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OUR 130TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

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Town hires consultant to solve brown water problem

By JESSICA VALERIANI
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Months after numerous residents complained about brown water coming out of the taps in their homes, the town finally engaged consulting company Woodard and Curran to address the water quality issue and then come up with a solution to fix it.

During the summer months, and even into the fall, people across the community have said that dark, murky and muddy water was flowing out of their taps at home. Some were concerned about the health and safety of the water, not to mention the stains it left behind in faucets, sinks, tubs and hot-water heaters.

According to town officials,

the brown water was due to iron and manganese sediment in the water system that was stirred up by heavy demand on the water supply in the summer months.

At the Board of Selectmen meeting Monday, Town Manager Andrew Flanagan said the comprehensive, in-depth water project will take several months. He added the essence of the project, lead by Woodard and Curran, is to look at the treatment processes at the water treatment plant and identify ways to improve the water distribution system.

Woodard and Curran Consultant Rob Little said at Monday's meeting the company plans to perform a treatment plant evaluation, where it will sample and analyze both the raw water and various unit

treatment processes. They will be able to determine if the source is actually in the raw water, or if it's being released through changes in the treatment process over time.

Little said the company plans to optimize the removal processes to ensure that if the high levels appear in the future they can be treated properly.

The company has tracked complaints on a map to see which communities in town experienced the issue, and noted that the complaints have gone down significantly since the summer months.

Little said iron is not as much of a problem to remove, but the more difficult manganese made it through the plant and into the system.

In the coming months,

Woodard and Curran plan to pursue an action plan and continue raw and in-plant sampling. They also plan to evaluate the effectiveness of the town's flushing program, while also looking at pressures and flows. The town completed their water flushing program this fall, but had to postpone by one week due to the gas disasters, and also omit a couple small sections of flushing, according to Director of Public Works Chris Cronin.

Since 2014, the town has replaced 8.5 miles of pipe at a cost of \$7 million. Future water main replacement will be coordinated with the paving work to be done in the streets by Columbia Gas, which Flanagan said was "critical."



FILE PHOTO
Cristiana Anjo took this photo in her house last summer.

Shining the light



Campbell Allardi, 13, uses a staple gun to mount tea lights in paper bags. For more photos and a story, see page 14.

RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo

Price tag for road work skyrockets

Roads, sidewalks affected by gas disaster need to be repaved

By ZOE MATHEWS
Staff writer

Early on in negotiations among Columbia Gas and the three communities impacted by the Sept. 13 gas disaster, there is disagreement about the extent of road repairs the utility will provide.

An over-pressurized gas line on Sept. 13 caused dozens of fires and explosions in Lawrence, Andover and North Andover that killed one person, injured others and cut off gas service to 8,600 customers. Service has been restored to most of those customers but the recovery will continue into 2019 and beyond. The effort includes repairing the more than 70 miles of road in the three communities that Columbia Gas had to dig up to replace its gas lines.

Lawrence, North Andover and Andover estimate the work needed to repair their roads could cost more than \$220 million and take up to four years.

Officials met with representatives from Columbia Gas this week to begin discussing the next phase of restoration work, including restoring roads, sidewalks, curbs, and traffic lights.

Municipal leaders from the three communities are expected to meet next week. See PRICE, Page 2

Gas crisis delays implementation of plastic bag ban

By JESSICA VALERIANI
jvaleriani@andovertownsman.com

The plastic bag ban voted on at May 2018 Town Meeting will face a delay in its implementation due to the Sept. 13 gas disasters, according to Director of Public Health Tom Carbone.

The delay comes in large part because the education and outreach component for restaurants has yet to be

completed, which Carbone said the the first couple months of the new year will focus on. He said a private consultant has been hired to develop an outreach program and compose a question and answer program.

"I wish we could have started the education program in September like initially planned, but we had other fish to fry," he said, as the gas disasters

and followed recovery became a priority over the ban.

Carbone said it may not be until March 1 when the town will start to enforce the ban, but there are still going to be restaurants with plastic materials they have previously bought and have in stock, that they may need some additional time to deplete.

The ban will prohibit the

use of thin-film plastic bags in grocery stores, liquor stores, convenience stores, and restaurants. About 170 establishments are involved in the ban, which Carbone said will be in effect even in temporary food places, such as food trucks, that come into town and operate for a day or two.

In addition to banning plastic bags, the ban also prohibits plastic straws and

polystyrene, a type of styro-foam often used for takeout containers. Carbone said restaurants that use this material will have to find an alternative product.

"The big things I think will have an impact is the way the bylaw is worded," he said. "Establishments are not going to be able to utilize plastic utensils anymore, and they are going to probably need to go to

something that is biodegradable or compostable."

Carbone said the town recognizes there needs to be a delay in implementation simply because the outreach opportunity for restaurants hasn't been done, but they will be bringing it on board as they can. He said he imagines a statewide enactment of the plastic bag ban will go into place next year.

EPA recognizes schools for food waste recycling program

By JESSICA VALERIANI
jvaleriani@andovertownsman.com

Andover Public Schools were honored nationally by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for putting food waste to better use.

The award is part of EPA's Food Recovery Challenge, which is an effort to reduce food loss and waste.

"Preventing food waste and providing excess food to people in need has significant economic and social benefits," said Alexandra Dunn, EPA New England regional administrator. "We hope that these New England leaders'

accomplishments will be examples for other organizations and communities who want to develop their own food recovery contributions."

"Andover schools' program 'Green Schools Andover' won the National Education and Outreach Narrative award. In 2017, 10 Andover schools saved 226 tons of food from the incinerator, while 217 tons of food waste were composted, and nine tons recovered using a share table program, where students donate unopened food and drinks.

Director of Food Services Gail Koutroubas said

Andover has been working to decrease the amount of food prepared in school cafeterias and be more mindful of the students' likes and dislikes, in an effort to minimize food waste.

"If they are not eating it, we want to find out why and use a different recipe or food item so we meet their standards," she said.

Koutroubas said Andover Public Schools has been selling less packaged foods, and more bulk foods. They have also implemented a "share table" program where students can put any food they bought from the cafeteria

See EPA, Page 2



File photo
Gail Koutroubas, director of food services for Andover Public Schools.

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File photo

Work crews dig in to the street at the intersection of High and Harding streets in Andover earlier this fall as part of the gas restoration efforts.

PRICE

Continued from Page 1

communities said they expect the job to be comprehensive and thorough, including curb-to-curb repaving and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act throughout.

But Columbia Gas is basing its initial estimates on Department of Public Utilities requirements for road restoration following utility work that are less extensive than what the communities want.

Lawrence Mayor Daniel Rivera said he was told by city officials at the negotiations with Columbia Gas there were discrepancies between what the municipalities expected and what

the company offered in initial discussions.

“We have to make sure that Columbia Gas isn’t confusing their philanthropic generosity with justice,” Rivera said. “They shouldn’t confuse this with a negotiation in the corporate space,” he said. “This is not a negotiation of ‘maybe we’ll meet in the middle.’ They have a responsibility, whatever the number is, to do it ... Where the law calls for sidewalk mediation and ADA compliance, they have to meet that. We have to meet it, so they have to meet it. We didn’t ask for any of this.”

Since the Sept. 13 explosions and fires, the three municipalities conducted an inventory of all that needs to be repaired. They each hired an engineering firm,

Environmental Partners Group, to compile reports that estimate the construction budgets for road and sidewalk restoration.

According to the reports, obtained by The Eagle-Tribune, all traveled ways where any excavation took place within the road or sidewalks would be addressed.

In Lawrence, 34 miles of road were impacted; in Andover, 20.5 miles of road were affected; in North Andover, 15.8 miles of road were impacted.

Environmental Partners provided two scenarios for reconstruction:

One option includes full-depth reclamation of all roadways and sidewalk construction, with cement concrete and granite curbing where sidewalks currently exist. This option — grinding all asphalt and base materials down to the road bed, then compacting it and topping it with a fresh asphalt layer — is more expensive.

The second option includes mill and overlay

— replacing the top 2 inches of asphalt — along 80 percent of the roadways, and full-depth reclamation along the remaining 20 percent, with sidewalk reconstruction with cement concrete and granite curbing along 80 percent of existing sidewalks, and asphalt sidewalks with granite curbing along the remaining 20 percent. This option is cheaper.

For Lawrence, the firm estimated costs from a low of \$97.2 million to a high of \$124.4 million.

For Andover, the firm estimated costs from \$33.7 million to \$57.2 million.

For North Andover, the firm estimated costs from \$28.7 million to \$39.9 million.

In the Department of Public Utilities’ orders, the agency requires Columbia Gas reach an agreement with the communities on the restoration plan, which will be subject to “investigation and prudence review” by the department.

Columbia Gas, in an email response to questions from The Eagle-Tribune, said

the company’s road repair estimate was prepared in accordance with DPU requirements, which do not require curb-to-curb restoration for roads older than five years.

“Columbia Gas prepared its estimate on a street by street basis and determined and included those areas where curb to curb paving would be appropriate,” according to the email.

As of Friday, no agreement had been reached. Columbia Gas did not provide a dollar amount for its construction estimate.

“These discussions are ongoing and include discussion of a voluntary enhanced paving plan that goes above the DPU standards,” the gas company said in the email.

Although the DPU orders require all work be complete by Oct. 31, 2019, a later deadline would be allowed without penalty, if it is agreed upon by the communities and Columbia Gas.

Andover Town Manager Andrew Flanagan said he

expects the roadwork to be a three- to four-year job.

“It’s about balancing the magnitude of the work with the community’s tolerance given the potential disruption this work will cause,” Flanagan said.

North Andover Town Manager Andrew Maylor noted the initial conversations with Columbia Gas regarding road repair work are just the beginning, and reaffirmed local officials’ stance that restoration must be up-to-code and comprehensive.

“If they go into a basement to replace a boiler ... but when they’re in there they find asbestos or galvanized pipe, it was a requirement of the commonwealth that they meet code,” he said. “Why would the roads be any different?”

He said it will take more conversations at the table before an agreement is reached.

“If we come out of this with nice roads that aren’t handicap accessible, that’s not a success,” Maylor said.

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Beacon Hill faces pressure for safety regulations

By CHRISTIAN M. WADE
Statehouse Reporter

BOSTON — Natural gas companies are compromising public safety by cutting back on skilled staff who oversee pipeline projects, according to state lawmakers, gas safety experts and union leaders who are pressuring Beacon Hill for more oversight of the industry.

Among new regulations being considered is requiring gas companies to assign experienced technicians to job sites to monitor gas pressure in the lines during work, which was recommended by federal regulators who are investigating the gas fires and explosions that ripped through the Merrimack Valley more than three months ago.

“We need inspectors at every job site,” said Rep. Lenny Mirra, R-West Newbury, a member of the Legislature’s Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, which is considering new safety rules for the industry.

“Not only should a supervisor have the ability to shut down a gas job, but every worker on site should be able to hit the stop button if they see something wrong,” he said.

Mirra, who owns a contracting company that does underground utility work, said there needs to be more oversight of gas work and inspections, both from utilities and the state.

“When I was in the field we almost never saw inspectors,” he said. “That’s not a big deal when you’re doing cable TV, but for gas it’s a completely different story.”

Gov. Charlie Baker is asking state lawmakers to require gas projects be reviewed by a certified professional engineer — also a recommendation from federal regulators.

Baker, a Republican, filed the proposed legislation last month in response to a

recommendation from the National Transportation Safety Board, which is investigating the gas disaster that killed one person, injured two dozen others, and damaged or destroyed more than a hundred buildings.

More than 30 states, including Massachusetts, exempt public utilities from having a licensed engineer review plans for construction work.

The state House of Representatives approved a version of Baker’s bill on Thursday, but the measure needs approval from the Senate before Dec. 31, the end of session.

The NTSB said in a recent report that a licensed engineer could have potentially spotted critical oversights and prevented the Sept. 13 disaster. The report made additional safety recommendations, including greater review of gas line work plans, risk assessments and better oversight of job sites to prevent similar disasters.

“Gas main pressures should be continually monitored during these modifications and assets should be placed at

critical locations to immediately shut down the system if abnormal operations are detected,” the federal agency wrote.

Baker said he wants to see recommendations from Dynamic Risk Assessment Systems — a private consulting firm hired by his administration to review the safety and integrity of the state’s aging gas system following the Merrimack Valley disaster — before backing additional regulations. The report is due by March.

“That report should give us a much broader set of recommendations around pipeline safety,” Baker said in a recent interview. “My hope is that we’ll be able to take what they recommend and either turn it into a (Department of Public Utilities) order, or if we need statutory approval, we’ll file something and hopefully move it through the Legislature.”

Gas safety experts say utilities in Massachusetts compromise safety by turning to outside contractors for pipeline work, while cutting back on staff to oversee the projects.

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EPA

Continued from Page 1

that is packaged and not tampered with for other students to take. Packaged food items like yogurt or

bags of goldfish go on the share table in the cafeteria.

“It saves parents money because they don’t have to pay for additional food if their kids are still hungry, and it helps with awareness of wasted food,” said Koutroubas.

If too much food is produced or doesn’t sell during the lunch periods, it is brought by volunteer parents to Neighbors in Need, instead of being thrown away.

Koutroubas said over the past few years she has noticed a decrease in the

amount of food waste coming out of Andover Public Schools.

In 2017, the EPA worked to divert more than 59,000 tons of food for donation or composting. Nationally, over 1,000 businesses, governments and non-profit organizations participate in EPA’s Food Recovery Challenge.

Last year, challenge participants prevented almost 648,000 tons of food from entering landfills or incinerators, saving participants up to \$31.2 million in avoided landfill tipping fees.

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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:

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.

Council on Aging board meetings: The COA meets on the second Thursday of each month at 8:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend the meetings.

Parkinson's Support Group: Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month, 1:30 to 3 p.m., September through June, and are open

to all. Call Kristine Arakelian, outreach coordinator, to confirm attendance or for more information.

Brown Bag: Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Boston Food Bank and The Center at Punchard, are expanding the Brown Bag program. This free program is for anyone 60 and over with an income less than \$21,978 for a single person or \$29,637 for a couple, on Mass Health, Chapter 115, food stamps or fuel assistance. The grocery bag is available on the fourth Tuesday of the month and must be picked up by 10:15 a.m. Call Annmary Connor or Kristine Arakelian to check eligibility or to sign up.

For outdoor programs, any cancellations or changes will be communicated by email and/or phone to those registered. All participants need a health release form on file at The Center, updated annually. Bring binoculars, water, bug spray, a walking stick and wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots. Hikes are subject to change due to weather and conditions. Preregistration is requested; swipe in before going.

Weekly classes are also offered in aerobics (seated to very vigorous), strength training, beginner and intermediate yoga, basic and performance tap dancing, beginning and intermediate tai chi as well as line dancing.

All events are open to the

community. However, space is limited and registration is required; sign up at www.myactivecenter.net.

The Center is open daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For a complete listing of classes and programs, check The

Center's newsletter or visit www.andoverseniorcenter.org. For more information, call 978-623-8320.

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Lyons hosts his last Nativity display at Statehouse

By CHRISTIAN M. WADE
Statehouse Reporter

BOSTON — They sang traditional hymns, bowed their heads in prayer, and spoke about celebrating the “true meaning” of Christmas.

On Thursday dozens of revellers — including lawmakers, staff and their families, as well as clergy and representatives of conservative groups — gathered in the Great Hall at the Statehouse in front of a Nativity scene depicting the birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem.

The event, organized by Rep. Jim Lyons, R-Andover, featured food, choirs signing traditional hymns and speeches by religious figures.

“Our message is that this is about what Christmas has always been, to us as Christians and I think to a lot of non-Christians also,” Lyons said ahead of the ceremony. “This is about that message, the message of love, hope and



Rep. Jim Lyons of Andover, right, hosted his final nativity scene ceremony as a member of the House on Thursday.

PHOTO CHRIS TRIUNFO/SHNS

joy.”

Lyons, who lost his re-election bid in November, first set up a Nativity creche at the Statehouse in December 2016

after getting a request from a constituent to place one on the building’s lawn.

Initially, he faced opposition from secular groups,

not to mention Statehouse officials, who suggested the religious display was inappropriate for a government building.

When the Bureau of the State House rejected his request, Lyons contacted the Thomas More Society, a conservative nonprofit law firm that specializes in religious freedom matters. The Chicago group threatened to sue over the Nativity scene, calling it a First Amendment issue.

After some wrangling, the bureau relented and gave Lyons permission for a display.

The battle over what sort of religious -- or nonreligious -- displays are allowed in public places has become a holiday ritual, raising questions about First Amendment protections of free speech and prohibitions of a government-established religion.

Gov. Charlie Baker, a Swampscott Republican who backed Lyons campaign, spoke briefly about the importance and significance

of faith.

“I’ve had this job now for four years and spent a lot of time with a lot of people in some difficult circumstances,” Baker said in remarks to the crowd on Thursday. “Almost always, whether I’m with a group of 50, 500, 5 or 2, someone will talk about there being light in the darkness, and they’ll talk about the importance of faith. That’s exactly what this and so many other religious traditions across this great pluralistic country of ours are all about.”

Lyons, who says he wasn’t trying to make a political or religious statement, hopes someone else will carry on the tradition after he leaves office at the end of the year.

Christian M. Wade covers the Massachusetts Statehouse for North of Boston Media Group’s newspapers and websites. Email him at cwade@cnihi.com.

Governor pledges to focus on familiar issues

By CHRISTIAN M. WADE
Statehouse Reporter

BOSTON -- Gov. Charlie Baker is pledging to continue governing deep-blue Massachusetts as a centrist and plans to focus on familiar issues during his second term.

Baker, who will be sworn into a second four-year term on Jan. 3, said people can expect him to stay on many of the issues that his administration worked on during his first term, such as battling the state’s opioid crisis, addressing a housing shortage, greening the state’s energy portfolio and fixing the beleaguered MBTA.

Topping his list priorities is dealing with a shortage of housing that he says is holding back the state’s economic growth.

“We don’t have any inventory, and what we do have gets priced out of sight the second it comes on the market,” he said in a wide-ranging interview.

“That pushes people further and further away from

Baker filed legislation earlier this year aimed at boosting the state’s dwindling housing stock, as part of an ambitious plan to add at least 135,000 new homes over the next five to seven years.

where they work.”

Baker filed legislation earlier this year aimed at boosting the state’s dwindling housing stock, as part of an ambitious plan to add at least 135,000 new homes over the next five to seven years. The plan called for incentives to cities and towns for loosening zoning rules that many say is at the root of the state’s housing shortage.

His bill was voted on favorably by the Legislature’s Joint Committee on Housing but failed to get through the House and Senate by the end of the formal legislative



FILE PHOTO

Gov. Charlie Baker said his agenda going into the next four years will be to focus on

session.

“It didn’t have everything that everyone wanted in it, but it was something that everyone agreed would dramatically influence our ability to build more housing,” he said.

Baker said he hopes the

Democratic-controlled Legislature will take up his housing bill before the end of the year, but if not, he plans to refile it next year.

“Something has to get done,” he said. “The housing issue isn’t just a housing issue. It’s an equity issue, a transportation and economic vitality issue.”

On opioids, Baker said he wants to continue efforts to reduce fatal overdoses while focusing on long-term recovery that he said is key to reducing addiction.

“One of the biggest issues we have is helping people stay clean,” he said. “Research shows that addiction really does change how

the brain works, and it takes a while to undo that.”

The state has seen a slight drop in overdose deaths in the past two years and a continuing reduction in the number of prescriptions being written by doctors for painkillers.

But health officials reported more than 1,500 overdose deaths through the first nine months of 2018, most of which were linked to the powerful synthetic opioid fentanyl.

“We’ve made some progress but we clearly have a way to go,” Baker said.

On the environment, Baker said he plans to continue focusing on renewable energy, especially off-shore wind, to diversify the state’s energy mix and meet goals of the 2008 Global Warming Solutions Act.

The pact requires the state to ratchet down greenhouse gas emissions that scientists say are contributing to climate change.

Baker doesn’t plan to push education policies as ambitious as charter school expansion, which voters rejected two years ago. Instead he wants to continue focusing on smaller-scale initiatives, such as improving vocational schools to train students for the jobs of the future.

Baker touted record increases in state aid to school districts during his first term, totaling around \$500 million, but he says

more needs to be done to reduce disparities between districts.

“We need to leverage more state resources to help underperforming school districts do better,” he said.

Baker also said he will pressure the MBTA to ramp up capital spending, including the purchase of new Red and Orange Line subway cars, a Green Line extension into Medford and Somerville, and the installation of a new automated fare collection system.

His administration plans to spend \$8.5 billion on the transportation system over the next five years to improve reliability and service, but he hasn’t called for tax hikes to pay for it.

The MBTA, which offers subway, commuter rail, bus and ferry service, came under intense scrutiny since its operations were crippled during the winter of 2015. Baker says those investments will eventually pay big dividends for T riders in terms of more reliable and faster service.

“It’s a massive investment and way overdue,” he said. “The MBTA has never been in a position where it has had access to the kinds of resources we’re planning to make available over the next five years, and they better use it.”

Baker easily won a second term on Nov. 6, lifted in part by Democrats who crossed party lines to vote for his approach to governing despite their anger over President Donald Trump.

He said voters seem to approve of his bipartisan approach to governing, and he has no intention of tacking to the right on key issues.

“The message we got from the voters was that fiscal discipline and bipartisanship works,” he said. “We heard that message loud and clear.”

Christian M. Wade covers the Massachusetts Statehouse for North of Boston Media Group’s newspapers and websites. Email him at cwade@cnihi.com.

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Narcan doses administered to GLTS student

By JILL HARMACINSKI
jharmacinski@eagletribune.com

ANDOVER — Doses of Narcan, a drug which reverses opioid overdoses, were used on a female student at Greater Lawrence Technical School early

Friday afternoon, police said. The student, age 16, had been in the school office. She was left alone for a short period of time and then found in a “semi-conscious” state by an office worker at the school, located at 57 River Road, said Andover police

Lt. Edward Guy, department spokesperson. Two doses of Narcan were subsequently administered by the school nurse. However, it remained unclear Friday if the girl was suffering from an opioid overdose, Guy said. She was transported by

ambulance to Lawrence General Hospital for further treatment, he said. The Andover Police Department does have a school resource officer assigned to the school. “He is aware of this and we are conducting an

investigation,” Guy said. He wished the student a “speedy recovery” and said she is not facing any criminal charges at this time. “We hope she is OK but we are still conducting an investigation,” Guy said. “We are going to cover all of our

bases.” School nurses are routinely equipped with Narcan doses as the region remains in the grip of a heroin and opioid epidemic. Follow staff reporter Jill Harmacinski on Twitter @EagleTribJill.



COURTESY PHOTO

In 2008, the Sidell family received the Family Service Community Service Award, given every two years to a family or individual who has given to the Lawrence community. From left are Faye Sidell, then-state Sen. Sue Tucker, Chet Sidell, Gary Sidell, Doreen Sidell, Kara Sidell. In front are Gary and Doreen's children, Matthew and Allison Sidell.

‘Chet’ Sidell leaves lasting impact on Merrimack Valley

By ZOE MATHEWS
Staff writer

LAWRENCE — Chester “Chet” Sidell saw potential in Lawrence at a time when not many outsiders were looking at the city as a place of great opportunity and growth.

Sidell, apparel manufacturer and real estate developer, died last week at the age of 77. He had staked out a business for himself and his family in Lawrence, and had amassed a network of partners — and friends — he cared deeply about.

Sidell was born in Dorchester and started his family in Framingham, but at the urging of a contractor in Lawrence, Sidell started KGR Inc., a womenswear company, named after his three children, Kara, Gary and Randy.

When KGR launched more than 40 years ago, it was just Sidell and his business partner Manny Sheinfeld. The company grew to have multiple offices in Lawrence, New York City and Dallas, and his clothing could be found in stores like Nordstroms and Talbots.

They also built a local retail operation that drew people from afar to buy his clothing direct.

He eventually took a space in the Pacific Mills, and began buying properties and fixing them up for business use.

In the 1980s and 1990s, a string of fires left Lawrence with an unfortunate reputation as the arson capital of the country. Sidell looked past that moniker and saw the city for what it was: a hub of opportunity.

“He was fixing up buildings and making investments when no one else was,” said his son Gary Sidell. “He truly did make a difference.”

And as his business grew, he began building a philanthropic mission, using his successes to bring others up as well.

Brenna Schneider, owner of Lawrence-based advanced apparel manufacturer 99Degrees, said Chet Sidell was a pivotal mentor to her professionally and personally.

“There aren’t that many mentors in the country who know apparel manufacturing,” Schneider said. “More than that, his mentorship was like, he could look at the hard stuff with me.”

Schneider said when she first met Sidell, she hadn’t yet started 99Degrees. She asked him for advice, and he warned her against starting a manufacturing company in this day and age, and advised her to just build a brand instead.

But six months after that rejection, she had started the company anyway, and he came to her space for an event.

“He saw me, came up to me and said, ‘Kid you’ve got guts, I’ll see you Monday,’” she recalled.

Ever since then, Sidell was committed to being at the table with Schneider, and helped her work through the toughest moments — occasionally celebrating a big win with her over steak dinners and Manhattans.

“His biggest message, was

to trust my gut above everything else,” she said. “He’d be like, the board wants you to prepare all this stuff, and that’s important, but I want you to know what your gut feels first.”

In teaching her that business acumen, Schneider said Sidell also enabled her to trust herself personally, too.

“He really coached me to trust my experiences,” she said.

Sidell wasn’t alone in his efforts. While Sidell was running KGR in the city, Bertram Paley bought the Everett and Stone Mills in the early 1980s.

“I think Chet and my dad (Bertram Paley) were cut from the same cloth,” said Marianne Paley Nadel, who has owned Everett Mills since 2008 when she took over the operation from her father.

“Chet was particularly street smart, and could make something out of nothing,” she said. “He made opportunity, by the way he hired people, by operating the KGR retail store that brought people from all over to Lawrence to have a great shopping experience. It was a real family business, the way mine was.”

And, Nadel added, Sidell provided comfort to her after her own father passed away.

Now, she works alongside the next generation of Sidells.

Gary Sidell, who runs Bell Tower Management, his own real estate operation, has also jumped into his father’s shoes becoming involved in community efforts in the city.

In 2017, the nonprofit Groundwork Lawrence honored Chet Sidell at its annual fundraiser.

“Chet bought in and saw Lawrence’s potential when a lot of outsiders didn’t, and he quietly supported, and not so quietly supported a lot of groups,” Groundwork Lawrence’s executive director Heather McMann said.

The list of Sidell’s investments in the city is long: Groundwork Lawrence, Lawrence Community Works, Essex Art Center, Lawrence History Center, Lawrence Heritage State Park, North Canal Coalition, to name a few.

“Those places either started, or continue to be able to do work because of his investments,” said McMann. “He was an amazing mentor and friend, always there to support you but also challenge you to think bigger and more strategically.”

Randy Sidell, Chet Sidell’s son, likened his father’s teachings to those of the Buddha, or Dalai Lama.

“On every word, you’d take it all in,” he said. “I don’t know if he ever said this, but I think in another life he would have been a teacher.”

Chet Sidell’s grandson Matt Sidell was lucky enough to be privy to some of that wisdom too, as they went on a trip to look at colleges.

“He always just said, go with your gut,” he said. “The way we felt when we walked around, he said it’d be my decision where I want to be for the next four years. That’s going to help me decide where I want to go.”

Lyons enters race for MassGOP chair

By JESSICA VALERIANI
jvaleriani@eagletribune.com
AND STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

BOSTON — The House of Representatives may have lost their most conservative voice with the defeat of Republican incumbent Jim Lyons, but that voice is now being heard in the MassGOP.

Lyons, an Andover native who lost his re-election bid in November to newcomer Democrat Tram Nguyen, entered the contest for MassGOP party chair on Wednesday after Rep. Geoff Diehl decided not to seek the spot.

“I decided given the circumstances, that I’m going to take a run at it and see how it goes,” said Lyons.

Before Lyons declared his intention to run, Republican Party Treasurer Brent Andersen claimed he had strong enough support to become the next chair of his party. Andersen said Tuesday he had 45 votes, or a majority of the Republican Senate Committee, which was deemed an “assumption that [doesn’t] exist” by Rep. Peter Durant.

Durant said he is confident Anderson does not have the votes to win at this time, in large due to the number of commitments he has secured for himself.

The election will be at the next state committee meeting on Jan. 17, when a successor to MassGOP Chairwoman Kirsten Hughes will be decided by secret ballot. Several committee members said they weren’t sure where the votes stood at this time.

Lyons served eight years in the House of Representatives where he became known as one of the more conservative members of the House on both fiscal and social matters. He has shown he isn’t afraid to vote on his own against legislation, which was demonstrated in his vote on the budget.

Diehl has been quietly telling friends and associates that he has decided not to seek the post, which led friend and fellow conservative Rep. Jim Lyons of Andover last week to get into the race himself.

Lyons said last week that



FILE PHOTO

18th Essex District State Rep. Jim Lyons, R-Andover, was defeated at the polls but has decided to run for the job of chairman of the state Republican party, currently held by Geoff Diehl, who ran for Congress and lost. Diehl is not running for the state post again.

he spoke with Diehl last Tuesday about Diehl’s decision not to seek the chairmanship. The Whitman Republican ran unsuccessfully this cycle against U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, while Lyons lost his House seat to a Democratic challenger Tram Nguyen in November.

“I decided given the circumstances, that I’m going to take a run at it and see how it goes,” Lyons said. Diehl did not return calls or texts seeking comment.

Durant also spoke to Diehl on Tuesday, and said he was hoping to consolidate some of the support for a Diehl candidacy behind his own bid for party chair.

Before Lyons declared his intention to run, Durant said Andersen’s claim of being the front runner in the race only held up in a three-way contest.

“That may have been true in a three person race, however it is my understanding that that Geoff is not going to get into this race and with the commitments that I have secured I feel confident in saying that Brent does not have the votes to win at this time,” Durant said.

Durant also said he wasn’t bothered that 20 of his 33 House colleagues have endorsed Andersen, and wouldn’t hold any “ill will”

toward them if he wins. He said he purposefully did not seek endorsements from elected officials who do not have a vote in party business because he didn’t want to force them to choose sides.

“We’re usually fighting for crumbs,” Durant said. “To me it’s not beneficial that we have to betray the things that we [value] to just to get a couple of crumbs in the budget. I’ve slowed down considerably in trying to get earmarks in the budget because as Republicans we don’t really believe in earmarks and you go down the road of begging for the little we might get.”

Asked about Durant’s challenge to his internal whip count, Andersen emailed to say he felt “very confident” in the 45 votes he is counting in his column.

Several committee members who spoke to the News Service last week said they weren’t sure where the votes were at this time, but acknowledged that private commitments now may not become votes in January.

Committee member Marty Lamb said he would have supported Diehl, with whom he has worked over the years on ballot campaigns. But now, Lamb said he’s backing Lyons.

“I would expect a lot of the Geoff supporters would

either be supporting Peter or Jim, but that’s not an absolute,” Lamb told the News Service, before he knew for sure that Lyons had decided to run.

Lyons said the Republican Party needs to “start now” if it’s going to protect incumbents and think about making gains in the Legislature in a presidential election cycle in 2020, which are historically challenging for Republicans in Massachusetts.

“I think it’s real important that we leverage the fact that we have a popular governor who’s doing a great job and it’s important that as Republicans we can all work together,” Lyons said.

Gov. Charlie Baker has not gotten involved publicly in the race for party chairman.

“When I look at what happened in November, would I have liked us to have done better as a party? Yeah,” Baker said Wednesday. “But compared to how this election turned out in other blue states all over the country and up here in New England, we lost two seats in the House and one in the Senate and everybody else held serve.”

Baker said the next MassGOP chairman should be committed to supporting candidates for office from state senator down to planning board.

Hunting for returns using dividend-paying stocks vs. bonds

Financially Speaking

John Spoto

Investors, especially retirees, often use their portfolios to generate income. With bond yields and

interest rates on CDs and money markets at record lows, these investors are searching for alternatives to meet their income objectives. Spurred by the headlines in some of the popular consumer finance magazines many of them are heading down what could prove to be a perilous path, trading their bonds for dividend-paying stocks and the mutual funds that invest in them.

On the surface, the idea

of replacing low-yielding bond investments with blue chip stocks that offer not only a higher yield but also the potential for capital appreciation if stock prices continue to climb seems like a sensible move. However, upon closer scrutiny, the logic of this strategy contains some serious flaws. While both investments are used to generate portfolio income, savvy investors recognize that stocks, including those of dividend-paying, blue-chip companies, are on opposite ends of the investment risk spectrum when compared to bonds.

Specifically, dividend-paying stocks are about four times more volatile and, therefore, carry four times the potential for loss than high-quality bonds. So, the strategy of substituting dividend-paying stocks for bonds

to generate more income results in a more aggressive and less diversified portfolio.

High-quality bonds provide important diversification and stability to investor portfolios particularly during times of financial crisis when it is needed most. The stark example of this was the 2008 – 2009 financial crisis.

Between the stock market peak on October 9, 2007, and its subsequent low on March 9, 2009, the portion of investor portfolios consisting of high dividend-paying stocks lost around 50% of their value while the portion consisting of intermediate-term U.S. Treasuries gained about 15%. Investors with equity heavy portfolios including those with dividend-paying stocks experienced steep declines and enormous emotional turmoil while those with balanced portfolios of stocks

and bonds fared much better.

So, the key question you have to answer is, “Am I willing to, and can I afford to accept greater risk of a significant decline in my investments to earn a higher yield?” For most retirees who are drawing down rather than adding to their portfolios, the answer is likely to be no.

John Spoto is the founder of Sentry Financial Planning in Andover and Danvers. For more information, call 978-475-2533 or visit www.sentryfinancialplanning.com. This article is for general information purposes only and is not intended to provide specific advice on individual financial, tax, or legal matters. Please consult the appropriate professional concerning your specific situation before making any decisions.

■ POLICE LOG

COMPILED BY JESSICA VALERIANI

TUESDAY, DEC. 18

■ Personal injury resulted from a car accident on Dascumb Road at 8:37 a.m.

■ Angel Merida Audias Ottoniel, 26, of 79 Johnson St., Lynn, was arrested on Poor Street around 10 a.m. for the unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

■ A vehicle was reportedly shot with a pellet gun on Minuteman Road at 2:32 p.m.

■ Edward J. Bates, 28, of 9 Wild Rose Dr., Andover, was arrested on Lowell Street

at 4:37 p.m. for operating endanger, an open container of liquor in a motor vehicle, and a second offense of operating under the influence of alcohol.

■ William Orlin Martinez, 22, of 63 Garfield St., Lawrence, was arrested on North Main Street at 9:44 p.m. for a warrant.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19

■ A turkey was reportedly stuck in a fence on Apollo Circle at 4:35 p.m.

■ A patient on the dementia unit at Marland Place hit his wife and was transferred to Lawrence General Hospital

at 4:45 p.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 20

■ Elvin L. Mendoza, 22, of 9 Byron Ave., Apt #2, Lawrence, was arrested on River Road around 3 p.m. for operating a motor vehicle with a revoked license, failure to signal, and a miscellaneous motor vehicle equipment violation.

■ A fire in a bathroom at a River Road home was reported at 2:11 p.m. The fire was extinguished before an officer got there.

■ A pellet gun was used to vandalize a “do not enter” sign on Minuteman Road at

7:26 a.m., according to the police log.

■ Someone reportedly broke into the equipment trailer for a work site on Hood Drive.

FRIDAY, DEC. 21

A tree was reported across Harold Parker Road at 1 p.m. The tree department cleared the tree.

SATURDAY, DEC. 22

■ Carol A. Fillio, 58, of 112 Patrick Rd., Tewksbury, was arrested on South Main Street at 11:51 p.m. for operating under the influence of liquor.

Sen. L'Italien says good-bye, with a legislative wish list

By KATIE LANNAN
STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE



In her final wish list, outgoing Sen. Kathleen O'Connor Ives, left, who did not seek reelection this year, said the time has come for Massachusetts to ban handheld cellphone use while driving. Sen. Barbara L'Italien, right, of Andover, who gave up her Senate seat for an unsuccessful run in the Third Congressional District, said the practice of inclusive concurrent enrollment, or "the concept that we allow people with disabilities to have lifelong learning experiences on any higher education campus," should be codified.

BOSTON — Two departing senators who officially said goodbye to their colleagues this week also offered up holiday wish lists of unfinished legislation they're hoping to see become law in the final days of the session.

Sens. Kathleen O'Connor Ives of Newburyport and Barbara L'Italien of Andover, both Democrats, each took a moment in their farewell speeches Monday to pitch their priority bills for the session that ends Jan. 2.

O'Connor Ives, who did not seek reelection this year, said the time has come for Massachusetts to ban handheld cellphone use while driving.

"No matter your race, age or economic status, we and our loved ones are all equally vulnerable to getting hurt or killed by a distracted driver, and we're all guilty

of distracted driving," she said. "This bill, once passed, will save lives. That's not too much to ask for Christmas."

The Senate in June 2017 passed a bill barring the

use of handheld cell phones and other electronic devices behind the wheel. That bill is before the House Ways and Means Committee. The House in June gave initial

approval to a similar bill but has not returned to the issue since then.

O'Connor Ives followed up with a request that another Senate-backed bill -- a ban on flame-retardant chemicals in certain household goods -- pass the House and become law "for my birthday," which won't come around again until July 23.

"I'm certain if we follow California's footsteps and ban the use of these carcinogens which expose families and firefighters to cancer-causing chemicals, consumers will flock to our state to purchase items because they know they will be free of these harmful chemicals," O'Connor Ives said.

L'Italien put three items on what she called "my wishlist for this season." One is in the Senate's hands, another is current practice

L'Italien said should be enshrined into law, and the third is one advocates since said will not make it over the finish line this session.

L'Italien brought up the so-called "Equifax bill," a suite of consumer data protections that have been in limbo since Gov. Charlie Baker returned the bill with an amendment in August.

The two other major bills that met a similar fate after the July 31 end of formal sessions -- one dealing with civics education requirements and the other taxing and regulating short-term rentals -- have now made it through the Legislature, and the civics bill is now law.

L'Italien and Rep. Tackey Chan, the co-chairs of the Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee, have shepherded the data security bill through their respective branches. The House on Nov. 29 agreed to a modified version of Baker's amendment, and the bill is now pending before the Senate.

"We need to get that Equifax bill done," L'Italien said. "We need to get it signed into law and I hope that happens. I think it's pretty close so hopefully it will happen, but hoping that will happen before the end of this year."

L'Italien, who gave up her Senate seat for what was ultimately an unsuccessful run in the Third Congressional District, said the practice of inclusive concurrent enrollment, or "the concept that we allow people with disabilities to have lifelong learning experiences on any higher

education campus," has been going on for over a decade and should be codified.

She also singled out a bill that would create a registry of individuals found to have abused people who they were supposed to be caring for.

"We've always got to be about caring for and taking care of the most vulnerable among us," L'Italien said.

The Arc of Massachusetts, which backs the registry bill, said Wednesday it was sunk after the Committee for Public Counsel Services raised due process concerns. Rep. Kay Khan, the House chair of the Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, said discussions are continuing on the bill and she hopes the House will take it up early next session.

Former Sen. Eileen Donoghue, now the Lowell city manager, resigned her Senate seat in April and returned to the State House on Monday to give a belated farewell address.

While the former lawmaker did not use her address to highlight any specific legislation she wanted to see pass, she good-naturedly told her erstwhile colleagues they should expect to hear from her at budget season.

Donoghue, who served as a Lowell city councilor and mayor before joining the Senate, said her return to municipal government this year gave her a new perspective on the budget items, grants, and other matters approved by the Legislature.

"It's real now. It's not just printed on a page," she said.

Jane Morrissey, recipient of Public Health Nursing Award, retires after 20 years

By JESSICA VALERIANI
jvalertani@andovertownsmen.com

Andover Public Health Nurse Jane Morrissey was honored by the Massachusetts Health Officers Association with its Public Health Nursing Award.

The award was presented to Morrissey on Nov. 14 at MHOA's Annual Conference in Falmouth. It is awarded each year to the public health nurse who has demonstrated strong dedication to meeting the public health needs in town.

"Jane is someone who cares deeply for all of the residents she cares for, and she's not afraid to advocate for what she believes is right," said Director of Public Health Thomas Carbone.

"She has the ability to step back from a situation and think through how to address it. She thinks critically, and can make every resident understand that they are important to her."

The award is a finishing touch to 20 years of service in Andover, as Morrissey retired on Dec. 12.

During her career, she helped to develop a shingles vaccination program for Andover residents, with the assistance of a grant from



Courtesy photo

Andover Public Health Nurse Jane Morrissey was honored by the Massachusetts Health Officers Association with its Public Health Nursing Award.

Andover Home for Aged Persons. She has also organized numerous health clinics and the annual flu clinics for the community.

"We will miss Jane and her dedication to the community," Carbone said. "We

are proud of all of her accomplishments, which will leave a lasting legacy that will ultimately make Andover residents healthier for years to come. We all wish her a happy and healthy retirement."

ON CAMPUS

News from Coastal Carolina University

2,400 students make the Dean's List at Coastal Carolina University

CONWAY, SC -- More than 2,400 students at Coastal Carolina University were named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2018 semester. That's more than 23 percent of the student body earning a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Among those students earning a spot on the Dean's List:

Rachael Cormier, an Exercise and Sport Science major from Andover.

Alyson Teberio, a Public Health major from Andover.

Local Students Named to Honor Roll at Mercersburg Academy

The following local students have been named to the honor roll at Mercersburg Academy:

Campbell Prentiss of Andover, grade 11, was

named a commended scholar (all grades of 85 or above) during the fall term at Mercersburg Academy.

Kate Prentiss of Andover, grade 10, was named a commended scholar (all grades of 85 or above) during the fall term at Mercersburg Academy.

Mercersburg Academy is a coeducational, independent college preparatory boarding and day school in Mercersburg, Pa., with students enrolled in grades 9-12 and a postgraduate year.

News from Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall School

Local student makes High Honors at Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall School

Daniela Friedman of Andover, from the class of 2021 at Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall School, has been named to the high honor roll for the 2018 fall trimester. Daniela received high honors, which requires a grade point average of 3.6 or above, for the marking period. Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall is a coeducational day and boarding school located in Waltham.



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BEST OF BOSTON 2017

To the People of Andover, Lawrence, and North Andover:

On behalf of Columbia Gas of Massachusetts and NiSource, I want to wish you a very happy and healthy holiday season.

We know that the past few months have not been easy. The resiliency of your communities and your willingness to come together and help each other through these challenging times is inspiring. We are extremely grateful to you all as you welcomed our crews into your neighborhoods and homes.

While we recently marked the substantial completion of the first phase of the restoration project, we know our work is not finished. NiSource and Columbia Gas are committed to this region for the long-term. In the coming weeks, we will continue to share additional details about the next phase of restoration project activity.

We urge anyone who has unmet needs to call us at **1-866-388-3239**. Claims assistance continues to be available by calling **1-800-590-5571** or by visiting one of our Customer Care Centers.

I also want to thank the local, state and federal officials, the first responders, our mutual aid partners, the thousands of workers, and the entire community for their support and steadfast work on this incredibly complex recovery project. And most importantly, we appreciate the patience and understanding of our customers.

No words or actions can undo the tragic events of September 13 or the disruption to your everyday lives throughout the recovery effort. But we will keep working as hard as we can to restore your communities, rebuild the trust that was lost and prevent such a tragedy from happening again.

As we look forward to the new year, please know that we will be with you every step of the way.

On behalf of the employees of Columbia Gas of Massachusetts and NiSource, Happy Holidays.

A la gente de Andover, Lawrence y North Andover:

En nombre de Columbia Gas of Massachusetts y NiSource, les deseo una temporada de fiestas muy feliz y saludable.

Sabemos que los últimos meses no han sido fáciles. La resistencia de sus comunidades y su disposición a unirse y ayudarse mutuamente a través de estos tiempos desafiantes es inspiradora. Estamos extremadamente agradecidos a todos ustedes, por el recibimiento que le han dado a nuestros equipos en sus vecindarios y hogares.

Aunque recientemente hemos logrado completar una parte sustancial de la primera fase del proyecto de restauración, sabemos que nuestro trabajo no ha terminado. NiSource y Columbia Gas están comprometidos con esta región a largo plazo. En las próximas semanas, continuaremos compartiendo detalles adicionales sobre la próxima fase del proyecto de restauración.

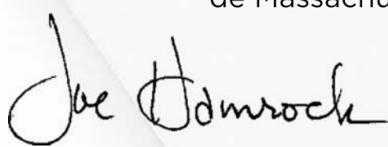
Instamos a cualquier persona que tenga necesidades pendientes a que nos llame al **1-866-388-3239**. La asistencia para reclamos sigue estando disponible llamando al **1-800-590-5571** o visitando uno de nuestros Centros de Atención al Cliente.

También quiero agradecer a los funcionarios locales, estatales y federales, a los primeros socorristas, a nuestros socios de ayuda mutua, a los miles de trabajadores y a toda la comunidad por su apoyo y trabajo constante en este increíblemente complejo proyecto de recuperación. Y lo más importante, agradecemos la paciencia y comprensión de nuestros clientes.

Ninguna palabra o acción puede deshacer los eventos trágicos del 13 de septiembre o la interrupción de su vida cotidiana durante el esfuerzo de recuperación. Pero seguiremos trabajando tan duro como podamos para restaurar sus comunidades, reconstruir la confianza que se perdió y evitar que vuelva a ocurrir una tragedia.

Mientras esperamos el nuevo año, tenga en cuenta que estaremos con usted en cada paso del camino.

En nombre de los empleados de Columbia Gas de Massachusetts y NiSource, Felices Fiestas.



Joe Hamrock
President and CEO, NiSource Inc.
Parent Company of Columbia Gas of Massachusetts

Columbia Gas[®]
A NiSource Company

Juniper Road home wins holiday light contest

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsm.com

By a 59-vote margin, the four Linnehan kids of Juniper Road won the holiday house decorating contest sponsored by the town's recreation department.

"Lights, lights and more lights," Michelle Linnehan said of her kids' winning campaign strategy, noting that she has no idea how many lights were used to decorate the family's ranch at 19 Juniper Road.

"I just know that my husband (James) and the kids wanted more and more lights. It's over the top but the kids wanted to spread some holiday cheer especially this year because a lot of people have suffered because of the gas crisis," she said.

The Linnehans have lived in the house for 12 years.

Janice Wall of the town's recreation department said the contest takes place on Facebook.

"We post all the entries onto our Facebook page and



A close-up view of 19 Juniper Road shows the decorators' attention to detail.



An ordinary ranch by day, this house at 19 Juniper Road becomes a winner at night.



This house at 19 Juniper Road won the town's holiday lights contest.

the community gets to decide on Friday, Dec. 14 at noon," and Patrick, 8 — had 126 "likes" and the second closest house had 67 likes, Wall said. There were four houses in town that competed.

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TownsBeat



CARL RUSSO/staff photo

A Poms Pond lifeguard walks across the beach as storm clouds formed on Aug. 8. Andover residents spent the day at Poms Pond seeking relief from the heat. **PHOTOGRAPHER'S TAKE:** With only three weeks left before Poms Pond closes for the season, I made a trip to Andover's town beach for a "beat the heat" photo. I seldom photograph scensics, but the clouds and the back lighting inspired me. I positioned myself to include the tree for composition and to help block the direct sunlight. I then waited for the last ingredient of my photo; somebody to walk by.

ANDOVER TOWNSMAN PHOTOS OF THE YEAR



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Declan Bradley, 2, of Andover, cools off as Andover Fire Department's ladder truck sprays water down on to the children during fire engine day in the Park in Andover on July 19. **PHOTOGRAPHER'S TAKE:** I often hear people move to Andover for the schools, but they should look to see what each towns recreation department does for them. Andover's does a lot of good fun things in The Park and this one "Fire Engine Day" is always fun to shoot. I made this shot with a telephoto lens (allows me to stay back from the action) as I didn't want to get wet. I used a fast shutter speed to freeze the action as the kids ran under a fire truck's extended ladder with water sprinkling down on them.



AMANDA SABGA/Staff photo

Christina Wormald gets splashed as she washes Loki of Haverhill during a fundraiser for Yarmouth Police K-9 Sergeant Sean Gannon and his heroic dog, Nero, at Wingate Andover on July 21. **PHOTOGRAPHER'S TAKE:** How does this photo not make you smile? I love this photo because it ignites the kid in us all thinking back to summer days of washing your dog or even playing in the lawn with your hose. The grandioseness of Loki combined with the reaction of Christina to his shake bleeds joy through the photo.

Chris Lee, 12, kicks snow on Min Kim, 15, as Min sleds down the hill at Andover High during a storm in January. **PHOTOGRAPHER'S TAKE:** I really like this photo because it encompasses my memories of what a snow day is all about: no school and fun with your friends. You head to the local sledding hill, get in a snow fight, roll up a giant snowman, just goofing around because there's no responsibilities for a day.

RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo



Andrea Leavitt of Andover and her daughter Addison, 3, react when they see Santa Claus approaching during the Santa Parade on Sunday in downtown Andover on Nov. 25. **PHOTOGRAPHER'S TAKE:** I liked the facial expressions as the little girl and her mother spotted Santa Claus at the end of the parade. It was the moment the girl had been waiting for.

MIKE SPRINGER/Staff photo

Katie Smith of Andover in last year's fund-raising spin for cancer research. Courtesy photo



Andover pedaler taking part in Pan-Mass Challenge Winter Cycle again

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

It will be the second spinning fundraiser for Katie Smith of Andover and tears are sure to fall as she pedals in memory of her mother, who lost her battle with lung cancer last year.

Smith is riding in the Pan-Mass Challenge Winter Cycle for the second time next month. The event is an indoor spinning event at Fenway Park, comprised of six, 45-minute rides led by popular local spin instructors and contributes 100 percent of every dollar raised to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

"I watched her through the windows at Fenway as she looked out onto the field with my Dad, husband and my kids at her side. It made me pedal like I never had before. She came in for my third ride and stood next to me. Tears in our eyes, we were in this together. I rode for her and others like her who were stronger than they knew, fighting this awful thing called cancer," Smith wrote in her PMC biography. "It was the last day she would spend with my children."

Oxygen tank in tow, Claire

had made the trek to Boston from Vermont, while undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatment for lung cancer, to cheer her daughter on as she pedaled to raise money for cancer research and treatment at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Claire was diagnosed with lung cancer in August of 2017 and had been accepted into a special trial at Dana-Farber, slated to begin the following spring. In March 2018, she returned to Boston to begin the trial, but was instead admitted to the hospital with complications. Despite the best efforts of the staff, she died a few days later on March 7, 2018.

"Why ride again? It will be even more emotional for me, for my family. But it's something I need to do. The strength of the people in the room, the living proof riders, the instructors, the volunteers - I know it will get me through the day. We are in this together," Smith writes about the event being held on Saturday, Jan. 26.

This year's event has a fundraising goal of \$500,000. For more information and to donate to Smith's ride, visit <http://profile.wintercycle.org/KS0366>.

Hike Skug Reservation on New Year's Day

STAFF REPORT

In celebration of its 100th year, the Andover Village Improvement Society, known as AVIS, is hosting a New Year's Day hike into the scenic Skug River Reservation.

The hike, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, will explore the land, located at 313 Salem St., which includes an old soapstone quarry and a large glacial erratic.

Newcomers can get to know the area around this little-known Andover river which flows to the Ipswich River.

Park at the Skug River Reservation parking lot on Salem Street or on Wagon Wheel Road, just east of the reservation entrance. No registration is required. No pets. If there is heavy rain, this event will be canceled. For more information contact Jeff LaFountain at jefflaf@comcast.net or (978) 886-3072.

The Andover Village Improvement Society (AVIS) is celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2019 and they



File photo

Snowshoe tracks over the boardwalk in the Skug River Reservation in Andover.

have planned a year-long celebration. Please check the website for other hikes, lectures, and activities. To get the year started, AVIS has teamed with Jeff LaFountain of the Andover Trails

Committee who will lead the hike.

For more information about AVIS visit the website at www.avisandover.org. AVIS is a non-profit land trust dedicated to a) acquiring land

and preserving it in its natural state, and b) encouraging public use and quiet enjoyment of the reservations. Founded in 1894, AVIS is one of the oldest conservation organizations in the country.

ANDOVER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Through December
FESTIVE FIRS PROGRAM, Andover Center for History and Culture, 97 Main St. Take part in the ever-popular Santa Story Time and other holiday events surrounded by a display of decorated trees inspired by unique objects from the historical society's collection; this year's theme, "A Season of Giving," highlights items given as gifts to others; local community groups, businesses, families and individuals are encouraged to sign up to decorate a tree; 978-475-2236, email info@andoverhistoryandculture.org, www.andoverhistoryandculture.org.

JANUARY

Tuesday, Jan. 1
FIRST DAY HIKE, 10 a.m., Harold Parker State Forest. Start off the new year with an invigorating first day hike in a beautiful state park, and make a resolution to burn off those extra holiday calories. This will be a moderately paced hike of about 2 miles. Explore Harold Parker with other New Year's revelers and afterwards warm up with a fire and some hot chocolate and refreshments from the Friends of Harold Parker. Best for kids 8 and over. Be prepared for cold weather: Dress in layers and wear winter boots. Meet at the Harold Parker headquarters located at 305 Middleton Road, North Andover. For more information call (617) 828-1728.

SKUG RIVER HIKE, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, Skug River Reservation, 313 Salem St. This is a comfortable hike for families as well as individuals. Visit an old soapstone quarry and see a large glacial erratic. Get to know the area around this little known Andover river which flows to the Ipswich River. Park at the Skug River Reservation parking lot on Salem Street or on Wagon Wheel Road, just east of the reservation entrance. No registration is required. No pets. If there is heavy rain, this event will be canceled. For more information contact Jeff LaFountain at jefflaf@comcast.net or (978) 886-3072.

Through Jan. 20

ADDISON'S FALL EXHIBITION, Phillips Academy campus, 3 Chapel Ave. "From Starfield to MARS: Paul Manship and His Artistic Legacy" considers Manship's work and influence through two interconnected components: "Art Deco at Andover" examines Addison's connection with Manship, while "Starfield through Contemporary Lenses" presents the work of contemporary photographers Barbara Bosworth, Justin Kimball, S. Billie Mandel and Abelardo Morell, who served as the first artists-in-residence in the Manship Artists Residency + Studios (MARS) program in Gloucester; free admission to the gallery and all programs; 978-749-4015, www.addisongallery.org.

MARCH

Through March 3
ADDISON'S FALL EXHIBITION, Phillips Academy campus, 3

Chapel Ave. "Contemplating the View: American Landscape Photographs" highlights images of the American landscape, both natural and manmade, through works by photographers such as Ansel Adams, Robert Adams, Lois Conner, Marcia Resnick, Carleton Watkins, Edward Weston and Katherine Wolkoff; free admission to the gallery and all programs; 978-749-4015, www.addisongallery.org.

ONGOING

MERRIMACK VALLEY CAMERA CLUB, based in North Andover, and in its 82nd year, has about 150 members hailing from the Merrimack Valley, North Shore, and Southeastern and Seacoast areas of New Hampshire, ranging from beginners to professionals. The club and its members have been garnering recognition and awards throughout New England and beyond for decades. The club, which meets almost every Wednesday evening, holds frequent hands-on workshops, field trips, photo-related activities, presentations and competitions, most of which are open to the public. The club meets at the Trinitarian Congregational Church, 72 Elm St., North Andover. Socializing starts at 7 p.m., and programs run from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Find more at www.mvccameraclub.org.

FOOD ADDICTS IN RECOVERY ANONYMOUS (FA), Saturdays, 8 a.m., Christ Church, 33 Central St. Having trouble controlling the way you eat? FA is a program that addresses binge eating disorder, overeating, obesity, bulimia, undereating, and obsession with body size and exercise; the free meetings are held in the classroom building of the church; www.foodaddicts.org.

MERRIMACK TOASTMASTERS CLUB, second and fourth Thursday of each month, 7 to 9 p.m., Stevens Memorial Library, 345 Main St., North Andover. Membership is open to individuals looking to improve their speaking, presentation and leadership skills, and to overcome their fear of public speaking; guests are always welcome; www.merrimack-toastmasters.org, email contact@merimack-toastmasters.org.

MEMORY CAFÉ, fourth Monday of the month, Center at Pynchard, 30 Whittier Court. Memory Cafés offer a welcoming, memory-making place for people living with memory changes; they unite people facing similar challenges, provide a much-needed break from routines, and offer ideas, information and connection to other community support mechanisms; snacks will be provided; the free program is offered through grant funding from the Department of Developmental Disabilities; advance registration is requested; 978-623-8320.

BALLROOM DANCING, Sundays, 7:30 to 11 p.m., Relief's In Function Hall, 1 Market St., Lawrence, on the North Andover line. Come Alive After Five has been running this dance for singles and couples for more than 30 years; live bands are featured along with bar service and door prizes; \$13 admission fee includes dessert and coffee

at 8:30 p.m.; 781-451-7872.

ANDOVER CHRONICLERS, see what's in store. Past shows can be viewed on Comcast Channel 8 or Verizon Channel 47 Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday at 9 a.m.; Wednesday and Saturday at 7 p.m.; and Friday at 6:30 p.m. The show is produced by the Andover Chroniclers, an all volunteer group. For more information, call the Center at Pynchard at 978-623-8321. New members welcome. No prior experience needed. Email andvchron2@gmail.com for more information. Past shows may also be accessed at http://andovertv.org/sites/default/files/videos/saa_20160801.mp4.

FA (FOOD ADDICTS IN RECOVERY ANONYMOUS), Wednesdays, 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the St. Augustine Education Center, 45 Essex St.; and Saturdays, 8 to 9:30 a.m. at Christ Church, 33 Central Ave. The free, 12-step program is open to anyone who struggles with their weight and/or food; members include men and women who have lost more than 200 lbs., those who turned to bulimia, over-exercising and obsessive dieting, and those who had no weight to lose, but were obsessed with food and/or their weight; all are welcome to share their stories, from newcomers interested in learning more to people who have maintained steady, healthy weights for decades; www.foodaddicts.org.

FELLOWSHIP/WORSHIP MEETING, Sundays, 5 p.m., North Boston Korean United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 244 Lowell St. Hosted by the Mosaic Christian Movement, everyone is welcome to enjoy food, fellowship and a relaxed worship service; registration is requested; email aaronkrue@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY GIVING TREE'S VAN, will be in the Penguin Park parking lot on Burnham Road from 10 a.m. to noon on the first Saturday of each month. Donations of gently used baby gear and in season children's clothing will be collected. All donations will go to children in the Merrimack Valley and North Shore. At this time, there is an urgent need for infant clothing (0 to 3 months) and infant car seats under five years old. For a complete list of acceptable donations, visit www.communitygivingtree.org.

TREBLE CHORUS OF NEW ENGLAND, now welcoming singers ages 6 to 18; the informal auditions are quick and simple; prepared pieces are not required; www.treblechorusne.org, tenemanager@treblechorusne.org.

PALMERS RESTAURANT, live music, Fridays and Saturdays, 9 p.m. to midnight; no cover charge; 18 Elm St.; 978-470-1606, www.palmers-restaurant.com.

available at www.spectrumchildrenschorus.org, email spectrumchildrenschorus@gmail.com, 978-269-4198.

KARMA, live band music, Thursday through Saturday; 209 N. Main St. (Shawsheen Plaza); 978-809-3075, www.karmaandover.com.

ADDISON GALLERY OF AMERICAN ART, free admission to the gallery and all programs; located on the Phillips Academy campus, 3 Chapel Ave.; 978-749-4015, www.addisongallery.org.

GELB GALLERY, located in George Washington Hall, Phillips Academy campus, 7 Chapel Ave.; open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; parking is available on Chapel Avenue and in the lot next to the Andover Inn; www.andover.edu.

ALPERS FINE ART, located at 96 Main St.; 978-760-1829, www.alpersfineartonline.com.

THE NEW ENGLAND CLASSICAL SINGERS, holding auditions for all parts, South Church, 41 Central St. The 30-voice SATB choral group, based in Andover, performs three concerts during the season, in December, March and May; rehearsals are held on Wednesdays, 7:15 to 9:45 p.m.; auditions consist of voice quality and placement, vocal range placement, sight reading ability, and aural recognition; a solo piece is not required; singers should have choral experience and sight reading ability; www.newenglandclassical.org.

ANDOVER REC, 36 Bartlet St., offers a number of different programs for adults, youth and children; www.andover-rec.com, 978-623-8340.

SEN. BARBARA L'ITALIEN'S OFFICE HOURS, fourth Monday of each month, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., Andover Senior Center, 36 Bartlet St. Residents are also welcome to contact the senator's office at 617-722-1612; Sen. L'Italien represents Andover, Lawrence, Tewksbury and Dracont.

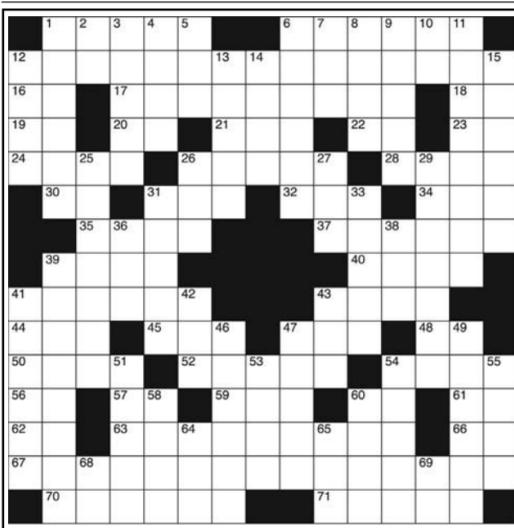
OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, 7 p.m., Sundays, Ballardvale United Church, 23 Clark Road. Is food a problem for you? Overeaters Anonymous can help; 781-641-2303.

FLOWER FIELDS CUTTING GARDEN, Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Stevens-Coolidge Place, 137 Andover St., North Andover. Visitors may cut and assemble their own bouquets in the Cutting Garden, for a fee; in addition to the zinnias, cosmos and rudbeckia, visitors will find new varieties to add pop and flair to their bouquets; stop by the tent to pay, grab scissors, cup and water before making a bouquet; the garden is fun for all ages and there is always something new to learn; explore the other gardens including a French Potager Garden, Rose Garden and recently restored Perennial Garden; borrow a blanket and a book to read under a tree or play a game of checkers or tic-tac-toe; presented by the Trustees; \$5 per 10 stems for Trustees members, \$10 per 10 stems for nonmembers; www.thetrustees.org/things-to-do.

To submit an item for the entertainment calendar, email townsmen@andovertownsmen.com.



Please recycle this newspaper.



CLUES ACROSS

- Class
- Husband or wife
- All the same
- Exclamation of surprise
- Lived in
- Hawaiian entertainer
- Of I
- Belonging to me
- One thousandth of an inch
- Midway between south and east
- Article
- Pitchers have them
- Steps
- Mars crater
- ___ route: on the way
- Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
- A baglike structure in a plant or animal
- These three follow A
- Frail
- Platforms
- Level

CLUES DOWN

- Form a whole
- Indicates position
- Moves in water
- Diminutive
- Old English letter
- "Save the Last Dance" actress
- Dab
- Digits
- Female cattle's mammary gland
- Yes
- Improves
- We all have one
- Book of Esther antagonist
- Invests in little enterprises
- Organs that produce gametes
- Mediterranean city
- Peter's last name
- Unhappy
- Swollen area within tissue
- "No ___!"

Solution in Classified Section

- Computers
- Where spiders live
- An enemy to Batman
- Mineral
- Body part
- Give
- Atomic #21 (abbr.)
- European tax
- Bleated
- Capital of Norway
- Pa's partner
- Stephen King's clown tale
- Atomic #50
- Military policeman
- One quintillion bytes
- Where impulses manifest
- Offers as a candidate
- Spielberg film
- Great job!
- Live in
- Cares for

- Soap
- Chop or cut
- "Atonement" author McEwan
- Bullfighter
- Of the universe
- Founder of Babism
- Not good
- Large, flightless bird
- Punitive
- Makes less messy
- Belts out a tune
- Aboriginal people of Japan
- An eye protein
- Broad sashes
- Actress Spelling
- Distribute
- Unpleased
- Body art
- Midway between north and east
- Overdose

12/27/18

Opinion

Memories that last forever

The holiday season is a time of tradition, of the rituals we pull out like boxes from the attic once a year. It's outdoor lights and time worn ornaments, family gatherings and recipes that have been passed through generations like antique furniture. It's favorite carols and late night church services and stories about loved ones long gone. All are a salve for people who've spent the past three and a half months preoccupied with their heat, hot water, home appliances and mysteries of the natural gas system.

Many fall into that category. The Merrimack Valley's gas disaster affected 7,123 residential gas meters serving more than 10,000 homes, according to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts. Six hundred eighty-five businesses were affected as well. The vast majority are "re-lit," or repaired at least to the point that their gas service has been restored. Those left waiting, according to the gas company, are mostly cases of people who've hired their own contractors to handle repairs.

Even so, the gas disaster is hardly in the rear view for anyone involved. Certainly not for the family of Leonel Rondon, who was killed when a house he was parked next to exploded, its chimney toppling onto his car. Not for families burned out of their homes who are still unable to return. And not even for those less affected but who were forced to shower in icy water, cook and dry clothes without gas appliances, and live without heat for months, to the point that cold temperatures forced hundreds into hotels and trailers until their gas was restored.

Memories of those experiences will linger for a long time to come.

For some like North Andover Selectwoman Rosemary Smedile, it's still a fresh experience. Her home was heavily damaged by fire when the gas system over-pressurized on Sept. 13, the result of an engineering breakdown as part of a routine utility project in Lawrence. Even now, she recently told reporter Paul Tennant, "Everything is still in flux." Her home near the Stevens Memorial Library still must be overhauled before she and her husband, James, can return.

Others for whom this memory will never be lost were called to help amid the chaos of that afternoon, as smoke hung over traffic-knotted streets of Lawrence, Andover and North Andover. The first responders simply could not keep pace with all of the fires breaking out around them.

"I literally said, 'Is someone running down the street, lighting the houses on fire?'" Lawrence fire Capt. Jim Driscoll told reporter Jill Harmacinski. "Everyone was trying to get us to come to their house, and we had to drive away." Driscoll was among those who worked to free Rondon from the chimney that had collapsed onto his car.

Others still have been made to deal long-term consequences of a gas system being rebuilt. Holly Hager, a teacher at the Breen School in Lawrence, lived without hot water, heat and a gas oven in her Phillips Street apartment. The more striking experience was helping her preschool students cope with what was happening to them at home.

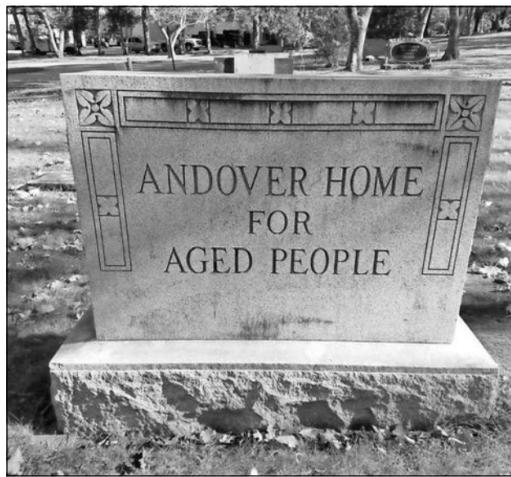
"When you turn on the water, why isn't it hot? Why is my house cold and my mom and dad can't make me feel warmer? They're only 3, 4 and 5 years old. At that age, they don't have a full understanding of where the heat comes from," she told reporter Keith Eddings.

These are just some of the stories of thousands of people who are forever marked by the experience, and who will carry the memories indefinitely. In the same way that people have visceral memories of where they were standing when they heard about the Kennedy assassination, or where they rode out the Blizzard of '78, or what they were doing when terrorists attacked the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, our region will remember the gas disaster.

Apropos of a season of giving, we'll also remember the help offered by neighbors, friends and even strangers in the aftermath. And we should look to the strength of those who have vowed to move forward — symbolized not as much by the many holiday decorations, as an American flag tacked to the outside of the Smediles' damaged house in North Andover. It's not there for aesthetics, explained Smedile, as much as a sign of purpose. She calls it a "no-surrender flag."

May all of those whose lives have been affected by the disaster be so resolved.

To contribute to the Greater Lawrence Disaster Relief Fund, visit the Essex County Community Foundation's page at <http://eccf.org/GLdisasterrelieffund>



IMAGES COURTESY OF THE ANDOVER CENTER FOR HISTORY & CULTURE
Monument at Spring Grove Cemetery



4 Punchard Street. ABOVE: Now. BELOW: Then.



The Andover Home for Aged People

Gail Ralston

Andover Center for History & Culture

Andover has always respected and cared for her elders. The town-funded Andover Poorhouse, managed by the Overseers of the Poor, often took in elderly residents who could no longer take care of themselves.

Even private companies, such as the Smith & Dove Manufacturing Company, committed themselves to caring for long-term employees.

The focus of elderly housing was also foremost in the establishment of the privately funded Andover Home for Aged People, taking shape in the year 1890. That year, a bill was introduced to the State Legislature, by Andover petitioners, the first step to allowing the Home's incorporation.

The plan was to obtain sufficient monies to construct and furnish suitable buildings and grounds "when the aged poor of the town may be cared for in a more home-life manner than can be done at purely public institutions."

By May, the group was "an assured fact" and, having procured its charter from the Legislature, the corporation was officially organized. Officers of the Home were names well-known in Andover's history: James B. Smith, Lizzie A. Wilson, Annie Sawyer Downs, Selah Merrill, Joseph A. Smart, and Emma M.E. Sanborn.

As a private institution, the Home depended on local benevolence. It was suggested that "no class (the aged) in the community should appeal more strongly to the hearts and purses" of those folks "in possession of a liberal income."

Circulars were distributed throughout town inviting contributions from the public.

While little is found on the first years of the group, in 1911 the Andover Home for Aged People was able to lease the Charlotte Abbott house at 4 Punchard Avenue. Extensive repairs commenced, and applications for admission were made available.

Overseers changed, but now included well-known names such as F.S. Boutwell, David Shaw, J.H. Campion,

John N. Cole and Mrs. M.V. Stackpole.

Under the by-laws of incorporation, eligible citizens were "expected to be of good moral character, native of Andover or residents of at least 10 years, not less than 60 years of age, and able to pay an admission fee of \$200. In May of 1912 the Home's Board of Managers held a meeting in the new home and admired everything, from the lighting to the "artistic papers on the walls."

On June 1, the Home was dedicated and the public was brought in to inspect the facility. In addition to the sitting room with bookshelves, the dining room with "substantial mission furniture", and a kitchen "with every convenience," upstairs were five furnished bedrooms. Outside, a new piazza and "granolithic walks" completed the setting.

Visitors that day signed the guestbook in the dining room where tea was served. Later that week, the Townsman published a list of Incorporators, Life Members, Officers, Board of Managers and Subscribers, the latter of which numbered over 150 names

that read like a veritable list of the town's "who's who."

The house on Punchard was maintained until the 1940s when it was taken over by the American Red Cross and the Visiting Nurses Association.

Today — 128 years later — the Andover Home for Aged People Corporation no longer manages a home, but still exists as a charitable foundation providing financial grants to assist the elderly population in Andover. Just a few of the organizations in town that have benefited from the group's generosity are the Andover Housing Authority, the Andover Health Department (where recently money was provided for the dissemination of Shingles shots), and the Andover (Senior) Center at Punchard.

During the Christmas season, managers of the Corporation look forward to distributing Christmas gift baskets to the elderly, a time-honored way to connect with Andover's elderly population and to show this group that they are, indeed, valued members of our community.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Proud to be Enzo's 'last' customer

Editor, Townsman:

Enzo's of Andover clothing store closed this past year and I was Enzo's last customer.

I was not aware that the store was closing the day I arrived and to my surprise there was a moving truck outside and an almost empty store with the exception of a few suits. I had never met Enzo previously, but immediately was impressed with his positive energy and professionalism.

Since meeting Enzo he tailored and delivered the custom-fitted suits and I am champing at the bit to wear them to upcoming holiday and work outings!

Enzo mentioned that he remembers his first customer 35 years ago and he will remember me as his last customer.

I will remember Enzo just because he's Enzo!

KEVIN BARRETT
Wilmington



Courtesy photo

Kevin Barrett of Wilmington said he is proud to have been Enzo's last customer.

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

♻️ Please recycle this newspaper.

WEB QUESTION

This week's question:

It's that time of year again. Time to make new year's resolutions. Or is it? According to a recent study, most people don't follow up on their resolutions because they aren't authentic or doable. **Are you going to make resolutions this year?**

Yes. I do every year. And I am disappointed every year.

Yes. And I'm going to lose weight, drink less, quit smoking, etc.

No. I am happy the way I am.

No. It's a waste of time and energy. Just be healthy and have a Happy New Year!

Last week's question:

It's been seven years since John and Geraldine Magee were executed in their 7 Orchard Crossing home on the morning of Dec. 14, 2011, and still there are no suspects, no leads, and no answers. Every year at this time, District Attorney Jonathan Blodgett and Andover Police Chief Patrick Keefe renew their appeal to the public for

information related to the murder. And with each passing year, nobody is arrested.

What do you think is going on?

It was a professional hit. Nobody will ever be arrested. **24 votes.**

The local police are incapable of handling this case. They need to call in the FBI. **16 votes.**

Somebody knows something, it will just take time for the truth to come out. **7 votes.**

READER ACCESS

EDITORIAL SERVICES

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 Jessica Valeriani** at 978-691-8723, or jvaleriani@andovertownsmen.com

■ **Sports Writer Dave Willis** at 978-946-2473; dwillis@andovertownsmen.com

■ **Account Executive Jason Hutchinson** at 978-946-2168, cell 781-572-9959; jhutchinson@andovertownsmen.com

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■ **To subscribe to the newspaper or to report delivery problems:** Call the Circulation Department direct at 800-836-7800 during business hours: Monday through Friday 5 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, Sunday and most holidays, 6:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

ADVERTISING

■ **To place a classified advertisement:** Call the Classified Department at 978-946-2300.

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Business Briefcase

Town counsel presides over mock trial

Andover Town Counsel Thomas Urbelis served as a presiding judge at the Yale University Invitational Mock Trial tournament on the campus of Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. Fifty student teams from schools around the country competed as attorneys and witnesses presenting a fictional case before judges and jurors.

Students competing as attorneys receive a score for opening statements, direct examinations, cross-examinations, and closing arguments. Students competing as fact and expert witnesses receive a score for their performance as a witness on direct examination and cross-examination. The teams, which competed before Urbelis, were from Penn State University and the University of Alabama.

Mercury Systems CEO elected to industry committee

Mercury Systems, Inc. announced that Mark Aslett, president and CEO, was elected to a three-year term on the Executive Committee of the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) beginning in 2019. In this role, he will work with other committee members to act as a visionary for the organization, ensure adherence to its mission, vision and code of ethics, while developing and expanding programs and services for the membership.

"We're pleased to welcome Mark to serve on AIA's Executive Committee," said AIA President and CEO Eric Fanning. "He'll bring a unique and valuable perspective to AIA's leadership, and we're looking forward to working with him in the coming years."

Aslett said he was "honored to receive this appointment. Leveraging my experience as the leader of an agile commercial technology company pioneering a next-generation business model for the defense industry,



AnnMary Connor, right, of the Andover Senior Center, receives a check for \$3,500 from Beth Vallante, executive director of Bridges by Epoch at Andover.

I look forward to working with my fellow committee members in support of AIA's mission to deliver strength, security and prosperity to the American aerospace and defense infrastructure and industrial base."

Mercury Systems (www.mrcy.com) is headquartered in Andover.

Local lawyer partner in pot firm

Charles Aloviseti, who calls Andover his hometown, was just named a partner at Vicente Sederberg LLC, which Rolling Stone magazine called "the country's first powerhouse marijuana law firm."



Charles Aloviseti

Charles graduated from Phillips Academy in 2001 after attending Doherty Middle School and Bancroft Elementary School. He joined Denver-based Vicente Sederberg as a senior associate just as the legal marijuana industry was taking off in Colorado, and he has played a key role in the growth of the firm, which now has offices in Boston, Los Angeles and Jacksonville. He is now the chairman of the firm's Corporate Department, where he focuses his practice on advising investors, companies, and other law firms on

the nuances of executing corporate transactions involving licensed and ancillary cannabis companies.

Vicente Sederberg LLC (VS) is one of the nation's leading firms specializing in cannabis law and policy. It offers a full suite of services for all types of marijuana and hemp businesses, investors, trade associations, and governmental bodies. Since its founding in 2010, VS has helped shape marijuana and hemp laws and policies across the U.S. and around the world, and it has assisted clients in obtaining cannabis business licenses in more than 15 states. For more information about VS, visit <https://VicenteSederberg.com>.

Nonprofits receive 'employee-directed' donations

Cummings Properties, the Woburn-based commercial real estate company, just donated \$484,000 to hundreds of local nonprofit organizations via its Employee Directed Giving program. Through this annual philanthropic initiative, employees are invited to select a local nonprofit to receive a \$1,000 donation in their honor.

In Andover, five nonprofits received a collective \$5,000 in funding: Andover/North Andover YMCA, Great Dog Rescue New England, Pike School, Run for the Troops and South School PTO.



Connor Wright, student at Pike School, presented a \$1,000 Employee Directed Giving donation to head of school John "Muddy" Waters.



Rachel Berthelsen, a second-grader at South School, presented a \$1,000 Employee Directed Giving donation to school principal Tracy Crowley.

Now in its seventh year, the program is designed to give back in the areas where Cummings Properties employees live and work. In 2018, Employee Directed Giving benefited 335 nonprofits in 99 local cities and towns.

New this year, the 140 colleagues with at least 10 years of seniority were invited to select a second nonprofit to receive an additional \$1,000. The program was also expanded to include part-time staff with at least five years of seniority, whereas it was previously open to full-time employees only.

"This significant program expansion created even more opportunities for colleagues to think and talk about philanthropy, and to have a significant positive impact on local causes that are meaningful to them," said Dennis Clarke, Cummings Properties' chairman and CEO.

Andover resident Christina Berthelsen, grants and communications specialist at Cummings, directed her \$1,000 donation to Andover's South School PTO, on whose board she serves as vice president. Two of Berthelsen's children attend the school, and in November alone, the PTO funded visits from Museum of Science, Plimoth Plantation, and Techsplorator, among others, through its curriculum enrichment initiative.

More information, including the complete 2018 Employee Directed Giving recipient list, is available at www.cummings.com/edg.

Andover woman on board of Boys & Girls Club

LAWRENCE — Natasha Ballou of Andover was elected as a member of the Board of Directors at the recent annual meeting of the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence.

Kevin McGovern of Boston was elected as president.

According to BGCL Executive Director Markus Fischer, board members serve as the governing



Natasha Ballou, left, was elected recently to the Board of Directors of the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence. She is with recently installed board President Kevin McGovern.

body of the club, providing guidance and oversight to ensure the ability to provide critical programs focusing on academic success, healthy lifestyles and community involvement for more than 4,000 youth members.

"We are grateful for the important contributions of time, broad experience and perspective by these Merrimack Valley leaders for the benefit of our kids," Fischer said.

Ballou, a BGCL alumna and former Girl of the Year who was inducted into its Alumni Hall of Fame in 2017, serves on the club's Development Committee. As a vice president of alternative investment services at JP Morgan, she manages daily operations of more than 30 hedge and private equity funds with \$10 billion in assets while overseeing investor relations for all new business implementations.

Ballou earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics with a Concentration in Finance from UMass Amherst and a Master of Finance and Control from Harvard University. She is a past member of ALPFA (Association of Latino Professional in Finance and Accounting) and NABA (National Association of Black Accountants).

Ballou, who was actively involved in the Keystone Club community service group while a high school member at BGCL, credits those early leadership experiences with developing her entrepreneurial spirit and other best practices that have proven valuable throughout her career.

"The club is such an important place for the youth in our city to stay safe, but also to learn, develop and broaden skills," Ballou said. "It gave me the opportunity and exposure to try different things, and now I want to use my influence to help younger members find their path."

Bridges by EPOCH raises \$35K for senior center

Bridges by EPOCH at Andover, a memory care assisted living community located at 254 Lowell St., announced it raised \$3,500 at its recent Holiday Gift Basket Gala. Guests bid on several extravagant gift baskets donated from local businesses and organizations while enjoying holiday hors d'oeuvres among friends at the community. The

proceeds from this event have been donated to the Andover Senior Center. On Wednesday, Dec. 19, Bridges presented a check to the Andover Senior Center located at 30 Whittier Court.

BNI Merrimack Valley networking meetings

BNI Merrimack Valley chapter meets on Thursdays from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. at the Lanam Club in Andover at 260 North Main St. The group's mission is to help members increase their business through a structured, positive, and professional referral marketing program that enables them to develop long-term, meaningful relationships with quality business professionals.

The philosophy of this organization is built upon the idea of "Givers Gain": If I give you business, then you'll give me business and we'll both benefit as a result. BNI allows only one person per professional classification or specialty to join a chapter.

For more information, call Edna Peters at 1-800-783-6127 or email epeters@partnersadvantage.com.

Merrimack Valley networking meetings

Merrimack Valley Networking Group, a free business networking group, meets on Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 a.m. at Atria Marland Place, 15 Steven St., Andover. Bring business cards to hand out.

For more information, call Paul Lambert at 978-609-6420 or email PDLLAW@comcast.net.

Monthly professional networking

The Networking Group meets one Tuesday each month from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover. Past speakers have included professional recruiters, career counselors, human resource professionals, marketing leaders, business owners and more. New sponsorships are always welcome to help defray costs. For more information, contact Brotherhood President Mitchell Schneur at 978-470-1356. Visit www.templemanuel.net for a complete schedule.

To submit an item for the Business Briefcase, email townsm@andovertownsm.com.

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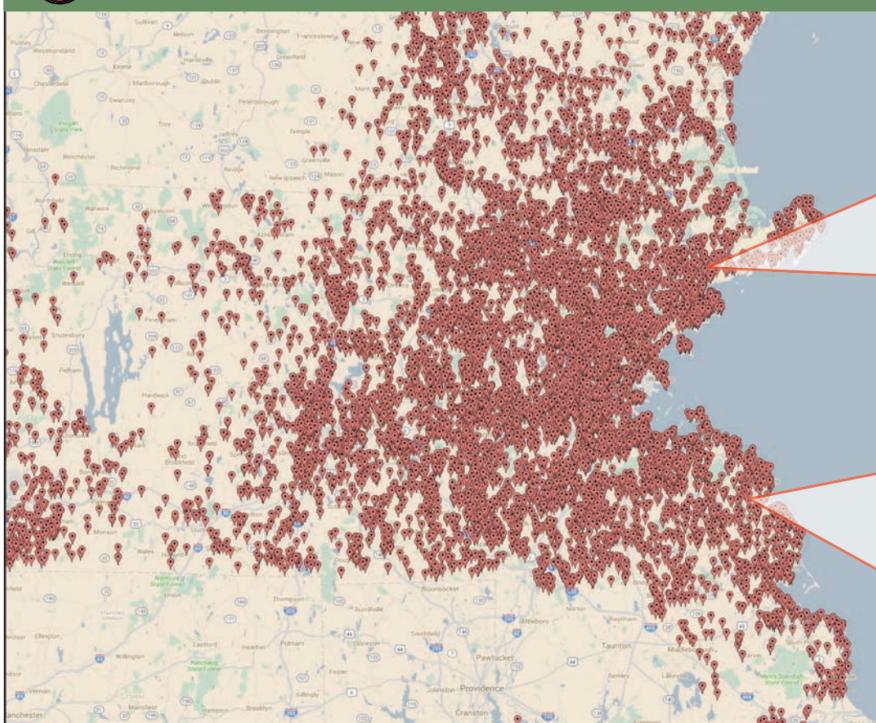
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Townspeople



Large letters spelling out "Love & Kindness" and lit with tea lights in paper bags on display.



Charlie Poor, 11, turns on a tea light before putting it in a paper bag.

Andona, Youth Center shine the light

Staff report

The local non-profit fundraising group Andona Society joined forces with the Cormier Youth Center Thursday night to raise money for children's programs across the community.

The annual Shine the Light Event is typically at individual homes throughout town, but this year dozens of light-kits were bought and set up at the youth center.

From 6-8 p.m. Thursday lights were set up by members of the youth center, located on Whittier Court behind the senior center.

The so-called "FUNdraiser" encourages people to purchase lighting kits to light up homes or pathways for the Winter Solstice, which this year was Friday, Dec. 21.

For a \$20 donation a

resident received a luminary kit, a coupon book and a raffle entry. The grand prize for the raffle was a ClownTown Give-away for 4 the prize package includes 200 rides tickets, face painting, sand art and Andona kiddie games.

For the first time ever, Andona teamed up with the Youth Center to raise funds for the event.

Each year, Andona donates approximately \$50,000 to Andover schools, youth organizations, and individuals through fund requests, scholarships, and campership programs.

Andona is about women working together toward a common goal, all while forming long-lasting friendships along the way.

To learn more, go to: andona.org.



Kids and volunteers at the Cormier Youth Center in Andover use tea lights in paper bags to light up large letters.



Kids and volunteers at the Cormier Youth Center in Andover.



Kids and volunteers at the Cormier Youth Center in Andover.



Gigi Poor, 8, piles tea lights in paper bags into a box.



Colin Kirn, 14, left, grabs a tea light in a bag from a box held by Simon Kane, 14, right.

Daisy Troop collects, donates food, other items

STAFF REPORT

In the spirit of the holiday seasons the young ladies of Daisy Troop 67443 worked to earn Community Service Merit Badges by collecting and delivering food to the Lazarus house food distribution center.

The troop, led by leader Gina Chaves, is from High Plain Elementary School.

The girls collected a truck load of non-perishable foods including boxes of cereal, canned pastas, rice, peanut butter, tuna and more. They also collected and donated children's books, pajamas and an assortment of small

items that could be used as Christmas gifts by the Center.

After unloading the truck of food, the girls were provided a tour of the Food Distribution Center, located at 242 Hampshire St., Lawrence.

They were told how the food is used and provided to needy families. The tour and information regarding the needs and services was provided by service coordinators at Lazarus House. The girls then delivered books, pajamas and other items to the Lazarus House Ministries Center and were provided a tour and information about how the items are used by families in need.



Daisy Troop members, front row, stand with family members, back row, including: Bill Rourke, Allison Lawson, Shane Lawson, Kieran Kolar, Jennifer Kolar, Gina Chaves and Rebecca Orcutt, along with Lazarus house food service coordinators Mike Shea and Ken Campbell.



Courtesy photos

Troop Leader Gina Chaves, Elizabeth Orcutt, Valerie Lawson, Ava Chaves, Emma Kolar and Emily Rourke. Missing from the picture are Lacey Stewart, Grace Farnum, Kashvi Sirvule, Kendall Healy, Roxie Helle, Gabby Catricala and Hannah McCabe.

Enjoying the Holly Days



Brenda Shea, left and Jeanne Conte, both of Andover, relax a little after touring the Stevens' Estate during the Holly Days celebration open house. The Stevens Estate, located in North Andover, held its 4th annual "Holly Days" weekend celebration with an open house reception on Friday night at the historic mansion atop Osgood Hill. The event was open to the public and free of charge. According to Joanna Ouellette, estate director, "the annual event, which sees the estate transformed into a turn-of-the-century Christmas, is the town's holiday gift to the public."

CARL RUSSO/staff photo

Andover Townsman—All Those Years Ago

By Susan McKelliget

Andover Center for History and Culture

100 Years Ago—Dec. 27, 1918

Mrs. Marlborough Churchill who returned from France last spring, just before the turning point in the war, the battle of Chateau Thierry, was in Paris at the most critical period of the Great War. Her talk, therefore was full of interest to those who heard her speak in the November Club house last Monday afternoon. Mrs. Churchill was in charge of the warehouse in Paris run by the American Fund for French Wounded.

The Bay State Street Railway Company has issued

orders to all of its trainmen regarding the heating of cars this winter. The coal situation is such that the company is enabled to return to normal heating conditions as specified by the Public Service Commission and the orders issued, provide for maintaining heat in all cars in accordance with normal requirements.

75 Years Ago—Dec. 30, 1943

Frank Marshall of Andover called up the local police station Monday evening to report that a truck had hit and injured a deer on Hidden Road. The carcass was brought back to the station and County Game warden Harold Crosby picked it up Tuesday. Its eventual destiny is being made into venison

steaks for the Tewksbury State Hospital.

The old year is dying and the thought that we are to start 1944 with a fresh, clean slate, as we do every year, is one that should give Andover people pause for considerable reflection. For one thing, what are Andover servicemen to do for a living after the war is over? To put the matter bluntly, Andover business has been able to move along despite the handicap of the young men's absence. Women and young people have done so well in a number of men's jobs that it will be impossible to discharge them wholesale just because the men are coming back. On the other hand, the young men have new trades and accomplishments.

There is going to be a surplus of trained radio technicians, aircraft mechanics, truck drivers, cooks and stock clerks...to what new fields can that talent be applied?

50 Years Ago—Dec. 31, 1968

For Andover, 1968 started out real white, then turned green, in the form of potential tax dollars.

As the year opened, the town was inundated by 20 inches of snow, not the most pleasant way for the daily traveler to begin the new year. In an era when industry is needed to aid the already overburdened property taxpayer, Andover struck gold this year, although there is still a stigma hanging over one industrial proposition.

First it was the Gillette Company which announced plans to locate in Lowell Junction and began construction of its toiletries division. Raytheon, the town's top taxpayer, obtained an option from Danton Realty Trust to locate a new plant on close to 200 acres of land in West Andover at the junction of Routes 93 and 133. The plant was to replace the current facility in Shawsheen, with that property to be converted into warehouse facilities.

25 Years Ago—Dec. 30, 1993

Editorial: This being the end of 1993, we thought it appropriate to make a list of resolutions for the town of Andover for 1994: (partial list) To continue to act as

a community, reaching out wherever and whenever possible to those here who need help from others; to continue to fight prejudice and bigotry, which do exist here, and to be reminded that all of us offer some strengths to bring to the community; to support local business and to encourage new businesses to locate here; to address the controversial subjects in town, no matter how difficult, whether they be about education, religion, social or business issues. This community has scores of talented people whose expertise and creativity make it a better place to live. There are ways to deal with most everything as long as we identify issues and agree to roll up our sleeves to work on them.

Punchard Free School Trustees give scholarship money

By JESSICA VALERIANI
jvaleriani@andovertownsmen.com

The Trustees of the Punchard Free School will provide \$17,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors in Andover High School's

Class of 2019. The Trustees will also offer an additional \$15,000 for programs at the high school.

"We are honored to continue the legacy of Andover philanthropist Benjamin Punchard," said Don

Schroeder, president of the Trustees of the Punchard Free School. "The Trustees focus on the success of our students is part of what makes Andover a great community. Our goal is to help support their dreams as

they look to the future."

One of the scholarships will be given in honor of former Trustee member John R. Petty, who was a Trustee for 27 years. He passed away in January 2018.

The \$15,000 for various

high school programs will go toward student support, speaker series funding, robotics and electronics engineering, music, science, and the AVID program, among others.

Andover seniors can

apply for one of the scholarships through Andover Dollars For Scholars by visiting their website www.andover.dollarsforscholars.org. The deadline to apply for student scholarships is April 1, 2019.

MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY CHILDREN'S ROOM

Here's what's in store for young people at the library at 2 N. Main St. for the rest of December and into January:

December events in the Children's Room:

Dads and Donuts on Saturday, Dec. 29 at 10 a.m. for ages 2-5. A story time

targeting dads and children ages 2-5 (although all are welcome). After stories, songs, rhymes and a craft, share coffee, juice, and donuts. Pick up a token in the Children's Room.

January events in the Children's Room:
Mes Petits Amis on

Monday, Jan. 7 at 9:30 a.m. for preschoolers and their families - a new program introducing the French language using rhymes, songs and simple stories. It's like Wiggle Words but in French (with some English thrown in). Pick up a token for each attendee.

Reading with Annie on Tuesdays, Jan. 8 and 22 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children able to read on their own. Annie is a therapy dog who loves to be read to. The sessions are 15 minutes long and only the child who is reading is allowed in the room with Annie and her

handler. Register at <https://mhl.org/calendar>.

Junior Green Gatherings for ages 4-7 on Saturday, Jan. 19 at 10 a.m. Learn more about nature and gardening through a book and related activities. Register at <https://mhl.org/calendar>. A collaboration of the

Andover Jr. Garden Club and MHL Children's Room.

Make It Take It Tuesday for ages 3 and up and an adult, on Tuesdays, Jan. 22 and 29 from 5:45-6:30 p.m. Join us for a new drop-in craft program. Pick up a token in the Children's Room.



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*Published messages limited to 250 characters. \$5 minimum donation required.

WHAT'S HAPPENING: MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY

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

Here are some of the featured programs on the calendar:

Get Creative with Creativebug

Learn new skills and nurture your creative side with Creativebug. Memorial Hall Library cardholders have unlimited free access to this digital platform that offers thousands of creative classes for all ages. Creativebug has more than 1,000 award-winning art & craft video classes taught by recognized design experts and artists. Single and multi-part classes for all ages and skill levels are available in art & design, sewing, quilting, paper, knitting, crochet, food & home, jewelry, holiday & party, and kids. With new classes from top artists released daily, plus downloadable patterns, templates and recipes, the platform is an easy-to-use tool that offers unlimited inspiration to its users. Get started at <https://www.creativebug.com/lib/mhl>.

All events are sponsored by the Friends of Memorial Hall Library. Visit www.mhl.org, or call 978-623-8430. Unless

specified, programs are held at Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St., Andover, MA.

Take a Journey to the Roof of Africa

On Tuesday, Jan. 8 at 7 p.m., photographer Peter Christoph will share his photographic journey through 5 climate zones, from tropical rain forest to arctic conditions, in his quest for the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro, the tallest mountain in Africa, and the highest free-standing mountain in the world. He includes behind the scenes photos of how he trained for his adventure. An award-winning nature photographer based in Lancaster, Peter has presented to the Photographic Society of America, New England Camera Club Council and the Appalachian Mountain Club in addition to Mass Audubon, the National Wildlife Refuge System, numerous camera clubs, birding clubs, and libraries. The past president of the Camera Club of Central New England, he has received many prestigious national and international awards and medals. He's published three nature photography books, including his latest, *The Art of Bird*

Photography. His program is sponsored by the Friends of MHL. Sign up at <https://mhl.org/calendar>.

Parent to Parent & MHL Host a Discussion of The 57 Bus

On Thursday, Jan. 17 at 6:30 p.m., Parent to Parent and MHL Teen Services Librarians will facilitate a discussion of *The 57 Bus*, Dashka Slater's account of the true story of two very different teens whose paths crossed on a fateful bus trip. In *School Library Journal*, Kierra Parrot writes, "Slater artfully unfolds a complex and layered tale about two teens whose lives intersect with painful consequences. This work will spark discussions about identity, community, and what it means to achieve justice." Parent to Parent is an organization dedicated to bringing informative and helpful speakers to area parents seeking more information on relevant child-rearing topics. Teen Services Librarians Renata Sancken and Anna Tschetter will help facilitate this discussion and invite tweens, teens, and their caregivers to

discuss this timely story.

Extra Day Added to the Friends' Winter Book Sale

The Friends' Winter Book Sale will be extended for an extra day of shopping. Preview Night is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 23 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. There is a \$20 charge, and Friends' members get in free. Sale hours continue: Thursday, Jan. 24 from 1-4:30 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 25 from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 26 from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, Jan. 27 from 1-4:30 p.m. (fill a bag for \$5 or \$7; CDs & DVDs 4/\$1). Shop for bargains and support the library at the same time. Join the Friends at <https://mhl.org/friends>.

American History with Don Robb: The Five Frontiers of the American West

Don Robb's next six-week course begins on Thursday, Jan. 31 at 1:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Don will explore the history (and the myths) of the American West from the perspective of five different frontiers: the Mining Frontier, the Railroad Frontier,

the Ranching Frontier, the Farming Frontier, and the Indian Frontier. Each frontier affected each of the other frontiers, and together pioneered the vast area of plains and mountains from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean. This program is a collaboration of MHL and The Center at Punchard.

Other January events at MHL:

Adult Board Games @MHL on Sunday, Jan. 6 at 1:15 p.m. in Activity Room - Enjoy board games with other adults. Bring your own or play one of ours. Facilitated by Andover resident, John Totten.

Conversational English on Mondays, Jan. 7, 14 and 28 from 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 welcome. To register, contact Carolyn Fantini at 978-475-4602.

Maker Morning @MHL on Tuesdays, Jan. 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 10-11 a.m. - Come and learn to use our 3D printer, vinyl cutters, poster printer and more. Meet at the Reference Desk. Register at

<https://mhl.org/calendar>.

Device Advice on Tuesdays, Jan. 8 and 22 from 7-8 p.m. Bring your technology questions to the Reference Desk. Get help with the basics for iPads, cellphones, laptops, Kindles and other e-readers. Bring your chargers, usernames and passwords. If you're unable to attend, stop by the Reference Desk anytime for device assistance.

Discover Your Past Genealogy Club on Thursday, Jan. 10 from 10-11 a.m. in Memorial Hall.

Computer Users Group on Monday, Jan. 14 at 1:30 p.m. in Activity Room - facilitated by MHL librarians. A collaboration of MHL and the Center at Punchard.

Career Networking Group on Thursdays, Jan. 17 and 31 from 10-11:30 a.m. in Friends Alcove 1, Ground Level - Expand your network of business contacts, share ideas, and learn about effective job search strategies. Facilitated by certified career coach Arleen Bradley.

All events are sponsored by the Friends of Memorial Hall Library. Visit www.mhl.org, or call 978-623-8430. Unless specified, programs are held at Memorial Hall Library, 2 North Main St., Andover.

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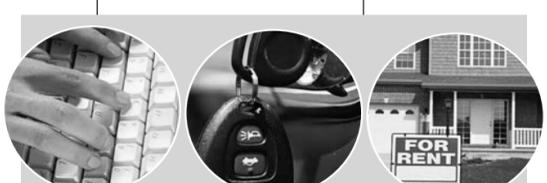
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PUBLIC NOTICES
NOTICE OF HEARING
A public hearing will be held at Conference Room A, 3rd floor, Town Offices, 36 Bartlett St., Andover, MA on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 6:30 P.M. on the petition of SA1 Builders, LLC, 12 Industrial Way, Salem, NH for a special permit under Art. VIII, §3.3.5 &/or for a variance from Art. VIII, §4.1.2 to raze an existing dwelling & to construct a new dwelling on a lot that lacks the minimum required area and frontage.
Premises affected are located at 67 Walnut Ave., Andover, MA in an SRA District and are shown on Assessor Map 21 as Lot 25. The petition may be viewed at the Board of Appeals office between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.
ELIZABETH OLTMAN, CHAIR
BOARD OF APPEALS
AT - 12/20, 12/27/18

APARTMENTS
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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Essex Probate and Family Court
36 Federal Street
Salem, MA 01970
Docket No. ES16P0567PM
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A CONSERVATOR
In the interests of:
James P. Murphy
Of: North Andover, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/
Protected Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Lawrence G. Martin of South Park, PA, in the above captioned matter requesting that the court expand the powers of a Conservator of the Respondent.
The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **01/07/2019**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Jennifer M. R. Ulwick, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 12, 2018
Pamela Casey O'Brien
Register of Probate
AT - 12/27/18

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www.fortrent.com/elmcrestestates

SALEM, NH - Willows Park, 2 Bedroom - \$1300/mo. 1 Bedroom - \$1150/mo. Heat/hot water included. No pets. 603-944-4631
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\$\$\$
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BEVERLY COVE prof., female seeking same to share spacious luxury apt, near beaches. Huge unfurnished bedroom, 2 closets, decks, yard. Parking and laundry. Near train station. No pets. \$1000+ 1/2 utilities. 978-590-7120

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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

Merchandise

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FREE! MOVING! FREE! MOVING! FREE!
Some furniture, several large fish tanks etc.
Call for details (603) 244-0602

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.

GARAGE SALE

DOVER, NH, Antique Flea Market, 35 Dealers, Dover Elks Hall, 282 Durham Rd. (Rt. 108, Exit 7, off Rt. 16, 1.5 miles south on the left).
Wednesday 12/5, 8-1pm. Free Admission. Catered. Call Rachel Gurley for more information (207) 396-4255

MISC ITEMS WANTED

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

MISC ITEMS WANTED

CASH PAID FOR
COINS, REAL & COSTUME JEWELRY, POCKET & WRIST WATCHES, ANTIQUES, COMIC BOOKS, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, BASEBALL CARDS. DAN (603) 505-0380

(COINS) Coin collector looking for Susan B. Anthony Dollar coins, two dollar bills also cheap plow truck (978) 208-8944

STAIRLIFTS WANTED

TO BUY, in good condition.
Call Richard 603-236-1227

MISC MERCHANDISE

Anxiety Reduction Jewelry
Trusty trinkets may help IEP students.
For website email nobelbob1941@gmail.com
Call Neil from Lynn 781-598-0602

PIPE THREADING EQUIPMENT - Rigid 300 power drive \$1000. 65R Die \$200. Oil pan \$150. Reamer 0 to 2 inch \$50. Dies quarter to one inch \$100. Assorted pipe cutters best offer, 4 wheel pipe cutter \$50. Soil pipe cutter \$75. Inch & quarter die with handle 12R \$100. 4 inch pipe cutter \$400. Try stand pipe vice \$200. All the above only \$2000. 781-599-0737

First Run
SELLING MY ENTIRE COLLECTION
Coins & Paper Currency, Old & New.
Call Ralph (978) 208-8944

Stainless steel Whirlpool gas range, 6 burners 2 yrs old was \$1100 asking \$450. Matching pair hi back parson chairs Queen Anne legs great shape paid \$400 asking \$125. 978-885-5503

Sterling Silver Jewelry-Genuine Pandora bracelet 3 charms like new \$125. 2"x3" Amethyst cross has 5 KI stones chain & matching ring \$125. Vintage tennis bracelet \$30 978-885-5503

WARNING

If you get an email or cashiers check for more then the asking price for your pet, vehicle or merchandise asking you to refund the difference it is likely a scam. Seller Beware!

YORKSHIRE Terrier pups, very friendly, no shed, vet checked, shots, wormed and microchipped. \$900 and up. Call (603) 435-9344.

REGISTERED MALCHI PUPPIES FOR SALE
Call Donna
479-622-0288

WARNING

If you get an email or cashiers check for more then the asking price for your pet, vehicle or merchandise asking you to refund the difference it is likely a scam. Seller Beware!

PETS & FREE PETS

ALL WHITE BOXER PUPS with markings.
5 Females ready for Christmas! Pure bred, born in Salem NH. Parents on premises. Tails docked, declawed. \$650+ up.
Ready to go 12/24. Call 508-280-2399

BEAUTIFUL GOLDEN DOODLE PUPPIES - Born August 10 - Raised at Home - Parents Are Family Pets - Creams and Apricots - Organic Food - Holistic Home - \$1050-\$1350 for Small Standard - One \$1850 Mini - Doodle - S. Hadley and Manchester By The Sea - Vet Cer - Guarantee - Call For More Photos 413-333-7813 Katie

MINI Goldenoodle, Cavaphoo, Cocker, Morkie Mini-Labradoodles, Cockadoodles, Wheatens, Teddies, Shih-tzu etc. \$995+ 603-942-9970

YORKSHIRE Terrier pups, very friendly, no shed, vet checked, shots, wormed and microchipped. \$900 and up. Call (603) 435-9344.

BMW 2011 128i 2 door convertible. Black over white. 6 speed manual. Clean carfax! All power, custom leather, alloy wheels, ABS brakes, super clean inside and out. Premium sound and much more. Take advantage, priced at only \$9,800. Call today 978-462-3088.

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Automatic, silver/black leather. Loaded, a/c, slide in sunroof, 135k miles. Runs good. \$3500/best. Call 857-880-9562, Reading MA

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2011 FORD FUSION, SE, 52K ...\$8500
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2012 FORD FUSION SEL, 59K ...\$8600
2015 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500, 64K \$18,995
TRADES WELCOME
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Clean, Inspection Ready Vehicles.
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PETS & FREE PETS

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

Corgador Puppies
LAB/CORGI MIX, BLACK & WHITE - 7 males, 3 females. First shots & health certificates. Ready for Dec. 21st - \$650. (603) 921-9207

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JACK RUSSELL PUPS short legged variety, imported lines, 1-M, 3-F 1st Vaccine, Health Cert. Call (978) 317-6603

MALTESE MIX PUPPIES Beautiful white pups ready for their new forever families. Family raised with other dogs, no kennels. Email or text for pics. First shots, wormed I DO NOT SHIP \$500 sharonscuties@gmail.com 978-594-3649

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Sports

LEGENDS TO BE HONORED

By MICHAEL MULDOON
mmuldoon@eagletribune.com

The Punchard-Andover High Hall of Fame named its newest Hall of Fame class, it's first since 2016 and third since 1995.

Here is a quick look at the Blue and Gold greats that will be enshrined in 2019:

DAVID BLANK (AHS '91): He was the 1991 Gatorade Massachusetts Baseball Player of the Year and a star fullback in football, who starred at Division 1 South Florida.

NICOLE BOUDREAU ('12): Considered the greatest basketball player in school history, and one of the greatest in Massachusetts history, she scored 2,200 points, won three Division 1 state titles and was named Parade All-American (top 40 players in country). She went on to be a four-year starter at Boston College (1,258 points, No. 2 with 253 3-pointers made despite battling injuries.)

BRUCE BROWN ('02): He was a record-breaking track sprinter (21.98, 200 meters) and football star who played football at Division 1 West Point. His grandmother is Andover Hall of Fame swimming coach Marilyn Fitzgerald.

STEPHANIE CASPER ('03): A track and field hockey star, she earned field hockey scholarship to Division 1 Northeastern.

NICK D'INNOCENZO ('10): One of the most dominant athletes in any sport in Massachusetts history, he became the No. 1 college swim recruit in country. He became an All-American at the University of Texas and swam in the Olympic trials.

RYAN HANIGAN ('99): A

blue-chipper for AHS, he defied the odds and had an 11-year major league career as one of the game's top defensive catchers.

Never drafted, he hit .251 in 680 major league games — spending two years with the Red Sox — before retiring after the 2017 season.

JIM HANNING ('92): He put up unsurpassed numbers for two state championship baseball teams including an almost unbelievable 14-0 record as a senior. He became a second-team All-American.

PAUL KEEFE ('78) is one of the great high jumpers (6-9 best) in school history and was a terrific scholar who starred at Dartmouth.

TED KELLEY ('82), a 6-5 guard, was Greater Lawrence Christmas Tourney MVP, averaged 23.8 points per game as a senior and went on to co-captain Boston College in the Big East's glory days.

TOM MARJERISON ('66): A three-year starting quarterback, he also starred in basketball and baseball.

MAUREEN NOONE (coach): The still-active legendary coach has built a field hockey juggernaut at Andover. She is 326-53-55 (and counting!) with three Division 1 state titles.

ROB OPPENHEIM ('98) made it to the top of his sport, competing on the PGA tour. While he dominated on the links, he was also one of the state's top three-sport athletes (basketball and baseball, too) while at Andover.

EMILY PALLOTTA ('06) was a multi-sport star who is one of the all-time soccer greats at Andover and Boston University (America East Woman of the Year).

GEORGE SULLIVAN (coach) was a multi-sport coach for decades at the high school

and middle school levels. Few did it better in volleyball, where he went 441-161 in 29 years as Andover head coach.

MEGHAN THOMANN ('08) was a Merrimack Valley Conference MVP in volleyball and scored 1,173 points in basketball, leading Andover to the Division 1 title game in 2008. She earned a basketball scholarship to Bentley.

ALAN WILSON ('52): It took 66 years, but Wilson is being recognized for a marvelous career in baseball, football and basketball.

ANDOVER BASEBALL (1991, 1992): These two Division 1 state championship teams were guided by coach David Bettencourt. They were loaded with talent like 2019 Hall of Famers Jim Hanning and David Blank as well as Joe Iarrobino, Brett Hammond,

Jim Landry, Justin Hesenius, Bob Sheehan, Mike Daly et. al.

ANDOVER FIELD HOCKEY (2010, 2011): Hall of Fame coach Maureen Noone and the Golden Warriors were something special, winning back to back Division 1 state titles. Among the greats were Jaclyn Torres, Shannon Tully, Taylor Faris and Laura Dimitruk.

HALL OF FAME TICKETS

The new Punchard-Andover High Hall of Fame ceremony will be March 29. Tickets are \$60. For more information call 978-247-5500 or send check to:

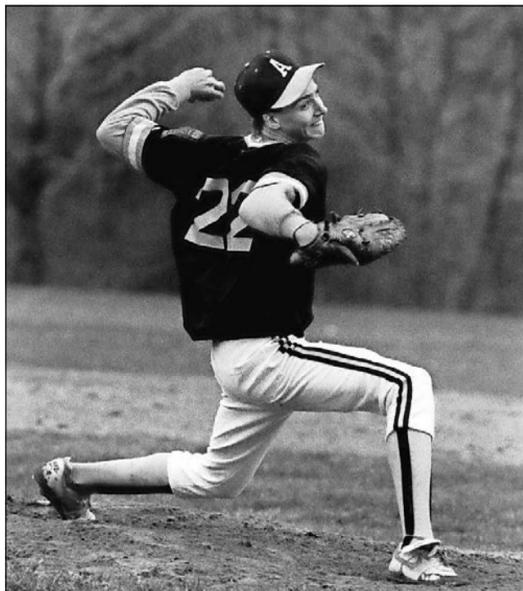
Dave Nichols, Andover Hall of Fame, 24 Smithshire Estates, Andover, MA 01810.

Follow Michael Muldoon on Twitter at @MullyET.



PAUL BILODEAU/Staff photo

One of the greatest players in state history, Nicole Boudreau won three state titles and scored 2,200 points.



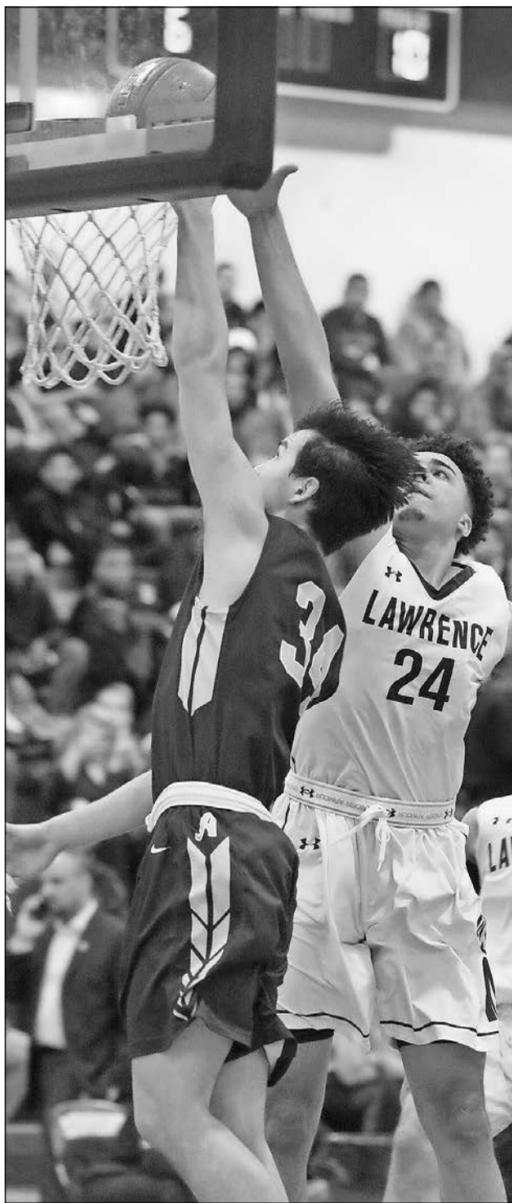
File photo

Jim Hanning may have been the most dominant southpaw in area history, and one of the best in state history.



STAFF File photo

Nick D'Innocenzo starred at Andover, was a Texas All-American and swam in the Olympic Trials.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover's Emmett Kim goes to the basket against Lawrence's Luis Reynoso last winter.

ANDOVER SPORTS SCHEDULE

Thursday, Dec. 27
Boys Basketball
Andover at Lawrence, 4 p.m.
Girls Basketball
Andover at North Andover, 7 p.m.
Boys Swimming
Andover at Acton-Boxborough, 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 29
Boys Ice Hockey
Andover at Waltham, 8 p.m.
Girls Ice Hockey
Billerica at Andover, 7 p.m.
Wrestling

Leominster at Andover, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 2
Boys Ice Hockey
Billerica at Andover, 7 p.m.
Girls Ice Hockey
Andover at Masconomet, 8 p.m.; Andover at Newburyport, 8 p.m.
Wrestling
Billerica at Andover, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 3
Boys Swimming
Central Catholic at Andover, 3:30 p.m.

D'Urso, girls hockey open with three straight shutouts

GIRLS HOCKEY

Sean D'Urso made 10 saves for her third straight shutout to start the season as Andover topped Haverhill/Pentucket/North Andover 2-0 last Wednesday. Lauren Adams scored both goals for the winners.

Hannah Rowe, Kate Gemmill, Callie Wiley and Emma Gilmarin each scored a goal as Andover beat Acton-Boxboro 4-0 last Monday. Sean D'Urso made 14 saves for the winners.

BOYS SWIMMING

Cook, Qian surging
Ryan Cook won the 200 freestyle (2:02.95) and swam on the winning 200 freestyle and 400 freestyle relays as Andover beat Lowell 104-79 last Wednesday. Victor She, Tyler Millien and Cook teamed with Pat Currie to win the 200 freestyle relay, and Eric Xu in the 400 freestyle relay. Sean Bradshaw won the diving and Ryan Zhu took the 100 butterfly for the winners.

William Qian won the 200 freestyle (2:00.14) and 100 butterfly (56.09) and swam on the winning 200 medley relay and 400 freestyle relay as Andover beat BC High 95-86 last Thursday. Nikita Orbits added wins in the 100 backstroke and 200 IM and also swam on a pair of winning relays. Dennis Tang took the 100 freestyle and Kenneth Siu won the 100 breaststroke for the Warriors.

WRESTLING

Coyle dominates
Ethan Coyle continued his dominant start to the season, needing just four seconds for a pin at 285 pounds, but Andover fell to Chelmsford 51-79 last Wednesday. Football teammate Kelvin Davila (152 pounds) added a pin in 32 seconds, while Miles Fraser (132), Sean Ballou (170) and Pat Fragala (220) chipped

in with victories for the Golden Warriors.

GIRLS TRACK

Kennedy, Barbanti star
Julianna Kennedy placed second in the 600 (1:39.92), Delia Barbanti was second in the 300 (41.86) and they teamed with Ava Trapp and Grace Dunn to win the 4x400 (4:11.46) for Andover at a multi-meet last Wednesday. Nicole Major added a second in the 1,000 (3:11.64) for the Golden Warriors.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Rocker surging
Kyle Rocker erupted for 35 points, including five 3-pointers, and Andover held off Chelmsford 72-66 last Tuesday. Stephen Shaw added 15 points and Emmett Kim had nine points for the winners.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Warriors stay unbeaten
Shea Krekorian tallied 11 points, with three 3-pointers, as Andover rolled past Chelmsford 62-43 last Tuesday. Gia Bramanti stayed hot with 19 points and Taylor Landry had 15 points as the Golden Warriors improved to 3-0 on the season.

BOYS HOCKEY

Brezner's effort for naught
Despite 22 saves by Jake Brezner, Andover fell to state power St. John's Prep 2-0 last Wednesday. Normally a forward, Matt Schuhwerk excelled on defense for the Golden Warriors.

GYMNASTICS

Game postponed
Andover's meet against Central Catholic last Thursday was postponed due to a burst pipe in the Central Catholic building.



STAFF File photo

Andover goalie Sean D'Urso is off to a fast start to the season.

SEND US YOUR TOWN SPORTS NEWS

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

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

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

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

To Get Your Full Local Forecast, Go To <http://www.AndoverTownsmen.com>

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly sunny	Milder with rain	Clouds and sun; mild	Snow or flurries	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	High clouds
High: 34° Low: 23°	High: 49° Low: 46°	High: 51° Low: 22°	High: 30° Low: 18°	High: 34° Low: 29°	High: 42° Low: 29°	High: 39° Low: 20°

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather.com ©2018

TODAY:
DAMARYS IS 100 POUNDS LIGHTER AND 4 INCHES TALLER

Bariatric Surgery helped Damarys get back into high heels. To hear her story and take a Weight Loss Surgery online self-assessment, visit lawrencegeneral.org/weightloss

Lawrence General Hospital
MIRACLES

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Recent real estate sales in Andover:

44 Bailey Road: Westgate Development Inc. to An P. Vo, \$640,000	112 Ballardvale Road: Twin Birch Development to Scott E. and Emily Freeman, \$1,150,000	2 Bittersweet Lane: Scott A. Harrison and Robin A. Heller-Harrison to Kevin M. and Christina M. McCarthy, \$615,000	27 Bobby Jones Dr., Unit 27: James and Mariah Berberian to Bella Condos LLC, \$925,000	39 Enmore St.: Sullivan FT and Andrew J. Sullivan to Ryan P. and Erin C. Gaffney, \$583,500	245 Haggetts Pond Road: Haggetts NT and Russell S. Channen to Hanna RT and Kareem S. Abu-Zahra, \$1,225,000	111 Main St., Unit 4: Locke Tavern LLC to Peter Kelley, \$255,000	6 Maple Ave., Unit 2: Anthony and April Adams to Kristina M. Regonini, \$237,000	250 N. Main St., Unit 3: Lisa M. Yameen to Todd Pietrasiak, \$310,000	250 N. Main St., Unit 7: Pamela Yameen to Lisa Y. Ash, \$292,623	8 Pheasant Run: William A. and Debra K. Davidson to Deepak S. Khetwal and Monika Shah, \$647,000	35 Pine St.: Sandra A. Cioffi to Michael Girouard, \$425,000	4 Powder Mill Sq., Unit 101: Historic Mills RT and Louis P. Minicucci to Tyler J. Frederick, \$320,000	55 Prospect Road: Patricia M. and Alexander F. Wojcik to Sean J. and Jaelyn A. Menulty, \$420,000	99 Spring Grove Road: Charles G. and Marilyn C. Clarkson to Carlos A. DeAlcantara and Tania Caires-Alcantara, \$1,120,000
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Buying or Selling Your Home 2019?

Whether you are moving up, down sizing, investing in real estate or buying your 1st home, feel free to contact me with any questions about the local real estate market.

Visit www.KrystalSolimine.net to Start Your Local Market Research

Now is the best time to consult with a real estate professional. As the new year approaches, decisions to make a move start in January.

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