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OUR 130TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 48

OCTOBER 3, 2019

\$1.00

Big warehouse development raises traffic concerns

By JESSICA VALERIANI
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A proposal for a sprawling warehouse on the Andover-Tewksbury line has planning officials and police concerned about increased traffic in the area.

Commercial real estate firm R.J. Kelly Co., Inc. is seeking approval for a special permit to develop a

Andover planners review proposal for Tewksbury line

224,900-square-foot warehouse space on Burt Road.

The development would include two one-story warehouses at 3, 3R and 4 Executive Place, and would span along Interstate 93.

The first warehouse would be 185,000 square feet, with 105,000 square feet of the warehouse building located

in Tewksbury and the other 80,000 square feet of the building in Andover. The second warehouse would be 39,900 square feet located solely in Andover.

Representatives from R.J. Kelly Co., Inc. said about 10% of the buildings would be office space for employees.

The developer is also

seeking approval of 252 parking spaces, all of which would be located in Andover.

Representatives of the developer went before the Andover Planning Board recently for the first public hearing on the project. They will go before the Tewksbury Planning Board for the first time on Oct. 7.

About 400 vehicle trips per day were predicted to come out of the development, representatives said at the meeting. The Lowell Junction Road currently experiences about 7,300 trips per day, meaning the development would increase traffic by 5.5 percent.

The Andover board,

however, raised questions over how the traffic impact could even be predicted prior to a warehouse tenant being identified, stating that different types of warehouses could cause varying traffic patterns.

"I think the traffic generation could be totally different for different types of warehouses," said Planning Board

See **TRAFFIC**, Page 3

Hundreds raise \$114,000 at Hike for Hope



The start of the Lazarus House Hike for Hope.

COURTESY PHOTO

Packing The Park

By JESSICA VALERIANI
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In the sea of hundreds of people that filled The Park,

Jeffrey Hassel, executive director of

Lazarus House Ministries, pointed out a group of girls dancing and singing along to the music that filled the air.

"When kids are dancing and whistling, you know things are good," he said.

"There is a lot of joy here right now, and joy is what drives Lazarus House."

The annual Hike for Hope, hosted by Lazarus House, was held Sunday. About 500 people registered to participate in the 5K and the new Kid's Fun Run event.

"The main goal (of the event) is to try to connect people to the ministries of Lazarus House," Hassel said. "We are raising money so every day we can better help Lazarus House."

The event brought together

community groups and people from all over the Merrimack Valley for games, food, music and of course, giving back. For many in attendance, it was a special day that allowed them to reunite with old friends.

Edwin Bonilla of Lawrence participated in the 5K for his fifth year alongside his longtime friends Charlie Woodard, also of Lawrence, and Brendan Hale of Methuen. All three are guests of Lazarus House Ministries and come together each year for the walk.

"I love walking with everyone," Bonilla said. "I want to keep doing it for as long as I can."

Woodard and Hale said they look forward to walking alongside their friends and catching up with people they haven't seen in a while.

"We do the walk to help those less fortunate than we are," Woodard said, adding that Lazarus House offers a number of services.

From housing to nourishment, the ministries also

See **HIKE**, Page 2

Board OKs more Columbia Gas work

Approval comes after board insists on safety plan

By JESSICA VALERIANI
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Hours after the National Transportation Safety Board said Columbia Gas was not prepared to handle the disaster that happened on Sept. 13, 2018, and had no maps of the gas system available for first responders, the Select Board approved a request

from the gas utility to conduct additional gas main work.

The board approved three petitions for the work last week, each in a 5-0 vote. The votes came after the Select Board delayed a decision two weeks earlier, with members saying they wanted to see safety plans from Columbia

See **WORK**, Page 3

Andover schools meet or exceed targets in MCAS scores

By JESSICA VALERIANI
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MCAS results for communities across the Merrimack Valley are starting to be released, with Andover and Haverhill school officials saying they are pleased with the scores, while school officials in Lawrence are encouraged by steady improvement.

Community MCAS results are available on the state's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education website. Parents can expect to receive their children's individual scores in a few weeks, school officials said.

Andover School Superintendent Sheldon Berman announced that as a district, Andover schools are classified as meeting or exceeding

its targets, the highest classification a district can receive.

He said the state named High Plain Elementary as a School of Recognition for big improvements in MCAS scores and exceeding targets, and that South Elementary School was recognized by the state as a School of Recognition for high achievement. High Plain and South Elementary are two of only 67 schools statewide to receive these honors, Berman said.

He noted that individual schools within his district were all classified as "not requiring assistance or intervention" with MCAS.

In 2018, West Elementary School was honored as a School of Recognition.

See **MCAS**, Page 2

Ballard Vale United Church welcomes new pastor

She felt God's calling when she was a teen

By JESSICA VALERIANI
jvaleriani@andovertownsman.com

There is a new face on the altar at Ballard Vale United Church, and with it comes a change in philosophy there.

The Rev. Geisa Matos has taken over as pastor of the church. In her three months leading the congregation, she

has taken steps to bring the church in a new direction, strengthening unity and community ties.

Matos knew she wanted to do God's work from the time she was young.

Born in the Dominican Republic, Matos, now 37 and living in Andover, began her

See **PASTOR**, Page 2



Geisa Matos

COURTESY PHOTO

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WORK

Continued from Page 1

Gas before voting. The work will include the replacement of 2,300 feet of cast iron and bare steel gas main on Hidden Road, Gardner Avenue and Forbes Street. It will also include the installation of 40 feet of plastic pipe gas main from the existing main on Charlotte Drive. Replacement of 2,800 feet of cast iron and bare steel gas main on High Plain Road and 1,000 feet on Virginia and Shirley roads was also approved. The work on High Plain, Virginia and Shirley roads would replace the low-pressure gas main with plastic high pressure pipe. Representatives said the replacement on Hidden Road might not be completed until the next paving season in 2020 because of the two-week delay in approval from the board. They said about 64 homes and businesses would be impacted. While the work is being done, gas service could be

out in homes for up to eight hours. Residents and businesses would be able to coordinate the eight-hour time frame with Columbia Gas workers. Last week's meeting was the second time that Columbia Gas representatives came before the Select Board seeking permission to do the work. Weeks before, when company officials first sought approval for the work, they were asked to come back and provide a safety plan before the board voted. "I expect before I vote on any of these, that I will see a detailed presentation on the safety procedures that have been put in place since Sept. 13," Select Board member Christian Huntress said at the first meeting. "This was no small incident. This was a big deal to this community." That safety presentation came Tuesday night of last week. According to the presentation, the installation of regulators at each home will shut off gas to prevent any over-pressurization. Shut-off valves are also now located outside rather

than in basements, allowing for easier access if a shut-off is needed, company representatives said. Excess flow valves on the service lines will also shut off gas automatically if a line is unintentionally struck by digging equipment, the representatives said. "I've had some difficulties with this the last few weeks," said Select Board Chairwoman Laura Gregory. "Frankly, I lost my faith last September in Columbia Gas, and my priority is public safety. I am being told that these petitions that are before us benefit public safety, and so I am feeling a lot of friction between 'we need to get rid of these old systems to keep these safe,' as well as frankly, 'can we trust Columbia Gas to do things properly?'" Before the board voted, Fire Chief Michael Mansfield and Public Works Director Chris Cronin said they support allowing the work. Columbia Gas representatives said they hope the work will begin in the next couple weeks.

 Please recycle this newspaper.

TRAFFIC

Continued from Page 1

member Vincent Chiozzi. Representatives said they do not have a specific tenant identified yet, and do not know what the distribution or use of the warehouse would be at this time. The hours of building use would likely be limited, compared to operating 24 hours a day. Representatives said police have concerns

about traffic. If Andover votes against the development and Tewksbury votes in favor, the project will not move forward because such a large portion of it is set in Andover. If Tewksbury votes against the development, and Andover votes in favor,

however, the project will move forward with changes that include warehouse buildings built only in Andover. Members of the Andover board voted to continue the public hearing for the development to their next meeting, Oct. 8 at 7:30 p.m.

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Kara Ross



155 Osgood Street, Andover | \$675,000
Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath Cape situated on 1.49 acres within the Sanborn School district, close proximity to Deyermund Park. This home boasts a large living room with built-in cabinets flanking fireplace, formal dining room and updated kitchen and bathrooms. Master bedroom on first floor, hardwood floors throughout, newer windows and roof, and freshly painted exterior. Additionally this property contains an attached two car garage, new patio and backyard storage shed which sit majestically on large level lot with endless possibility for potential swimming pool.
Abigail Harris



1849 Great Pond Road, North Andover | \$1,085,000
1849 Great Pond Road is a spectacular 4 bedroom, 4 bath modern colonial with great curb appeal overlooking Lake Cochichewick! The first floor features a chef's kitchen with large granite island, stainless appliances, walk-in pantry, bar area with beverage cooler, an over-sized great room with gas fireplace, custom window seat and French doors leading to a window filled sunroom; a custom home office or bedroom, full bath, and intimate living/game room. A dramatic foyer leads you upstairs to 3 generous bedrooms, 2 full baths, which includes the amazing master suite. The lower walk-out level is finished. The entire house is a wow!
Ann Marie Fogg



40 Pheasant Brook Road, North Andover | \$849,900
This beautiful 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath sun-drenched Colonial set on an amazing private lot awaits you! Desirable neighborhood with double cul-de-sac and sidewalks lead you to this lovingly cared for home. Lots of architectural details - arched doorways, crown molding and coffered ceilings just to name a few as well as loads of natural light with several bay windows and high ceilings. First floor boasts a large eat in kitchen which opens to a wonderful dining room and front to back family room with fireplace. Lower level offers an additional finished room and plenty of storage options.
Debbie Carusi



168 Campbell Road, North Andover | \$485,000
This hard to come by deck home is ideal for those searching for one floor living with privacy. Thinking of downsizing but still want the benefits of your own home without an association? This is ideal. Yet, first time buyers whose goal is a fresh updated feel and open flow with a connection to a cul-de-sac neighborhood will know they have found home. The kitchen has been renovated and has lots of counter and cabinet space. Both full baths have been thoughtfully remodeled and upgraded. Finished walk out lower level enjoys a fireplace as well. Bonus feature is the 3 season cabana overlooking the yard. Special!
The Papineau Team

ColdwellBankerHomes.com

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All Those Years Ago

Susan McKelliget

Andover Center for History and Culture

The following passages were taken from past editions of The Townsman.

100 years ago – Sept. 12, 1919

Mrs. H.F. Chase, while coming from her house on Summer Street last week, fell and broke her leg in two places. She managed to crawl back into the house where she was afterwards taken to the Lawrence General Hospital.

Patriotism, friendliness and good cheer were the outstanding characteristics of Andover's townspeople during their unique and perfect two-day Welcome Home event. Never in the

history of the town has there been such a gathering of men, women and children, all happy, all eager to help each other and all proud to be citizens of this beautiful town. Such settings as the common, with lights playing on green leaves of trees and on the faces of hundreds of interested listeners on sunny Brothers Field will not soon be forgotten. The primary object of the occasion was to welcome home our men who went into military service for us.

Miss Mary Sullivan's house on Morton street was struck by lightning during the heavy shower last Monday evening. The damages are estimated to be nearly one hundred dollars.

75 years ago – Sept. 21, 1944

Local housewives are

urged by the rationing board to use their blue tokens by Oct. 1 in groups of 10. These blue tokens will have no value after Sept. 30. The removal of many processed foods from the rationed list recently has made this step possible.

Staff Sgt. George M. Viveney died of wounds received in France while serving with the United States Infantry, according to his brother who received a telegram at his home at 63 Elm St. Tuesday.

A hurricane, for the second time in six years, struck Andover last Thursday night, doing little more than leaving local residents wondering whether the thing had been over-publicized and over-radio-ized or whether perhaps the first hurricane back in 1838 had removed everything

removable, leaving very little prey for the 1944 one.

50 years ago – Sept. 25, 1969

With the coming of fall, the problem of smoldering fires from the burning of leaves adds to the ever-present air pollution nuisance. Many of our residents are afflicted with allergies and this smoke adds greatly to their discomfort. The Board of Health strongly urges Andover residents to place the accumulation of leaves on the side of the road where the Highway Department will soon pick them up with the leaf vacuum and deposit them in the dump.

A photo shows Kathleen Downs, head majorette of Andover High School's girl band, with her mother, Mrs. William Downs, during a pause in Saturday's football

game. Kathleen is following in the footsteps of her mother who was a majorette with the band when she was in high school.

Patrolman William Stewart, a veteran of 32 years with the Andover Police Department, will officially retire on Oct. 4. Patrolman Stewart served for many years in Shawsheen and for the past several years has been in charge of traffic and parking in the center of town.

25 years ago – Sept. 15, 1994

Andover and Tewksbury police captured and arrested an armed suspect after a dramatic search just over the town line in Tewksbury last Thursday afternoon, Sept. 8, and charged him with holding up the 150 River Road branch of

Andover Bank an hour earlier. He was also charged with robbing the same bank on July 27.

In 1824, the Marquis de Lafayette was invited by President James Monroe to a tour of the United States commemorating his service during the American Revolution. One of the places he visited was Andover — he was at the Rose Cottage briefly. Andover resident William Abbott Cheever (1907-1986) worked as a portrait painter, illustrator and muralist. He was also an alumni of and studio instructor at Phillips Academy. Now, Tom Edmonds, curator for the Andover Historical Society, and Town Manager Buzz Stapeczynski look at the restored Lafayette mural in the selectmen's meeting room at town offices.

I-495 traffic over river is rerouted

\$102.6M bridge project to last 2-plus years

By MIKE LABELLA
Staff Writer

Starting this week, drivers on Interstate 495 north in Haverhill are taking a different path when crossing the Merrimack River just before the Route 110/113 exit.

The travel lanes have been shifted to a newly built median road and northbound bridge. The shift will reduce the speed limit from 65 mph to 55 mph in that area while construction and demolition

work continues.

The entire bridge replacement project is expected to be complete by June of 2022, according to MassDOT officials.

The \$102.6 million project to replace the bridge that carries northbound and southbound traffic over the Merrimack River between exits 48 and 49 is being done in phases to minimize disruptions in travel. The federal government is paying 80 percent of the cost and the state

is paying the rest, MassDOT officials said.

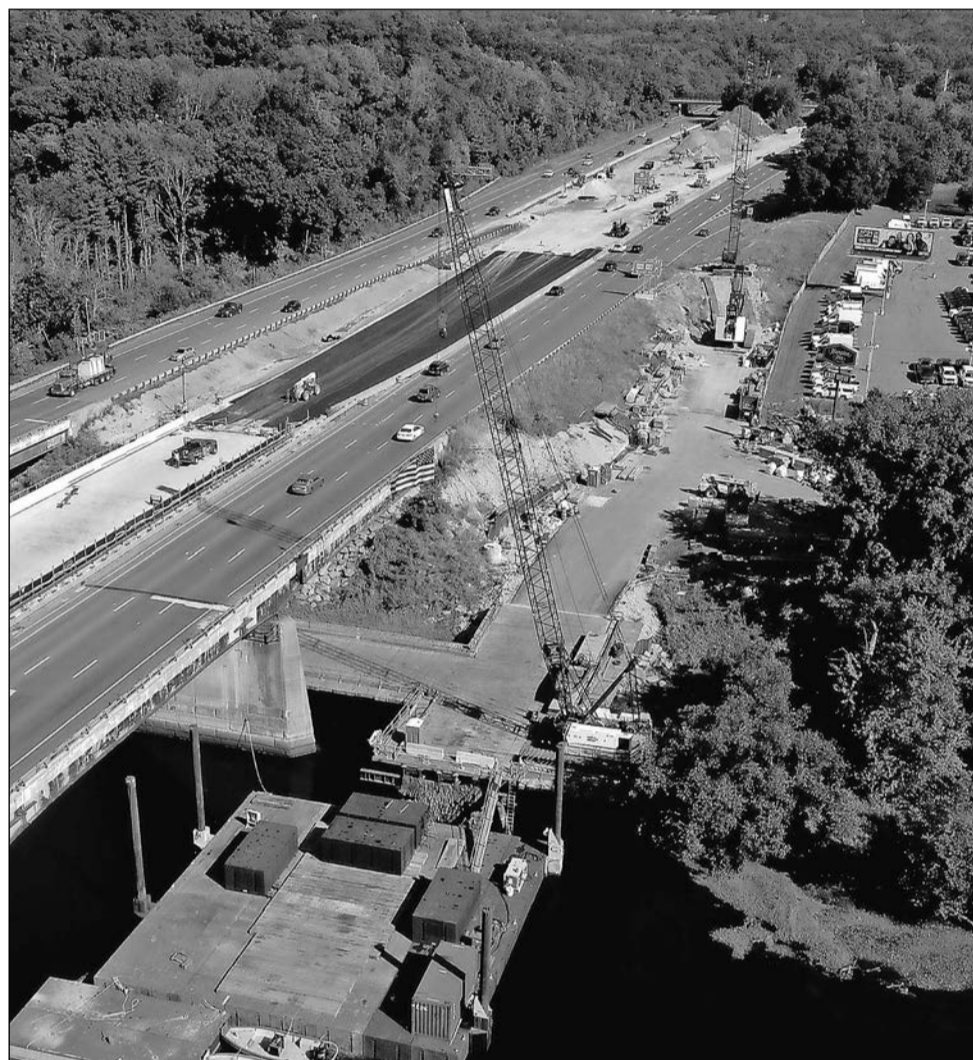
The bridge has long been a trouble spot because of potholes and other problems with its surface, which has been cited as the cause of crashes, including two in late 2010 that involved trailers carrying animals.

In August of 2016, a large pothole developed in a southbound lane that resulted in gridlock on I-495 that backed up traffic on most of the main roads in Haverhill.

Then in March of 2017, another pothole formed in a southbound lane of the bridge that resulted in damage to 10 vehicles and required closure of the center lane while repairs were made, police said.

City Councilor William Macek, who in the past has expressed concerns about the bridge's "washboard-like surface" and pieces of the surface that fell into the river, said the project is long overdue.

"The state could never properly repair that bridge due to its flawed, initial design and we're fortunate there was never a major



COURTESY PHOTO

The northbound lane, right, of the Interstate 495 bridge over the Merrimack River in Haverhill has a new lane added so traffic can be diverted while repairs are done to the road deck of the span.

accident with severe injury or death," Macek said. "I think the current project has been moving along with little disruption to traffic, and I think they've done a good job to ensure the flow of traffic through the construction zone."

"I'm looking forward to two new bridges for safe travel," he added, referring to bridges for the northbound and southbound lanes.

MassDOT spokesman Patrick Marvin said traffic on I-495 northbound in Haverhill was shifted from the existing bridge onto the new median road during overnight work Monday into Tuesday morning of this week.

He said following that traffic shift, the long-existing northbound bridge would be closed to traffic permanently

in preparation for demolition. Marvin said once the traffic shift was in place, three northbound travel lanes will be provided over the new northbound bridge and through the work zone.

He said the configuration will maintain the current lane widths of 11 feet. All entrance and exit ramps will remain open. However, the Exit 49 northbound off-ramp will be realigned in the area coming off the new bridge.

Signs, traffic control devices and police details will guide drivers through the work zone, officials said. They said all work is weather dependent and subject to change without notice.

Marvin said that once the new northbound bridge is opened, the same process will happen on the southbound side, with traffic shifted from the long-existing

bridge to the median bridge. That will allow demolition of the southbound side of the existing bridge and construction of a replacement.

For more information on the project, visit the website at www.mass.gov/i495haverhillbridge.

For more information on traffic conditions travelers are encouraged to:

- Dial 511 and select a route to hear real-time conditions.

- Visit www.mass511.com, a website which provides real-time traffic and incident advisory information, and allows users to subscribe to text and email alerts for traffic conditions.

- Follow MassDOT on Twitter @MassDOT to receive regular updates on road and traffic conditions.

- Download MassDOT's GoTime mobile app and view real-time traffic conditions before setting out on the road.

The replacement schedule is as follows:

- Stage 1: Northbound median bridge construction: September 2018 to September 2019

- Stage 2: Demolition of longtime northbound bridge and construction of replacement bridge: September 2019 to August 2020

- Stage 3: Southbound traffic shifted to median bridge: August 2020. Demolition of longtime southbound bridge and reconstruction of replacement bridge: August 2020 to September 2021

- Stage 4: Median lane restored to become part of permanent replacement bridge: September 2021 to June 2022

- Completion of total project: June 2022

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STYLIN'



COURTESY PHOTO

Models gather at the Professional Stylist Forum's open house.

Professional Stylist Forum holds open house

The Professional Stylist Forum held an open house event recently for clients, friends and families at the salon's 1 Dundee Park location. The Moulin Rouge themed event included a live, human "centerpiece" and a theatrical cast. Music was provided by Kelly Lacour. The Professional Stylist Forum owners are Anthony Devito, April Lyn Graffeo and James Girgenti.

Newburyport's Book Rack closes Store had same owners as Andover Bookstore

By RICHARD K. LODGE
Staff Writer

After 47 years at the corner of State and Pleasant streets in Newburyport, The Book Rack bookstore has closed, leaving a prominent downtown retail storefront vacant and papered over.

Owner John Hugo, whose family has owned bookstores since the 1960s including the Andover Bookstore and Campus Collection in Andover, said "with much dismay" the store was closing because of declining sales and changing reading habits. The store opened in 1972.

In a press release Saturday night, Hugo said six years ago the bookstore downsized and combined spaces with the Atomic Cafe, which is now the Coffee Factory.

"It was a partnership that worked extremely well for five years," he said in the

release. "However, sales began to decline steadily in the fall of 2018 and throughout the usually busy Christmas season and subsequent 2019 summer months."

The online retail giant Amazon proved formidable competition for the corner bookstore, he said.

"People read less in today's fast paced social media and Netflix world and those that do read have taken their purchases largely to Amazon for its cost and convenience," Hugo wrote. "The Bookstore cannot meet the fixed costs any longer. The Hugo Family will continue to operate its other three stores in Andover and Marblehead. Keep reading and keep shopping locally."

Hugo could not be reached for comment.

Hugo and his wife, Catalina Cuervo, own the Coffee Factory, which abuts The Book Rack and was open for business Sunday. The Coffee

Factory and The Book Rack had an opening connecting them until the bookstore closed.

The Hugo family owns the Spirit of '76 in Marblehead, which was started in 1965 by Robert W. Hugo, John Hugo's father.

Last year, Hugo opened the Amesbury Books pop-up store in downtown Amesbury the day before Thanksgiving to capitalize on the Christmas shopping season.

In January, he said he was closing the store because he didn't see enough walking traffic during the week to support it.

"We gave it a shot," he said in January. "It was kind of eye opening. I love the community, I love the people, the breweries and the restaurants. But there is just not enough walking traffic Monday through Thursday" to support a bookstore.



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Gas disaster: Columbia Gas was 'unprepared,' board reports

Company admits fault after review by national safety group

By JILL HARMACINSKI
Staff Writer

NTSB Chairman Robert Sumwalt said "results were not simply unacceptable. For a whole region, they were catastrophic."

"As we've said since that tragic day, we take responsibility for what happened," NiSource officials said in a statement released on Tuesday afternoon of last week, about two hours after the NTSB meeting in Washington ended.

"The NTSB's work is an important step in the effort to enhance pipeline safety," the company's statement continued. "Our own understanding of the events generally aligns with that of the NTSB. We welcome today's action by the NTSB because it will help us, our industry partners, the public, and others learn from this tragedy."

"Since last September, and based on lessons learned, we have taken a



AMANDA SABGA/Staff photo

After the gas disaster, work is done in downtown Andover.

series of steps to prevent something similar from happening again, which is

what our customers and our communities deserve," the statement said. "These include installing automatic shut-off devices, accelerating implementation of a Safety Management System, or SMS, enhancing emergency preparedness, enhanced mapping, and more."

The company said it has "cooperated fully" with the NTSB.

"We have committed to our customers and our communities that we will continue to learn from what happened and implement changes to protect the public. ... We will continue to work with all stakeholders to help prevent something similar from happening again, in our system or anywhere," the NiSource statement said.

Leonel Rondon, 18, of Lawrence was killed during the disaster. Three firefighters and 19 civilians were hurt and 50,000 people were forced to evacuate their homes.

Over-pressurization of the gas system is blamed for the disaster.

Immediately after last week's NTSB meeting, Sen. Edward Markey, D-Massachusetts, said the NTSB investigation provides "two important things that Merrimack Valley residents and the Rondon family richly deserve: a thorough explanation of what went wrong, as well as concrete steps to keep a similar catastrophe from ever happening again."

"NiSource's reckless actions and our loophole-ridden pipeline safety regulations led to death and disaster, with gas pressures reaching between



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

A home at 35 Chickering Road, Lawrence – the site of a major explosion during the gas disaster – is demolished as officials comb through the rubble.

100 to 150 times higher than they should have been in that system. The NTSB final report confirms what Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Massachusetts) and I found during our investigation – that this disaster was not inevitable, it was preventable," Markey wrote in a statement.

"No pipeline company should ever be allowed to cut corners on safety in order to cut down on costs, and no safety regulator should be allowed to look the other way when it comes to ensuring the pipelines traveling between our homes, schools, and businesses are safe," he stated.

At Markey's request, the NTSB will come to Lawrence in early October "where they will be

discussing their findings directly with those in the affected communities" of Lawrence, Andover and North Andover.

Last week's NTSB meeting held in Washington was webcast and viewed by officials in the Merrimack Valley, including Lawrence Mayor Daniel Rivera.

"For the first time we are seeing the whole picture of disorganization and lack of attention to detail," Rivera said after the NTSB took a meeting break at 11 a.m.

"It wasn't just one thing that happened," Rivera said. "It was a whole orchestra of failures across the project."

Rivera said he was struck by the fact that no map of the gas delivery system was available the afternoon when the disaster erupted around 4 p.m.

"Somebody should have access to that," he said.

Feeney Brothers, the contractor working on South Union Street in Lawrence on the gas pipeline that day, is not blamed for any wrongdoing and was praised by NTSB lead investigator Roger Evans who asked to give the company a "shout-out" during the meeting.

Other matters discussed during last week's NTSB meeting:

— The gas disaster occurred as Columbia Gas had a project underway to modernize the system. The project started in 2015 but faced delays, including a shutdown in 2016 by Rivera.

— Columbia Gas had no plans to relocate "gas sensing lines" in the project plans.

— A 1977 accident in El Paso, Texas, was nearly identical to the Merrimack Valley gas disaster.

— On the day of the disaster, 184 fire departments from Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine responded to the Merrimack Valley, bringing 167 fire engines, 65 ladder trucks and 54 ambulances. One thousand police officers came to the area.

— Cast iron gas lines, which are considered outdated, are located throughout the U.S. However, 19 states have phased out the use of such lines.

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*Med	145/750
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*Plus 275 for PRF Growth Factor treatment	
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Non-Surgical Thread Face Lifting	By Consultation

TownsBeat



A group photo is taken at the end of the yoga session.



Poppy the goat tries a balancing act on the back of Emily Serrano, 13, of Andover.

CARL RUSSO/Staff photos

Downward dogs — and goats

It's called goat yoga. People — and goats — gather at The Park on Thursday nights to take part in the classes, organized by the Andover Recreation Department. The classes feature baby goats from Chip-in Farm in Bedford. The animals bring plenty of unusual exercises — and laughs.



Jessica Cavallaro of Andover struggles to hold Butterscotch as the animal tries to wiggle out of her grasp.

Above, Butterscotch the goat eats the grass next to Alexandra McDougall of Andover as Spruce surprises her by jumping on her back. Right, Poppy the goat leaps the back of a participant of the class.



Participants strike a pose while goats munch on grass during the class.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENTS

OCT. 4

Chic Consignment will host a breast cancer community event, 7 p.m. The event will be held at the Chic store, located at 44 Main St., and will feature a collection of mental and physical resources designed to help survivors, thrivers and caregivers on their journey. People are encouraged to connect, shop and enjoy light refreshments.

OCT. 5, 6

Pick Your Own Bouquet from the Cutting Garden, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Stevens-Coolidge Place, 137 Andover St., North Andover. Picking is only available during PYO hours, and there is a fee. Stop by the tent to pick up scissors, cup, and water before starting your 10-stem bouquet. Registration not required. Cost: Trustees member, \$5; nonmember, \$10. Information: kbibeau@thetrustees.org, facebook.com/stevenscoolidgeplace.

OCT. 6, 13, 20

Overeaters Anonymous, 7 p.m. at Ballard Vale United

Church, 23 Clark Road, Andover. Is food a problem for you? Overeaters Anonymous can help. Information: 781-641-2303, oambi.org.

OCT. 8

Andover Health Division offers "high-dose" flu vaccine to seniors, 9 a.m. to noon, at the Cormier Youth Center, 40 Whittier Court, Andover. Age 65 and older, by appointment only; call the Health Department at 978-623-8640 to schedule, or email health@andoverma.gov. Consent forms will be available at the Health Department, Town Offices, Senior Center, and on the Andover website, andover.ma/health.

OCT. 8, 15, 22

Andover Toastmasters Club meets Tuesdays from noon to 1 p.m. in the Morse Conference room at Raytheon IDS, Essex Building, 350 Lowell St., Andover. Need to improve your speaking, presentation, or leadership skills? Need to overcome your fear of public speaking? Guests are always welcome. Information: andovertoastmastersclub, toastmastersclubs.org.

Nontraditional therapeutic group for teens, Youth Exploring Supports, 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Nov. 25, at Andover/North Andover YMCA, 165 Haverhill St., Andover. This group will connect teens to their community through activity-based weekly meetings. Teens will develop a strong sense of self and learn life skills to help build a healthy spirit, mind and body. Free for all; those interested must first meet with one of the coordinators. To schedule a family intake meeting, contact Andover Community Support Coordinator, Sobhan Namvar, LICSW, snam@andoverps.net, 978-623-5680; or Andover/North Andover Youth & Family Program Director, Stacey Consiglio, M. Ed, sconsiglio@mymca.org, 978-685-0126, ext. 443.

Make It Take It Tuesdays for ages 3 and up, 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library, 2 N. Main St., Andover. With an adult. Drop-in craft program. Pick up a token in the Children's Room.

OCT. 15; NOV. 5, 14, 21, 28

Device Advice for Adults,

7 to 8 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library, 2 N. Main St., Andover. 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. Information: 978-623-8440, mhl.org.

OCT. 9, 16, 23, 30

We Walk the Woods hike, 10 a.m. to noon, at Harold Parker State Forest Park Headquarters, 305 Middleton Road, North Andover. Rain cancels the event. Appropriate for children 6 and up (up to age 12 must be accompanied by adult). Join the park interpreter and the Friends of Harold Parker for a moderate-paced walk through the forest, each week a different part, in a series of 12 hikes. Recommend bringing water, insect repellent, sunscreen, binoculars and camera. Free, open to all Information: 978-475-7972, mass.gov/locations/harold-parker-state-forest.Revive and Thrive

Dementia and Memory-Supportive Fitness Program, 11 a.m. to noon, at Andover/North Andover YMCA, 165 Haverhill St., Andover. Emily Kearns, PhD will facilitate this weekly program. Information: 978-604-0830.

Junior Friends of Memorial Hall Library, for Ages 8-11, 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library, 2 N. Main St., Andover. Contact Miss Kate at 978-623-8440 or kdugan@mhl.org.

OCT. 16; NOV. 6, 20

Bilingual representative from Rep. Lori Trahan's office, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Citizen Center, 10 Welcome St., Haverhill. Vladimir Saldana, regional director for Rep. Trahan, will meet with constituents on the first and third Wednesday of every month. Whether you have a comment or a question on a federal program or issue, Vladimir or Jorge will be available.

OCT. 3

Backyard Composting Using the Bread Oven Method, 7 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library, 2 N. Main St.,

Andover. Andrew Brousseau of Black Earth Compost on Cape Ann kicks off the fall Andover Seed Library Lecture Series with his easy "Bread Oven" method for composting in your back yard. Program will be less about the science and more about the practice of composting. Sign up at mhl.org/calendar.

OCT. 3, 4

Hawaiian Mission Houses Historic Site and Archives to Host Bicentennial Hawaiian History Theater Program, 7 p.m. (humanities discussion series) Thursday; 6 p.m. (public performance) Friday, Phillips Academy campus, 180 Main St., Andover. Acclaimed Hawaiian actor Moses Goods will portray Henry Ōpūkaha ia, the Native Hawaiian man who traveled to New England and inspired the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions to send Protestant missionaries to the Hawaiian Kingdom. This is the first time the award-winning history theater program "My Name is Ōpūkaha ia" has been performed in the continental U.S. See CALENDAR, Page 10

Townspeople



Organizer Dave McGillivray kicks off the Hike for Hope.

Courtesy photo



PHOTO/Reba Saldanha

T-shirt designer Max Doran, a fifth-grader at Andover's Bancroft Elementary school, poses with Danielle Tjalsma of the Lazarus House during the Hike for Hope.



Nora Walsh, left, 12, of North Andover, granddaughter of retired Lazarus House executive director Bridget Shaheen, crosses the finish line of the Hike for Hope with Robert Almonte Soriano, 11, of Methuen and Maddy Fernandes, 12, of North Andover.

PHOTO/Reba Saldanha

Pulling together for a good cause

Nearly 500 people came out for the annual Hike for Hope hosted by Lazarus House Ministries Sunday. The 5K walk, which kicked off at The Park, brought together community groups and people from all over the Merrimack Valley for games, food, music, and of course, giving back. By the end of the walk, Hike for Hope had raised more than \$114,000 toward its \$158,000 goal. Donations will be accepted through the end of October and will support the services of Lazarus House Ministries.



Emme Moon, 10, of North Andover, runs the course on Bartlett Street.

PHOTO/Reba Saldanha



Central Catholic High cheerleaders were on hand to support walkers.

PHOTOS/Reba Saldanha

Want to learn about the forest? Friends of Harold Parker State Forest meeting is Oct. 9

The Friends of Harold Parker State Forest invite the public to the group's fourth annual meeting Wednesday, Oct. 9, from 7 to 9 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the North Reading Library, in the activity room on the lower level. People interested in learning about the duties of the Friends group, meeting board members and possibly getting involved are encouraged to attend.

Walter Kittredge, a Harvard botanist and Friends board member, will speak at the meeting on the natural beauty of Harold Parker State Forest. Kittredge is a lifelong resident of the area with a deep knowledge of the forest.

The family-friendly event is open to everyone.



COURTESY PHOTO

Walter Kittredge leads a hike at Field Pond in Harold Parker State Forest.

HAROLD PARKER STATE FOREST ACTIVITIES

We Walk the Woods

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Meet at Park Headquarters. Join the park interpreter and the Friends of Harold Parker for a moderately paced walk through the forest while enjoying nature. Each week we hike to a different part of the forest in a series of 12 hikes. Recommend bringing water, insect repellent, sun screen, binoculars and camera. Park Headquarters is at 305 Middleton Road, North Andover. Appropriate for children 6 and older.

Creature Catch

Friday, Oct. 4, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Meet at Frye Pond Beach in the campground, 133 Jenkins Road, Andover. Fish, frogs, snakes and salamanders — let's discover what lives in our tranquil New England ponds. Nets and buckets are provided. This activity can be wet and muddy. Recommend

bringing water, insect repellent, sun screen, binoculars and camera. Appropriate for all ages.

Gone Fishin'

Saturday, Oct. 5, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Meet at Frye Pond Beach, 133 Jenkins Road. Family fun for everyone interested in learning the basics of pond fishing in New England. Learn the different species of fish that live here and gain a new skill. Rods and bait are provided, or bring your own.

All ages are welcome and children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Birding For Beginners

Sunday, Oct. 6, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Meet at Campground Nature Center, 133 Jenkins Road, Andover. Learn about the local bird population from our park interpreter while enjoying some amateur

bird watching. Bring binoculars if you have them. Appropriate for children 6 and up.

Soapstone Quarry Hike

Sunday, Oct. 6, 1 to 3 p.m.

Meet at Campground Nature Center, 133 Jenkins Road, Andover. For ages 6 and older. A moderate guided hike to the remnants of the Jenkins family blue soapstone quarry. A great way to learn about the park's history and resources while getting some exercise.

We Walk the Woods

Wednesday, Oct. 9, 10 a.m. to noon

Meet at Park Headquarters. Join the park interpreter and the Friends of Harold Parker for a moderately paced walk through the forest while enjoying nature. Each week we hike to a different part of the forest in a series of 12 hikes. Recommend bringing water, insect

See **ACTIVITIES**, Page 12

Local student continues to shine

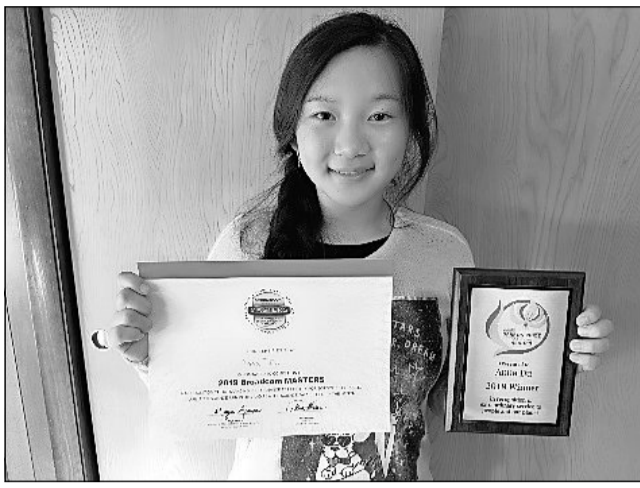
Motivated by cleaner oceans, girl qualifies again for premier STEM competition

By JESSICA VALERIANI
jvaleriani@andovertownsmen.com

Anna Du is at it again. The 13-year-old Andover student will once again compete in the 2019 national Broadcom MASTERS competition, a premier science and engineering competition for middle school students.

She is one of the top 30 students chosen from 50,000 competitors, and the only finalist from Massachusetts. She is the only finalist from Massachusetts to be nominated twice for the competition.

Anna was also announced as one of the winners of the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes. Each year, the award celebrates inspiring, public-spirited young people from diverse backgrounds around the country. Anna is one of 25 winners of the young heroes prize. They range in age from 8 to 18. Anna was recognized for her work toward protecting



Anna Du, 13, poses with her Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes and 2019 Broadcom MASTERS certificate.

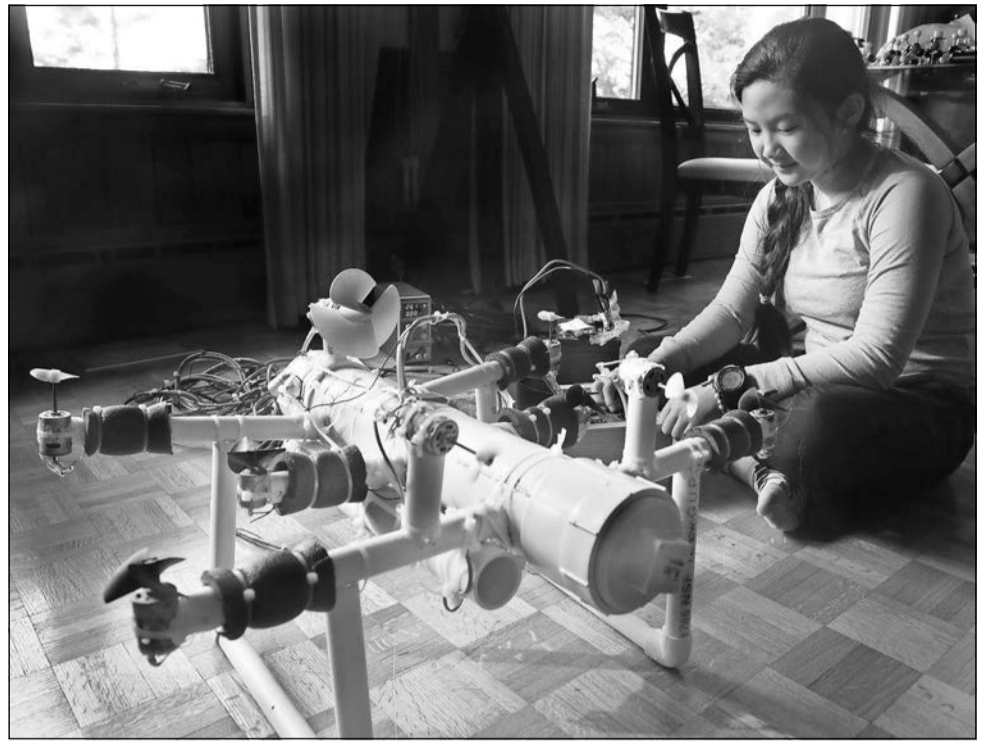
the planet.

Anna, an eighth-grader at Andover School of Montessori, was one of the top 30 finalists in the 2018 Broadcom MASTERS. She also won the grand prize in the 2019 Massachusetts Middle School Science and Engineering Fair.

Anna's path to success

started with a simple love for the ocean and the beach, as well as a video she watched at school about how plastics damage the environment.

Anna paired together her passions and her concerns about the environment, and built an underwater ROV (remotely operated vehicle)



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo.

Anna Du looks over her ROV (remotely operated vehicle).

that uses infrared LED lights other particles. The ROV is aimed at determining where separate micro-plastics from plastics are located in the ocean, making the cleanup process easier and more efficient.



Above, Marianna Boullie, 15, of Andover used magnet fishing to haul a bunch of debris out of the Shawsheen River. Right, she pulled this old bike out of the river.

Courtesy photos



Casting for trash

Teen uses 'magnet fishing' to pull debris from Shawsheen River

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

This is not the kind of fishing most of us learned as kids.

The bait is different — these fishermen use magnets, not worms — and there's no way they would eat their catch of the day.

It's a hobby called magnet fishing — a combination of environmentalism and treasure hunting.

A local teen who aspires to be a marine biologist got a dose of reality when she recently tried her magnet fishing hobby at the Shawsheen River in the Ballardvale section of town.

Marianna Boullie, 15, of Andover was disappointed with her treasure hunting in the Shawsheen. She said the river is simply a giant trash can full of discarded junk.

"I watch videos on YouTube of people pulling cool items and junk out of the

water and wanted to see what was in the waters of Andover," Marianna said. "It made me sad to see that I was pulling trash out of the water and people were using the river as a public trash can."

Her catch of the day included rusty bikes, tires and a storm door.

Ever since she was young, Marianna has wanted to be a marine biologist and has always cared about marine life. Removing pollution from outdoor bodies of water will make a better environment for marine life, she said.

"I started magnet fishing about four months ago, and before that I had never heard of it," she said. "Magnet fishing is when you take a strong magnet with a rope and throw into a body of water."

"After using my magnet for a while, I bought a grappling hook and started

to pull more things out of the water," said Marianna, who attends Andover High School. "My inspiration for buying a magnet and grappling hook originally came from YouTube."

Magnet fishing is believed to have been started by boaters using magnets to recover fallen keys from the water. The magnets used are typically strong enough to remove large debris like discarded bikes and car tire rims.

While Marianna may be disappointed with the items she retrieved from the Shawsheen River, neighbors applaud her environmental activism.

"Her effort and example is rare these days," Ballardvale resident Barbara Burke wrote in an email to the Townsman. "So few get out and make a difference by living by their words. I hope that others will be inspired to do good locally."

He opens doors for the disabled

20-year advocate for the handicapped gets top state award

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com

Justin Coppola Sr. is on a mission, and much of it has been accomplished.

Coppola, a longtime advocate for Andover's disabled community, has received the state's top award for his outstanding contributions that include making sure town buildings are accessible to the handicap.

Coppola, 72, is a 20-year member of Andover's Commission on Disability. He recently received the Thomas P. Hopkins Disability Access Award, equivalent to the Americans with Disabilities Act's Advocate Man of the Year for Massachusetts.

"Our commission is celebrating its 25th anniversary next year," said Coppola, whose son Justin Jr. has spina bifida and is limited to a wheelchair.

"During that time, we have advocated for people

with disabilities, with the majority of our members having various disabilities, so we are in a unique position to understand what is important for the town to focus on for disability improvements," he said. "We're lucky in Andover to have a Commission on Disability."

Statewide, there are 192 communities with commissions on disability and 159 communities without a commission.

"We report to the town manager and that gives us system-wide visibility," Coppola said. "We are integrated into the town's processes and have developed great relationships. I am very fortunate that the town has been so receptive to our ideas."

Coppola said while the award is a great honor to him, it also honors the town.

"With 192 cities/towns with CODs statewide with thousands of members, and

all of the professionals in the state working who have made outstanding contributions to the disabled community, this indicates to me the serious commitment the town has to its citizens with disabilities," Coppola said.

He said improvements to help handicapped people in Andover have happened during his time on the local commission and are categorized in three ways — physical and involving attitude or collaboration.

Coppola said many physical barriers have been eliminated to help people with disabilities in Andover. He works closely with town staff to review all new municipal buildings, and there is a process for continuous improvements to existing municipal buildings.

"I think as important is the positive change in attitude that I've seen over the past 20 years," he said. "Some of this can be explained by the population



Courtesy photo

Justin Coppola of Andover at the town's disability commission booth at this year's Andover Day.

getting older and understanding this personally or seeing disabilities in their friends."

Coppola, a 32-year Andover resident, said

the local Commission on Disability has a good relationship with The Massachusetts Office on Disability.

"They support and guide us," he said of the state

group. "When I have tough questions, I go to them. It's great to have resources you know you can count on, and it gives me great comfort to know that they are there."

ACTIVITIES

Continued from Page 11

repellent, sun screen, binoculars and camera. Park Headquarters is at 305 Middleton Road, North Andover. Appropriate for children 6 and older.

Creature Catch

Friday, Oct. 11, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Meet at Frye Pond Beach in the campground at 133

Jenkins Road, Andover. Fish, frogs, snakes and salamanders — let's discover what lives in our tranquil New England ponds. Nets and buckets are provided. This activity can be wet and muddy. Recommend bringing water, insect repellent, sun screen, binoculars and camera. Appropriate for all ages.

We Walk the Woods

Wednesday, Oct. 16, 10 a.m.

to noon
Meet at Park Headquarters. Join the park interpreter and the Friends of Harold Parker for a moderately paced walk through the forest while enjoying nature. Each week we hike to a different part of the forest in a series of 12 hikes. Recommend bringing water, insect repellent, sun screen, binoculars and camera. Park Headquarters is at

305 Middleton Road, North Andover. Appropriate for children 6 and older.

We Walk the Woods

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 10 a.m. to noon

Meet at Park Headquarters. Join the park interpreter and the Friends of Harold Parker for a moderately paced walk through the forest while enjoying nature. Each week we hike to a different part

of the forest in a series of 12 hikes. Recommend bringing water, insect repellent, sun screen, binoculars and camera. Park Headquarters is at 305 Middleton Road, North Andover. Appropriate for children 6 and older.

We Walk the Woods

Wednesday, Oct. 30, 10 a.m. to noon

Meet at Park Headquarters. Join the park

interpreter and the Friends of Harold Parker for a moderately paced walk through the forest while enjoying nature. Each week we hike to a different part of the forest in a series of 12 hikes. Recommend bringing water, insect repellent, sun screen, binoculars and camera. Park Headquarters is at 305 Middleton Road, North Andover. Appropriate for children 6 and older.

Governor's vape ban expected to face legal challenge

Vape shop owners say ban will add to their suffering

By CHRISTIAN M. WADE
Staff Writer

Mike Portelle poured his life savings into a small vape shop in downtown Woburn after convincing his wife that the burgeoning industry was a good investment.

Business at New England Vapor was booming, he said, until media reports emerged about a mysterious vaping-related illness blamed for killing several people and sickening hundreds.

Within a matter of days, sales of vaping products plummeted more than 70%.

And now, he faces the likelihood of going out of business completely.

Last week, Gov. Charlie Baker declared a public health emergency and ordered a four-month ban on the sale of vaping products, including marijuana-based products.

Baker said the ban, the most stringent in the nation, was needed to give medical experts time to study growing concerns about the health effects of vaping.

But the move effectively shuts down hundreds of vape stores, many of them small, family-owned businesses, affecting thousands of workers statewide.

"My whole life was invested in this business," Portello said. "The bills and rent are due, and there's no money coming in. I'm going to have to file for bankruptcy and let two employees go."

The vaping industry is pushing back against Baker's directive. A legal challenge to lift the temporary ban began taking shape less than a day after the announcement.

"What the governor did was preposterous," said John Nathan, president of the New England Vapor Technology Association. "He closed 300 small businesses and conflated two separate issues that have nothing to do with these business owners."

Nathan said the trade



FILE PHOTO

A debate in Massachusetts has emerged after people died and became sick from vaping.

group's national chapter has enlisted a team of lawyers who are reviewing the case in anticipation of filing a legal challenge.

"This is one of the most regressive public health policies I've ever seen enacted," he said.

Greg Conley, president of the American Vaping Association, argues that Baker's action was government overreach and needs to be challenged in court.

"This is a shameless attempt at backdoor prohibition that will shut down businesses and send tens of thousands of ex-smokers back to deadly combustible cigarettes," he said. "These businesses and their customers will not go down without a fight."

Conley and others argue that a ban will create a multi-million dollar black market for counterfeit vaping products, which will endanger public health.

So far, only three other states — Michigan and New York and Rhode Island — have banned vaping products. But Massachusetts' temporary ban goes further than others to remove all non-tobacco flavors of e-cigarettes, as well as medical and recreational marijuana vape products, from store shelves.

On a federal level, the Trump administration is finalizing plans to ban all vape products nationwide but it's not clear when, or if, that will happen.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is investigating an outbreak of lung illnesses and has identified more than 500 possible cases in 38 states and one territory, but it has not yet identified a common e-cigarette or ingredient. Nine deaths have been reported.

In Massachusetts, health care providers reported at least 66 possible cases as of Wednesday of last week, at least three of which are confirmed, according to the state Department of Public Health.

Vaping companies such as Juul have been criticized for getting children hooked on nicotine-laden e-cigarettes with flavors such as bubblegum, mint and mango.

But vaping companies argue that the real culprit behind the illnesses is counterfeit vaping cartridges and THC products that are being sold on the black market.

"There is zero evidence linking these illnesses to electronic cigarette products," Nathan said. "This is a black market issue."

Marie Smith, who has owned and operated the New England Vapors shop in Dracut for six years, said the ban will likely force her to close. She supports a legal challenge.

"We obviously can't survive four months without being in business," she said. "We built this business out of nothing, only to see it disappear. I'm devastated."

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Sports

Rivalry renewed

Football ready for clash with archrival Central Catholic

By DAVID WILLIS
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The longtime holiday gridiron rivalry is set to be renewed. Andover and Central Catholic may no longer meet on Thanksgiving Day, as they did for 42 years, but that doesn't mean the clash is any less meaningful.

Whenever the Golden Warriors and Raiders meet on the football field, it matters.

"This rivalry is still very special," said Andover quad-captain Matt Comeau. "This has been an ongoing rivalry for many, many years and will always be. We are feeling great going into the game, and we're looking for a good turn out this year."

On Saturday, Andover will welcome Central Catholic to Eugene V. Lovely Field for a 2:30 p.m. kickoff, in what may be the biggest game of the 2019 season for both teams.

"This is the game everyone on team has been talking about, and we're really looking forward to a great game," said quad-captain Kelvin Davila. "This rivalry is still special because every year it's a hard-fought game and everyone loves to come watch it. We feel great coming off two big wins and we're really excited for the big test."

The game couldn't come at a better time for Andover (2-2). The Golden Warriors head into the contest hot after two huge Merrimack Valley Conference wins



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Andover's offense has been red hot of late. Lincoln Beal, here making a catch against Lawrence last week, is one of the many weapons the Golden Warriors possess.

—crushing Billerica 32-14 two weeks ago and pulling away from Lawrence for a convincing 52-28 win last week.

Central Catholic (2-1) earned a hard-fought 33-26 victory over Andover's current Thanksgiving foe, North Andover last week. "The whole team is super excited to play Central," said quad-captain Shamus Florio. "We're coming off a very positive game against Lawrence and are feeling strong coming into this game. Central is always a well-coached team. They have some great skill players and are another strong team this year."

The Andover offense, of course, is led by running back Josh "Bibi" Ramos. The 5-foot-8, 160-pounder has rushed for 616 yards and 10 touchdowns, topping 100 yards in all four contests.

Victor Harrington (547 yards, 4 TDs passing) has seen the majority of snaps at quarterback, while speedy freshman Scott Brown

Jr. is an elusive runner and threw his first touchdown pass last week. Davila (15-150, 2 TDs receiving) and Michael Slayton (10-123, 1 TD receiving) are their top targets.

"To win the game we have to keep the offense moving at a good pace," said Florio. "We have done well so far. And we will also have to continue to make stops on defense."

The Golden Warrior defense faces a major task against a Central Catholic offense that is averaging 33 points per game. The Raiders are led by sophomore QB Ayden Pereira (29 for 57, 521 yards, 6 TD passing; 38-181, 6 TDs rush) and senior running back Mark Kassis (33-202, 2 TDs rushing).

Leading the Andover defense is linebacker Slayton (team-high 37 tackles, interception return for a touchdown), who is being recruited by Division I-AA college teams.

Also staring on defense



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

Andover quarterback Victor Harrington, here completing a pass to Michael Slayton, and the Golden Warriors are dreaming of a victory against Central Catholic this week.

are Florio (30 tackles), Davila (30 tackles) and big 230-pound middle backer Aneudy Moreno (28 tackles).

"I think the defense is going to have to win us this game," said Davila, a safety. "We know we have a great offensive and we know we can score a lot of points. But I believe that our defense is one of the best in the state and I know we are going to give their offense a thought time."

"I've seen that they are beatable obviously. Yes, they are great on both sides of the ball, but they also

have a lot of flaws and we are ready to expose them on Saturday."

A win over Central Catholic — the No. 3-ranked team in the Maxpreps.com statewide poll — would snap Andover's 10-game losing streak to their rival, dating back to 2013. It would also position the Golden Warriors as an MVC favorite.

"We've seen Central make some spectacular plays and win games, but it is nothing we can't stop," said Comeau. "A win over Central would be another confidence boost for the

team. I think beating Central would show us what we really can do and help us continue to win games in and out of the MVC."

A win over an archrival, after all, is always meaningful.

"This will mean everything to us, for the program and for our school," said Davila. "We've worked too hard, and to win this game would put this program back on the map."

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Shahabazian, depth lead boys cross country to wins

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Will Shahabazian placed a team-best fifth overall in 18:15 on Lawrence's 3.05-mile course as Andover rode its depth to victories over Lawrence High (15-48) and Haverhill (25-34) last Tuesday.

Right behind him were Golden Warriors Jack Sipley (18:15), Mike Koral (18:22) and Matt Serrano (18:24) in places 7-9 to lead the victory.

FIELD HOCKEY

Graham caps rally

Heather Graham knocked in the game-winning goal with 2:20 to play as Andover rallied for a 3-2 victory over archrival Chelmsford last Monday.

Goalie Paige Gillette was superb, keeping the Golden Warriors in the game with 15 saves. Also scoring for the winners were Sydney Gregory and Olivia Beucier.

Paige Gillette and Allison Gasperoni (three saves each) combined on the shutout in net and Andover beat North Andover 4-0 last Wednesday. Kate Gemmell, Hailey Doherty, Olivia Beucier and



MIKE SPRINGER/Staff photo

Andover's Lily Farnham takes a shot against North Andover goaltender Jenna Bard. The Golden Warriors beat the Scarlet Knights 4-0 last week.

Heather Graham each scored a goal for the winners.

Despite a goal each for Lily Farnham and Hanna Medwar, Andover lost to Nashoba Regional 3-2 on Friday. It was the first loss of the season for the Golden Warriors (5-1-1).

SWIMMING

Williams takes three

Eliza Williams won the 100 butterfly and 100

backstroke and was on the winning 200 medley relay as unbeaten Andover won every event in a 105-67 rout of Lowell on Friday. Emily Clements won the 50 freestyle and also swam on the 200 medley relay, Maggie McGlynn took the 500 freestyle and Rachel Cordio won the 100 breaststroke.

Emily Ma placed first in the 100 freestyle (57.21) and 100 backstroke as Andover

topped Belmont 97-81 last Monday. Charlotte Moulson won the 50 freestyle, Polina Malinovskaya took the 200 IM and they teamed with Lauren Bessette and Kaitlin Chung to win the 200 medley relay.

GOLF

Warriors stay perfect

Mac Lee and Teddy Gorrie each earned 2-up victories to help Andover top Tewksbury 15-5 last Wednesday. Nick Ventura added a 4-and-2

win for the Warriors.

Andover received wins from Evan Giggey, Steve Ingram, Nick Ventura, Teddie Gorrie, Tim Kobelski and Noah Farland in a 16.5-3.5 win over Central Catholic last Thursday.

Mac Lee, Evan Giggey, Steve Ingram, Nick Ventura, Teddy Gorrie, Alicia Wang and Noah Farland all scored wins as Andover beat North Andover 19-1 last Tuesday.

GIRLS SOCCER

Azzi scores winner

Emma Azzi scored a second-half goal as Andover handed rival North Andover its first loss of the season, 1-0 last Thursday. Izzy Shih made seven saves for the Golden Warriors (4-1-2).

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Kiley takes second

Molly Kiley took second overall (20:17) as Andover beat Lawrence (15-48) but fell to Haverhill (19-40) last Tuesday. Baishali Chaudhuri and Emma Dowty took places 6-7 overall for the Warriors.

BOYS SOCCER

Atwood a wall

Joe Atwood made seven saves for Andover, which played Somerville to a 0-0 tie on Saturday.

Andover fell to North Andover 1-0 last Thursday.

VOLLEYBALL

Abouhamad's effort for naught

Brooke Abouhamad scored team-highs in assists (23), service points (16), aces (6) and digs (15), but Andover fell to North Andover 3-1 on Friday. Abby Ledoux and Sophia Martinez added a block each.

Sophia Martinez led Andover with 12 kills and five blocks as the Golden Warriors fell to Danvers 3-1 on Saturday. Jenny McNaughton added 18 service points, five blocks and 16 digs for the Warriors.

Despite 11 kills and eight digs for Caroline Fraiser, Andover lost to Central Catholic 3-0 last Monday. Brooke Abouhamad added 17 assists, four aces and 14 service points for the Golden Warriors.

Ramos, football wins second straight

By KYLE GAUDETTE
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LAWRENCE — The pieces are all starting to come together for the Andover football team.

Saturday's impressive 52-28 win over a gritty Lawrence club, along with another huge day for Josh Ramos, force the rest of the Merrimack Valley should be on notice.

The senior back had 130 rushing yards on 17 carries with three touchdowns, and added a fourth score on an 18-yard pass from Victor Harrington.

"It just feels incredible," said Ramos. "I don't know, I'm at a loss for words. I can't even describe it."

His best run on Saturday was a 49-yarder where he showcased it all, throwing off two defenders in the backfield before juking a third and turning on the jets to outrun two more before being forced out of bounds.

"He's just doing a tremendous job for us," said Andover coach E.J. Perry.

Ramos' two first-half touchdowns, along with solid play on the defensive line by AJ Heidtke and linebacker Michael Slayton, helped Andover (2-2) open up a 24-14 lead at the break. The Warriors split time between the sophomore Harrington and freshman Scott Brown Jr. at quarterback, and the latter threw his first career

touchdown to Kelvin Davila with 36 seconds left in the half to make it 24-6.

Ramos opened up the third with a 4-yard TD run, Brown scrambled for a 12-yard score on the Warriors' next possession and then on the first play of Lawrence's next drive Slayton came up with a 30-yard pick-six. Ramos caught his fourth TD of the game shortly after and it was all running clock in the fourth.

"It's the senior class that's just unbelievable," said Perry. "We've got 19 seniors who haven't missed a practice all year, haven't missed a day of film, haven't missed anything and they're great leaders. And you win in high school with leadership."

Andover 52, Lawrence 28	
Andover (2-2):	14 10 28 0 — 52
Lawrence (0-3):	0 14 8 6 — 28
First Quarter	
A — Josh Ramos 3 run (Shamus Florio kick), 9:24	
Second Quarter	
L — Manny Lara 37 pass from Jacob Tamayo (run failed), 10:33	
A — Florio 32 field goal, 6:17	
A — Kelvin Davila 19 pass from Scott Brown Jr. (Florio kick), :36	
L — Isaias Richards 60 pass from Tamayo (Florio kick), :09	
Third Quarter	
A — Ramos 4 run (Florio kick), 10:06	
A — Brown 12 run (Florio kick), 7:44	
A — Michael Slayton 30 interception return (Florio kick), 7:31	
L — Vargas 3 run (Estarling Morales run), 3:51	
A — Ramos 18 pass from Victor Harrington (Conor Moses kick), 1:40	
Fourth Quarter	
L — Vargas 26 run (pass failed), 5:30	
INDIVIDUAL LEADERS	
RUSHING: ANDOVER (29-147): Josh Ramos 17-130, Scott Brown 7-14, Erik Aulbach 1-7, Victor Harrington 1-0, Andrew Layman 1-0, Will Perry 2(-4)	
PASSING: ANDOVER — Harrington 5-10-0, 91, Brown 5-7-0, 44	
RECEIVING: ANDOVER — Michael Slayton 1-54, Kelvin Davila 5-49, Ramos 1-18, Jackson McCarthy 2-8, Lincoln Beal 1-6	

ANDOVER HIGH SPORTS SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, OCT. 3	Methuen at Andover, 5:30 p.m.
Boys Soccer	TUESDAY, OCT. 8
Andover at Methuen, 7 p.m.	Golf
Girls Soccer	Andover at Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
Methuen at Andover, 6:30 p.m.	Boys Soccer
FRIDAY, OCT. 4	Tewksbury at Andover, 6:30 p.m.
Field Hockey	Girls Soccer
Andover at Needham, 5 p.m.	Andover at Lowell, 4 p.m.
Girls Swimming	Girls Swimming
North Andover at Andover, 3:30 p.m.	Andover at Dracut, 3:30 p.m.
Girls Volleyball	WEDNESDAY, OCT. 9
Tewksbury at Andover, 5:30 p.m.	Boys Cross Country
SATURDAY, OCT. 5	Andover at Tewksbury, 3:30 p.m.
Football	Girls Cross Country
Central Catholic at Andover, 2:30 p.m.	Andover at Andover, 6:30 p.m.
SUNDAY, OCT. 6	THURSDAY, OCT. 10
Field Hockey	Field Hockey
Andover at Minnechaug Regional, 10 a.m.	Andover at Chelmsford, 6 p.m.
MONDAY, OCT. 7	Golf
Field Hockey	Andover at North Andover, 3:30 p.m.
Lowell at Andover, 4 p.m.	Boys Soccer
Golf	Andover at Lowell, 6:30 p.m.
Andover at Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.	Girls Soccer
Girls Volleyball	Tewksbury at Andover, 6:30 p.m.
	Girls Volleyball
	Chelmsford at Andover, 5:30 p.m.

Residents return home after leak reminiscent of gas disaster

By JILL HARMACINSKI
Staff Writer

The remaining residents evacuated from their homes after a gas leak in South Lawrence early Friday morning were allowed to return home on Saturday, as Columbia Gas was going door-to-door restoring service.

Noting "substantial progress" was made since the early-morning incident Friday, Columbia Gas president Mark Kempic encouraged the residents and business people to return to their homes and properties immediately so their gas service could be re-lit. "We do appreciate your patience as we work through this," said Kempic, at a press conference on South Broadway early Saturday afternoon.

The majority of residents evacuated after the 3:15 a.m. gas leak were allowed to return home at 3 p.m. Friday.

However, residents of the South Broadway and Carver street area were evacuated overnight Friday, some staying

in hotels. Mayor Daniel Rivera said 31 families from those areas, which included 85 adults and six kids, needed overnight shelter.

A stretch of South Broadway, including the Falls Bridge and a short distance beyond, remained closed to traffic on Saturday. Officials said they hoped to reopen the area, possibly on Sunday. "We hope to have at least one lane access by (Sunday) morning," said Mayor Daniel Rivera.

While things appear to be getting back to normal, local politicians said they were hearing from stressed and displeased residents and businesspeople whose lives were disrupted by another gas leak.

On Sept. 13, 2018, the Merrimack Valley towns of Andover, North Andover and Lawrence were crippled by a gas disaster that triggered explosions and fires, killed a teen, damaged dozens of homes and resulted in \$1 billion in damage.

Sen. Barry Finegold, D-Andover, commenting on the billion dollar price tag, said "it doesn't seem like that has done the trick."

"When it comes to gas lines, it's like airports. You just can't miss," Finegold said on Saturday.

Mental health remains an

issue locally. Counseling was available Saturday morning at the Wetherbee School, a short distance away from where the gas leak occurred.

Lawrence City Councilor Marc Laplante said he knows "many people are dealing with health issues and the gas disaster both last year and (on

Friday) have impacted them." "People have told me the sirens from first responders and helicopters from news crews hovering over the city made them relive the scary moments of last year. I wish there was an easy solution to provide them the relief they need, but the first step may

start with some sort of counseling and professional assistance," said Laplante, who represents District F.

Discussions are currently underway with the mayor's health task force to provide mental health counseling and assistance to residents, he said.

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Cloudy and cooler	A shower or two	Plenty of sunshine	Mostly cloudy	A shower possible	A chance of rain	Showers possible
High: 57° Low: 48°	High: 58° Low: 39°	High: 59° Low: 38°	High: 64° Low: 58°	High: 71° Low: 50°	High: 63° Low: 43°	High: 61° Low: 40°

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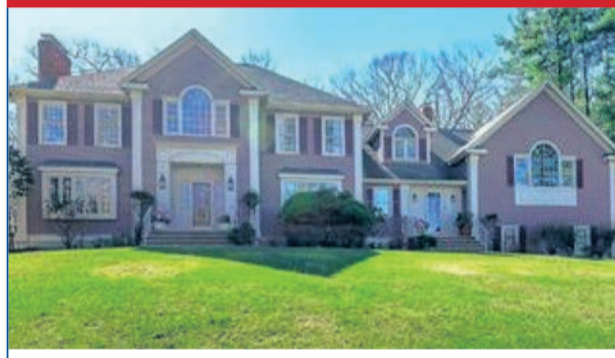
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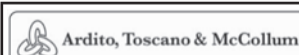


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