



HISTORICAL SOCIETY GETS NEW NAME, LOGO

PAGE 10



TEEN EARNS 'GREEN DIFFERENCE' AWARD

PAGE 11



AHS GIRLS DOMINATE STATE TRACK TOURNEY

PAGE 17

OUR 130TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 27

MAY 3, 2018

\$1.00

VOTERS BAN POT SHOPS



TIM JEAN/Staff photo s

During the second night of Annual Town Meeting at the Collins Center, residents stand to cast a vote on Article 42, which prohibits recreational marijuana shops. The measure passed.

Third night of Town Meeting is Monday, May 7

By KELSEY BODE
kbode@andovertownsman.com

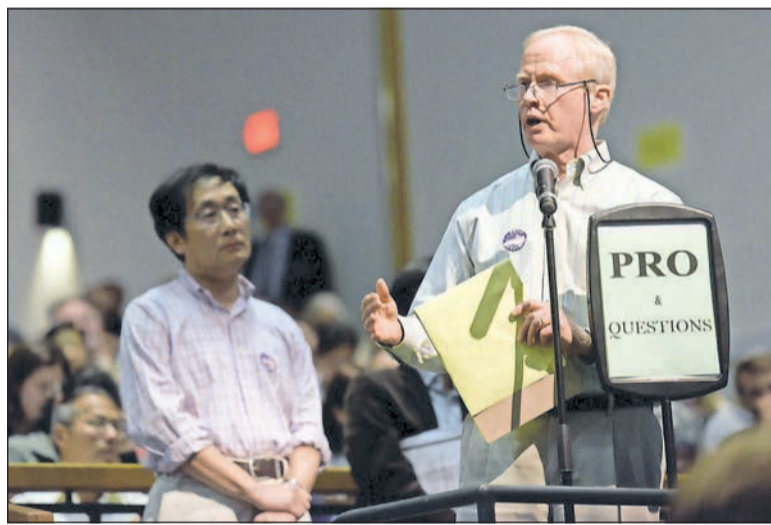
ANDOVER — Residents voted to ban recreational marijuana establishments at Tuesday's Annual Town Meeting, but not without lengthy debate.

■ Summary of key Town Meeting votes. Page 5.

The ban, which was actually rejected at the Jan. 29 Special Town Meeting, was approved this time around on a 527 to 231 vote. "Is this 2018 or 1919?" asked Gregory Trerotola of 6 Rogers Brook East. "Compared to other drugs, marijuana is safer by far. Andover's Jan. 29 vote is on the right side of history, but it's back. There's a lot of misinformation, scare tactics and fear mongering going on folks."

Bob Willard of Tewksbury Street agreed.

"This trio of articles are a prohibition disguised as protective zoning," he said. "I am opposed. We do want some zoning protections



Ron Hill, right, speaks about the warrant article banning the sale of marijuana for recreational use.

so we don't end up with a pot shop in the parking lot of South Church."

He added that it's easy to get marijuana in Andover.

"If you think it is hard to find it, there have been rumors it has been found in this school," Willard

said, referring to Andover High School. The town meeting was held in the Collins Center, which is attached to the high school. "There is at least one website available that will deliver marijuana to your Andover doorstep. See MEETING, Page 3

Residents say Supt. Berman should resign

By KELSEY BODE
kbode@andovertownsman.com

ANDOVER — Police were forced to escort one man out of Thursday's School Committee meeting when he began calling for Superintendent Sheldon Berman's resignation. Two more, also calling for Berman's resignation, were asked to leave repeatedly by School Committee Chairwoman Susan McCready.

Tempers flared at the meeting, with some residents calling for Berman's resignation or firing, after the superintendent claims to have accidentally sent an internal memo regarding allegations against Andover High School Coach E.J. Perry to an Eagle-Tribune reporter on April 20. McCready warned the crowd before any residents spoke that any negative attacks or commentary on specific personnel would not be tolerated. Two police officers stood by the doorway, looking in on the

meeting. "There was character assassination that took place Friday," said Donal Coleman, of High Street. "Personal records were exposed in The Eagle-Tribune, and it was horrible. What Shelly did, he should be terminated tonight."

Several others shared his sentiment.

"I am totally disgusted with what has been exposed here," said Sam Washburn, of 39 Oriole Drive. He cited the "gross incompetence on the part of the administration in releasing an internal personal memo, which essentially was a character assassination hack job. It either indicates gross incompetence or evil intent."

Washburn asked Berman to take active steps to repair Perry's reputation.

"You have ruined the rest of his life," he said.

Before Richard Streeter, of 36 William St., could begin speaking, McCready warned

See SCHOOL, Page 2

Police called to calm ZBA meeting

By PAUL TENNANT
Staff Writer

ANDOVER — The conversation at Thursday night's Zoning Board of Appeals meeting became so contentious that the police were called.

The board was discussing American Towers' request for a special permit to erect a cell phone tower at 212 Andover St. Several residents who live near the proposed site were very outspoken in their opposition to the tower, according to Lt. Edward Guy, spokesman for the Andover Police Department.

Two officers were sent to the Andover Town Offices, at 36 Bartlet St., where the meeting was taking place. Police were called by a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Guy said.

Shortly after the officers arrived, the meeting adjourned. No arrests were made.

The board voted against granting the special permit for the cell phone tower, according to Guy.

Elizabeth Oltman, chairwoman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, could not be reached for comment.

3rd District candidates talk immigration, taxes, guns

By KELSEY BODE
kbode@andovertownsman.com

LOWELL — Democratic candidates for the 3rd Essex Congressional District faced off in a lively forum Sunday afternoon. While generally agreeing on most subjects, it was their opposition to almost everything being done by Pres. Donald Trump that created the strongest bond among the candidates. "If my grandfather tried

to immigrate to this country today, Donald Trump would have stopped him," said Daniel Koh, an Andover native who most recently worked as chief of staff for Boston Mayor Marty Walsh. "What kind of America do we want to be? When it comes to this issue, we need to put people on the path to citizenship."

Barbara L'Italien, a state senator and also a resident of Andover, agreed. "My grandpa

immigrated to Lawrence as well," she said. "I am on the ground today representing the city of Lawrence. These are real, critical questions, not just for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), but for all the people who come here seeking a better life."

Juana Matias, a state representative from Lawrence, spoke about her own experience coming to the United States at the age of five with

her family, who immigrated from the Dominican Republic.

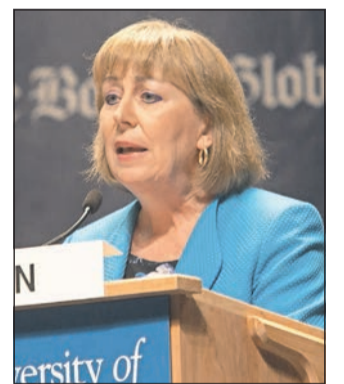
"This issue is deeply personal to me," Matias said. "I have been leaning on the Safe Communities Act to make sure people in these communities feel safe and live in respect. Put Temporary Protected Status holders on a path to citizenship. Put dreamers on a path to citizenship."

Rufus Gifford, ambassador to Denmark under Pres.

See FORUM, Page 2



Daniel Koh



Barbara L'Italien

Opening day



Former Red Sox player Lou Merloni, left, joins Adam Beck, head of Andover Little League, and players (from left) Jason Piscatelli, Anthony Archambault, Charlie Poor, and Timothy Jaracz during the opening day parade on April 29.

Reba Saldanha photo

INDEX

Classified.....	13-15
Crossword.....	10
Editorial.....	6
Letters.....	6
Obituaries.....	5
Police Log.....	5
Seniors News.....	16
Sports.....	17
Townsbeat.....	9-10
Townpeople.....	11-12



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FORUM

Continued from Page 1

Barack Obama and finance director for Obama's 2012 reelection campaign, said he, also, supports "the pathway to citizenship. The idea that we are even having a conversation about a border wall is not only racist, it is xenophobic."

The 2 p.m. debate at UMass-Lowell's Durgin Hall was attended by about 600 people, according to event organizers.

The candidates also shared their views on a number of other issues, including Trump's tax plan, gun safety in schools, the opioid crisis and diplomacy with North Korea.

Also on stage were Lori Trahan, a Lowell resident and business consultant, and Alexandra Chandler, a Haverhill resident and former Naval intelligence officer.

Another big topic Sunday was school safety.

Sen. L'Italien expressed personal concern about school safety in the wake of the Marjory Stoneham Douglas school shooting in Parkland, Florida this winter. She told the audience that two members of her family live in the Parkland, Florida area.

"We need to do all we can to make students safe," L'Italien said, citing her support of the Red Flag ERPO bill, background checks, and the assault weapon ban.

Trahan said she was inspired by the students involved in fighting for gun safety in schools.

"I applaud students in this movement," Trahan said. "I think they are the only hope right now. We need to bring back the assault weapons ban. We know the root of the problem. The NRA has Republican Congress members in a stranglehold."

Chandler told students and other young people in the audience that the key to school safety would lie in voting.

"Practice safety drills, but above all vote," Chandler told



Candidates greet the audience at the start of the 3rd District Congressional debate at UMass-Lowell on April 29. Pictured are, from left: Alexandra Chandler, Rufus Gifford, Daniel Koh, Barbara L'Italien, Juana Matias and Lori Trahan.



Candidate Daniel Koh, third from right, poses with family outside the debate.

the crowd. "Vote out NRA politicians. We need universal background checks and the restoration of the assault weapons ban."

"I think what we definitely don't do is arm teachers," Gifford said. "I think this is one of the reasons people don't trust government. What has

Congress done? Zero. Nothing." Meanwhile, most of the candidates also disapproved of Trump's tax plan.

"We have got to start over," Gifford said. "We are going to have to tax the upper percent of the country more."

"At the end of the day the Trump tax plan needs to be

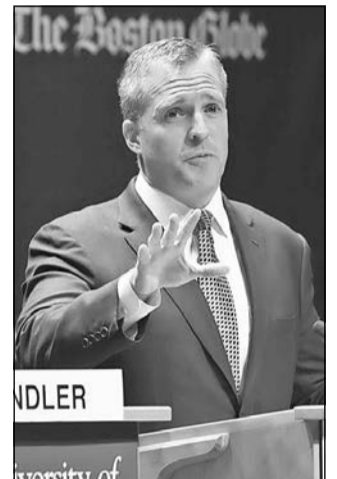
repealed," Koh said, stating that there needed to be more transparency in government.

"Our working class families need a break," Matias said. "Small businesses need a break."

The event was co-sponsored by UMass Lowell and the Boston Globe.



Juana Matias



Rufus Gifford



Lori Trahan



Alexandra Chandler

Please recycle this newspaper.

Candidates pick up slew of endorsements

By LISA KASHINSKY
Staff Writer

Candidates in the 3rd District congressional race have picked up a slew of endorsements over the past couple weeks.

State Sen. Barbara L'Italien, D-Andover, began the week by announcing she had garnered enough signatures to officially appear on the ballot for the congressional seat. She turned in her nomination papers to Secretary of State William Galvin's office Monday morning, according to her campaign.

"I am so grateful to the hundreds of supporters who volunteered their time to help collect thousands of signatures from every single community in this district," L'Italien said.

L'Italien's campaign said she was the first woman in the race to announce her official spot on the ballot.

However, a spokeswoman for Galvin's office confirmed Monday that Lori Trahan had also secured her spot on the ballot. The two women join Dan Koh and Rufus Gifford,

who have also been certified. Candidates have until May 8 to return their petitions locally and until June 5 to submit certified petitions to the secretary's office.

L'Italien also picked up endorsements recently from several current and former state legislators, including state Rep. Carmine Gentile, D-Sudbury; state Sen. Anne Gobi, D-Spencer; former state Sen. Stephen Brewer and former state Rep. Bob Rice. She was additionally endorsed by the Dracut Firefighters Union.

Koh has received support over the past two weeks from Meh Kefezighi, an Olympian and winner of the 2014 Boston Marathon; Gardner City Councilor Karen Hardern; and Tom McGrath, chairman of the Pepperell Democratic Town Committee, according to his campaign.

McGrath said Koh would be a "strong progressive voice in Congress."

Koh was also endorsed by the New England Regional Council of Carpenters, which

represents 22,000 members; Plumbers and Gasfitters Local 12, which represents nearly 1,800 members; Glaziers, Glass Workers and Architectural Metal Workers Local 1044, which represents more than 1,000 unionists; and Laborers Local 39, which represents more than 300 members. He has now been endorsed by 15 unions, his campaign said.

Trahan on Friday announced endorsements from two unions: Local 1011 Haverhill Firefighters and Methuen Firefighters Local 1691.

"Endorsing Lori was an easy decision for us," said Kevin Barry, president of Local 1691. "We sized up all the candidates and Lori was the one with the strongest ties to this district."

State Rep. Juana Matias also recently received endorsements from IBEW Local 104 and Justice Democrats, a political action committee, according to her campaign.

Gifford announces opioid policy
Gifford announced his plans to address the opioid epidemic

this month, after crossing the district in a multiday tour. He visited Lowell House; Pegasus House, Women's View and Daybreak Shelter, all affiliated with The Psychological Center of Lawrence; and GAAMHA Inc. in Gardner.

Gifford's policy centers around prioritizing and expanding access to treatment; decreasing the supply of opioids; providing significant and sustained federal funding; and pursuing a comprehensive, bipartisan national strategy, according to a press release from his campaign.

Calling for a "whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach" to both treat those battling substance abuse and get at the root causes of the opioid crisis, Gifford said the opioid epidemic needs to be treated "like the national crisis that it is."

"That means innovative, forward-looking policy solutions, expanding treatment options and preventing future generations from using," he said in a statement.

SCHOOL

Continued from Page 1

him not to speak about Berman specifically.

"This is not a coach issue," Streeter said. "In my opinion, it is an incompetence issue. That letter was under contract to remain confidential. Information that was on that letter will likely never be able to be fully retracted by anybody, which to me is reprehensible."

"I would like Berman to resign," he continued. "Short of his resignation, I would like this committee to

terminate his contract." Streeter has started an online petition to remove Berman from his position as superintendent.

Three Andover High seniors also attended the meeting but arrived late and weren't able to speak to the committee.

"This last-chance agreement memo that was sent out is an absolute joke," said Cedric Gillette, 19, referring to the memo that listed claims about Perry's coaching of the high school boys volleyball team, including that he used profanity and was verbally demeaning of players.

The memo was dated the same day Perry was reinstated to his coaching position following a week-long investigation by Andover High administrators. Perry has denied all of their allegations.

"The fact that the superintendent leaked that, which I 100 percent believe was intentional, is a fire-able offense, in my mind," said Gillette, who was coached by Perry this fall on the Andover High football team. "This administration should be the ones on a last-chance agreement. I've read through that memo; it's just lie after lie."

"I completely agree," said Nick Dellatto, 18. "This is the third time something like this has happened in the middle

of the season, obviously with the hockey coaches and JV soccer coach David Cudmore. I just think at this point it's completely ridiculous."

Jack Hartford, 18, noted that Perry could have pursued legal action when the memo was leaked but chose not to.

"I think there is plenty of incentive for Coach Perry to take action against the administration and Sheldon Berman personally," said Hartford. "I think the fact that he is not pursuing that, it's even more testament to his good character. He really does care for the town."

Berman responded to those who voiced frustration at the meeting. He told the crowd that when an Eagle-Tribune reporter called after he'd accidentally sent the memo, he did not see that he'd gotten a call because his phone was charging. By the time he looked again, it was midnight.

The reporter also called Principal Philip Conrad, who Berman said was sick and went to sleep early that night.

"I deeply regret issuing that letter," Berman said. "I understand people's feelings. It is a very difficult thing to look at and say I made that mistake."

"I think over time we will move on," he added.

The School Committee also made tentative plans to assess policies regarding the

town's athletic programs.

"In light of all the talk there has been recently around athletics, I am hoping we can devote a portion of one of our future meetings to discuss personnel or individual things, but for the School Committee to weigh in on broader issues," said committee member Joel Blumstein. "What our policy should be with respect to the athletic program, what our expectations are. I think it is important for us, as leaders, to set that. I'm talking expectations for students, parents, coaches, and administration."

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MEETING

Continued from Page 1

These articles will not prohibit pot, they will only prevent Andover from getting their share of jobs and revenue that allowing marijuana businesses could produce.”

But many other residents were concerned that allowing recreational establishments in town could have a negative impact on children.

“If we do not ban these, I maintain we are indirectly condoning its use, thus making it more difficult for every parent and grandparent to raise their children,” said John Desmond of 129 Andover St. “How do we explain such businesses to our kids as we try to steer them away from drugs? If there is one thing we do not need in our society is yet another legalized substance that increases the likelihood of emphysema, heart disease and makes our highways even more dangerous.”

At the start of debate on the subject Selectmen Chairman Paul Salafia explained why, if the ban was defeated at the Jan. 29 Special Town Meeting, it was brought back for the Annual Town Meeting.

He said that after the Jan. 29 vote, numerous residents approached him and others on the board, claiming they were unsure what they had voted on at that meeting. Salafia told residents Tuesday this was the reason why three articles pertaining to the prohibition of recreational marijuana establishments were brought back to be voted on for a second time.

“There has been much discussion about why the Board of Selectmen brought back these articles for reconsideration,” Salafia said. “It became apparent the Board of Selectmen failed to give a clear explanation of the possible implication of these articles. People did not know what they were voting for. Whether you vote yes or you vote no, certainly the vote is yours. It is our intent to give useful information that will be helpful to you in deciding which way to vote.”

Police Chief Patrick



Calvin Perry, left, gestures to a resident to sit while he hand counts votes on the pot shop ban Tuesday night.



Gregory Trertola speaks the pot shop ban.

Keefe informed residents that if the ban were not put in place, Andover would be the only town in the northern Merrimack Valley open to recreational marijuana establishments. The commercial operations could

have included a variety of marijuana-related businesses, such as cultivators, marijuana product manufacturers, retailers, social consumption establishments, research facilities, independent testing

facilities, marijuana transporters and marijuana micro-businesses.

Keefe also warned that since marijuana was legalized in Colorado, the state has seen an increase of drivers driving under the influence of marijuana, an increase of the black market circulation of marijuana, and an increase in the use of marijuana by people under the age of 21.

Ron Hill of 15 Abbott St. said that was his concern.

“The fact is folks that there is no road test at all for excess marijuana use,” he said. “Police officers have to make that judgment.”

One resident shared his struggles with tobacco addiction with the crowd, and said that he didn’t want his children to experience anything even remotely similar.



Paul Materazzo, director of planning, answers a question about the pot shop ban.

“I used tobacco when I was young, when I was back in China,” said Tao Tu of 20 Keystone Way. “It was very accessible to me and affordable to me. I did not know how hard it is to quit. I don’t want the same thing to happen to my kids. I want them to stay away from marijuana no matter how many people say it is not bad because I know it is bad.”

Follow Kelsey Bode on Twitter @Kelsey_Bode.

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Tree honors former Garden Club chief

By KELSEY BODE
kbode@andovertownsmen.com

The Department of Public Works and the Gardening Club partnered this Arbor Day to honor the passing of former Director of the Andover Garden Club Mary DesMet and plant two new trees.

At 9 a.m. on April 27, approximately 20 people met at the Henderson Garden at the intersection of River Road and Chandler Road. While there, a history of Arbor Day was read by Superintendent of Forestry, Parks and Grounds, and Cemeteries Paul Sanborn. Deputy Town Manager John Mangiaratti also read the Town of Andover Arbor Day Observance & Proclamation.

After the opening statements, a Temple of Bloom Heptacodium miconioides was planted in memory of Mary DesMet, who died in October 2017.

"It was wonderful," said Deputy Director of Public Works Mark Fournier. "A bunch of people from the gardening club came to the first tree planting. It was very emotional because of Mary's passing. It was really beautiful. They planted a really beautiful specimen tree in her honor and memory."

At 10 a.m. the Andover Arbor Day events proceeded in front of the Dunkin' Donuts at 93 Main St., where a red maple tree was planted.

"We used new technology including Cornell University structural soil to double

"It was wonderful. A bunch of people from the gardening club came to the first tree planting. It was very emotional because of Mary's passing. It was really beautiful. They planted a really beautiful specimen tree in her honor and memory."

Mark Fournier, deputy director of Public Works

the size of the tree pit and plant a beautiful red maple tree there," Fournier said. "What's important about that is we are trying to double the size of the tree pit, dig out the old soil that was substandard, and plant new trees which are the right trees for that location and soil. Hopefully they will grow for decades and become beautiful and majestic trees downtown."

Follow Kelsey Bode on Twitter @Kelsey_Bode.



Cornell University researchers developed the CU Structural Soil used to plant a red maple along Main Street on Arbor Day.



TIM JEAN/Staff photos

Members of Andover's Department of Municipal Services place a red maple in a widened tree pit filled with special soil developed by Cornell University. The tree was planted on the sidewalk in front of Dunkin' Donuts on Main Street on Arbor Day.



Members of Andover's Department of Municipal Services dump special soil created by Cornell University into the tree pit.



Marc Fournier, deputy director of Public Works, talks about how his crew doubled the size of an existing tree pit.

School officials, students laud Saturday make-up day

By BREANNA EDELSTEIN
Staff Writer

ANDOVER — It wasn't a typical Saturday for students in Andover public schools.

With back-to-back nor'easters forcing more snow days than

most years in March and into April, districts across the region were forced to figure out how to make up the time. In Andover, the decision was made to call students in for two Saturdays, the first being this weekend.

In an email sent to parents earlier this year, Andover Superintendent Sheldon Berman laid out the district's plan to make up as many as 10 snow days. The last day of the year has also been extended to June 29, according to the email.

Andover High principal Philip Conrad was pleased with the way the unconventional school day unfolded Saturday.

"It was a great day," he said, noting that 68 percent of the high school's 1,800 students were in attendance. Students were greeted by a DJ playing music in the lobby before classes started, Conrad said, followed by ice cream sandwiches at lunch.

With temperatures nearing 70 degrees, teachers district-wide took full advantage and taught lessons outside when possible.

At Doherty Middle School, students spent science class

on a nature walk before reviewing for MCAS, or the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System, a standardized test administered statewide annually.

Toting backpacks as they walked through downtown Andover after school, a couple of middle-schoolers didn't seem bothered by their first six-day school week.

Ava Iannessa, 14, said many of her classmates were in attendance, but some were dismissed early.

"It definitely wasn't a normal day of school, with all of the different stuff they had planned," she said.

Her friend and fellow middle-schooler Caroline Watts,

also 14, spent part of her Saturday in school doing a scavenger hunt.

"The work was different, but it was all still related," she said.

Students will attend Saturday classes again on May 12. In New Hampshire, several school districts were able to avoid Andover's dilemma through the use of Blizzard Bags, a state program that allows districts to assign homework to students on snow days. If 80 percent of staff and students complete the work, the district does not need to make up the snow day.

Even still, many were forced to push back the last day of school from what was originally slated. Pinkerton Academy's last day is scheduled for June 19. Windham and Pelham schools were also forced to push back their last days until June 25 and June 22, respectively.

In Windham, students will stay at school an 15 extra minutes from April 30 to June 4 to make up some of the time.

District officials have reported the vast number of snow days as a new problem that they appreciate everyone's cooperation with.

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The Papineau Team

1 Fern Road, Andover

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Cathy Johnson

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The Papineau Team

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OBITUARIES

Mr. Robert "Bob" Colombosian, 92 Years

December 8, 1925 - April 30, 2018
Beloved Husband, Father, Grandfather

ANDOVER — Robert "Bob" Colombosian, 92, a longtime resident of Andover, passed away peacefully at home with his loving family by his side on April 30, 2018.

Born on December 8, 1925, Bob was the son of Sarkis and Rose (Krikorian) Colombosian who were the founders of Colombo & Sons Creamery, incorporated in 1929 as the first yogurt dairy in America. He graduated from Pynchard High School, Andover, Class of 1944 and attended Bryant & Stratton College of Boston. He was also a proud World War II Army veteran.

Bob married Alice (Amboian) of Detroit, Michigan in 1947 and they celebrated 61 wonderful years together until her passing in 2008. Their wedding present from his parents was a milk route, where they delivered milk door-to-door around Merrimack Valley under the name "Wild Rose Creamery".

Bob was a true entrepreneur with a creative spirit who started and cultivated many businesses such as Colombo Yogurt, Inc., Autolab Imports in Woburn, Grumpy's Restaurant in Boston, Colombo Frozen Yogurt Shoppe at Faneuil Hall and Sweet Scoops in Salem, MA. He was central to the development of Colombo Frozen Yogurt "The Cultured Cow". In 2003, he was coaxed out of retirement by General Mills, the owner of Colombo yogurt, and became an integral part of their television advertising campaign. In 2004 accompanied by his wife Alice, he appeared in the commercials commemorating the 75th anniversary of Colombo Yogurt. That same year he received a proclamation by Governor Mitt Romney, was recognized by Mayor Thomas Menino at Boston City Hall and received a key to the Town of Andover for his contributions to the local community. Post-retirement Bob remained active as a volunteer for 15 years at Lawrence General Hospital, retiring on his 90th birthday. Bob also believed in giving back to the community and was a generous contributor to a scholarship fund at Bentley University and to several Armenian organizations. He had served as a Parish Council Member of the Holy Cross Armenian Apostolic Church of Lawrence, and was a member of the St. Vartanatz Armenian Church, Chelmsford.

Bob was also a renowned race car driver and Member of the Sports Car Club of America from 1957-1967 where he



was New England champion for many years. He drove modified sports cars and competed at raceways throughout the Northeast and eastern

Canada as well as at Sebring Raceway in FL and at Watkins Glen, NY. After his racing career ended, he was frequently seen driving around his beloved Andover in his red mini cooper.

True to his historical roots, he also spent his last few years making yogurt on his kitchen stove using an original family recipe from Armenia and would deliver home-made yogurt and string cheese to his many friends.

Bob is survived by his daughters Karen Colombosian of Charlestown, Linda Colombosian of Newburyport, Nancy (Mike) Czlonka of Hinsdale, IL and Robin Colombosian of North Andover. He was predeceased by his wife Alice and daughter Valerie. He also leaves three grandsons, Myles and Robert Couyoumjian and Michael Czlonka, sisters, Ann Hallahan (Bill) of Sutton, NH and Mary Webb of Newbury, NH, and was predeceased by his loving Brother John "Beep" Colombosian of Andover. In addition he leaves several nieces, nephews, brother and sister-in-laws, and countless extended family and friends.

ARRANGEMENTS: In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to either The Armenian Apostolic Church at High Pointe 1280 Boston Rd., Haverhill MA 01835 or St. Vartanatz Armenian Church, 180 Old Westford Rd, Chelmsford, MA 01824.

Calling hours at Burke-Magliozi Funeral home, 390 North Main Street, Andover on Sunday, May 6, 2018 from 2 to 6 p.m. His funeral will be celebrated at 9:30 am on Monday, May 7, 2018, in the Armenian Church at High Pointe, 1280 Boston Rd, Haverhill, MA 01835. Interment will be held in the Spring Grove Cemetery in Andover. For additional information, please visit, www.burkemagliozi.com.



Town Meeting OKs \$182M budget

By KELSEY BODE
kbode@andovertownsmen.com

IF YOU GO

- **What:** Third night of Annual Town Meeting
- **When:** 7 p.m., Monday, May 7
- **Where:** Collins Center, Shawsheen Road
- **Why:** To vote on remaining warrant articles

EDITOR'S NOTE: For more detailed coverage of Annual Town Meeting, see andovertownsmen.com as well as next week's Townsman.

Voters approved a town budget of \$182.4 million at the first day of Annual Town Meeting Monday night. Of the total budget, \$82.5 million was allocated to schools.

"We have expressed our reservations about future projected structural deficits with the town manager," said Chairwoman of the Finance Committee Eugenie Mofitt. "Andover should not be grasping for one-year fixes, but should have a reliable long-term balanced budget plan."

Plastic bag ban

Residents approved a ban on single use plastic bags in favor of reusable bags, cardboard boxes, and recyclable paper bags at Tuesday night's meeting.

West Elementary feasibility study

Residents voted to appropriate \$1.2 million toward a feasibility study for the renovation or rebuild of West Elementary School, a project the school district is partnering with the Massachusetts School Board Authority on. The MSBA will fund 40 percent of the cost of the feasibility study.

Ledge Road landfill

Residents approved Article 54, which stated that the

use of any town funds for post-closure use by the DPW of the Ledge Road Landfill would require Town Meeting authorization. Town Counsel Thomas Urbelis said that Article 54 is "advisory only and has no binding effect."

Senior Center at Pynchard redesign services

Residents voted to appropriate \$160,000 to purchase design services for the Senior Center.

Amending the zoning bylaw relating to signs

After lengthy discussion Tuesday night, Town Manager Andrew Flanagan withdrew an article that sought to amend the zoning bylaw relating to signs after residents raised questions about it. It had been submitted by Planning Director Paul Matarazzo in response to a recent

Supreme Court ruling about signs in municipalities and the First Amendment.

Town Offices renovations

By one vote, residents voted down an article to appropriate \$1 million to renovate the Town Offices at 36 Bartlett St.

Senior citizen property tax exemption

Article 37 passed, providing a senior citizen property tax exemption. The exemption applies to any resident who qualified for the state circuit breaker income-tax credit the previous year, has lived and owned property in Andover for at least 10 years, is 65 years old or older, and, if filing as a single, has an income of \$57,000 or less. If married and filing jointly, those applying must have an income of \$86,000 or less.

Major town building projects

Article 34, titled Major Town Building Projects, was approved Monday night. According to Finance Committee member Margaret Kruse, 80 percent of the \$775,000 article will be spent on Memorial Hall Library and West Fire Station. In the wake of this winter's power outages, the town will purchase a generator for Memorial Hall Library.

Town and school energy initiatives

Residents voted to appropriate \$565,000 toward town and school energy initiatives, including retrofitted LED lighting.

Parking study implementation

Residents voted to appropriate \$75,000 to implement changes to downtown parking that were suggested in a 2016 Parking Study.

Downtown improvements

Residents voted to appropriate \$100,000 for Article 39 to make improvements to downtown in the form of public amenities.

Dascomb Road

Town Moderator Sheila Doherty informed voters at the beginning of Annual Town Meeting on Monday that Articles 65 and 66, which were submitted by Lupoli Companies in an effort to gain approval to build residential housing at Dascomb Road, had "no standing" at Annual Town Meeting because they were voted down at the Jan. 29 Special Town Meeting. The only way the articles would have been valid would have been if the Planning Board recommended them for approval at Annual Town Meeting, which the board did not do. Residents then voted to take no action on the articles.

Follow Kelsey Bode on Twitter @Kelsey_Bode.

Co-founder of popular Andover pub dies

By KELSEY BODE
kbode@andovertownsmen.com

One of the co-founders of Oak and Iron Brewing Company, John Helferich, died unexpectedly last Friday. The cause of his death remains unclear.

"It's with a deeply saddened heart that I share news of the passing of my great friend, brewery co-founder, and your friend too, John Helferich," wrote Jim Cass in a post to the brewery's Facebook Page on Sunday. "John died suddenly on April 27. He will be missed beyond words."

Hundreds of people liked, commented, and shared Cass's post, each sharing their support and fond memories of Helferich.

"John was simply a great human being," Cass wrote. "He was one-of-a-kind, a friend to everyone, and blessed with an amazing sense of humor and intelligence."

Helferich was a resident of Rockport, and before co-founding Oak and Iron, was a Mars Candy executive.

"John's passing is a significant loss to our community," said Town Manager Andrew Flanagan. "Since opening Oak and Iron he brought a sense of vibrancy to the business community and the Historic Mill District. He was always looking for opportunities to integrate his business with the community and was a pleasure to do business with when he initially came to Andover. He will be missed, but will certainly be remembered when people come to meet at Oak



Oak & Iron Brewing owners John Helferich, left, and Jim Cass, right, stand behind the bar of their establishment. Helferich died unexpectedly on Friday.

and Iron."

Oak and Iron Brewing Company opened its doors on Red Spring Road a little over a year ago, on April 18, 2017. The brewery quickly became a popular place for gatherings in Andover.

"I was so shocked and saddened to hear the news," said Selectman Annie Gilbert. "I think it really has struck a cord in the entire community because what John was able to create in such a short time has been such a meaningful addition to Andover. I know that will be a great legacy for him and his family."

"That place is special," Gilbert added. "It just seems like such a community gathering spot that cuts across all kinds of groups of people in town. It's not often you see that kind of place."

Gilbert held her post-election day celebration at Oak

and Iron Brewery on March 27.

"John cared deeply about Oak and Iron and all of you who visited the brewery," Cass wrote. "He loved people, and always envisioned Oak and Iron Brewery as a community center where friends and family (dogs too) would come to hang out, have fun, and connect with each other. Continuing on with his joyful vision will be an excellent way to honor John and keep his memory alive."

Helferich and Cass worked with Run for the Troops Organizer Bill Pennington over the last year to support local veterans. The brewery organized a team of 75 people for the Run for the Troops last month. They helped Pennington promote the event, and on Veterans Day the brewery sponsored a beer and pizza party for

local veterans.

"We had a great partnership," Pennington said. "We hope it continues. John was great. He was just so personable, had a sense of humor, and sharp. He thoroughly loved what he was doing. I think making money was secondary to the personal fulfillment he got out of seeing people smile and having a good time. You just hope everything will continue as best it can. It's a sad thing."

"Every one just loved the place and loved him," Pennington added. "He was just a great guy. It's going to be a big loss there. I hope they can keep it going."

According to Cass, memorial arrangements had yet to be organized as of Sunday. Cass did not state when the brewery would reopen.

Follow Kelsey Bode on Twitter @Kelsey_Bode.

POLICE LOG

COMPILED BY KELSEY BODE
kbode@andovertownsmen.com

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

Kaleb Summerton, 18, of 4 Aladin Circle, Apt. 13, Derry, New Hampshire, was charged with possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, transporting liquor as a person under 21, no inspection sticker, a number plate violation, and an outstanding warrant. Summerton was stopped by police on Dascomb Road at 2:05 p.m. One vehicle was towed.

Samual Rosario-Beato, 27, of 46 Tewksbury St., Lawrence, was charged with the unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and an outstanding warrant for a lights violation. Rosario-Beato was stopped on River Road by police at 9:28 p.m. One vehicle was towed.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

Tanzina Yasmin, 42, of 16 Shirley Road, Andover, was charged with the willful violation of a town bylaw

at 11:40 a.m. after the Fire Department called the police department to assist in an illegal burn on Shirley Road.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

It was reported at 7:34 a.m. that a vehicle on Balmoral Street had been vandalized.

Jose Urena, 26, of 1200 Spring Valley Drive, C, Andover, was charged with distribution of a class B substance, possession of a class B substance with intent to distribute, and two outstanding warrants. Urena was placed under arrest on Spring Valley Drive at 2:29 p.m.

Maegan Rios, 29, of 19 Briarwood Lane, Woburn was charged with breaking and entering at nighttime for a felony, and with three outstanding warrants for assault and battery, having an unregistered motor vehicle, and larceny. Michael Romano, 26, of 81 Judique Road, Tewksbury, was charged with breaking and entering at nighttime for a felony. Police responded to a call that a man and a woman

had broken into and were staying in an abandoned home on Osgood Street at 11:08 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

Police responded to a call of three men fighting in a parking lot on Canterbury Street at 10:51 p.m. One man was taken under arrest.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

A Morton Street woman reported at 4:35 p.m. that her car had been keyed.

Police were called to Andover High School at 5:44 p.m. to discuss some drug-related items that were found.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

It was reported to police at 9:57 a.m. that a motor vehicle in a parking lot on Lowell Street was vandalized overnight.

Charles Milonopoulos, 25, of 16 Central St., Apt. 2, Woburn, was charged with operating under the influence of drugs, leaving the scene of property damage,

negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and a marked lanes violation. At 4:05 p.m. police received a call that a car had hit a fire hydrant on Balmoral Street and left the scene. The car's bumper and license plate fell off in the crash.

Mr. Paul Alden Nichols, 90

August 19, 1927 - April 22, 2018
Beloved Husband, Father, Grandfather

MEDFORD — Paul Alden Nichols, 90, of Medford, passed peacefully on April 22, at the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital, Bedford, under the compassionate care of the David James Hospice Unit.

Paul was born in Cambridge, August 19, 1927, and lived in Medford for his entire life. He was married to his late wife Dorothy "Dot" (MacInnis) and for 54 years they shared a life in the home that he built for her.

A woodworker by trade, Paul created giant structures such as a 20-foot seahorse for a shipping firm, dinosaur displays for the Museum of Science, and the walk through computer at Boston's Computer Museum. He created designs for living such as the face of MBTA Station Clocks, phone kiosks, church pulpits, and park benches. He was commissioned to carve the replacement of the eagle on the U.S.S. Constitution, "Old Ironsides." Paul worked for engineering firms, model design companies, made original wood patterns, and taught drawing. He was employed by the Boston Naval Shipyard, Stone & Webster, United Engineering, and F.W. Dixon Company.

A veteran of World War II, Paul served his country and

in so many ways spent an entire lifetime serving others. He was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Medford. Paul read the Boston Globe from front to back every day of his life and wished for a world where kindness transcends intolerance.

Paul will be dearly missed by his son David Nichols and his wife Debra of Andover; his grandchildren, Kate Evans and her husband Bryan, also of Andover; and Hannah Nichols of Boston. He leaves behind his cherished great-grandson Eddie Evans.

Paul was the son of the late Morrill Nichols and his wife Isabel (Dearborn). He is survived by his older brother Raymond Nichols of Wilmington, Del., and younger sister Doris Gordon of Gaithersburg, Md.

ARRANGEMENTS: A service of remembrance was held on Friday, April 27, at the First Baptist Church, 29 Oakland Street, Medford, at 10:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made for pancreatic cancer research to the We Care Fund, Medical College of Wisconsin, Department of Surgery, 8701 Watertown Plank Road, Milwaukee, WI 53226. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Beals-Geake-Magliozi Funeral Home of Medford. For additional information, please visit, www.magliozi-funeralhome.com.



2nd Year Remembrance
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Susan Wolf Ratyna
March 3, 1951 - May 2, 2016
The world may change from year to year, and friends from day to day, But never will the one I loved, from memory pass away.
Sadly missed by her husband Ed, and all her family and friends

The retirement crisis next door

Financially Speaking

John Spoto

Since the '50s, academic and financial industry researchers have developed an impressive literature on the financial readiness of American workers for retirement. The general conclusion is that a large number of Americans across

a broad swath of the income spectrum is poorly prepared. In a compelling book, "Falling Short: The Coming Retirement Crisis and What to Do About It" (Oxford University Press), authors Charles Ellis, Alicia Munnell and Andrew Eschtruth present the nature and magnitude of the problem. Ellis, a former consultant to some of the world's most sophisticated

financial institutions and Munnell and Eschtruth, Boston College public policy experts, deliver a message that is straightforward and not especially upbeat. "Because of economic and demographic developments, our retirement income systems are contracting just as our need for retirement income is growing. On the income side, Social Security

is replacing less of our pre-retirement income; traditional defined benefit pension plans have been displaced by 401(k)s with modest balances; and employers are dropping retiree health benefits. On the needs side, longer lifespans, rising healthcare costs, and low-interest rates all require a much bigger nest egg to maintain our standard of living. The result of these changes is that millions of us will not have enough money for the comfortable retirement that our parents and grandparents enjoyed."

In the United States and much of the developed world, retirement is a much-anticipated event. It represents a time in life that offers greater independence, more time for leisure, family, friends and personal fulfillment. So why do so many Americans find themselves unprepared? The newness of the problem may be the main reason. A brief historical perspective offers some insight.

The idea of a period of leisure after three or four

decades of working is a relatively new concept in human history. Up through the early 1900s people typically worked until they were physically unable and often passed away shortly thereafter. During those interim years, if they required assistance, family members who usually lived close by cared them for.

During the period from the mid-1930s through the mid-1980s, four significant developments established what is nostalgically referred to as the "Golden Era" for American retirees. First, the Social Security program was created to provide income for life for retired American workers. Second, the employer-based pension movement that had begun in the late 1800s and offered a lifetime income stream to retirees began to expand rapidly. Third, to protect older retirees without access to an employer's health plan against catastrophic medical expenses, Medicare was created. Additionally, some private employers extended

subsidized health insurance benefits to retirees, further reducing their out-of-pocket costs. The rich benefits were affordable to employers and the federal government because not many people lived long enough to claim them for more than a few years. The safety net for the elderly had never been stronger. The impact of two powerful forces had yet to be felt.

The 1990s began a transition from the "Golden Era" to what workers and retirees face today. The two driving forces were the remarkable increases in human longevity and escalating health costs. The advances in technology and medicine that was largely responsible for both factors showed no signs of abating.

It didn't take long for companies to appreciate the implications. Baby boomers and succeeding cohorts that would be leaving the workforce in droves were likely to remain retired for a very long time. Pension and health plans in their current form were designed to support retirees for a period of years, not multiple decades. Private employers have responded by shifting away from defined benefit pensions to 401(k) type plans; offering less generous health insurance plans for workers and sharply curtailing or eliminating those for retirees. These trends have continued to accelerate. According to the American Academy of Actuaries, in 1980, 84 percent of workers in medium and large organizations were covered by defined benefit plans. In 2010 only 30 percent were. A 2014 Kaiser Family Foundation study reported that "since 1988, the percentage of large (the study's authors define as 200 or more employees) firms offering retiree health coverage has dropped by more than half from 66 percent in 1988 to 28 percent in 2013."

Employer sponsored benefits are not the only casualties of increasing lifespans and steadily rising medical costs. Americans will almost certainly feel the impact on a second front. In our next article, we will discuss the effects on two of the most important programs workers count on for a secure retirement.

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Opinion

Ensure safety in our most democratic spaces

Public libraries are the nation's great equalizer. They are open and available to all, regardless of income, education or background.

With that accessibility come greater challenges for librarians, who more than ever are finding themselves to be more than information providers — they are also often called on to act as social workers, peacekeepers, even health care providers on the front lines of the opioid epidemic. Those unofficial duties have expanded as federal, state and local government spending on social services have lagged. People with no place else to go head for the library.

"People think of libraries as a place they can go to get out of the cold and rain and pretty much just be left alone, without judgement," Julie Todaro, the former president of the American Library Association told CNHI reporters last summer. "So it makes sense that struggling addicts with nowhere left to turn would come to a library for help."

Increasingly, librarians are being trained in the use of the overdose-reversing drug naloxone, better known by its trade name, Narcan.

Helping those addicted to opioids isn't the only challenge librarians face.

"We often act as first responders in times of crisis," Torado said, naming Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and the Flint, Michigan, water crisis in 2014 as instances where libraries played a key role. Then there are situations where as patrons can't anticipate, like the stabbing death of 22-year-old Deane Kenny Stryker by Jeffrey Yao in the Winchester Public Library earlier this year.

More than ever, libraries and the public servants who staff them need the support of their fellow municipal workers and the community at large to keep the most democratic of spaces open and safe for all.

So we are encouraged by that more than 100 staffers from 16 libraries across the region — including those in Methuen, Haverhill, Lawrence and North Andover — will take part Tuesday in a daylong training session on security.

Hosted by the Rockport Public Library, the event will feature a workshop led by Warren Graham, a library security expert and author of "The Black Belt Librarian." Don't let the catchy, yet misleading title fool you — Graham's work is less about dramatics than it is putting together an unobtrusive security plan that helps librarians deal with everything from unruly patrons to more serious matters.

"The goal is to handle issues before they become bigger issues," said Rockport Public Library Director Cindy Grove. "Don't tell people to calm down, because no one likes to be told to calm down."

The Rockport Police Department is also taking part in the training, and that's an important step. But there are many more steps that should be taken. For one, city and town officials need to stop considering library spending an afterthought in municipal budgets. Not only to libraries need proper staffing to provide a safe environment for patrons, they need an understanding on the part of local officials that they are dealing with the very human impact of spending cuts elsewhere.

And more municipal officials should take part in the type of training offered in Rockport. It could provide needed insight into the challenges librarians are facing.

"Libraries are unique public institutions that come in contact with and have the ability to reach broad demographics of people, and we believe its important to figure out the needs of our communities and how we can best serve them," Todaro said last year. The same could be said for the public at large.

In this day and age, the job of a public librarian is more challenging — and more important — than ever. We all share a duty in keeping our public spaces safe.

WEB QUESTION

NOTE TO READERS: Due to a technical issue, last week's web question wasn't posted to the Townsman's web site until Sunday night. As such, the question will be repeated and will remain online for another week.

The question:

Nearly three weeks ago, Superintendent Sheldon Berman released the damaging results of an investigation into the actions of local coach E.J. Perry. Charges against Perry were harsh, including the use of ethnic stereotyping and the threat of violence against students for poor play. **Do you still support Coach Perry in light of this information coming out?**

Yes. He's a great coach, motivator and friend who would do anything for his players.

No. Such behavior should be treated harshly and he should be suspended from coaching or fired all together.

Both are wrong. Berman should never have released that document. It unfairly portrays an unflattering picture of a good coach. However, Perry needs to dial it back and maybe get some extra training on how to deal with kids in the modern era.

A coach's actions are the town's business

David Joyner



E.J. Perry is an intense coach. He demands discipline. He is driven to win.

He can be loud and forceful, yet away from the football field, basketball court or volleyball net, he'll go out of his way to help a player get a scholarship, get into college, or get recognized by the local newspaper.

All of that describes a public image of Perry. An April 20 memo by Andover High Principal Philip Conrad describes a more private one.

Conrad's letter says Perry, a member of a big Andover family with a vast history of athletic achievements, at times crosses the line of professionalism. He has cursed on the sidelines of his volleyball team's matches and at practices, says Conrad's memo. He has made comments about Asian-Americans, it says, suggested violence in the locker room, and demeaned his student-athletes.

Conrad's letter — capping a weeklong investigation that included interviews with 11 witnesses and 19 students — is the subject of intense debate, most recently at Thursday night's School Committee meeting. It's important to note that Perry denies the accusations, and Conrad's letter is short on specifics of what the coach allegedly said and when.

Still, it's surprising that discussion is focused more on how the letter

was released — and this newspaper's decision to publish it — than its actual substance.

I haven't been one to write columns since taking on my role as executive editor of The Eagle-Tribune a year ago February. But the scrutiny of this memo — and some shading of the facts by public figures surrounding its release — beg for an explanation of how we came by the three-page document, written on Andover High School letterhead, and why we decided to share it with our readers.

We've covered the story of Perry's administrative leave as head of the boys' volleyball team, pending this investigation, from the outset, on April 13. We revealed that the whole situation appeared to be set in motion by a confrontation between the coach and two players who refused to substitute during a match. Perry's status as coach of Andover High's football team and his job as a fifth-grade teacher at West Elementary were not affected by this situation.

On Friday, April 20, we learned that Perry had been reinstated as volleyball coach. An Eagle-Tribune reporter contacted Andover Superintendent Sheldon Berman that evening for comment. He offered none, though he did offer to send us a written statement circulated to parents of Perry's players.

The superintendent sent a document via email, then called the newsroom to confirm its delivery. A short while later, the reporter started reading and realized what it said.

That's when we again

called Berman's cell phone — this time, an editor placed the call. The editor left a message that said we'd received a document from him titled "Last Chance Agreement" and had questions. Berman did not call back until 2:17 a.m. — well after the newspaper's deadline. Conrad, the principal, didn't return a similar message left on his voicemail that night.

Berman has since told the School Committee his phone was charging, and he didn't realize there was a follow-up message. Conrad was sick and didn't hear his phone, according to the superintendent.

Was this report on an investigation actually sent to parents? Was it sent to us by mistake? At the time, we couldn't say for sure, though we did reach Perry that night.

He had no comment but told us the document never should have been released.

Regardless, we never doubted that it should be made public — even the following day, when a School Department spokesman called to say the document was released in error and to ask us to remove it from our website. (We didn't.)

The state's Public Records Law provides that, with narrow exception, government documents are available for citizens to see. These include the results of an investigation into the actions of government employees.

Weighing heavily on our thinking were the important questions this memo raises for players, parents and citizens:

What do we expect from our coaches — even the

popular ones? How reliable was the investigation? Did the superintendent intentionally release the document under the guise of an unintentional email attachment? All of these questions are up to school administrators, coaches and the School Committee to address — with input from parents, players and citizens. But residents cannot be part of this discussion without being invited to it in the first place. Publishing this memo ensured the public was involved.

Though it hasn't gotten nearly as much attention as the circumstances around the memo's release, Conrad sets out some values and expectations in his letter to Perry. He emphasizes the importance of everyone involved in high school sports showing respect for "teammates, coaches, officials, opponents, administrators and the game itself."

"As adults," he writes, "it is our responsibility to model respect, self-control, courteous relations and the ability to act with grace in all situations."

That can be tougher than it sounds — especially when the scoreboard is tilted against you, the players don't seem motivated, and the refs are all residents of North Andover.

Still, whether Andover coaches meet that high standard is absolutely the business of the people of the town.

David Joyner is executive editor of The Eagle-Tribune and the North of Boston Media Group. He and his family live in Andover, and his daughters attend Andover schools.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Congressional candidates should have given Baker a 'D'

Editor, Townsman:

In the Democratic Congressional debate Sunday, one question showed the candidates' true colors. When asked how the candidates would grade Gov. Baker's job performance, only two were willing to give him the "D" he deserves.

Since taking office in 2015, Gov. Baker has hurt working families, the elderly, and those with disabilities by attempting to kick 100,000 people off their Medicaid coverage. He's shown an inability to deal with the opioid epidemic in our state. He's failed miserably in his attempt to improve the MBTA system, and instead has watched it deteriorate further. On top of these failures, this self-proclaimed moderate, he's supported statewide candidates who oppose a woman's right to choose and LGBTQ+ rights, and he's raised over \$2 million for the RNC, much of which went to extremists like Roy Moore and directly into Donald Trump's pocket.

I'm proud of my state senator Barbara L'Italien and Alexandra Chandler for being unafraid to point out the governor's failures. That kind of courage and leadership is what we need in our next member of Congress who will be expected to fight hard against Trump and the Republicans. This leadership was very clearly lacking in Dan Koh, Rufus Gifford, Juana Matias and Lori Trahan on Sunday.

MATTHEW ALLEN
Andover

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.

Mail to:
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Andover, MA 01810
Fax to: 978-470-2819
E-mail: townsmen@andover-townsman.com. Please include the letter in the body of the e-mail, not as an attachment.

School Committee chairwoman: 'People are not infallible'

Editor, Townsman:

In the wake of the investigation into the conduct of the boys' volleyball team coach, E.J. Perry, and the inadvertent release of a confidential personnel document by Superintendent Berman, we feel it is important to make clear to the community where we stand as the School Committee.

First, both of these incidents confirm what we all know to be true: people are human and not infallible. The outcome of the investigation demonstrates that the high school leadership is willing to move forward and offer a chance to do better. We support their decision, recognizing that they have access to substantially more information than we do. Similarly, while the accidental release of a confidential personnel document

is extremely unfortunate, we are willing to move forward and offer a chance to do better. Coach Perry and Superintendent Berman both made apologies, and it is our understanding that those apologies have been accepted by those directly affected. It appears that everyone directly involved is ready to move on.

Second, we understand that residents have widely differing views on the situation. We have received feedback from those who believe the coach should be fired; believe the suspension, investigation and findings are unjust; believe the superintendent should be fired; and are concerned about the perpetuation of unfounded conspiracy theories and the harm they inflict on Andover students. We appreciate this feedback and remind the community that the School Committee has no legal authority to take action with respect to district staff. With respect to matters we are authorized to address, a coaching code of conduct, reinforcement of our expectations for all those involved in AHS athletics, and codification of the district's standard procedures for investigations into alleged misconduct. Moreover, we have addressed the superintendent's error with him.

Third, we note that terrible damage can be done by those who rush to condemn others without knowing all (or even any) of the facts. Attacks against students on social media by adults are particularly abhorrent, and as adults we need to model

the kind of behavior we would hope for from others if one of our own children was involved. We all hold responsibility for creating a culture where those concerned about harm will raise matters without trepidation to those who can help make them safe.

Finally, we want to leave no doubt about where we stand on the issue of abusive or discriminatory treatment of Andover's students. It is not acceptable, and it will not be tolerated. We believe that when the district receives allegations of such treatment which appear to be credible, as is standard practice for any investigation into such allegations, the individual accused should be placed on leave until the district can determine the facts. We understand that some residents feel this is a rush to judgment, and we do not expect we can change their minds. However, we are confident in this best practice and we see no reason to depart from it. The risk of making a mistake here is too great: we cannot allow an accused staff member to continue to work with our children simply because we personally find it difficult to believe that he or she did anything wrong. None of us in the community ever have all of the information, and there is almost always another side (or more) to the story. Our children rely on us to protect them, and if we cannot do that, then we have failed them as parents and as leaders.

SUSAN MCCREADY
Chairwoman, Andover School Committee, on behalf of the full committee

READER ACCESS

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To reach the newsroom with a news tip or request, please call the appropriate person:

- **Editor Bill Kirk** for comments on overall editorial content and quality; 978-691-8733, bkirk@andovertownsmen.com
- **Reporter Judy Wakefield** at 978-691-8726, or jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com
- **Reporter Kelsey Bode** at 978-691-8723, or kbode@andovertownsmen.com
- **Sports Writer Dave Willis** at 978-946-2473; dwillis@andover-townsman.com.

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TownsBeat



ABOVE: Former Red Sox player Lou Merloni throws a pitch to start Andover Little League's opening day parade April 29.

LEFT AND RIGHT: Players participate in the parade.

No rain delay for annual Little League parade

STAFF REPORT

The Andover Little League opening day parade went off without a hitch on April 29, despite persistent downpours and gloomy weather.

But the rain and fog didn't keep the kids from smiling. Hundreds of young

athletes and their coaches met at Doherty Middle School on Bartlet St. at 10:30 a.m. for the march, which finished at noon.

The special guest was Lou Merloni, who played for the Red Sox from 1998 to 2002 and part of 2003 and is now a radio personality in Boston.



Andover High School baseball coach Dan Grams welcomes players and their families to Andover Little League's opening day parade April 29.



Players and coaches participate in Andover Little League's opening day parade on April 29.

Reba Saldanha photos



ABOVE: Patrick Coby tips his hat during Andover Little League's opening day parade.

LEFT: Wilson Santos, 4, left, and Dylan Paige, 6, face the color guard as Colleen Shea sings the national anthem.

ANDOVER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAY MAY 4 TO 6

DISNEY'S "MARY POPPINS JR.," Byfield Community Arts Center, 7 Central St. Presented by TTS Players and directed by Michael Fay; performances will be at 7 p.m. on May 4 and 5, and 2 p.m. on May 6; invite family and friends to enjoy this beautiful and fun story; email ttsplayers@gmail.com to reserve tickets or leave a message at the box office at 978-463-3335; calls will not be returned, but tickets can be reserved and paid for at the pick-up window on show days; www.ttsplayers.com.

SATURDAY, MAY 5

ANNUAL MEGA YARD SALE, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., North Parish Church, 190 Academy Road, North Andover. "The purpose is to re-purpose"; offerings will include household goods, clothing, kitchenware, toys, furniture, outdoor equipment, treasures and more; lunch will be available as well; admission is \$1.

TULIP FESTIVAL OPEN HOUSE, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., The Stevens-Coolidge Place, 137 Andover St., North Andover. Full house tours will be offered every half hour, starting at 10 a.m., on a first come, first served basis; view the two-story mural of the gardens, artifacts from around the world, and learn the story of Helen and John Coolidge, and how they transformed this once working family

farm into a gentleman's summer estate; guided tours of the gardens will also be available, at no additional fee, at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.; families can make flower sun catchers, read stories in the cozy nook of a tree and play lawn games; \$5 for Trustees members, \$10 for nonmembers, free for member children; preregistration is encouraged; www.facebook.com/stevenscoolidgeplace.

FLOWERING TABLE GARDEN WORKSHOP, 10 a.m. to noon, The Stevens-Coolidge Place, 137 Andover St., North Andover. Floral guru Betsy Williams will lead the hands-on workshop in which participants will plant a spring garden that can be grown indoors or enjoyed outside on nice days; the portable spring garden will look equally charming on a table, windowsill or doorstep; the workshop coincides with the annual Tulip Festival Open House; participants are encouraged to hop on a garden tour or play a little bocce once the class is over; \$60 for Trustees members, \$75 for nonmembers; workshop participants will also receive free admission to the open house; preregistration is required as space is limited; www.facebook.com/stevenscoolidgeplace.

MAY 5 AND 12

BRIDGES BY EPOCH BOOK CLUB, 2 to 3:30 p.m., Bridges by

EPOCH, Andover Welcome Center, 10 Main St., Unit L-2. Members will meet to discuss "On Pluto: Inside the Mind of Alzheimer's" by Greg O'Brien; the award-winning bestseller tells an inspiring personal story of hope, faith and early-onset Alzheimer's; learn about O'Brien's journey with the disease and his family's fight against Alzheimer's as well as their push for a cure and better care for future generations; all are welcome to join the discussion; registration is requested; 978-775-1070.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

ANDOVER CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT, 3 p.m., Veterans Memorial Auditorium, 50 Bartlet St. The chorus will perform "Songs of World War I," to commemorate America's entrance into the First World War; the concert, which will feature a professional orchestra and soloists, is presented in partnership with the Andover Historical Society; the first half of the program will tell the story of the war's impact through popular song, featuring arrangements written by Jerry Noble; the second half will include contemporary settings of John McCrae's poem, "In Flanders Fields," and Siegfried Sassoon's poem, "Everyone Sang," which was written shortly after the end of the war; Mack Wilberg's arrangement of "My Country 'Tis of

Thee," which features words penned in 1832 by Samuel F. Smith, an Andover Theological Seminary student, will also be part of the program; in addition, the audience can view images from Andover Historical Society's World War I era collection; www.andoverchorsociety.org.

2018 STEP UP FOR COLLEEN, 8:30 a.m. to noon, Central Park, Bartlet Street. The fifth annual Step Up for Colleen 5K serves to honor the life and legacy of teacher Colleen Ritzer; more than 4,000 participants are expected to participate; registration and more information available online; www.stepupforcolleen.com.

SPRING ADULT EDUCATION SERIES: "THE MUSIC OF JEWISH LIFE," 2 p.m., Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road. Cantor Idan Irelander will present a workshop on the history of Jewish music; participants will explore a variety of Jewish music cultures and sing some Jewish music favorites; the series is offered through the Merrimack Valley Jewish Federation; \$20 per person; 978-688-0466, www.mvjf.org.

TUESDAY, MAY 8

ART LECTURE, 10:30 a.m., Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, 180 Main St. Judith Dolkart, Mary Stripp and R. Crosby Kemper director of the Addison Gallery of American Art, will discuss "Early Morning on the Avenue in

May 1917," painted by American artist Frederick Child Hassam; it is one of a series of flag paintings he created during World War I, between 1916 and 1919; the lecture is free and open to the public; www.andoverhistorical.org/under-the-stars-and-stripes.

THURSDAY MAY 10

WORLD WAR I: THE TRAGIC SEQUENCES, 7 p.m., Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St. Presented by Don Robb, the lecture will look at the tragic and lasting consequences of World War I; Robb will touch on the impact of the war on its combatants, the reorganization of Eastern Europe, the results of meddling in the Middle East, the cost of overlooking Africa and Asia, and the long term

effects of the Treaty of Versailles; free for members, \$5 for nonmembers; www.andoverhistorical.org/under-the-stars-and-stripes.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

CROSSROADS MUSIC SERIES: PATTY LARKIN, 8 p.m., Crossroads Coffeehouse, North Parish Church, 190 Academy Road, North Andover. Larkin redefines the boundaries of folk-urban pop music with her inventive guitar wizardry and uncompromising vocals and lyrics; tickets are \$20; doors open at 7:30 p.m.; if the show is not sold out, tickets will be available at the door (cash or check only); refunds are offered only if the show is cancelled; www.crossroads-musicseries.org.

See CALENDAR, Page 10

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Historical Society now Center for History and Culture

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

been talking about a name change for 10 years.

When "Society" is part of your business name, it can turn some people off as it's old-school and sounds exclusive.

Lots of times, "Society" keeps possible new members away, when in actuality, the group is just the opposite of exclusive.

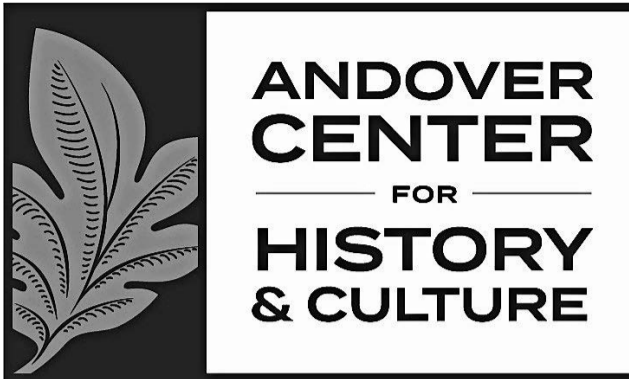
Board members at Andover Historical Society say they are among that opposite crowd and are by no means exclusive. They officially dropped "Society" from their name at a board meeting on April 29. The new name is The Andover Center for History & Culture.

Executive Director Elaine Clements said historical "societies" across the country struggle with their names and often inaccurate descriptions. Andover Historical Society, over 100 years old, is no different. In fact, Andover has

"One of the biggest internal changes happened when we started asking ourselves, 'why not?'," said Clements. "That simple change opened up a world of possibilities for programs and partnerships and led to participation in the creation of the Historic Mill District, and new partnerships with schools, teachers, the town, and other civic and cultural groups in Andover."

Clements said the word "society" is outdated for many people.

"To many people 'society' has an exclusivity that discourages their participation," she said. "Created in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the local historical society was often a private, insular organization that required membership in order to participate in events and learn more about the history of a town. Historical societies often preserved the history of a just small section



The new logo for the former Andover Historical Society bears a leaf which represents "a historic and universal representation of culture." The words "Center for History" are larger and in the center of the logo because history remains a central part of the organization's mission.

of the town's citizens to the exclusion of others."

So, the word "society" was dropped and replaced with the word "center." "Historical" was replaced with "culture." Clements said the new words are more inclusive to the many cultures that contribute to Andover's past, present and future.

"Contrary to the insular focus of old historical

societies, the Center has an external community focus that preserves and celebrates the history and culture of Andover. The Andover Center for History & Culture collaborates with multiple cultural organizations in and around Andover encompassing literature, music, the outdoors, urban planning, education, farmers market, civic organizations,

and other museums and historical groups," Clements said.

"Our new name is more reflective of who we are and what we do," agreed Martha Tubinis, the leader of the Center's rebranding team. "We do offer membership, but it's not exclusive. We actively encourage everyone to discover Andover's stories and participate in events, programs, and activities, often free of charge. Preserving the past, educating for the future and connecting with our community is the mission of the Andover Center for History and Culture."

The new logo is a leaf to represent "a historic and universal representation of culture," Tubinis said.

"The leaf suggests movement, which represents something active and living, moving forward and making history relevant to contemporary everyday life. We want history to serve as a launching point to inspire all of us to be creative,

collaborative, and contemplative in our daily lives. And we look forward to sharing the Andover Center for History & Culture with our community," Tubinis said in a press release about the name change.

"Center for History' is in the center of the image, because history remains a critical part of our mission. History is a part of our culture, just as culture is a part of our history," added Clements.

The rebranding team included Board President Susan McKelliget, Vice President Tubinis, Board members Maryann Sadagopan and Karen Simmonds, community volunteers Nora Pelt and Barbara Solomon, and Clements.

The rebranding project was funded by Andover members and donors. The new logo was created by Bonfire Studios, a web design and development agency in downtown Andover.

Eating desserts a sweet way to fund cancer research

STAFF REPORT

Two Andover restaurants are taking part in the upcoming Boston Bakes for Breast Cancer fundraiser that raises money for breast cancer research.

Samuel's at the Andover Inn and Yella Grille on Post Office Avenue will designate all sales of one specific dessert or 50 percent of proceeds from their entire dessert menu from May 7 through Mother's Day, May 13, to support breast cancer care and research. Fudrucker's in North Andover is also taking part.

This year, the event will support the research of Dr. Shom Goel at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Dr. Goel's research focuses on combining immunotherapy and a promising new class of drugs called CDK4/6 inhibitors to more effectively treat breast cancer.

Many restaurants, supermarkets, bakeries, cafés, and ice cream shops throughout Massachusetts will participate.



Courtesy photo

Proceeds from the sale of rice pudding made at Yella Grille will help raise money for breast cancer research.

Boston Bakes for Breast Cancer was founded in 2000 by Carol Brownman Snider in memory of her mother, Eva Brownman, who lost her battle with breast cancer. Since its inception the event has raised more than \$1 million.

For more information or the list of participating establishments, visit www.bostonbakesforbreastcancer.org, follow Bakes for Breast Cancer on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Dessert lovers can also visit <http://www.bakesforbreastcancer.org/get-involved/shop/> and have a sweet treat delivered.



Courtesy photos

Owner of CHIC Consignment May Doherty, left, and owner of Katieblue Art, Katie Nagy, at the April 12 Autism Support event.

Businesses raise money for autism support

By KELSEY BODE
kbode@andovertownsmen.com

Two local businesses raised \$2,200 for Melmark New England recently.

CHIC Consignment and Les Fleurs held a fundraising Autism Support event for Melmark New England on Thursday, April 12. Melmark New England, located at 461 River Road, provides a range of services to children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

"The vibe was really upbeat and energetic," said CHIC owner May Doherty. "I had people from all over Massachusetts here. I think autism is a cause that resonates with a lot of people. So many people are affected indirectly or directly."

Approximately 100 people attended the Autism Support fundraiser. Those who attended the event were able to shop, eat and drink light refreshments, and enter raffle contests. CHIC donated part of the proceeds from the event to Melmark, along with all of the money raised by raffle tickets.

Among the raffle prizes donated by local businesses were floral arrangements from Les Fleurs, a hand-painted denim jacket by Katieblueart owner Katie Nagy, platinum and diamond earrings donated by Kyle Ahern of Ahern Jewelry Design, a styling session donated by Unfoldid, a \$50 gift card from Rose and Dove, a necklace by Betsy Frost Designs, an iPad, and a Melmark gift bag.



Director of Advancement for Melmark New England Ellen Kallman, left, at the April 12 Autism Support event.



Sally Jacobson of Wellesley shops at the April 12 Autism Support event.

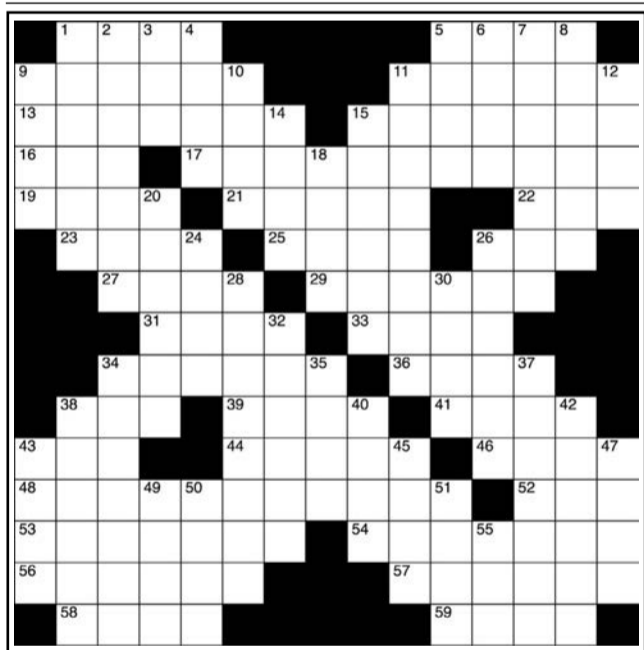
Contributions to the event were also made by Andover Classic Wines, Stop & Shop and D'Agostino's Deli.

It was not the first time Doherty has teamed up with other local businesses to support a cause. CHIC consignment teamed up with local businesses this fall to hold a breast cancer benefit as well.

"My philosophy when we do events is that I like to tie them to a cause," Doherty said. "I think it is more

meaningful to people and more effective for everybody. There's networking that happens, someone finds out about a resource for autism or finds a support group. I'm a business owner. I want to generate sales, but at the same time I want it to have a deeper purpose."

Follow Kelsey Bode on Twitter @Kelsey_Bode.



CLUES ACROSS

- As fast as can be done
- WC's
- Religious retreat
- Warfare
- One you wouldn't expect
- Disease-causing microorganisms
- For each
- Grammatical term
- One point east of southeast
- Den, actress
- Popular HBO drama (abbr.)
- Shampoo
- Scale drawing of a structure
- An enclosure for confining livestock
- Goat-like mammal
- Cigar
- Appear

CLUES DOWN

- Not awake
- Type of dessert
- They ___
- Retired Coast Guard admiral
- Gene positions
- Exclude
- One who is bound
- Where drinks are served
- Small vipers
- Blackbird
- Adventurer
- Shade
- A way to gain
- A salt or ester of boric acid
- Monetary units
- Removed
- "My country, tis of ___"
- Horses

Solution in Classified Section

- "Westworld" actress ___ Rachel Wood
- Leaked through
- The highest adult male singing voice
- Musical group ___ SoundSystem
- Aurochs
- Crazy (Spanish)
- Swiss river
- Strains
- Froek
- Found in most body tissues
- Cool!
- Reasons behind
- Christian recluse
- Removes
- Repents
- Energy
- Tailless amphibian

- Drives back by force
- Bold, impudent behavior
- Rates
- Types of nerves in males
- A ridge of sand created by the wind
- Wind instrument
- Pakistani city
- Dry or withered
- Delivered a speech
- Peak
- Small waterbird
- Days falling in mid-month
- Elvis' daughter
- Flat and smooth
- Dallas Cowboys great Leon
- What cows say

5/3/18

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 9

SUNDAY, MAY 13

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH PICNIC AND LILAC FESTIVAL, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., The Stevens-Coolidge Place, 137 Andover St., North Andover. Enjoy live music by Julianne and Barry Johnston of the Brookline Music School, and explore the garden with your little ones; lawn games will be set up in the garden; a professional portrait photographer from White Dove Photography (www.whitedovephotography.net) and Kate Ackermann Photography (www.kateackermannphotography.com) will be on hand to take family photos; pastries, fruit salad, coffee cake and vegetable fritattas will be available and Kim Gregory | Pure Pastry of Beverly will provide naturally gluten-free lilac-inspired

treats; assorted teas, coffee and juice will also be included; horticulturalist-guided tours through the gardens will be offered at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.; mini family portrait photography will be offered on a first come, first served basis; register early for a time slot; preregistration for this event is strongly encouraged and required to take part in the limited availability family portrait offering; admission is free for Moms, \$15 for Trustees members, \$9 for member children, \$25 for nonmember children; \$15 for nonmember children; www.facebook.com/stevenscoolidgeplace.

MAY 13 AND JUNE 10

PAINT THE GARDENS, 1 to 3 p.m., The Stevens-Coolidge Place, 137 Andover St., North Andover. Instructors Ana Smyth and Francisco Colom will provide expert step-by-step instruction on painting en plein air to all participants, novice and seasoned

alike; by the end of the class, participants will have created beautiful paintings to take home, inspired by The Stevens-Coolidge Place and its expansive gardens; weather permitting, the class will be held outside in rotating garden settings; during inclement weather, the class will meet in the greenhouse or in the historic estate; art supplies and aprons will be provided; suitable for all skill levels; recommended for ages 14 and up; \$36 for Trustees members, \$45 for nonmembers; space is limited; preregistration is required; www.facebook.com/stevenscoolidgeplace. **MAY 15, 29, JUNE 12 AND 26**

NATURE PLAYGROUP, 9:30 to 11 a.m., The Stevens-Coolidge Place, 137 Andover St., North Andover. Children and their caregivers can peek under rocks, inspect tree bark for hiding bugs, jump in puddles and have fun together

in flower-filled fields and a shady apple orchard; recommended for ages 2 to 5, but babies in backpacks are welcome; free for children of Trustees members, \$5 for nonmember children, free for adults; registration is not required; www.facebook.com/stevenscoolidgeplace.

THURSDAY, MAY 17

NOTCH BREWING'S BIERGARTEN ROAD SHOW, 4 to 9 p.m., The Stevens-Coolidge Place, 137 Andover St., North Andover. Notch Brewing of Salem, Massachusetts, is taking over the gardens this weekend, beginning with this casual Thursday night event in their Traveling Biergarten; visitors can relax in the gardens, take part in one of the lawn games, take a leisurely tour through the gardens at 5:30 and 7 p.m., or pack a picnic and stay for the evening; admission is free; www.facebook.com/stevenscoolidgeplace.

Townspeople

AHS senior earns Green Difference award

By KELSEY BODE
kbode@andovertownsmen.com

From clearing broken branches from winter storms, to organizing student volunteers and managing supplies, Andover High senior Aaron "AJ" Roberts, 17, spends a lot of time in the school's sustainable garden.

Roberts is the manager of the garden and spends about six hours a week working to grow the herbs, fruits, vegetables, trees and flowers located in the school courtyard. This past summer, Roberts worked as an intern in the garden for about 10 hours a week.

Roberts was given a Project Green Schools Green Difference award on April 13 at the Massachusetts Statehouse for his work in the Andover High sustainable garden. Project Green Schools is a national organization that recognizes students, teachers, and administration for their environmental work.

According to the group's website, their mission is "developing the next generation of environmental leaders through education, project-based learning and community service."

"What interests me is giving back to my community as well as zero waste, which is really impossible in the United States," Roberts said. "I like a clean environment. If you look on the ground everywhere, it's dirty. I also like to give people healthy food, and reduce, reuse, recycle."

"Honestly, I love landscaping and being outside," Roberts added.

Roberts was nominated for the award by Andover High Science teacher Melanie Cutler.



Aaron Roberts, 17, an Andover High School senior piles up brush while cleaning up the schools sustainable garden. Roberts will be receiving a green difference award for his work as manager of Andover High's sustainable garden.



Aaron Roberts will receive a green difference award for his work as manager of the Andover High garden.

This year, Roberts asked for seed donations on Facebook, which he says was really successful and helped him acquire a lot of new seeds the students have not planted before, like banana melon.

Roberts says he was speechless when he found out he would be honored in the Green Difference awards.

"Mrs. Cutler forwarded the email she got and I almost dropped my phone," Roberts said of the moment he learned he was being honored by the Green Difference awards. "I'm very thankful for it too."

Roberts will attend Quinnipiac University next year, and plans to major in Film Production and minor in Environmental Science. He says he hopes to find a way to intertwine his two areas of study in his future career.

Follow Kelsey Bode on Twitter @Kelsey_Bode.

"I nominated AJ for the award because he has spent many, many hours over the last two years working to improve the Andover High School Sustainable Garden," Cutler wrote in an email. "AJ is an exceptional worker and a real self-starter. I haven't had to give him much guidance on the garden work. He has taken on his role as Student Garden Manager with great enthusiasm and maturity, figuring out what needs to be done, and then going ahead and doing the work."

"Among other things," she added, "AJ has re-organized

the garden shed and greenhouse, organized and catalogued seeds, dried herbs to make tea, moved countless wheelbarrows of compost, and saved seeds from last year's crops to be planted this year," Cutler added. "AJ has almost single-handedly maintained the garden this year; he was especially helpful in closing down the garden for the winter on his own. AJ's fellow students in the Environmental Club and Environmental Science appreciate his work, although I'm not sure anyone knows just how much he

has done on his own time." Roberts fell in love with gardening when he was in seventh grade. His seventh grade science class had a greenhouse where the students planted cucumbers and flowers. After class, Roberts went home and asked his dad if he could start a garden at home.

"It was just fascinating," Roberts said of the greenhouse. "I talked to my dad. He said, yeah, you can have this area to garden. Every year it has gotten bigger and bigger."

Roberts says he now has

two garden plots at home, one is 20-by-10 feet and the other is 10-by-10 feet. He grows potatoes, tomatoes, lettuce, green beans, cucumbers, bell peppers, and peas.

When school started in the fall, Roberts took on the role of managing the sustainable garden.

"A sustainable garden is basically zero waste," Roberts explained. "If food is rotten, we compost. Anything that comes out of the garden goes to the cafeteria or Neighbors in Need. It helps our school and Neighbors in Need."



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Helen Ann Knepper of Andover, center, receives the 2018 Heroes in Action award from Evelyn Friedman, executive director of the Greater Lawrence Community Action Council during an event in Haverhill last week. David Gendall of National Grid also accepts the award on behalf of the company.



Courtesy photo

Andover residents, officials and former officials attended the Greater Lawrence Scouting Breakfast last week at the Relief's In, Lawrence. Pictured are, from left: AVIS member Jim Sutton, Andover Selectmen Chairman Paul Salafia, AVIS President John Hess, and AVIS members Kay Frishman, Susan Scott, David Dargie and Buzz Stapczynski, who is also the former Andover town manager. At right is Brian Major, Troop 75 Scoutmaster and former Andover selectman.

Andover nurse is 'Hero in Action'

By PAUL TENNANT
Staff Writer

HAVERTHILL — The Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, which serves lower-income people in a variety of ways, honored a nurse and National Grid as "Heroes in Action" Friday evening.

Helen Ann Knepper of Andover worked as a nurse in the Head Start program from 2000 to 2008. She then served on Community Action's board of directors for six years and has volunteered countless hours for the agency.

National Grid has contributed about \$100,000 to the fuel assistance program run by Community Action, repaired or replaced boilers and furnaces for clients and insulated homes. Knepper and National Grid received their awards at the Heroes in Action Gala at DiBurro's Function Hall.

During her time as a Head Start nurse, Knepper provided health screenings for children and gave them health lessons, including education about poisonous substances. She also acted as a liaison between parents and health care organizations.

While serving on the Community Action Council's board of directors, she was the vice president for a couple of years.

"She gave us a lot of time," said Evelyn Friedman, executive director of the Community Action Council. "She has a special place in her heart for children."

David Gendall, director of community and customer

management for National Grid, accepted the award on behalf of his company.

"We recognize the need," he said of National Grid's support for fuel assistance and energy efficiency.

"National Grid has been a great partner for many years," Friedman said.

The Greater Lawrence Community Action Council serves about 32,000 people, she said. Besides Head Start and fuel assistance, the agency also provides legal help for undocumented residents who want to comply with the law; counseling and guidance for families involved with the state Department of Families and Children; health care navigation; and English language instruction.

The estimated 150 people who attended the Heroes in Action Gala heard from a woman who has benefited from Community Action. Daniela Chavez-Hernandez, who has worked as a family advocate for the agency since 2016, said, "The child care center has helped me grow professionally."

The mother of a 3-year-old daughter who works and attends Tufts University, Chavez-Hernandez said she could not have afforded child care if she had to obtain it from somewhere other than Community Action.

Rick Blain, the master of ceremonies for the evening, reminded those who attended of why the Greater Lawrence Community Action Council exists: to end poverty.

He called for a moment of silence for people in need.

Boy Scouts thank AVIS for 30 years

STAFF REPORT

For more than 30 years, the Andover Village Improvement Society (AVIS) has opened up its 1,100 acres of protected forests, trails and wetlands to Eagle Scout candidates needing community service opportunities.

Keeping the trails enjoyable and safe are a major responsibility for the non-profit, which manages 33 reservations and has 124 years of history providing open land for the enjoyment of generations.

Before a Scout attains the rank of Eagle, a community service project must be planned, financed, staffed by volunteers, led by the Eagle candidate, constructed and completed. AVIS provided the land and the need for more than 60 Eagle projects in the past 30 years. It has been a win-win for both organizations, as the partnership has led to new trail construction as well as the building and installing of bridges and other improvements.

On Thursday April 26, the Greater Lawrence Scouting Community Breakfast honored AVIS and Jeff Riley, former superintendent of Lawrence Public Schools, for their contributions to youth and communities. The breakfast was held at Relief's In located in Lawrence, with 70 people in attendance,



AMY SWEENEY/Staff photo

People listen to the speaker during the Greater Lawrence Scouting Breakfast honoring Jeff Riley, The Andover Village Improvement Society held at the Relief's In in Lawrence.

including Eagle Scout Matt Davidsen of Andover, who discussed the Eagle project that he completed for AVIS.

Brian Major, Scoutmaster for Andover Troop 75, was the breakfast host and Paul Salafia, chairman of the Andover Board of Selectmen, presented the award on behalf of the Scouts.

Some 21 Scout packs, troops, crews or posts across Methuen, Lawrence, North Andover and Andover make up the Greater Lawrence Scouting Community that regularly recognizes community leaders.

Reading from a book about the history of AVIS, Salafia said "nature unspoiled fills a basic human need," and reiterated the importance of preserving open space for public use.

Major called Boy Scouts the "future leaders of tomorrow."

During Riley's time in Lawrence, Scouting programs grew within the schools. Cub Scouting as a school enrichment and after school program in Lawrence grew from 20 scouts to more than 130 in the past few years.

Reflecting on his time in the city, Riley said Lawrence was "the best work I've ever been able to be a part of."

Riley reiterated the four pillars of teaching he focused on in Lawrence: high quality academics; high quality enrichment, or "the things that don't show up on tests"; hard work; and critical thinking.

The model for Scouting in Lawrence — as a school enrichment program — is



AMY SWEENEY/Staff photo

Andover Selectman Paul Salafia gives the award to AVIS during Greater Lawrence Scouting Breakfast held at Relief's In in Lawrence.

different from how other communities do it. A number of troop leaders are employed by the school, and paid to run the troops, whereas other communities have parents that can volunteer their time.

"We found that parents work so much (in Lawrence)" said Craig Saline of Andover.

Some troop leaders are members of the security team, and others are teachers.

Scouts go through myriad service, community engagement, and leadership development during their time in the program, and obtain badges of achievement along the way.

Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera presented Riley and AVIS with commendations from the city.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING:
MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY**

Memorial Hall Library has a lot of programs and activities in store.

Here are some of the featured programs on the calendar:

Teddy Roosevelt to attend Friends meeting

Cowboy, soldier, naturalist, historian, father, statesman and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, Theodore Roosevelt lived a life that inspires Americans still.

The Friends annual meeting, held on Thursday, May 3, will feature an evening with Roosevelt, who, at the age of 42, became the youngest President in U.S. history.

Actor Ted Zalewski is an educator, writer, historian and the founder and leader of Solo Together, a guild of one-person historical performers. A brief business meeting will take place at 6:30 p.m., with the performance at 7 p.m.

This event is sponsored by the Friends of MHL. Sign up at www.mhl.org/calendar.

Andover Seed Library lecture series

Erin Doolittle, a gardener at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, will present "Creating a Cut Flower Garden" on Thursday, May 10, at 7 p.m.

Attendees will learn how to create cutting gardens for fragrant and fresh bouquets all summer long. Doolittle, who is in her eighth season as a professional gardener, designed this year's Cottage Garden.

Prior to her career in horticulture, she was a journalist for almost 20 years. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in sculpture and textiles and an associate's degree in textile design.

This presentation is sponsored by the Friends of MHL.

Andover Seed Library lecture series

Karen Bussolini, garden photographer, writer and eco-friendly garden coach, will present "Naturescape Your Yard" on Tuesday, May 15, at 7 p.m.

Bussolini will show how gardeners have learned from the processes of nature to create environment-friendly landscapes that reduce maintenance and costs, while increasing wildlife, beauty and enjoyment.

Her photographs of sustainable gardens are featured in "The Naturescape Workbook: How to Create a Garden with Nature as Your Guide," by Beth O'Donnell Young. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

Bussolini had a long career as a garden photographer, speaker and writer before establishing a practice as an eco-friendly garden coach. She has six books to her credit, including "The Homeowner's Complete Tree and Shrub Handbook" and "Elegant Silvers," which she co-authored.

This presentation is sponsored by the Friends of MHL. Sign up at www.mhl.org/calendar.

Local resident to host Death Café

Join Richard Davis of Andover and other adults at the Death Café, an open, lively and insightful discussion about death, on Wednesday, May 16, at 7 p.m.

While not a support group nor a venue for bereavement, a Death Café seeks to provide an unscripted, non-judgmental platform for those wishing to explore the many facets of this often taboo subject. Come with an open mind, a healthy curiosity, and a willingness to share thoughts, feelings and questions.

Socializing, refreshments at 6:30 p.m. Registration is requested as seating is limited. Visit www.death-cafe.com for details or go to www.mhl.org/eventcalendar to register.

Navigating the world of elder care

Naomi Prendergast and Rabbi Karen Landy will offer guidance on navigating elder care options on Thursday, May 17, at 7 p.m.

They will help demystify the decision process, provide information on how to pay for assisted living, as well as short stay rehab and long-term care.

Prendergast has served

as the president and CEO of D'Youville Life & Wellness Community in Lowell since 2004. Landy serves as rabbi and staff chaplain for Hebrew Senior Life at New-Bridge on the Charles, and as the rabbi of Havurat Shalom.

This presentation is a collaboration between Memorial Hall Library and Havurat Shalom of Andover. Visit www.mhl.org/calendar to sign up.

The shape of water (in Foster's Pond)

The public is invited to the 2018 annual meeting of the Foster's Pond Corporation on Wednesday, May 30, at 7 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library.

A panel will discuss issues related to protecting water and watersheds. Their presentations are applicable to anyone who lives near a body of water or in a watershed anywhere in town, not just near Foster's Pond.

Panelists will include Bob Hartzel, former coordinator of the Massachusetts Lakes and Ponds Program; Tom Carbone, Andover health director; Bob Douglas, Andover conservation director; and Marc Fournier, Andover DPW director/highway superintendent.

Sponsored by MHL and Foster's Pond Corporation.

Looking for book recommendations?

Andover library cardholders now have free access to BookBrowse, a leading book recommendation and review website. Some of BookBrowse's content is publicly available, but many premium features are now accessible to all library visitors and from home by MHL cardholders.

BookBrowse offers in-depth reviews that help readers decide if a book is right for them. "Beyond the Book" articles explore factual aspects relevant to each book. The site features more than 200 recommended reading lists, by genre, time period, setting, award winners, and a wide range of themes. There are handpicked "if you liked this, try these" recommendations for over 3,000 books and 2,000 authors.

Book clubs will find rich information and guidance, including advice on starting and running a club, recommended books, reading guides, interviews with book clubs, and online book discussions. The site offers fun quizzes, book news, polls, author interviews and book giveaways, and all books link directly to the library catalog so patrons can check availability with one click.

Check out the site at www.bookbrowse.com/mhl.

Other events at the library include: **Adult Board Games**, Sunday, May 6, 1:15 to 4:45 p.m. Play board games with other adults. Bring one from home or choose one from the library's collection.

MVMTA Honors Recital, Sunday, May 6, 2 p.m. Enjoy an afternoon of piano music by students of the Merrimack Valley Music Teachers Association. Sign up at www.mhl.org/calendar.

Conversational English, Monday, May 7, 10 a.m. to noon. For non-native speakers of English who have studied formal English and would like to practice their speaking and listening skills. New members are welcome. Call Carolyn Fantini at 978-475-4602 to register.

Tech @ MHL Drop-in, Wednesday, May 9, 10 to 10:45 a.m. in the Teen Room. Get help with the basics for iPads, cellphones, laptops and e-readers. Attendees are asked to bring their devices.

Discover Your Past Genealogy Club, Monday, May 10, 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

Career Networking Group, Thursday, May 10, 10 to 11:30 a.m. in Friends Alcove 1. Join this free group to expand your network of business contacts, share ideas, and learn effective job search strategies. Facilitated by Arleen Bradley, a certified career coach.

All events take place at the library, 2 N. Main St., Andover, and are sponsored in conjunction with the Friends of Memorial Hall Library. Registration is requested. For more information or to sign up, visit www.mhl.org/eventcalendar, or call 978-623-8401, ext. 31 or 32.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photos

Veterans from the Merrimack Valley who attended free exercise classes offered by the Run For The Troops attend the dinner. The classes were held for six weeks at the Andover Senior Center and taught by fitness instructor, Tracy Callahan, seen at the end of the table. A gift card from Whole Foods, courtesy of TD Bank was given to those who attended at least four classes.

Veterans honored at pre-race dinner

STAFF REPORT

The annual Run for the Troops pre-race dinner and fundraiser on April 20 at the Andover Country Club hosted friends, families and runners alike, but mostly it was about the veterans in attendance.

With Emily Riemer, a WCVB NewsCenter 5 reporter, as the emcee, more than 100 guests enjoyed dinner and an auction to help raise money for a variety of causes devoted to helping veterans and their families.

All veterans were invited free of charge.

The silent auction included items from individuals and local merchants who generously donated goods and services including restaurant gift certificates, personal care and beauty treatments, lawn and garden equipment, household appliances, sports memorabilia, sporting event tickets, hand-made items, lottery tickets, wine and beer baskets and more.

Past recipients and their families who have received a home built by Homes for our



Andover veterans from American Legion, Post 8 attend the dinner. Seated from left: Fran Rittershaus, Navy veteran; George Walsh, Air Force and Joe Hey, Army. Standing: Rich Guilmette, Navy; John Doherty, Army and Al Dusey, Army Air Corp. A WWII veteran, Dusey flew 25 missions over Europe in a B-17.

Troops, one of the charities that benefits from the money raised by Run for the Troops, are invited each year to the

event. The organization, completely through volunteer efforts, builds custom-designed homes to fit the

needs of injured military personnel.

The actual race took place April 22.



North Andover Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 2104, attend the dinner, from left: Leonard Enaire, Army; Bob Gauthier, Navy and John O'Connell, Naval Air.



World War II Marine veteran and Iwo Jima survivor Bill Quinn Sr. of Topsfield stands with other Marines to be honored. The 96-year-old veteran attended the dinner with his son, Army veteran Bill Quinn Jr., right and daughter-in-law Suzanne, left.

Annual Crafts in the Park slated for May 12

BY JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

A rite of spring, the annual Crafts in the Park, is scheduled for mid-May again this year.

Some 200 crafters and fine artists that travel from as far away as Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island and the South Shore will be there.

"The committee is very excited about the variety of artisans the event will offer visitors," said organizer Karen Van Welden-Herman. "There will be plenty of food vendors, too. People should come with friends and family to browse and enjoy the day."

Thirteen crafters from Andover are among the participants including Anne Thiam of Robandy Road. She does pottery, often with a spiky flare influenced by her years of scuba diving while she was living in Miami. She earned a BFA at the University of Miami in ceramics and a double-minor in art history and printmaking.

She grew up in Andover, and returned in 2009 with her husband and three children as the couple bought her parents' house.

She enjoys the hometown feel of Crafts in the Park



Courtesy photo

Potter Anne Thiam of Andover with some of her scuba diving-influenced works which she calls "the urchins."

and visitors are fun to speak with, she said.

"It's really a fun day because I get to meet people who appreciate art," Thiam said.

She's been busy with her

kiln, getting ready for the event and plans to make lots of her spiky pottery items that will sell in the \$35 to \$65 range. Those items sold well when she was part of Crafts in the Park last year.

IF YOU GO

- **What:** Crafts in the Park
- **When:** Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Where:** The Park, Chestnut & Bartlet streets, Andover
- **Cost:** Free admission

Van Welden-Herman said she is "particularly fond of Anne Thiam's pottery. She is a very skilled potter with unusual designs that are quite different from some of the more conventional pottery that we will have available. I think people will be intrigued."

Always held the day before Mother's Day, flower gifts will also be available to buy. Konjoian's of Andover will be selling geraniums.

Proceeds benefit programs at South Church of Andover.

The crafters from Andover are: Wilawan Chaiyarat, floral decor; Debbie Frio, quilts; Janet Hamlin, art; Cliff Hauptman, jewelry; Jennifer Hickman, candles; Dan Jacavano, leather work; Veronica Johnson, soaps; JoAnn Latvaitis, jewelry; Katie Nagy, clothing; Pam Newman, jewelry; Emily O'Hara, jewelry; Ivan Shokum, metal work and Anne Thiam, pottery.



Announcements

AUCTIONS

First Run

AUCTION: MIXERS- OVEN- REFRIGERATION- KITCHEN EQUIPMENT. Wednesday, May 9 at 11am. Preview: 9AM. 52 Country Way, Scituate, MA. PaineAuctioneers.com 617-731-4455 NECAN

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Real Estate

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Rentals

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Rick Petralia

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METHUEN, MA - Elm Crest Estates. 2 Bedroom \$1490/mo. 1 Bedroom - \$1,270/mo. All utilities included. No pets. 978-682-4891 www.forrent.com/elmcrestestates

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COMMERCIAL/BUSINESS

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METHUEN - 4 station salon. 60% setup. 2 baths. METHUEN - setup for 2 pedicure tubs & nail salon. Both businesses Off Fallman St. next to Days Inn Hotel. Call 702-531-1301

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MOTELS/HOTELS

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Rick Petralia

J Barrett & Company

978-865-1203

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LYNN - 2 bedrooms for rent in my home. No smoking no pet. \$650 & \$600. WiFi & all utilities included First & last required. 781-632-9388

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NOTICE

Some advertisements running in this category may require an investment

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

DRIVERS

EXPERIENCED CDL Class A, B & Non-CDL 40-50 hours per week. Food Service knowledge a plus. Apply in person: Fresh Valley Foods Corp. 447 West Lowell Ave., Haverhill, MA 01832 Send resume to: jgandvfr@gmail.com

GENERAL HELP WANTED

MAINTENANCE

Elderly housing complex in Lowell, MA has an immediate Full-time position for a Maintenance Technician. Candidate must be experienced in all areas of maintenance / janitorial. Must be available for on-call emergencies. Reliable and highly motivated self-starter. Transportation a must. Bilingual in Spanish a plus. Excellent benefits/Paid holidays/Vacation time. Send resume to: ETPC Job #803 100 Turnpike St, No Andover, MA, 01845-5096

PLANT MAINTENANCE MECHANIC

Local food processor is seeking Experienced Plant Maintenance Mechanic for full time employment Monday thru Saturday. Apply in person: Fresh Valley Foods Corp. 447 West Lowell Ave., Haverhill, MA 01832 Send resume to: jgandvfr@gmail.com or Fax: 978-912-7120

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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. PEOPLE LOOKING FOR PCAS, HEALTH AIDES, CNAS HAVE ADS RUNNING AND COULD USE YOUR HELP

Visiting Angels

LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES WALK-IN WEDNESDAYS INTERVIEWING: CNAs HHAs, PCAs WHEN: Every Wednesday, 10 am-2 pm WHERE: 182 State Street, Newburyport Call 978-462-6162

PROFESSIONAL

Purchasing Agent

Growing printer supplies business in North Reading looking for a full time buyer / purchasing agent. Duties will include brokering / purchasing of printer and copier supplies. Some cold calling involved to open up new accounts / prospects. Looking for an energetic, self-motivated worker for purchasing / buying of computer, copier, and laser printer supplies. Prior telemarketing with account management skills preferred. Familiarity with QuickBooks helpful but will train. Full time position available within 2 weeks. Salary plus commissions commensurate with experience. Benefits include paid vacation, medical, vision, and dental insurance. Good attendance, reliability, and punctuality a must. Please forward your resume to BCoffill@oemconnect.com or fax to Bill at 978-207-1007. No phone calls will be accepted regarding this position

EXPERIENCED CASE MANAGER

for youth currently in foster care. Must be licensed as a Social Worker or license eligible. Merrimac, MA area. Full-Time. Competitive compensation package. Please call 978-346-0266 to request an application or e-mail HR@sharelivingcollaborative.org

SALES

INSIDE SALES

Position in Peabody at manufacturing company that provides environmentally preferred chemicals to the metal working industry. Sales experience necessary. Computer skills and communication skills required. Product training provided. Salary and incentives. Retiree and others welcome. Email resume to: itk@solventkleene.com www.solventkleene.com

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ROOFING APPLICATORS and LABORERS Will train. Call 978-683-3420

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ATTENTION!

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CEMETERY LOTS

First Run

Peabody: Puritan Lawn - Sec. S142-2 2 Plots - Dbl. Interm. - value: \$4550 ea. Selling: 2 @ \$6500, Call: 508-414-0718

PURITAN LAWN Cemetery, Peabody One plot accommodating two. Includes 1 vault S24 - lot 4. \$3000. Call Joe 978-968-0245

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.

SEASONED HARDWOOD Cut/Not Split Have 7 cords (128 cf) call for pricing (978) 468-0988 (Haverhill)

FREE ITEMS

BRAND NEW STREET SKATES Size 7.5 (978) 203-0073

FREE CURIO

70" high, white, lighted top and bottom, glass sides. Good condition. (978) 532-1975

FREE EXERCISE BIKE and TREADMILL, Work fine Wilmington MA. Pat 978-203-0073

FREE FISH TANK - 52 gallon Hexagon with wood grain stand with storage, lighted hood, and heater. Small fixable crack on one panel, needs cleaning. 508-527-1019, Peabody

FREE TVs Not flat screens. 19" - 32" Wilmington MA. Pat 978-203-0073

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 deliver to this entire market. Prices may reflect a "Local" delivery area only and may be higher for an extended delivery area.

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑

YARD SALE

NORTH ANDOVER, 92 Bonny Ln Sunday May 6th. 8 am to 1 pm. No sales to early birds. Moving Sale. Many items for free! Furniture and household goods.

NORTH ANDOVER - MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE Sat. 5/5, 7:30 am - 12 noon, 44 Oakes Drive - Furniture, toys, home decor, clothing, jewelry and much more!

PEABODY, 18 Madison Ave Estate SALE Sunday May 6, 10am - 2pm. Everything must go. Dining Set, Bedroom Set, Living Room set and much more.

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Town seeks input on Park changes

By KELSEY BODE
kbode@andovertownsmen.com

Changes are underfoot for the park and playstead area on Bartlet Street.

The town is beginning a planning process to create a master plan for improvements for the Town Park-Playstead-Municipal Complex, starting with a series of three public meetings. The process is anticipated to take nine months. The first meeting was held on April 25 at the Senior Center at Punchard. Two more meetings will be held on May 23 and June 27 at 6 p.m., also at the Senior Center for Punchard.

Wilmington firm Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. has been hired by the town to spearhead the public process of planning for the future of the Park-Playstead-Municipal area.

"This park complex is both a heritage landscape and a contemporary community activity center," said Ronald Headrick, RLA, GPI senior project manager. "We will work with the town and its residents to understand available



File photo

Town officials want to study The Park, seen here on a warm winter day earlier this year, with an eye toward making changes that more closely resembles what they are now calling the Town Park-Playstead-Municipal Complex.

resources and fashion a design approach centered on the creation of a beautiful place that aligns with Andover's history and character, utilizing materials that are durable and readily maintained."

A committee made up of Plant and Facilities representatives, Municipal Services officials, the principal at Doherty Middle School, members of Youth Services, people from the Planning Department, veterans from the Patriotic Holiday Committee,

and Director of Community Services Joe Connelly, is also helping to guide the process.

"It's looking at the entire outdoor area of the park, the whole playstead area around Town Hall and the Cormier Youth Center and Doherty Middle School," explained Connelly. "Looking at that as a whole and coming up with possible recommendations for improvements to improve maintenance additions."

"This important open space serves as a public stage for

numerous town functions and events," Connelly added. "We are seeking to create a plan that improves use of the space and guides future improvements. This work will expand upon a planning process initiated by the Andover Planning Department in 2015."

In 2015, the Planning Department created a master plan of the park and playstead area to "bring it to the next level" according to Connelly.

"A lot of homework has already been done," Connelly said. "That data is the starting point. It's really a process the public is going to be involved in every step of the way. We are going to have a desired plan for going forward. It sets us up for future capital improvement projects. It is important to have that type of a master plan."

"The public is going to dictate where this goes," Connelly added. "This is a very open process. There are no premonitions of what we should or should do. We really want to look at this holistically right now."

Selectmen OK Zoning Bylaw Study Committee

By KELSEY BODE
kbode@andovertownsmen.com

The Board of Selectmen voted 4-1 recently to create a Zoning Bylaw Study Committee, which will serve as "a path to review current zoning and future proposed zoning changes, either by the town



Alex Vispoli

of Andover or private initiatives," according to the author of proposal, Selectman Alex Vispoli.

Vispoli suggested the town create such a committee earlier this winter, after dozens of disgruntled residents affected by large developments on Elm Street, Lowell Street and other neighborhoods throughout town clamored for a change in zoning laws.

Since then, Vispoli has worked with various town groups including the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Board of

Health to craft the mission of the group.

The committee, Vispoli wrote in a PowerPoint presentation to selectmen on April 23, will assess current zoning regulations in town, suggest changes, analyze suggested zoning bylaws for town meeting, and present their reviews and input to the Planning Board. The committee will examine zoning bylaw changes submitted by anyone from residents, boards, commissions and town staff.

Vispoli says the committee will tie into a larger goal of improving the town's communication and response to residents.

"In some way it gives residents the opportunity to have a voice," Vispoli said, adding that Director of Planning Paul Materazzo suggested that a couple of liaisons be added to the committee to represent various areas of town.

"I think the idea makes a whole lot of sense," said Austin Simko, chairman of the Planning Board. "It creates a permanent mechanism for exploring and studying zoning

in more detail than frankly the Planning Board is really set up to do."

Simko said he knows the Planning Board has been a source of frustration for residents, especially in recent months, but that he believes that the real issue lies with zoning.

"Planning and zoning have been controversial in town," Simko said. "I think the problem is about zoning, not about the Planning Board. Planning and zoning really drive the table."

Selectman Laura Gregory was the only selectman to vote against forming the committee.

"I am in favor of this committee, although I am a little bit concerned about the permanent nature of it," Gregory explained. "We need to be very careful in how we set it up and we need to have a very specific charter, which I don't feel we have right now."

Gregory said she would also like the committee to solicit public input from public meetings and/or an electronic survey.

"If we are going to look at overall zoning changes we

need to have an understanding from the community of what we want to do," Gregory said.

The Zoning Bylaw Study Committee will be comprised of seven members serving three-year terms. Four will be residents appointed by the Board of Selectmen, one will be a Planning Board representative, one will be a Conservation Committee Representative, and one will be a Zoning Board of Appeals representative. All of their meetings will be open meetings, and the committee will also have a uniform way of assessing zoning changes through a scorecard system. The committee will also have a small budget allotting for any necessary study or analysis from a professional, outside source, according to Vispoli.

Vispoli said he would incorporate Gregory's suggestions into the final details of the committee's mission.

Through a talent bank application system, the town will begin accepting applications to join the committee in the near future, according to Town Manager Andrew Flanagan.

MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY CHILDREN'S ROOM

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

Reading with Annie

Annie, a therapy dog, loves to sit and listen to children who are able to read to their own and may need a little bit of practice. Annie will meet with four different children at the library, for a period of 15 minutes each, on Tuesday, May 8, at 3:30 p.m.

Only the child who is reading to Annie and Annie's handler are allowed in the room during the session. Participants should plan to arrive 10 minutes before their time slot to pick out a book.

Register the name of the child who will read to Annie online.

Musical morning with Peter Sheridan

Children's performer Peter Sheridan will visit the library on Friday, May 18, at 10 a.m.

Sheridan will perform songs for the preschool set. His show features guitar, accordion, harmonica and a variety of other instruments, along with puppets and books.

This program is sponsored by the Friends of MHL. Registration is required. Register the name of each person attending at www.mhl.org/calendar.

Jr. Garden Club gathering planned

Join the Andover Jr. Garden Club for garden-related activities on Saturday, May 19, at 10:30 a.m.

Children, ages 4 to 7, can enjoy books and learn more about nature and gardening.

Online registration is required as space is limited.

Join the Night Readers

The Night Readers Book Discussion Group will meet on Wednesday, May 30, at 7 p.m. to discuss "The War I Finally Won" by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley.

Geared toward ages 9 to 12, and their favorite adult, participants are asked to read the book ahead of time. The meeting will be held in the Activity Room.

Register online at www.mhl.org/calendar if planning

to attend.

Other events in the Children's Room:

Thinking Thursday, May 3, 3:45 p.m. Kids ages 5 to 8 can share a story, do simple experiments and a craft. Online registration is requested.

Legomania, Saturday, May 5, 3 p.m. This program is for children ages 5 and up who love to build with Legos. Each child will build on their own base and then share their creation with the group before putting it on display in the Children's Room. Online registration is requested.

Pajama Party, Tuesdays, May 8, 15 and 22, 6:30 p.m. The 45-minute sessions include bedtime stories, quiet songs and games, and a short film. Designed for ages 3 to 5 and their adult caregiver. Pick up a token in the Children's Room.

Make a Present for Mom, Wednesday, May 9, 3:45 p.m. Ages 3 and up can make a Mother's Day present with the Junior Friends. Register online as space is limited.

In-Be-Tweens: 3D Floral Cards, Thursday, May 10, 4 p.m. Fourth- and fifth-graders can make 3D floral cards. Online registration is requested as space is limited.

Dads and Doughnuts, Saturdays, May 12 and 26, 10 a.m. This story time targets dads and children ages 2 to 5, although all are welcome. Take part in stories, songs, rhymes and a craft, and then have some coffee, juice and doughnuts. Pick up a token in the Children's Room.

Kids Coloring Craze, Tuesday, May 15, 3:30 p.m. Students in grades three to five can stop by for some coloring fun. Online registration is required.

Yoga for Kids, Sunday, May 20. Offered by Stand Tall Family Yoga, ages 5 to 9 can come to Bigger Yoga at 2 p.m. and walkers to age 5, with a parent or caregiver, can attend Little Yoga at 3 p.m. Online registration is required as space is limited.

In-Be-Tweens: Memorial Day Craft, Monday, May 21, 4 p.m. This activity is geared toward students in grades four and five. Register online as space is limited.

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Sunday paper.....5pm Friday (auto only)
Sunday paper.....5pm Friday

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Andover Townsman, Derry News &
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Also beware when responding to classified ads that ask you to send shipping cost.
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REDUCED ONLY \$1400. Call 603-400-4638

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LAWN MOWERS: Bolens gas push mower \$50. Poulin 6.5HP 21" with bag gas push like new, \$150. both recently serviced.
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CERTIFIED CNA looking to work with elderly in the Merrimack Valley area. 3 days a week Mon. Wed. & Fri. 9 am to noon. Have own transportation, will take to appointments. Asking \$20/hr. Call (978) 681-8630

PART TIME (Sat. & Sun 7am-1pm, Mon. 10 am-1pm) AIDE for man with memory loss. Pleasant home environment Will train. Exc. ref.'s, Driving record, non smoking, Cape Ann resident preferred Call Gary 978-281-8012 Weekdays 6am-noon only.

PCA wanted for woman in Merrimack, Ma. Must be energetic, reliable & able to lift. Monday through Saturday 6:30am - 1:00pm. Call Karen 978-384-8452 for interview

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Susan McKelliget

Andover
Historical Society

100 Years Ago—May 3, 1918

Thiras Brothers of 42 Main St. have purchased a truck to bring their shipments of fruits and vegetables from Boston and to deliver goods on their local routes.

Don't fail to attend the demonstration of war food this afternoon at the Food Center on Essex Street. James Tsunematsu will demonstrate all kinds of wheatless breads and muffins.

75 Years Ago—May 13, 1943

About 300 tons of rails from the old trolley line, running through several miles of Andover, and Shawsheen (on Elm Street up to Washington Avenue and from the Square down North Main Street through Shawsheen and along Union Street) will have been removed by the middle of this month under the terms of a contract made by the federal government with Louis Cyr, Lawrence contractor.

An extremely small group of men was accepted as this month's quota at Selective Service Headquarters in Boston Monday. Most of the men accepted are in the younger

age brackets, and they will leave for Fort Devens next Monday morning to begin active service.

Since it is probable that no canned food products will be shipped more than 500 miles from where the food is grown next winter, home canning is expected to assume a great importance.

50 Years Ago—May 9, 1968

A standing ovation followed the announcement Monday night that J. Everett Collins was the winner of the Rhoades Award as the Town Employee of the Year. The award was made at the fourth annual Founder's Day Observance held at the Andover High

School. It was obvious that the selection of the long-time selectman and state representative was a popular one with the gathering, most of whom were members of committees serving the community.

Construction may face delay, in that selection of an architectural firm to prepare plans for the new Safety Center is still in progress. In an effort to salvage some of the work already done on plans for the structure to house the police and fire departments as well as the civil defense headquarters, the building committee has conferred with Architects Design Group, Inc. of Cambridge,

the firm which had the contract for the original building which was found to be too costly.

25 Years Ago—May 6, 1993

Workers will complete the replacement of the Central Street bridge over the Shawsheen River and the road should be re-opened by the end of next month, according to John Avery, town engineer. Part of the problem with the old steel grate bridge was that it allowed sand and road salt to fall through and rust the steel beams, according to Mr. Avery.

Andover High School's all-night, drug- and alcohol-free graduation celebration

is planned for Monday night, June 7, from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. the next morning. The theme of the event is the Senior Safari and the school's gym will be transformed into a jungle. Some of the activities planned for the evening are movies, dancing, fortune-telling, handwriting analysis, volleyball, Karaoke, pizza, subs and ice cream smorgasbord.

Victorian Treats, a new shop selling English toffee, gifts, and collectibles, opened last week in the lobby of the Bernardin Insurance Building at 60 Main St. "English toffee wrapped in a glass tea-cup is one of the big Mother's Day things," Ms. Bernardin said.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE CENTER AT PUNCHARD

The Center at Punchard (The Center), 30 Whittier Court, Andover, has lots of activities and programs on tap. Here are some of the highlights:

Living Healthy Series: Paul Cronin, COO, from Successful Transition Planning Institute, will present "The

Platinum Years" on Thursday, May 3. A light supper will be served at 5:30 p.m., followed by the presentation at 6 p.m. A \$5 donation is suggested. Call 978-623-8320 to preregister.

Exploring the Past Can Help Us Understand the Present: Don Robb, local historian, will review the American experience in the age of Andrew Jackson on Thursdays, through May 24, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Find out if the Era of Good Feelings really was; why Donald Trump is a modern Andrew Jackson; how the North, South and West grew apart; how American inventiveness transformed daily life; and why Americans constantly moved West. The cost of the series is \$15.

Friday Night Special: Chinese American Association of Andovers and Andover Elder Services host free activities at The Center on Fridays, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., including Zumba, yoga, ping pong, Mah Jong, board and card games, and other social activities. All are welcome.

Wellness Clinics: Stop in for a blood pressure and weight check with trained nurses Wednesdays at 2 p.m. Get help with day-to-day health needs. This service is free and confidential.

Townie Trips: Thursdays, between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Center offers in-town traveling for those who want to get their hair done, go out to lunch, to a friend's house or to the library. A one-hour minimum stay at the destination is required. The cost is \$4 one way or \$7 round trip. Travel plans should be arranged by Tuesday at noon. Call 978-623-8323 to schedule transportation.

Monday Movie Matinee: Free movies are shown Mondays at 1 p.m., with popcorn and sodas available for purchase.

Mindfulness Meditation: Fridays from 3 to 3:30 p.m. by donation. Mindfulness is a modern, evidence-based

way of increasing one's mental clarity, calm, happiness and health. Facilitated by Chip Carter. Preregistration requested.

What's for Lunch: Warm meals served weekdays at noon; suggested cost \$2.50. Prior day registration is requested.

Bereavement Support Group: Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month. All are welcome to attend once or monthly to learn new ways together to carry on traditional ways of doing things and how to commemorate days that can trigger a lot of emotions. To register, call Lois Marra, Home Health VNA Hospice, at 978-552-4537.

Pain Management Support Group: This intimate and confidential group meets on the second Monday of the month, September through June. Open to anyone dealing with chronic pain management issues, the group is facilitated by Gerry Rainville, RN, MSN. Newcomers are always welcome. Call to register.

Computer Users Group: Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month, from September through June, at Memorial Hall Library.



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Sports

RELAY GOLD

Andover girls dominate competition for Division 1 Relay title

By DAVID WILLIS
Staff Writer

The Andover High girls delivered a record-setting day on the way to winning the Eastern Mass. Division 1 Relays at Lincoln-Sudbury on Saturday.

The Golden Warriors set both the 4x100 and 4x200 meet records on the way to the team title with a whopping 88 points. The Warriors far out-distanced runner-up Newton North (59 points).

“What a day!” said Andover head coach Peter Comeau. “Scoring 88 points in the Division 1 Relays is amazing. We set two records, it was an amazing performance. This is such a special team. This might be the best girls team I have ever had.”

It was the efforts of junior Hope Joel, senior Hannah Lansberry, junior Delia Barbanti and senior Ally Bennett that proved record-setting.

First, the foursome won the 4x100 in 48.46, a meet record and the third best in Andover’s illustrious track history. It bested the previous record (48.64) set by North Attleboro in 2009. Runner-up Natick came in well behind in 49.22.

Joel, Lansberry, Barbanti and Bennett then set a relay record in the 4x200 in 1:43.22. That was nearly a full second ahead of runner-up Natick (1:44.24). Andover set the previous record (1:43.58) in 2008.

“What a special group this is,” said Comeau. “Girls like Hannah and Delia and Ally and the Joel sisters (Hope and Emma) and Grace Dunn and so many others. Those relays were amazing. And we had no idea we were going to break the records.”

Also taking gold was the triple jump relay. The team of Kassie Brink, Charlotte Guterman and Soshia Strecher were first with a combined 98-01.75.

The Andover vaulters actually took first and second overall. The A team comprised of Audrey



Courtesy photo

The Andover girls track team celebrates after winning the EMass. Division 1 relays. The 4x100 and 4x200 teams set meet records and the Warriors earned a dominant victory.

Tarbox, Anna Livingstone and Kyra Morissette won with a 26-0.25. The B team of Brink, Julia Segent and Chloe Smith took silver with a 23-06.25.

Andover took home silvers in the shuttle hurdles in 1:18.12 (Anna Vrontas, Charlotte Guterman, Alyssa Grieco, Kassie Brink), sprint medley in 4:15.23 (Julianna Kennedy, Julia Sargent, Grace Dunn, Emma Joel) and the javelin (Ally Bennett, Toni Kobelski, Laura Olson) with a 280-02.

The 4x800 (Nicole Major, Zoe Nepomnayshy, Emma Griffen, Ava Trapp) was third in 9:42.46.

Comeau said preparations for the event were especially difficult because of how poor the conditions have been.

“We really had no idea how the meet would goal,” said Comeau. “We haven’t had the weather to run outside. No team has. We’ve only been outside for practice seven times out of 30 practices. So every team went into this meet blind.”

Eastern Mass. Relays

Division 1 girls meet
Team scores: 1. Andover 90, 2. Newton North 59
Area placers:
POLE VAULT: 1. Andover A (Audrey Tarbox, Anna Livingstone, Kyra Morissette); 2. Andover B (Kassie Brink, Julia Sargent, Chloe Smith); **SHOT PUT:** 5. Andover (Toni Kobelski, Hannah Willen, Georgia Rex); **DISCUS:** 4. Andover (Jess Moses, Hannah Willen, Angela Wang); **JAVELIN:** 2. Andover (Ally Bennett, Toni Kobelski, Laura Olson);
LONG JUMP: 5. Andover (Anna Vrontas, Alyssa Grieco, Allison Regnante); 6. Haverhill (Jayla Kitchings, Alexandra Auguste, Cat Stratotti); **TRIPLE JUMP:** 1. Andover (Kassie Brink, Charlotte Guterman, Soshia

Stecher); **SHUTTLE HURDLES:** 2. Andover (Anna Vrontas, Charlotte Guterman, Alyssa Grieco, Kassie Brink) 1:18.12; **4x100:** 1. Andover (Hope Joel, Hannah Lansberry, Delia Barbanti, Ally Bennett) 48.46; **DISTANCE MEDLEY:** 5. Andover (Nicole Major, Daniella Major, Emma Griffin, Emma Joel); **SPRINT MEDLEY:** 2. Andover (Julia Kennedy, Julia Sargent, Grace Dunn, Emma Joel) 4:15.23; **4x800:** 3. Andover (Nicole Major, Zoe Nepomnayshy, Emma Griffen, Ava Trapp) 9:42.46; **4x200:** 1. Andover (Hope Joel, Hannah Lansberry, Delia Barbanti, Ally Bennett) 1:43.22; **4x400:** 5. Andover (Hannah Lansberry, Grace Dunn, Delia Barbanti, Julianna Kennedy) 4:10.39

The victory on Saturday has Comeau feeling like this could be a very special spring for the girls track team.

“I think we could run the table (to the All-State title),” said Comeau. “I really think we can do anything. This is like the amazing 2015 boys team I had, but we have 17 girls this spring that will go to All-States and compete. I have never had 17 girls that can make All-States. That’s how deep we are. We have contributors from freshman to senior, and we just have to let them loose.”

“And the best part is there are

all great competitors. They are very good runners, very good Division 3 college prospects. But they compete hard against each other, compete hard in meets and want to be great. They were so psyched to win relays, because it is a big deal.”

Boys also shine

The boys pole vault relay took gold with a 34-00.50.

The discus relay placed second (379-11), the javelin relay was third (403-08) and the shot put relay was fifth (123-09).

The boys placed eighth as a team (26 points).



Staff file photo

Kassie Brink, here jumping indoors, played a key role in Andover’s dominant victory at the Eastern Mass. Division 1 relays over the weekend.

Lenes, girls lacrosse stay red hot

GIRLS LACROSSE

Behind a hat trick for Brooke Lenes, Andover beat Lowell 13-3 last Thursday. Emma Farnham, Mackenzie Evans, Carissa Agostino and Jordan Torres each scored twice for the Warriors.

Emma Farnham and Jordan Torres scored four goals each to lead Andover past Billerica 13-7 last Tuesday. Brooke Lenes added three goals and Livy Hodge made seven saves for the win.

BASEBALL

Gillette keeps dominating

Cedric Gillette threw a complete game with nine strikeouts and Matthew Potts had three hits, including a triple, and three RBIs to lead Andover over Chelmsford 8-1 last Monday. John Metzamaekers, Caeden Dillman

and Phil Leblanc each added an RBI for the winners.

BOYS TENNIS

Camino holds strong

Javier Camino battled back for a 6-1, 4-6, 6-2 victory at No. 1 singles as Andover beat Central Catholic 5-0 last Thursday. Reilly O’Brien and Sam Feng swept No. 1 doubles and Ryan Cadigan and Avi Jonarthonan won No. 2 doubles 6-0, 6-0.

Javier Camino swept No. 1 singles to help Andover beat Chelmsford 5-0 last Monday. David Grossman took No. 2 singles 6-0, 6-0 while Ryan Cadigan won No. 3 singles 6-0, 6-2.

GIRLS TENNIS

Muntean fights for win

Corina Muntean battled for a 7-6 (8-6), 6-3 win at top singles and Andover edged Chelmsford 3-2 last Monday. Isabel Zhou won No. 2 singles

and the team of Annette Kim and Caroline Yang won No. 1 doubles.

Caroline Yang won No. 1 singles 6-3, 6-2 and Andover downed Billerica 5-0 last Thursday. Anette Kim and Elia Petros won Nos. 2-3 singles.

Annette Kim and Caroline Yang took No. 1 doubles 6-0, 6-0 and Andover beat Central Catholic 5-0. Elia Petros and Anna Higgins teamed to take No. 2 doubles 6-1, 6-1.

SOFTBALL

Wiley slugs away

Callie Wiley drove in three RBIs, but Andover fell to Central Catholic 14-9 last Tuesday. Alexa Pacy added three hits, Scarlett Gillette two hits and scored a run and Jill Powers drove in two runs for the Warriors.

Despite two hits each from Anna O’Sullivan and Alexa Pacy, Andover fell to Chelmsford

5-3 last Monday. Emily Abbott added two hits, an RBI and a run scored for the Warriors.

VOLLEYBALL

Zhang stars

Despite 12 service points by Jason Zhang, Andover lost to Chelmsford 3-0 last Monday. Alex Shih added 13 digs and Jyles Amirault had 14 assists.

Yanchen Zhan led Andover with eight kills, 16 service points and seven digs, but Andover fell to Methuen 3-0 last Wednesday.

Alex Durham had seven kills and Yanchen Zhan had 15 service points, but Andover lost to Lowell 5-0 on Friday.

BOYS LACROSSE

Trottier, Miller stay hot

Alex Trottier and Bret Miller each tallied four goals,



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover’s Brooke Lenes, left, fires a shot against Boston Latin. Lenes and the Golden Warriors kept rolling with two big wins last night.

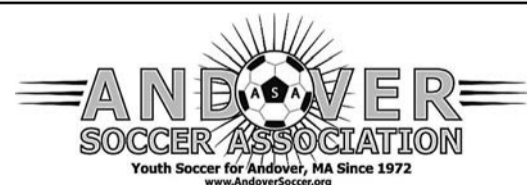
and Andover beat Lowell 11-5 last Thursday. Greysen Mitchell scored twice for the winners.

Bret Miller scored three

goals, but Andover lost to Billerica 10-6 last Tuesday. Alex Trottier scored two goals and Shamus Florio and Sager Florio each scored once.

ANDOVER HIGH SPORTS SCHEDULE

BASEBALL			TRACK		
Date	Time	Opponent	Date	Time	Opponent
5/4	7 p.m.	at Lowell	5/09	3 p.m.	at Central Catholic
5/7	3 p.m.	Tewksbury	BOYS TENNIS		
5/9	7 p.m.	at Methuen	Date	Time	Opponent
SOFTBALL			5/4	4 p.m.	at Lowell
Date	Time	Opponent	5/7	3 p.m.	Tewksbury
5/4	4 p.m.	Lowell	5/8	3 p.m.	St. John’s
5/7	7 p.m.	at Tewksbury	5/10	3 p.m.	at Wellesley
5/9	3 p.m.	Methuen	GIRLS TENNIS		
BOYS LACROSSE			Date	Time	Opponent
Date	Time	Opponent	5/4	4 p.m.	Lowell
5/4	7 p.m.	at Haverhill	5/7	3 p.m.	at Tewksbury
5/9	7 p.m.	Chelmsford	5/9	3 p.m.	Methuen
GIRLS LACROSSE			5/10	4 p.m.	Newton South
Date	Time	Opponent	VOLLEYBALL		
5/4	7 p.m.	Haverhill	Date	Time	Opponent
5/9	4 p.m.	at Chelmsford	5/7	5 p.m.	at North Andover
			5/9	5 p.m.	at Lawrence
			5/10	5 p.m.	Billerica



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REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

The following real estate transfers were recorded recently in town:

11 Alison Way: Paul L. and Kathleen A. Romano to Roberto Magitteri, \$865,000

200 Brookside Drive, Unit B: JCG Investments LLC to Huy X. Nguyen and Van T. Le, \$275,000

35 Chandler Circle: Helen D. Trott Estate and Robert L. Trott to Stephen and Barbara Besette, \$445,000

191 Holt Road: Black Hawk Development to Mark C. and Erin L. Nardone, \$425,000

1 Manning Way: Alex LLC to Carolina Properties LLC, \$600,000

286 S. Main St.: MSL RT and Leslie Mann to Norman L. Shipley and Amanda Clarke-Shipley, \$2,700,000

4 Shadow Lane: Hung RT and Simon J. Hung to Hui Yang and Wei Wang, \$933,000

1 Wild Rose Drive, Unit B: Meredith C. Mondejar to Ashley A. Karwowski, \$179,622

SEE WHAT'S IN STORE AT BOOMERVENTURE

BoomerVenture has a variety of programs designed to meet the needs of the broadest possible range of Andover's 50-plus residents. Here are some of the offerings in store for the campus at The Center at Punchard, 30 Whittier Court, Andover:

Exercise and Wellness Reflexology with Uli Kapp: Thursdays beginning at 6 p.m., by appointment only; \$1 per minute, in 15-minute intervals. Kapp will massage pressure points that correlate to Qi in the body, offering a refreshing, healing therapy for hands or feet. Those interested must register by the day before to hold a spot.

Everyday Mindfulness with Chip Carter: Fridays, 3 to 3:30 p.m. Connect mindfulness with one's "everyday life" in a very real and practical way; \$5.

All events are held at The Center at Punchard and are open to the community. Space is limited and registration is required.

The Center is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call 978-623-8320 for more information or visit www.andoverseniorcenter.org for complete listings. Registration can now be completed online as well.

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