbor Beach and easy access to downtown, museums, shops and Rte 128. \$2,775,000
Rick Petralia
J. Barrett & Company
978-239-6207

Gloucester - Renovated farmhouse in Annisquam Village. Features include exposed post and beam construction, vaulted ceilings, flexible floor plan, manicured grounds, eat-in kitchen, large living room with fireplace, wood floors and second floor washer-dryer hookups. Enjoy the Village and rights to community's pristine Lighthouse Beach. Easy access to Rte 128. MBTA. \$675,000
Rick Petralia
J. Barrett & Company
978-239-6207

METHUEN -- 15 acres of working farm land, 2 fine outbuildings, 1938 elegant and sophisticated Dutch Colonial farmhouse, 5 bdrms -- fruit trees, stone walls, two driveways, opportunity for immediate farm income. Land cannot be developed/subdivided; lower taxes due to protected land. This is an amazing property and an excellent value! \$695,000
River Valley Real Estate
Call Joanie Purinton 978-462-6898 office 800-773-9990

ROWLEY - BRAND NEW LISTING! A treasure of an early country house on 2+ A along the Mill River stream. 4 bdrms, 28' great room, paneled fireplace wall, crown moldings, museum quality shell corner cupboard, double stairs, large kitchen with marble and SS, 2015 septic. Screened porch, so much character here! \$495,000
RIVER VALLEY RE
Phone Joanie Purinton 978-462-6898 office 800-773-9990

Miscellaneous

PUZZLE SOLUTION

P	A	H	S	C	A	L	E	D				
U	S	A	M	O	B	I	L	E				
M	O	T	E									
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R	E	L	I	V	E	E	W	E				
E	R	A	S	E	D							

HOMES

NEWBURY - Stunning new renovation riverside on the tidal Parker River! Two bedrooms, two huge stone fireplaces, two levels, two baths. Amazing marsh views. All new windows, roof, septic system, new kitchen. This is a unique and fabulous home that needs to be seen - lovely setting, comfortable living!
\$449,900
Call Pat Skibbee
RIVER VALLEY RE
978-502-4782/office 800-773-9990

NEWTON, NH: Chase Rd., 3 bedroom Capes New Construction from the low \$300's. Call Todd 603-234-1458: 603-382-1669

NEWTON NH - Spectacular - Solid Brick - Octagon designed Home. Country Estate boasts many fine features. Wall of Granite FP 1st floor. Built-in barbecue FP in Lower Level! MUST SEE \$539,900.
CLASSIC HOMES REALTY (603) 382-0360

Rockport-Breathtaking Views of Rockport Harbor and Ocean! Two Family Home. Possibilities for various uses (residential, commercial or a combination of both). A rare opportunity to own an iconic property in a prime location! offered at 739,000.
Mary Ciaraldi
J Barrett & Company
978-778-6351
maryciaraldi@jbarrettrealty.com

Salem- Large 5 bedroom home in South Salem with stunning water and conservation land views. Attach garage, hardwood floors, newly shingled roof and much more. \$429,900
Armstrong Field RE
(978) 740-8700
armstrongfield.com

"UNDER AGREEMENT"
WEST NEWBURY: Lovely contemporary ranch with garage, shed and heated workshop on beautiful, private 1.5 acres on a country road. New septic system, one-level living, 3 bedrooms, vaulted ceilings, very spacious deck, AC. Come see! \$372,000
Call Joanie Purinton
RIVER VALLEY RE
978-462-6898 or 800-773-9990

TOWNHOMES/CONDOS

Marblehead - Enjoy beautiful views of Marblehead harbor in this updated 2 bedroom, townhome at Glover Landing. Modernized kitchen features granite counters and stainless steel appliances. \$498,000
Armstrong Field RE
(978) 740-8700
armstrongfield.com

Salem- 2 bedroom, ocean front condo in Salem Willows Neighborhood. Features include a gourmet kitchen, exclusive ocean front deck, private beach and more. \$439,900
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. \$279,900
Armstrong Field RE
(978) 740-8700
armstrongfield.com

LAND/ACREAGE

FREMONT NH - Nice level wooded lot in a great neighborhood. Set between Rte 107 and Rte 125 this location is an easy commute to all shopping, Route 101, Boston and the Seacoast. \$84,000. Call 603-382-0360
CLASSIC HOMES RE

Gloucester- NEW PRICE! Good Harbor Beach Neighborhood. Build your year round or summer 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 \$320,000.
Mary Ciaraldi
J Barrett & Company
978-778-6351
maryciaraldi@jbarrettrealty.com

NEWBURY - LOWER PRICE! \$299,500 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!
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
J Barrett & Company
978-778-6351
maryciaraldi@jbarrettrealty.com

COMMERCIAL/BUSINESS

SUMMERVIEW R.E.

We Get Results!
Retail * Warehouse * Business

FAST CASH SALE
NH Comm 1.3 AC Land & House \$244,000
House, Apt & Mobile. 1.7 ac..... \$249,000
Or BOTH \$350,000 CASH FIRM
Office Building & Com Land Short Sale, CALL!
WE NEED AGENTS Mass & NH.
Join our Company! Make \$\$\$ in 2016
Southern NH & Mass
** (603) 432-5453 ** www.sresre.com

REAL ESTATE WANTED

LOOKING for 3 bedroom apartment to rent or take over lease. Willing to pay up to \$1300 monthly. Call 978-327-9943

REAL ESTATE BROKERS/AGENTS

REAL ESTATE SCHOOL

Get your real estate license in 2 weeks! Flexible class schedule. For more info, go to:
AFrealestateschool.com

See All Open Houses For This Weekend at MassOpenHouses.com
Armstrong Field
Real Estate
See all homes on the market at: armstrongfield.com
978-740-8700

Rentals

ANDOVER Excellent downtown location, 1 bedroom, eat-in kitchen, stove, fridge, parking, no pets/smoking. \$975 + utilities. 978-475-0400. Ask for Stephen

APARTMENTS

ANDOVER Excellent downtown location, 1 bedroom, eat-in kitchen, stove, fridge, parking, no pets/smoking. \$975 + utilities. 978-475-0400. Ask for Stephen

APARTMENTS

ANDOVER-HAMILTON GREEN - Open House Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm. No application fees! Heat, hot water & trash included! Pets welcome! 1 bed start \$1675. 2 bed start \$2050, 3 bed start \$2700.
Lisa Perez 978-623-8155

ANDOVER, MA - Excellent downtown location, Studio, stove/fridge, dishwasher, disposal, parking. No pets. \$725 + utilities. 978-475-0400

BRADFORD, MA
Forest Acres
FRIENDLY COMMUNITY LIVING AT ITS BEST
• Pool • Central A/C • Playground
Basketball/tennis court • Free storage
• Free heat, hot water, gas
Visit us 28 Forest Acres Dr M-F 8:30 to 4:30, Sat 10-2 movetoforestacres.com

First Run

DERRY, NH
NUTFIELD HEIGHTS, INC
Beautiful Studio & 1 bedroom apartments for persons 62 or older. beautiful location, Community Room, Laundry Room. Utilities included.
603-432-7557
Equal Housing Opportunity

Gloucester, East - Long Term Rental. This newly renovated one-bedroom unit of a two-family home boasts open-concept, updated kitchen, fireplace living room, hardwood floors, washer/dryer, central air, deck and 2 car driveway. Easy access to Rte 128, commuter rail, shopping, restaurants and beaches. \$1595/mo
Rick Petralia
J. Barrett & Company
978-865-1203

Gloucester- Short-Term, 5-6 month two-bedroom rental. Meticulously maintained single-level unit with spacious and open living, fully appliance 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

GROVELAND, MA - 2 bedroom includes heat & hot water, hardwood, storage, deck, parking, new pool. Pets considered Starting at \$1375/mo. 978-891-3153

HAVERHILL: Spacious 3rd floor Studio, with modern kitchen / bath, deck, \$695/mo. no utilities, no dogs. 978-618-4112

First Run

METHUEN MA 1 or 2 bedrooms, Prospect St., near The Loop. Nice area, enclosed sun porch off street parking, \$1300/mo includes all utilities, no smoking. Call 978-423-7139



www.andovertownsmen.com

APARTMENTS
METHUEN, MA - Elm Crest Estates: 2 Bedroom \$1,300/mo., 1 Bedroom - \$1050/mo. All utilities included. No pets 978-692-4891 www.forrent.com/elmcrestestates

Rockport-Long Term. Warm and Cozy one bedroom 1 bath apartment right on the Rockport Harbor, wide pine floors, fireplace, 3-season sun room, in unit laundry, private patio and fabulous water views. \$1375 per month plus utilities.

Mary Ciaraldi
J Barrett & Company
978-778-6351
maryciaraldi@barrettrealty.com

ROWLEY, MA



Tranquility, fresh air & plenty of parking await you at our oasis in the woods. Spacious 2 bedroom apartments from only \$1190-\$1200 including heat/hot water. Professional 24 hr. on-site management plus many other amenities.

SALEM, NH: BEST LOCATION!! 2 & 3 bedrooms \$1,150 - \$1,450; includes heat/hot water; Very clean, fully appointed. Coin-op laundry. No dogs. Call 603-458-1884

SALEM NH-Westgate Arms Carefree Living One Bedroom From \$870 Two Bedrooms From \$925 Heat/Hot Water Included No Lease Required. No pets. Subject To Credit Approval Call 603-898-9206 for info GILBERT G. CAMPBELL visit us at www.campbellapts.com

SALEM, NH - Willows Park, 2 Bedroom - \$1100/mo., 1 Bedroom - \$980/mo. Heat/hot water included. No pets. 603-894-4631 www.forrent.com/willowparkh

First Run

South Lawrence First Floor Apartment Eat in Kitchen, Laundry Hook-Ups, Must Fill Out Credit Application ~ www.freecreditscore.com Good Credit & References a Must Tenant is Responsible for Gas, Electric, Cable, Phone & Insurance No Smoking on Premises One Year Lease with First & Last Month's Rent 978-807-0594 email: ssembco@hotmail.com

COMMERCIAL/BUSINESS

BRENTWOOD Built in 2013, currently Ice Cream shop. Opportunity to build 2 more buildings, septic installed for second build included! Busy Route 125! Buy land and building \$499,900 OR LEASE \$1,995/month. CLASSIC HOMES RE 603-382-0360

FULL SERVICE INDIVIDUAL OFFICE. \$395/MO. Jefferson Office Park Rt. 114, No Andover 978-885-5440 www.officesuites.com

DUPLEXES

SALISBURY 3 bedroom, Duplex. \$1300/mo. + utilities. First LAST and \$500 Security/No Pets. Call 603-760-2503

MANUFACTURED HOMES

DERRY, NH - Kendall Pond Community 3 bedroom 2 full bath home. \$1325/mo. Call 603-479-3194

ROOM FOR RENT

A CLEAN quiet, safe bldg next to YMCA, YMCA, City Hall. Lowest rents. Near public trans. 4 hr move-in. Lawrence. 978-978-5103

LAWRENCE MA best rooming house 59 Tremont 978-688-9824, 362 Essex 978-682-9078 Saba RE 978-687-8706

LAWRENCE, MA: Clean, Quiet, Safe Lawrence's FINEST ROOMING HOUSE. Sober/Drug Free, 200 Parker St. 978-590-9060

LAWRENCE, MA - Furnished room starting at \$120/wk. Drug-free For details, 978-794-3039

SALISBURY MA, furnished cabin with private bath, kitchenette, parking, all utilities, & cable. \$180/wk. Call (978)465-3392

MOTELS/HOTELS

A-1 RENTALS

Getting Divorced? Live at the Salisbury Inn. From \$200/wk. 978-465-5584

VACATION RENTALS

OCEANFRONT SALISBURY BEACH/ SEABROOK Beautiful 3 bedroom condo, directly on the ocean with parking! 978-975-4001

SALISBURY BEACH Oceanfront 2 & 3 bedroom Cottages and condos 4th of July TWO WEEK RENTAL June 25-July 9 From \$1,000-\$2,200 per week. Tom Saab RE 978-683-6699

ROOMMATES

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

CLOSE TO MA/NH border, Rtes. 95/495, Share large house. No pets. Heat, electric, washer/dryer included. \$555. NON-SMOKER Call 603-394-7336; or 978-807-0569

LAWRENCE - Woman seeking same, nonsmoking. No Laundry room, Unfurnished. \$450/mo. includes utilities & cable. First & Last Call 978-984-2618

NO. ANDOVER: Single Sober Prof. female seeks same to share 2 bed garden style condo. all amenities incl. No Wifi \$800/mo. + deposit. Call for details (603) 205-0008

ROOMMATE wanted to share home \$650 month 1st. last, security and references 617-480-2378

SALEM MA - seeking roommate, Princeton Crossing, luxurious 2nd floor fully furnished 2 bedroom with porch, 2 new 50" TVs, parking, pool. No pets or smoking. \$800 month Call 978-968-8898

SALEM, NH Professional male seeks same, 2 bedroom Condo, fully furnished, heat/hot water/electric included \$600 No pets. NO SMOKING. NO DRUGS. Gay friendly, 1st and security. Call 603-571-3776

Employment

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

NOTICE

Some advertisements running in this category may require an investment

First Run

Stanley Home products/Fuller Brush Representatives Needed. Start your own Home Based Business, Office/Workplace. Earn extra money servicing people in your area. Little or no investment.914-664-1515, 716-492-1786, rubyfig@aol.com

CHILD CARE

ATTENTION CAREGIVERS!

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

DRIVERS

First Run CDL-A Driver/Laborer

(Haverhill, MA) TRIAD ASSOCIATES, Inc. of Haverhill, MA Construction co. is looking for a CDL-A licensed driver with Skid Steer operator experience a plus. Small Equipment Excavator experience is preferred. Labor only. If you want to join our family email your resume to: info@triadassociatesinc.com. Position is needed immediate.

DRIVERS

CDL-B Truck Driver Tanker & air brake endorsement required. Text or Call 781-760-2222

First Run

Experienced CDL Driver Must have references. Apply in person O'Mahoney Co. 175 Market St., Lawrence

GENERAL HELP WANTED

A GREAT TEAM! As professional house cleaners we enjoy paid training and bonuses, company car, paid time off, retirement and medical benefits. Choose FT or PT. Join our team today! Call 978-251-3535 or visit MOLLYMAID.com

First Run

International Cultural Exchange Representative: Earn supplemental income placing and supervising high school exchange students. Volunteer host families also needed. Promote world peace! www.afice.org/rep

Nichols Village is seeking FT Housekeeper Nichols Village subscribes to independent living exclusively designed with comfort in mind, offering a welcoming community of 78 Manor apartments and 16 charming cottages. Amenities are bountiful for seniors who are 62 years and better.

HOUSEKEEPER We have a full-time housekeeping position available with competitive salary and a full complement of benefits. Additionally, we offer a matching 403B retirement plan. * Must be able to read, write and follow oral and written directions

* Ability to effectively communicate with residents and staff * Housekeeping experience must * Desire to work with a senior population * Ability to work Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. To learn more about this exciting opportunity, please send a resume to: dstanden@nichols-village.com or apply in person to Nichols Village, 1 Nichols Way, Groveland, MA 01834. Please no telephone inquiries. We are proud to be an Equal Opportunity Employer..



Security Officers Wanted in Lowell

FT/PT \$12-14/Hour Willing to work any day or shift including Holidays. Must be able to get a government clearance. Apply at www.scisjobs.com

SECURITAS

We are looking for an Entry Level FT Maintenance Apprentice to join our maintenance department located at Nichols Village in Groveland, MA. You will have responsibility for assisting in the maintenance and upkeep of the property, including building, facilities, and grounds, both indoor and outdoor. If you have a mechanical aptitude, a high school diploma or equivalent and a valid driver's license, you might be just the person we are looking for.

XAVERIAN HOUSE "On call" cook

needed immediately for vacation and sick days at Xaverian House, on the grounds of St John's Prep, Danvers. Responsible for cooking & serving 24 elderly men. Permanent position may be available in future. Contact: Kitchen Manager Kathryn Middleton, weekday mornings, 978-774-6898, ext. 109

ADMINISTRATIVE

PAYROLL ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK Finance Department, Town of Marblehead. Responsibilities of this FT position include, but are not limited to: weekly entry of payroll, processing employment forms, and analyzing payroll data. Minimum of a High School degree plus two years of payroll experience. Associate's degree preferred. Experience with spreadsheets and word processing a must. Salary range: \$779.55 - \$891.03 per week. Send resume & cover letter to Alison Nieto, Finance Director, 7 Widgee Road, Marblehead, MA 01945. Deadline for applicants is March 9, 2016. May also apply by email to nietoa@marblehead.org

JOB WANTED

Ads in This Classification Are WORK WANTED NOT HELP WANTED

MEDICAL



ACTIVITY ASSISTANT PART TIME Experience required. Premier Assisted Living Community. Pleasant working environment. Email resume to goncsoli@terracecommunities.com or apply to Windham Terrace Assisted Living, 3 Church Road, Windham NH. No phone calls please

ATTENTION CAREGIVERS!

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



DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF SENIORS? Come join us at Visiting Angels to work with client's in their homes. Experience required. Flex hours and competitive pay with differentials. Call our Newburyport office today! 978-462-6162

First Run

New England Homes for the Deaf, Inc. in Danvers, MA is looking for RN's/LPN's and CNA's on all shifts (Must be certified in MA). Part-time and Per-diem shifts available. Come and make a difference in the lives of our Deaf & Deafblind residents. Please email resume to: kmelanson@nehd.org or stop by our 154 Water Street, Danvers, MA location to fill out an application. NEHD is an equal opportunity employer and operates a drug-free facility.



NURSE FT / PT 3-11 shift. Experience preferred. Competitive benefits package for FT positions. Pleasant working environment. Premier Assisted Living Community. Email resume to goncsoli@terracecommunities.com Apply to Windham Terrace Assisted Living, 3 Church Road, Windham NH. No phone calls please

CLASSIFIED MARKETPLACE

IMMEDIATE OPENING!

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A POSITION AS A CARE GIVER PLEASE CHECK OUT THE ADULT CARE SECTION IN THE BUSINESS AND SERVICE DIRECTORY BEFORE APPLYING FOR PCA'S. HEALTH AIDS: CNAS HAVE AIDS RUNNING AND COULD USE YOUR HELP

Unique human service agency providing an array of Therapeutic support including eco-therapy and animal assisted intervention is looking for qualified SUPPORT STAFF Part time 8:00 am to 2:30 pm Exceptional, professional development and training opportunities. Competitive compensation. Please call to request application 978-346-8819

PROFESSIONAL



River Valley Charter School, a public charter school located in Newburyport, seeks a full time DATA SPECIALIST to provide support in the administration of the school. Duties will include work on the school's student information database and donor management systems. He/she will help with Department of Education compliance reporting, enrollment, and HR; and will provide back-up support for front office personnel. This is a year round salaried position. Please send resume and cover letter to: JLevans@rivervalleycharter.org River Valley is an EEO employer.

Support Staff

Behavioral health clinic seeks receptionist to work in a fast paced environment. Hours are 10:00 AM to 6:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Occasional Saturday hours 8:30- 2:00 pm. Candidate must be computer literate, friendly, with multi-tasking skills. A minimum of high school diploma or equivalent required. Resume and letter of interest to: adamb@amsburypsychological.com.



The Pelham School District is in need of an exceptional instructional & educational leader for Pelham High School that will help achieve the District's mission of inspiring success one mind at a time. Pelham High School will be transitioning to a 1:1 educational environment that emphasizes creativity, collaboration, communication, and critical-thinking and is seeking a leader to facilitate this conversion. Minimum Requirements: *NH Certification as School Principal *Demonstrated leadership experience in a school setting. *Experience as a teacher and/or administrator. *Excellent interpersonal and communication skills. *Demonstrated knowledge of curriculum development, special education, technology integration, and professional learning communities. *A commitment to working with teachers, students and parents to promote a 21st century school learning environment. This position is a twelve (12) month administrative contract offering excellent salary and benefits. Salary range: \$95,000.00 to \$108,000.00, commensurate with experience and qualifications. This position will start July 1, 2016. Please apply online by visiting: www.pelhamisd.org (under Applications, Human Resources, Employment Opportunities). Applications are requested by March 11, 2016.

SALES



Full Time Sales Associate Start or advance your sales career with our rapidly growing company! Oasis Shower Doors, the largest custom shower enclosure/specialty glass company in New England, is seeking a full-time sales associate for our new state-of-the-art showplace opening on Rte. 1 in Peabody. Ideal candidates will be organized, self-motivated, and enthusiastic. Sales experience is a plus but not required. We will train you! Compensation is hourly plus commission. Room for advancement, we promote from within. Please send resumes to: johnm@oasisshowerdoors.com

TRADES/INDUSTRIAL

First Run Construction Help

Seacoast Area Immediate Openings Seeking Equipment Operators, Foreman, Superintendents, pipe layers with experience, General Labor and Truck Drivers CDL A & B Pay commensurate with experience. EOE Call Jamey 603-394-7654 or email jamey@jancoexcavators.com

CUSTODIAN

The Christ Initiative is a Catholic collaborative that consists of St. Agnes (Middleton, MA) and St. Rose of Lima (Topsfield, MA) Parishes. We are seeking an individual for fill the position of Custodian for 32 hours per week. Responsible for the appearance, cleanliness and maintenance of the St. Rose of Lima Church, Hall, Annex and Rectory; and St. Agnes Church, Hall and Parish Office. Administrative duties include: performing regular walk-through inspections of all buildings and grounds to proactively identify and resolve maintenance, cleanliness and safety issues; coordinating the work of volunteers and outside contractors; schedule and coordinate inspections, monitoring and maintenance of the HVAC electrical, water, alarm and lighting systems; provide inventory control of and procure maintenance supplies. Internal and External Maintenance duties include: thoroughly cleaning all buildings, fixtures and equipment; performing room set-ups for events, performing minor repairs, including but not limited to masonry, electrical, plumbing, carpentry and painting; maintenance of outdoor plants and safe maintenance of walkways, parking lots and steps. Prior experience in building maintenance in a church or similar environment preferred. Must have means of transportation. This position requires weekend work. Work week: Sunday - Thursday. In case of emergencies or extraordinary circumstances, Saturday hours may be assigned. Hourly wages commensurate with experience. Competitive benefits package available. Send resume and names of three references to: Laura Powers, Coordinator of Mission, The Christ Initiative Collaborative, 22 Boston St. Middleton, MA 01949 or email: LPowers@TheChristInitiative.org

DELIVERY DRIVER / WAREHOUSE WORKER

FULL TIME. Come grow with the largest commercial truck tire dealer on the East Coast. Must have Valid drivers license and clean driving record! Must be able to lift heavy. Pre employment drug screen required. Competitive wage and top benefit package. Medical, prescription, dental, vision, Life, 401K. PTO, uniforms & more. Contact Bob Langlais 978-836-6916 or email to rlanglais@sttc.com Service Tire Truck Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Legals

AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to modify an existing wireless telecommunications antenna installation on an existing building located at 23 Main St., Andover, MA 01810. 3 new antennas will be installed at a centerline height of 69' above grade on a 62'-1" building. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6116000260-SEA c/o EBI Consulting, 21 B St., Burlington, MA 01803, or via telephone at 508-887-6172. AT - 3/3/16

TRADES/INDUSTRIAL

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LICENSED PLUMBER Excellent Pay Comprehensive Benefits Health Insurance 401K

Please email your resume

info@bartlettandsteadman.com or Call to: 781-631-3601 or Fax for more information 781-631-8900

First Run MECHANIC FT

For general repair shop that can do A-Z on gas or diesel vehicles. *Must have tools, *Must have 5+ years experience. *Good wages, full time. Call John or Eddie, 978-977-0199. Peabody

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Structural Steel Fabricator & Welder

Must perform lay out & welding. Excellent pay & benefits.

Email resumes to Stephanie@quinimiron.com



ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

Chris's Collectibles & Consignments 18 Railroad Ave, Rockport, MA Over 2K collectible figures at 25% off STAR WARS, All Sports, NASCR, etc ANTIQUES china, glassware, paintings, furniture, etc. Original Folly Cove Design Prints facebook.com/chriscollectibles Fri 12pm to 5pm, Sat. 9am to 5am & Sun. 12pm to 5pm

BABY ITEMS

ATTENTION!

Beware of anyone replying to your ad offering to send you a check for shipping and you sending them back the difference. Also beware when responding to classified ads that ask you to send shipping cost. Possible scam!

BUILDING MATERIALS

SAWMILLS from only \$4397- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill-Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1363, Ext. 300N NECAN

CEMETERY LOTS

Puritan Lawn: Plot of 2 burials, (2 vaults, 2 openings/closings) near Lake double depth lot Sec. V, # 727B, Retail \$9850 asking \$5,500 willing to pay deed transfer (352) 313-9116

COMPUTER HARDWARE/SOFTWARE

HP Laptop for sale

\$275 or best offer. Running Windows 10. Word Perfect WP installed, cordless mouse, External CD drive. Call Pat Green 978-732-9071

FIREARMS

BRRII TONAS FIREWOOD (128 cu ft) 2 yr. Seasoned Firewood available. Cut, split. Free local deliver. Fuel Assistance accepted. 603-679-8211

FIREWOOD FOR SALE

ADS in this category If the ad shows a price it must show it by cu. ft. Half a cord is 64 cu. ft. and a cord is 128 cu. ft.

ALL HARDWOOD 16" SEASONED OR GREEN STILL AVAILABLE. Call For Pricing M.Kovalchuk 978-204-9483

PATRICK & SONS QUALITY FIREWOOD 100% hardwood. Seasoned. Call 603-898-4770.

Seasoned Cord Wood, \$300/cord. (128 cu. ft.) Local delivery, 2 or more cords, \$280 ea. Dan 978-804-1623 Payment on delivery

FUEL

ATTENTION FUEL CONSUMERS:

All ads in this classification run in our 10 paper "Classified Connection" that covers the North Shore, Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire. Ads appearing in this section may or may not refer to this entire market. Prices may reflect a "Local" delivery area only and may be higher for an extended delivery area.

Legals

TOWN OF ANDOVER ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION WARRANT

The Annual Town Election will be held on TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2016 Polling hours are from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Precincts 1 and 3 vote at THE CENTER AT PUNCHARD SENIOR CENTER WHITTIER COURT, ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS Precincts 2, 4, 5, and 6 vote at WOOD HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM HIGH PLAIN ROAD, ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS Precincts 7, 7A, 8, 9 and 9A vote at THE RICHARD J. COLLINS FIELD HOUSE ANDOVER HIGH SCHOOL SHAWSEEN ROAD, ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS on the following article:

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Moderator for one year, two Selectmen for three years, two School Committee members for three years, one member of the Andover Housing Authority for 5 years and one Trustee of the Punchard Free School for three years.

The town's website (www.andover-ma.gov) and copies are available in the Town Clerk's Office and the Memorial Hall Library. ANDOVER BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT - 3/3/16

THE TOWNSMAN

FUEL

\$20 credit \$1.39 150 gallon mini. Price subject to change PAYLESS OIL 877-688-7667 or 781-718-2364

FURNITURE

DINING ROOM CHAIRS (2) - gray upholstered. \$25 each Call (978) 546-9861

First Run

SofaBed light brown, 70"L x 3'D, 2 cushion, Sealy brand, high back firm, smoke & pet free, very clean, New over \$1200 asking \$100 Firm Call 617-791-0615 Plaistow, NH

GARAGE SALE

HAVERHILL: Moving Sale 9 Dogwood Circle (No. Fields Dev) Fri 3/4, Sat 3/5, 8:30- 12:30 sectional, leather coach & chair, tables, lamps, desks, base, pa system, records, furs, clothing, household, window treatments, holidays, carolers, ledgewood, lots more (C & L)

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

BRAND NEW QUEEN MATTRESS SETS from \$270. First come-first serve. Other luxury sets 50-80% OFF "Mattress Store" prices. North Shore area 978-290-9293 Gloucester Mattress

DINING ROOM HUTCH BY ETHAN ALLEN Glass/lighted upper cabinet, 3 drawers, 2 cabinets bottom base. Excellent condition, 55" wide by 79" tall, final size. Must Go! \$ 250 or best offer. Call Kathy 978 682-3639

KENMORE Clothes Dryer \$100. Living room Set (light Brown) \$450. Call (978) 818-9476

First Run

MOVING! DOWNIZING!! Luxurious CARPET 9.5' x7.5' oval, red, like new condition, \$75. (2) blue AREA CHAIRS, Broynhill, like new - hardly used \$75 ea. 978-469-9220

WASHER, ELECTRIC DRYER & ELECTRIC STOVE All in good working condition \$175 each. 603-498-4192 or 603-247-4383.

white queen size bed room set includes dresser with mirror purchased at Ikea \$200, washer & dryer \$199. call 978-228-9343

MISC ITEMS WANTED

ANTIQUES Furniture, glass, china, silver, jewelry, clocks. WILLIAM GRAHAM, 420 Water St., Haverhill 978 374-8031, cell 978-835-2042

Looking for Vintage Claw Foot bath tub 62" to 72" free standing traditional porcelain over cast iron 617-216-7196

Military Items Wanted NAME YOUR PRICE - Most Countries, Rev War through Vietnam. Call Peter (781) 631-7178

MISC MERCHANDISE

ATTENTION!

Beware of anyone replying to your ad offering to send you a check for shipping and you sending them back the difference. Also beware when responding to classified ads that ask you to send shipping cost. Possible scam!

COAT, Tan fiber, faux fur lining and hood, woman's large \$35. (978) 546-9861 TOGGLE COAT, light blue, hooded, woman's large \$25. Call (



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Andover

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NEW TO MARKET



Haverhill

1 Flr Condo, New Englander, 5Rms, 2Bdrms, 1Bth, Large Deck!
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HOME SHOW

Saturday, March 5th 11am-4pm
Wyndham Hotel - Andover, off of Route 93

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS:
Get a jump on the Spring Market!

For the first time ever, you can have your home, land development, multi-family and/or condominium FEATURED at this year's HOME-SHOW! Show it off to thousands BEFORE the spring market hits and realize an even higher purchase price! *Call any of our office locations for details!*

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Methuen

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NEW TO MARKET



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Ponderosa Hills! Completely Renovated, 3Bdrm, 3Bths, Granite Kitchen!
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Move in Ready! 4Bdrms, 3Bths, Open Flr Plan, Hdwd, Granite, Tile!
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NEW TO MARKET



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Great for 1st Time Buyer! Single Family, 3Bdrms, Hdwd Flrs, As Is!
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Updated 2Bdrm Garden Style Condo, New Kit & Bath, Laundry on Site!
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CUSTOM BUILT



Dracut

New Price! Custom Built Colonial w/3Bdrms, 2.5Bths, 3 Season Rm!
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Lowell

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Methuen

Oversized Split Entry on Dead End St! 3Bdrm, 2 Bath, 2FP's, Fin LL w/Bath!
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COMMERCIAL



North Andover

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123 Old River Road - Andover, MA 01810
Directions: Route 93 to Exit 45 (River Rd / Lawrence) to Old River Road. Follow this residential road until it ends in the parking lot of the Wyndham Hotel..

GREAT PRIZES!

We are giving away \$10,000 in scholarships at the show from 12-4pm. Visit CocoEarly.com for details & to enter!

Win a 50" Flat Screen TV!

\$500 - \$1,000 Visa Gift Cards for sellers & buyers who list with us! *Restrictions apply.

Refreshments served

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www.andovertownsmen.com

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PCA NEEDED in Bradford, MA for 12yr boy with cerebral palsy. Flexible hours. If possible email cover letter & resume to midbkvc@comcast.net

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AWD with Tech pkg All avail. options except crash mitigation, 61,500 miles, ext. cond. includes winter & summer floor mats & Optional trunk mat, always garaged \$18,000 not negotiable at this time. Call 978-815-7330

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Excellent conditions low miles, garaged all custom, over \$50,000 invested, every option, all documentation, owned 18 years \$13000. Call 603-952-7575

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110k miles, automatic, great condition. will pass inspection. \$1900
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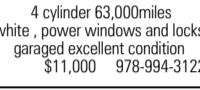

HONDA Accord EX Sedan AT 2010. Automatic. Low low miles. Blue. Showroom condition. 1-owner. Brand new all season radial tires. Fully equipped. AM FM stereo. CD. Fully warranted. Guaranteed inspection. Only \$7900. Call Ken 603-948-8912


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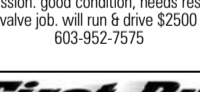
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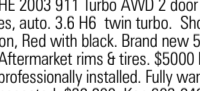

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly sunny; colder	A bit of snow	Mostly sunny	Mostly cloudy	A little p.m. rain	Mostly sunny	Sunny intervals
High: 33° Low: 17°	High: 32° Low: 19°	High: 36° Low: 19°	High: 39° Low: 19°	High: 46° Low: 31°	High: 57° Low: 37°	High: 56° Low: 38°

TODAY:
CHARLIE IS ENJOYING THE RIDE OF HIS LIFE

To watch Charlie's story about his life-saving heart treatment, and take your own heart risk assessment, please visit lawrencegeneral.org/heart

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

The following real estate transfers were recorded recently in town:

9 Arrowood Lane: John W. and Bernadine W. Cutter to Susmith Mukund and Melissa Mayo, \$530,000	600 Brookside Drive, Unit B: Melanie A. Schiller to Ashwani Guleria, \$245,000	10 Colonial Drive, Unit 5A: Michael E. and Joy Hurley to Suzanne M. Lees, \$99,900	Lezberg and Joanna D. Li to McCarthy Bros. General Contractors, \$295,000	372 Lowell St.: Whitney P. Stewart to Anne M. Concemi, \$45,000	4 Seneca Circle: Antoaneta Necheva and Lubomir Nechev to Pradeep Raman and Aruna K. Kumar, \$472,500
9 Bryan Lane, Unit 9: William R. and Helen S. Bryan to Linda Byron, \$415,000	88 Cross St.: Concetta Jaworski to Ali M. Abdul-AliShakir, \$450,000	241 High Plain Road: Marylou Sullivan Estate and Thomas G. Sullivan to Zbigniew S. and Tara K. Lech, \$530,000	247 North Main St., Unit 12: Alan C. Close LT and Alan S. Close to Ioannis and Irma F. Valsamakis, \$191,000	32 Taylor Cove Drive, Unit 32: Taylor Cove Development to Qian Sun, \$566,000	

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Friday, March 25, 2016 | Deadline: Friday March 11, 2016

Spring 2016 Home Guide

The homeowner's guide to buying, selling, and renovating their home.

This is our biggest section of the year
Just in time for Spring home improvement fever.
MAKE SURE YOU ARE A PART OF IT!

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