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OUR 131ST YEAR

Andover Townsman

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Andover's teen chess queen does it again; beats world champion from China at top tournament

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsman.com

Andover's teen chess queen has done it again. Carissa Yip, is now a 16-year-old student at Phillips Academy taking a gap year to play prestigious chess tournaments. The latest is a terrific win at the second annual Cairns Cup tournament last week in St. Louis, Mo. The tournament is for the highest-rated female chess players in the world. Carissa was the youngest competitor and tied for seventh place. She took home

\$8,000 in prize money. The tournament's website reported "...the 16-year old wildcard and youngest competitor in the field, staged an incredible comeback at the end of the tournament. In Round 8, Yip defeated Women's World Champion Wenjun Ju to rank among the top 50 female players in the world, as well as the second American female to defeat Ju in classical chess. "Yip played at least parts of the game against the Chinese star with her turtleneck turned up almost to her nose, but there is



Carissa Yip of Andover.

COURTESY PHOTO

See YIP, Page 3

Selectmen, company continue 5G debate

Progress made toward bringing technology to Andover

By GENEVIEVE DiNATALE
gdinatale@andovertownsman.com

The debate surrounding the arrival of 5G technology in Andover continues, as selectmen and AT&T representatives discuss making sure the public is safe from radiation emitted by 5G devices.

During Monday night's Select Board meeting, Selectman Dan Koh urged AT&T to do a public awareness campaign warning residents about the potential danger of being near a downed 5G antenna.

"It is perceived and understood in our society that you normally don't approach a live wire and that it is unsafe," Koh said. "I am not sure yet what the norm is that if you see an antenna on

the ground that it is unsafe." Board members are in the process of reviewing AT&T's request to place Andover's first 5G antenna outside the IRS building on Lowell Street. However, the installation of the device has raised concerns from members of both the board and the community because the new technology emits small amounts of radiation. Eventually 5G devices would have to be placed on many utility poles in town for the technology to serve the public across Andover.

AT&T's request was tabled a second time Monday night for the attorneys to modify a written agreement between AT&T and the town. The board is set to be vote on AT&T's application at the

See 5G, Page 2

'Cherish the smiles and belly laughs' Andover family comes to grips with daughter's terminal prognosis

By SEAN MURPHY
Staff Writer

Seven-year-old Kyki Anastasiadis is a daddy's girl. The brown-eyed beauty loves cuddling, listening to music and reading books. She's also battling a rare genetic disorder that took years to be correctly diagnosed, with hints of a problem having surfaced when she was just 6 weeks old.

"Every two months I would go for check-ups and every time milestones were not being met," said her mom, Panayiota Anastasiadis.

"She wasn't cooing or making much sound at all, and she hated tummy time," Panayiota said, referencing an activity that helps babies develop motor skills that eventually lead to crawling.

By Kyki's one-year checkup, she still couldn't pull herself up to stand. An orthopedist, a neurologist and a new pediatrician began taking a closer look.



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Dancing to the music are the Anastasiadis family, from left, son, Kosta, 5; mother Panayiota; and Kyki, 7, of Andover. Kyki has a rare disease called beta-propellor protein-associated neurodegeneration, or BPAN.

The next three years would lead the Anastasiadis family through a minefield of misdiagnoses and

frustrating delays involving no fewer than 12 doctors and therapists. A highly recommended

developmental pediatrician had an 18-month waiting list. Another pediatric neurologist

See KYKI, Page 3

Warren supporters hit the pavement in Andover

Canvass for presidential candidate before early voting

By MADELINE HUGHES
Staff Writer

About three dozen supporters of Sen. Elizabeth Warren crowded into a basement in Andover.

Some were newcomers to canvassing for politicians, while others were seasoned veterans of campaigning. They were all ecstatic about the senator from Massachusetts, donning buttons, stickers and T-shirts bearing her name.

"I haven't been this involved in politics since I started voting at 18," Kate Burbidge, 34, of Londonderry said at the event Saturday. The mother of three brought along her 4-year-old son Harry to

canvass with her in Andover. Burbidge has knocked on hundreds of doors, and hosted multiple canvass kickoffs, like the one in Andover, from her own home leading up to the New Hampshire primary, she said. Leading up to Super Tuesday area residents are pounding the pavement in the senator's home state. Across the state the senator's campaign hosted more than 30 similar events.

Warren "is an amazing candidate, we couldn't do better than her for president,"

See SUPPORTERS, Page 2



MADELINE HUGHES/Staff photo

Congresswoman Lori Trahan thanks the Lis brothers - Jonathan, left, 5, and Benjamin, 3 - for going canvassing for Sen. Elizabeth Warren with their dad, Michael Lis, of North Andover.



PHOTO/Reba Saldanha

During his visit to Andover in November, Jay Leno, right, checks out a motorcycle being worked on at the Cormier Youth Center by Cameron Acheson, left, 18, of Andover and Glenn Wilson, assistant director of the center.

Money in the bank \$10K gift ready to help needy kids

By JUDY WAKEFIELD
jwakefield@andovertownsman.com

An unexpected \$10,000 cash gift from popular native son Jay Leno has been deposited to the Andover Youth Foundation account with plans to do what the Hollywood comedian wanted — help less fortunate kids pay for programs designed for them, like a driver's education program.

"We are doing what Jay asked of us," said town

Youth Services Director Bill Fahey. "That money is an account that we will use to help out a kid pay for a program, maybe driver's education or a woodworking program A kid might be having a tough time paying and this money now lets us do that."

Leno visited his hometown in November as Andover Youth Services was celebrating its 25th anniversary with a special

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Dovetail Explains the Significance of a Detox.

Learn more on page 3.



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Dr. James Hickey, Head Master of Austin Prep gives us insight on the significance of diversity in education and describes their unique culture.

Read more on his excerpt, 'Is a Catholic Prep School Right For You' found on page s7 in our MyAndovers tabloid.



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5G

Continued from Page 1

next Select Board meeting. According to Attorney Michael Dolan of Brown Rudnick, who has represented AT&T at Select Board meetings on the company's behalf, AT&T's 5G device emits well below the threshold of FCC radiation emissions guidelines.

"At 25 feet (off the ground) it's less than 1 percent of the FCC allowable limit," Dolan said at the board's Feb. 10 meeting.

Nevertheless, officials say there are circumstances when the device can emit harmful amounts of radiation. For instance, if a utility pole were to fall and someone were to stand near a 5G antenna, the device could become harmful.

Yet the concerns expressed by some Select Board members were appeased Monday night when Donald Haes, a radiation safety specialist hired by AT&T to write a report determining the safety of AT&T's 5G device, made a presentation to the board.

"I thought the expert's presentation was helpful in



COURTESY PHOTO

AT&T's 5G device proposed for Andover would look similar to the one on this pole in Chatham. On top of the pole an antenna and the utility box is affixed halfway down the pole.

making clear that the safety risk to residents in the extreme event of a downed, active antenna is minimal, however, it is critical that we make sure the proper safeguards are in place so that people are not harmed as more small cells are installed," Koh said.

Similarly, Select Board Chair Laura Gregory said, "I am confident that the circumstances are very limited and unlikely to occur and I

am going to take AT&T at their word that if there were a problem we would be made aware of it quickly."

Haes said that in the event that someone were to come in close contact with a 5G device, the likelihood of it causing radiation poisoning is extremely low and would require an extended length of exposure of 30 minutes or more.

"You are never really getting a high enough field to



GENEVIEVE DINATALE/Staff photo

Donald Haes, center, a radiation safety specialist hired by AT&T, gives a presentation to Andover's Select Board during Monday night's meeting.

cause any type of injury or any type of biological effects no matter how long you hold onto it," Haes said. "It just doesn't happen in this type of antenna."

Haes also assured the board that if the device were to malfunction, it would shut down automatically because any reflection inside the

transmitter causes it to shut down.

"There is a potential for an overexposure according to the FCC regulations and that's where it ends right there," Haes said.

"Is anything going to happen? No, nothing is going to happen."

Following Haes'

presentation, Town Counsel Thomas Urbelis asked Dolan about whether AT&T would indemnify the town in the case of a lawsuit resulting from a malfunction in the telecom giant's 5G device. Dolan said the state would be responsible rather than the town because the utility pole is located on state land.

LENO

Continued from Page 1

evening event at Andover Country Club. Earlier that day, Leno had stopped by the Cormier Youth Center, took a tour, chatted with staffers and kids, and then surprised Fahey with the \$10,000 check.

"I had no idea. Jay said his mom taught him never to visit someone's home empty-handed, so he wrote the check and gave it to us," Fahey said. "It was great."

A 1968 graduate of Andover High School, Leno grew up on Clark Road in the Ballardvale section of town. His parents, Angelo and Catherine Leno, and his only sibling, Patrick Leno, are deceased and the Leno



PHOTOS/Reba Saldanha

Cormier Youth Center director Bill Fahey, left, takes Jay Leno on a tour of the center during his visit to Andover in November.

family home was torn down years ago to make room for a housing development.

As his stardom grew over the years, Leno never forgot his roots. In fact, his

best friend of more than 60 years, Lew Trumbore of Andover, was at the youth center with Leno and said Leno will never forget where he came from. Trumbore said he talks to Leno a couple of times a week.

When Leno was featured on the television show "60 Minutes" a few years ago, he was interviewed in Andover at Phillips Academy and at McDonald's on North Main Street. He has wonderful memories of working there as a teen.



Jay Leno, center, takes in a performance by Andover Vocal Music at the Cormier Youth Center during his November visit.

Leno hosted television's "The Tonight Show" from 1992 to 2009. Now, he hosts the TV show "Jay Leno's Garage." His fondness for

cars is legendary.

In fact, Andover Youth Services organizers displayed antique cars outside of the Cormier Youth Center

for Leno's visit. Plus, they included with his invitation to visit a video of young people at the youth center working on a motorcycle.

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SUPPORTERS

Continued from Page 1

Burbidge said, touting Warren's plans to combat corruption, climate change and help fix education.

After coming in third place in Iowa and fourth in New Hampshire, Warren is

lagging in state delegates. However, fewer than 2% of state delegates have been awarded in this year's Democratic nominating process.

Her supporters are passionate about spreading her message, and hopeful for the primary races to come.

"Now it's go time," said Congresswoman Lori Trahan, D-Westford. "It's going to be a dramatically different field after Super Tuesday."

Trahan was referencing March 3 when voters in 13 states, including Massachusetts, go to the polls. A third of Democratic state delegates that are needed to win the party nomination will be awarded that day.

Trahan has been a supporter of Warren's presidential bid since she launched her campaign at the historic mills of Lawrence in February 2019. Trahan has led events and knocked on doors in New Hampshire, and now that the election is



MADLINE HUGHES/Staff photo

Congresswoman Lori Trahan thanks canvassers for supporting Sen. Elizabeth Warren and helping get out the vote in Andover before Super Tuesday.

turning to their home state she is campaigning for Warren in Massachusetts.

Trahan talked to fellow supporters in Andover about how these one-on-one conversations are vital to a campaign. She knows that Warren's campaign can out-organize and outlast the others, she said.

Diane Reimer was one of the many Massachusetts residents who opened her home to the congresswoman and volunteers because she believes 2020 "is the most important election of our lives. I just trust (Warren), I trust she is the right person for the job."

Hosting the event last weekend with early voting set to begin for Massachusetts residents this week, Reimer said the weekend is one of the most important times of the campaign.

North Andover resident Michael Lis brought his sons, Jonathan, 5, and Benjamin, 3, out to canvass with him Saturday. He wants to not only express his values to his children, but show them.

As for why he is supporting Warren, Lis said, "I think she's the best choice to run the executive branch," adding that she built the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau under director from President Barack Obama before becoming a senator.

Warren and Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont are the two top choices for Massachusetts voters, according to a UMass Lowell poll released late last week. Warren and Sanders are nearly tied with being a top choice for 20% and 21% of likely Democratic voters, respectively according to the poll.

Sanders leads with voters under 45, and Warren leads with voters over 45, according to the poll. Pete Buttigieg is in third place with about 15% of likely voters decided on him, and 4% of voters were still undecided, according to the poll.

Massachusetts residents can find information on early voting and locate their polling place at sec.state.ma.us.

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KYKI

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had a two-month wait. "After each doctor's visit, I was given a supposed label, and yet in my gut every alarm was going off saying, 'No, that's not it!'" Panayiota said.

Those labels included expressive and receptive language delay and autism spectrum disorder.

Finally in 2016, a pediatric neurologist and geneticist at NYU diagnosed the girl with beta-propeller protein-assisted neurodegeneration, which is classified as "ultra rare." She is just one of 200 people in the world with BPAN, which based on statistics will eventually cause her to lose the ability to walk, talk and eat. The prognosis is terminal.

"The more information we received on BPAN, the more it felt like the world was closing in," said Panayiota, who



TIM JEAN/Staff photos

Kyki Anastasiadis is all smiles as she takes part in physical therapy to help improve her motor skills and balance. Mother, Panayiota, assists while daughter, Antigone, 2, sits on mom's lap.

told the family's story in connection with Rare Disease Day, an annual event started in 2008 and recognized on the last day of February to raise awareness and funding for all rare diseases.

"I wanted answers, but never did I imagine I would be handed this death

sentence for my child," she said.

A typical day for Kyki begins at 6 a.m. She needs assistance in every facet of life, from brushing her teeth and combing her hair, to eating and bathroom visits.

"Potty schedule is a bear. If you miss it by a second, then



Kyki receives help from mother, Panayiota, as the family eats lunch together. Seated from left are father, John Anastasiadis; son, Kosta; daughter, Antigone; wife, Panayiota; and Kyki.

it's changing clothes, a bath, laundry, and your original plans are on hold," Panayiota said.

Kyki attends the Excel Program at High Plain Elementary School for students with special needs. After school she plays with her brother

and sister. "She will watch them play, but an adult is needed to facilitate the interaction," Panayiota said.

"A terminal prognosis makes you see life in a different light," she continued. "Cherish the smiles and belly

laughs, try not to get upset when she's colored the walls, pulled all the books off the shelf and she is quietly flipping the pages of that one book she was searching for."

Rare Disease Day is Feb. 29. For more information go to RareDiseaseDay.Org.

YIP

Continued from Page 1

nothing covered up about her play at the board."

Yip said she had little faith for a good finish in the tournament after round four.

"But someone once told me, 'fake it till you make it,' and it somehow worked for round five. I really believe that confidence is the key for results, and after all, false confidence is better than no confidence. Following that win, that false confidence became real confidence, and I believe this was one of the main reasons I managed to finish strong after such an

abysmal start," she said.

Local chess enthusiasts were thrilled with Carissa's very successful comeback.

"She did very well. It's hard to come back psychologically after an 0/4 start, but she got it together and finished very strong," said David Vigorito of Andover, a former state chess champion who is now coordinator of the Andover Chess Club and coaches chess at local schools.

Carissa said she is glad to have that local support.

"I'm really glad to hear that local Andover chess players were rooting for me. It always makes me happy to hear that people are cheering me on," she said.

In 2019, Carissa had a breakout year on the chess board, climbing the ladder to become the highest rated female chess player in the country. Now, the teen chess wonder competes in the highest-rated all-female chess tournaments.

The Cairns Cup is an invitation-only tournament, and Carissa was one of only two Americans to qualify for the elite field of chess-playing women superstars from seven different countries. The tournament was established with the goals of elevating the sport and inspiring future events for women in chess worldwide. The prize fund total was \$180,000 this year.

"Cairns Cup was an amazing experience. It was humbling to play among the players that I grew up knowing the names of. It was like I finally made it, facing my childhood heroes in tournament games. I was even more thrilled to prove that

I was able to keep up with them, that I wasn't hopelessly out of my league, and someday could maybe even become one of them," she said.

Humpy Koneru of India won the tournament and received \$45,000 in prize

money.

Carissa will return to the Saint Louis Chess Club to compete for the U.S. Women's Championship in April.

She plans to return to Phillips Academy in the fall of 2020 and re-join the Class of 2022.

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Andover fire leaves 3 homeless

By PAUL TENNANT
Staff Writer

A fire that started in the kitchen of a home at 3 Candlewood Drive displaced three people Monday night.

No one was injured, according to fire Chief Michael Mansfield, who estimated the damage to the home at \$110,000.

The fire was reported by a 911 call at 8:52 p.m., with firefighters encountering heavy smoke while attacking the blaze, Mansfield said.

Engine 3 was the first fire vehicle to respond followed by Engine 2 and Ladder 1, along with two ambulances. The blaze was under control by 9:07 p.m., fire officials said.



A fire that began in the kitchen of a home at 3 Candlewood Drive in Andover displaced three people Monday night. No one was injured, according to Fire Chief Michael Mansfield, who estimated the damage at \$110,000.

CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

The house has smoke detectors but they did not function, Mansfield said.

From a distance, the split-level home, with a two-car garage in the basement, does not appear to be heavily damaged. The interior, however, received serious fire and smoke damage, the chief said.

"The house is uninhabitable," he said.

The three occupants are a man, woman and 16-year-old

boy. They had not determined where they were going to spend the night as of late Monday, according to Mansfield.

Lawrence and Wilmington crews covered Andover's fire station while local firefighters were on Candlewood Drive.

Firefighters hooked up to a nearby hydrant on Candlewood Drive, but the 750 gallons of water carried by Engine 3 was sufficient to knock down the blaze, the chief said.

Local Muslim group uses annual gathering to promote unity

Andover Islamic Center celebrates Open Mosque Day

By SEAN MURPHY
Staff Writer

At a time when racial tensions are high in the United States, a local Muslim group is opening its place of worship so people can learn more about their religion.

Andover Islamic Center, 204 Andover St., Ste. 201, is celebrating the fourth annual Open Mosque Day on Sunday, March 29, from 2 to 5 p.m.

The event is an opportunity to ask Muslims questions about Islam and to see how prayers are held at the



An event in a mosque in Andover will inform the public about Islam and its practices.

FILE PHOTO

mosque, leaders there said. The theme of this year's event — "One Nation, Under God, Indivisible" — comes from the United States pledge of allegiance.

Leaders of the Islamic Center are stressing unity among neighbors and the importance of identifying what binds all people together. "Now more than ever we stand together, undivided and ready to support each other as fellow Americans," leaders of the center said in a press release.



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Boy Scout leaders say local troops will survive National Council's bankruptcy

By PAUL TENNANT
Staff Writer

Boy Scout leaders in the Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire say the National Council's bankruptcy will not impact local troops and programs.

Jay Garee, Scout executive for the Daniel Webster Council, which oversees Boy Scout troops in New Hampshire, issued the following statement: "Daniel Webster Council, BSA has not filed for bankruptcy. Meetings and activities, district and council events, other Scouting adventures and countless service projects are taking place as usual. In short, there is no change to the local Scouting experience."

"The national organization of the Boy Scouts of America is the only entity involved in the Chapter 11 filing. The Daniel Webster Council — which provides programming, financial, facility and administrative support to local units and individual Scouts in New Hampshire — is separate and distinct from the national organization. Our camps, properties and all local contributions are controlled by our council."

The National Council of the Boy Scouts' finances have been strained in recent years

by declining membership and sex-abuse settlements.

The number of young people taking part in scouting has dropped below 2 million, down from a peak of more than 4 million during the 1970s.

While the National Council is filing for bankruptcy to survive, the organization has encouraged victims to come forward.

Bankruptcy will enable the organization to put existing abuse cases on hold for now and continue operating. But ultimately the national organization could be forced to sell some of its vast property holdings, including campgrounds and hiking trails, to raise money for a victims' fund that could top \$1 billion.

The Boy Scouts estimated 1,000 to 5,000 victims will seek compensation.

"The BSA encourages victims to come forward to file a claim as the bankruptcy process moves forward," said a statement from the organization.

Several local Scout leaders emphasized that many of the alleged acts of abuse happened more than 30 years ago. The current rules of conduct for camping trips and other activities are much stricter than they were in the 20th century, they said.

For example, at least two adult leaders must be with Boy Scouts at all times, noted Donald Bulens, scoutmaster of Troop 77 of Andover. Even an email from a scoutmaster to a member of his troop must be copied to his parents or at least one other Scout leader, he said. Scout leaders must undergo training on protecting children and reference checks are required for any adult who wants to take a leadership position in a troop, he added.

The National Council sent the following message to the organization's members:

"Today, the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy to achieve two key objectives: equitably compensate victims who were harmed during their time in Scouting and continue to carry out Scouting's mission for years to come."

The message was signed by Jim Turley, national chair; Ellie Morrison, national commissioner; and Roger Mosby, president and chief executive officer of the Boy Scouts of America. The statement also asserted that "Scouting is safer now than ever before. Approximately 90% of the pending and asserted claims against the BSA relate to abuse that occurred more than 30 years ago. ... The safety of children in our programs is the BSA's absolute top priority ... one instance of abuse is one too many. That's precisely why over many years we've developed some of the strongest expert-informed youth protection policies found in any youth-serving organization."

"It's not a good thing," Brian Lobao, camping chairman of the Spirit of Adventure Council, which oversees troops in Essex, Middlesex and Suffolk counties in Massachusetts, said of the bankruptcy filing and the allegations that led up to it. He expressed confidence, however, that Scouting will "emerge stronger" from the crisis.

The curriculum of Scouting — getting outdoors, learning leadership and survival skills, the strong emphasis on service — "is more important to this generation than it was to ours," he said.

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The best time to detox is right before you start a new diet or exercise plan. If however, signs become alarming, it could mean the excess nutrients have formed into negative toxins and a detox should take place soon.

Detoxing Without Ingestion

An External Detox at Dovetail is the strongest initiative without any consumption. Oil Blends are applied topically to help stimulate your body's metabolism. The results are immediate and relaxation is encouraged.

What to Expect During Your Detox With Dovetail

For the body, blends of high quality therapeutic oils are strategically applied under a cotton wrap. Heating pads are used to safely activate oils.

The Sunlighten Solo Sauna is placed over your body. The sauna permeates warmth allowing a powerful absorption of beneficial ingredients.

For the face, a specially formulated botanical mask with an ampule selected for your skin's needs. It is applied to the face or back to detox and boost hydration.

After Care

- Do not plan any heavy exercise after session.
- Do not Bathe 3-5 Hours after session.
- Do perform a bath soak after each visit. (Soak is provided.)
- 1 TSB of EVOO is recommended to further assist in flushing the system.

Detox Options

Solo Sauna Detox - The Solo Sauna utilizes an ultra low EMF technology that heats up the body internally. Known for decreasing inflammation and pain management. The sauna has been clinically proven to burn up to 600 calories per session.

\$35/ Single Session
\$100/ 4 Session Package

Facial Detox - A botanical detox can be performed on the face or back. A blended Spirulina mask is applied, encouraging the removal of accumulated tissue fluid, resulting in a rapidly improved skin profile. Innovative and unique ampules are available for the area of choice. One revolutionary offering is a plant based "retinol" without the negative effects.

\$110 / Single Session

Oil Detox with Sauna

► **For Your Head** - An oil blend is massaged into the head and neck to alleviate headaches.

► **For Your Body** - A blend of therapeutic Oils are topically applied to strategic areas of the body.

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Early voting begins for Massachusetts primary

By CHRISTIAN M. WADE
Staff Writer

Massachusetts voters are going to the polls this week to nominate a presidential candidate, as early voting gets underway across the state.

From Monday to Friday, cities and towns are allowing registered voters to cast early ballots ahead of the Super Tuesday primary on March 3. No excuse or justification is required to cast a ballot ahead of time.

Eight Democrats, two Republicans and more than a dozen long-shot candidates all want a crack at taking on the current occupant of the White House, incumbent Republican President Donald Trump, who is also on the ballot seeking a second term.

Besides well-known hopefuls from the two major political parties, Libertarian and Green-Rainbow candidates are also running.

Massachusetts is one of 14 states that hold presidential primaries on Super Tuesday. Early voting has grown increasingly popular in the state since it debuted in the 2016 elections, but this is the first time it's been offered for a primary.

Local clerks have spent weeks preparing ballots, training election workers and testing voting

machines to prepare for a likely rush of primary voters.

"We're prepared but it's hard to know what to expect for turnout because this is the first time we've done it for a primary," said Salem City Clerk Ilene Simons, who oversees the city's elections. "Either way we're ready to go."

In North Andover, Town Clerk Trudy Reid has spent weeks preparing the Senior Center next to Town Hall for early voting. She isn't sure what to expect, either.

Reid said one sign that voters might cast early ballots in large numbers is a lack of absentee ballots being dropped off at Town Hall.

"We've had a lot of requests for ballots, but they haven't been returned," she said. "I'm not sure if that means they're waiting to see the outcome of other primaries, or do early voting."

Election officials say it's not clear that early voting boosts overall turnout, but it certainly gives voters more time to cast ballots and helps avoid the lines on Election Day.

Secretary of State Bill Galvin has said he expects a robust turnout in the primary, with local candidates and intense interest

among Trump's supporters in a state that typically tilts Democratic.

There were more than 4.4 million registered voters in Massachusetts as of February 2019. The majority — more than 55% — are not enrolled in any political party.

Massachusetts has open primaries, which means unenrolled voters may draw a ballot for whichever primary they choose. Voters who are registered with a specific party may only vote in their respective primaries.

Voters in the Democratic primary will see a packed ballot for the presidential nomination. It lists eight hopefuls including former Vice President Joe Biden; former New York Mayor Mike Bloomberg; Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, former South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg; Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

Several Democrats have recently dropped out the race but their names will still appear, because ballots were printed before they bowed out. They include former Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick, New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker, Julián Castro, Andrew Yang, Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet and Marianne Williamson.

On the Republican ballot, Trump faces a challenge from former Massachusetts Gov. Bill Weld and San Diego businessman "Rocky" De La Fuente, who ran for president in 2016 as a Democrat.

The Libertarian ticket includes 10 hopefuls including Vermin Love Supreme, a perennial candidate and performance artist who famously campaigns with a rubber boot on his head. Meanwhile, the Rainbow-Green party ballot includes four candidates including Howie Hawkins, Dario Hunter, Kent Mesplay and Sednam Moyowasifza-Curry.

Voters will also pick committee members to serve as delegates to their party's conventions this summer.

Massachusetts kicked off early voting during the November 2016 general election, when more than 1 million people cast ballots ahead of time. More than 44% of voters had participated in that year's presidential primary -- the third-largest turnout for a presidential primary since the early 1950s.

In the 2018 general election, more than 1 in 5 ballots were cast early.

This year's primaries will be significant, since Super Tuesday results are expected to be a do-or-die moment for several campaigns and could winnow the field considerably, especially among the Democrats.

Voters in New Hampshire cast ballots on Feb. 11 in the first-in-the-nation primary, where Sanders narrowly edged out Buttigieg. The Granite State vote followed the Iowa caucuses, which were marred by a failure of the reporting process. Sanders and Buttigieg were virtually tied in Iowa, which could be headed for a recount.

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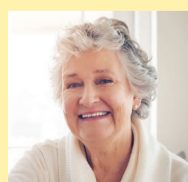
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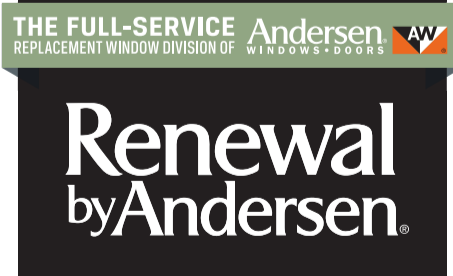
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TownsBeat



CARL RUSSO/Staff photos

Making it a true family dance party are Denia Taylor of Andover and her family, from left, daughter Cat Taylor, 7; nieces Sophia Rodriguez, 7, and Alleena Rios, 8; son Max Taylor, 8; and niece Lizzie Rios, 6.



Max Taylor, 8, of Andover dances solo at the party.



Bobur Nabiev, right, 8, of Andover leads other children as they take a break from dancing and make up games to play.

Dance, food and family fun

Moms, dads, and little ones of all ages cut a rug into the night at the Family Dance Party at the Andover/North Andover YMCA. Group Exercise Studio

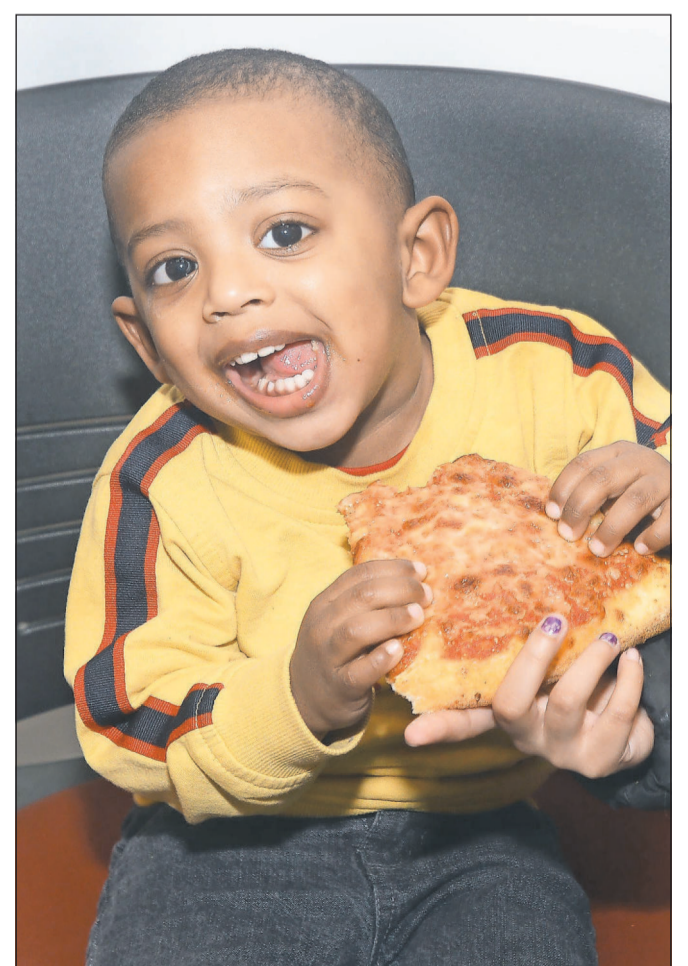
■ See more photos, Page 10.

3 was the place to be, as the crowd was treated to good eats and great tunes on Feb. 21.

Organizer of the evening said he was designed with one goal in mind — to ensure that all families feel welcome at the YMCA.



Enjoying a dance are, from left, Annabelle Groff, 9, of Andover, her sister Chloe, 5; and Isabella Melanson, 5, of North Andover.



Getting a little help holding his slice of pizza is Oseias Rosa, 2, of Lawrence.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photos

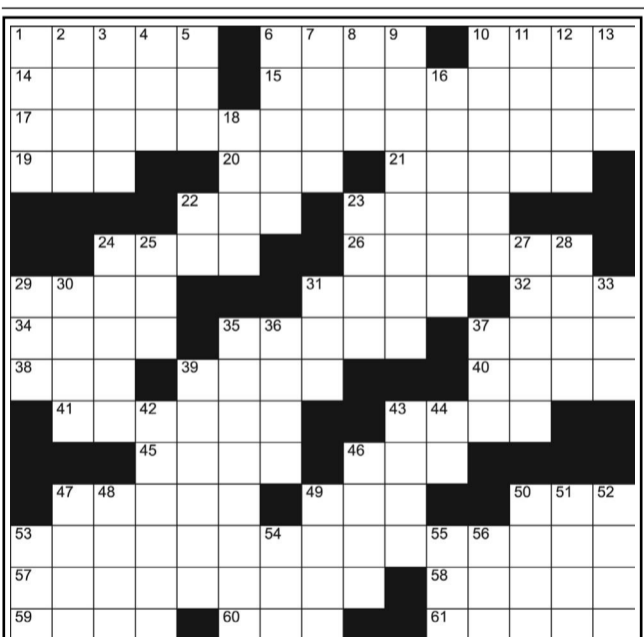
Masha Murodillaeva of Andover shows son, Humoyun Nabiev, 11 months old, a leftover Valentine's Day heart on a mirror.

A night for families to party

Local families took to the dance floor to show their moves and share in some good, clean fun. There were smiles and laughs galore Feb. 21 at the Family Dance Party at the Andover/North Andover YMCA.



Jesus Rosa, 5, of Lawrence is curious about the aroma of a wrist corsage worn by Isabella Melanson, 5, of North Andover.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Yields Manila hemp
6. A type of gin
10. Japanese ankle sock
14. Swiss city
15. Applied to
17. Achievements
19. Japanese title
20. Possesses
21. Belgian city
22. Child
23. Great delight
24. Petty quarrel
26. Gathered
29. Zoroastrian concept of holy fire
31. Path
32. Legendary hoops coach Riley
34. A citizen of Denmark
35. Flat

CLUES DOWN

1. Ancient Greek sophist
2. Famed composer
3. Spore-bearing fungi cells
4. Chief executive officer
5. Defunct Syrian political party
6. Thin wood
7. Polynesian garlands
8. Fluid replacement (abbr.)
9. Flammable hydrocarbon gas
10. Multi-leveled
11. Influential diarist
12. Gambles
13. Many subconsciousnesses
16. Current unit
18. Illumination unit
22. Tantalum
23. Steps leading down to a river
24. Kids love him
25. Before
27. Fencing swords
28. Mountain range in China
29. Payroll company
30. A way to pack together

Solution in Classified Section

37. Upper-class young women
38. Payment (abbr.)
39. Distort
40. Affirmative! (slang)
41. One who has a child
43. Without
45. Workplace safety agency
46. Political action committee
47. Period of plant and animal life
49. Swiss river
50. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
53. State of being kept secret
57. Hobbies
58. One-time Korean ruler
59. Sudden attack
60. Born of
61. Assists
31. Business designation
33. Thyroid-stimulating hormone (abbr.)
35. Forage fish
36. Greek temple pillars
37. Internet mgmt. company
39. Rouse oneself
42. In a way, covered
43. Elaborate silk garment
44. Cooling unit
46. Riley and O'Brien are two
47. ___ fide: genuine
48. Ancient Incan sun god
49. Poker stake
50. Trigonometric function
51. Interesting tidbit
52. Adieus
53. U.S. Treasury position
54. Midway between east and southeast
55. Doctors' group
56. Women's ___ movement

2/27/20

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENTS FEB. 28

Red Cross Blood Drive, 2 to 7 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 360 S. Main St., Andover. The American Red Cross has a critical type O blood shortage and urgently needs donors of all blood types – especially types O negative and O positive. Information and appointments: 1-800-RED CROSS or redcrossblood.org.

THROUGH MARCH 28

Elect to Connect 2020 with the new monthly MHL Family Book Club for families with children ages 5-9, at Andover's Memorial Hall Library, 2 N. Main St. Each month families will read a book together and meet to discuss the book with other families and do a related activity. Order and read the monthly selection together before the meeting on Saturday, March 28, at 2:30 p.m. This year's theme focuses on books and movies through the decades. March's decade is the 1920s, and the book is "The Velvetene Rabbit" by Margery Williams Bianco. Register at mhl.org/calendar. Questions? Email Beth Kerrigan at bkerrigan@mhl.org.

FEB. 29

Rare Disease Day painting fundraiser to benefit SDS Alliance, 2 to 5 p.m. at Painting with a Twist, 10 High St., North Andover. Shwachman-Diamond Syndrome is an inherited rare disease

that affects many parts of the body, particularly the bone marrow, pancreas, and skeletal system. There is currently no cure. No experience necessary to create a 16-by-20-inch canvas masterpiece in this instructor-led paint class. Refreshments available; participants may bring their own beverages. Participants who would like to bring young kids are asked to email host Eszter Hars at curesds@gmail.com. Cost: \$55; register online at sdsalliance.org/paint, or call 978-258-4204 or email studio306@paintingwithatwist.com.

North Parish Unitarian Evening of Art & Wine, 4 to 7 p.m. at North Parish Universalist Church of North Andover, 190 Academy Road, Old Center. Peruse the works of local artists while enjoying wine tasting, appetizers and desserts. Tickets: \$15 in advance; \$20 at the door. All proceeds benefit the North Parish Church and its mission. Information: North Parish, 978-687-7948.

FEB. 29, MARCH 21, APRIL 16

"Upstairs, Downstairs tour", 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Andover Center for History & Culture, 97 Main St. Tour through the 200-year-old Amos Blanchard House, including not just the period rooms, but also through the private "off-limits" areas, including third-floor rooms where collection items are stored. Learn about the history and architectural details of the house and stories of the Blanchard family and the other residents of the

house. Limited to 2-10 guests. Information: 978-475-2236, andoverhistoryandculture.org/upstairs-downstairs.

MARCH 1

Nomination deadline for YWCA Northeastern Massachusetts Tribute to Women, luncheon to take place from noon to 2 p.m. Thursday, May 14, at Andover Country Club, 60 Canterbury St. The YWCA is seeking women who have made a difference in their work and community. Send nominations to: YWCA, Attention: Jeanne Osborn, 38 Lawrence St., Lawrence, MA 01840 or go online to ywanema.org and follow the Tribute tab. Information: joborn@ywanema.org or call 978-687-0331, ext. 1045.

Zograf String Quartet, 2 p.m. at The Chapel at West Parish, 210 Lowell St., Andover. Celebrating the music of Beethoven, Bridge, and Brahms. Musicians are Mina Lavcheva, violin/viola; Viktoria Tcheretian, violin; Antoaneta Anguelova, violin/viola, and Ben Noyes, cello. Suggested donation: \$15.

MARCH 2

Office hours for State Rep. Frank Moran, D-17th Essex District, 7 to 8:45 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library, 2 N. Main St., Andover. Information: Aaron Soroa, 978-404-1311.

MARCH 3

Andover Garden Club to present advice on pruning woody plants, 10 a.m. at South Church, 41

Central St., Andover. Overseer of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and Lifetime Master Gardener Gretel Anspach will discuss the science behind when, how and why to prune woody plants and point out which plants can be pruned by a home gardener and which require the services of a professional. The public is invited to the meeting, which begins with social time and refreshments, followed by a brief business meeting and the program; a \$10 donation is requested. Information: Andovergardenclub.org.

Red Cross Blood Drive, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Eagle-Tribune, 100 Turnpike St., North Andover. The American Red Cross has a critical type O blood shortage and urgently needs donors of all blood types — especially types O negative and O positive. Information and appointments: 1-800-RED CROSS or redcrossblood.org.

MARCH 4

Friends' Concert Series: "Marching In!" in celebration of Women's History Month, 11 a.m. at Memorial Hall Library, 2 N. Main St., Andover. Andover resident Jessica McCormack, soprano, and pianist Cathy Meyer, minister of music at Andover's South Church, will discuss and perform selected works honoring Western classical female composers from the 17th century through today. Register at mhl.org/calendar.

See CALENDAR, Page 12

Townspeople



MIKE SPRINGER/Staff photos

Volunteer Steve Golden of Andover leads a group on a guided hike.

A winter walk, then a bite to eat

They stretched their legs and enjoyed a tasty bite to eat.

Residents young and old enjoyed a variety of guided hikes recently through the Ward Reservation in Andover, and warmed up next to a roaring fire with cocoa, s'mores and hot dogs.

The Trustees, a Boston-based land conservation organization, in partnership with the Andover Trails Committee and Friends of North Andover Trails, recently hosted the popular community event, Ward Winter Fun Day, at the reservation.



Barry Rich and Mary Iannuzzi of Devens look at a trail map.



Catherine Faulk of Andover treats her daughter Abigail, 2, to a hot dog.



Chatting with guests is Kate Bibeau, engagement manager with the Trustees of the Ward Reservation.



Ryan Olivastri of Andover roasts a marshmallow with his daughter Emma, 3.

Sports

TRY IT, YOU'LL LIKE IT!

Heidtke finally relents, becomes a sectional champion

By DAVE DYER
ddyer@eagletribune.com

Andover junior AJ Heidtke finally caved into the pressure, and he's glad he did.

And so is head wrestling coach Mike Bolduc and Heidtke's teammates on the mat.



AJ Heidtke

When he entered high school, Heidtke's older brother Payton, who is now playing football at Bryant University, was Andover wrestling's heavyweight. For two years, Payton, as well as various coaches and some of his friends, urged him to give wrestling a try.

But AJ would have none of it.

"I just didn't like it (wrestling) and I didn't want to try it," said Heidtke. "I didn't even go to his matches — I wanted nothing to do with it."

Until this year.

"I just decided to do it because my friends were doing it and wanted me on the team," said Heidtke. "Everyone convinced me — my friends, my father, my brother. My brother was so happy when I started."

It didn't take long for everyone to be happy with Heidtke's decision to join the team, including himself.



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Andover's AJ Heidtke, right, faces Tewksbury standout Dylan Chandler in a dual meet earlier in the year.

"Right away, I enjoyed it, even the practices," said the 270-pound Heidtke, who is at the same weight class as his brother. "The guys on the team are great and coach (Mike) Bolduc and coach (Ken) Najem are awesome."

Heidtke liked it even more once the meets began because he had some success almost from the start, which is rarely the case for a first-year wrestler.

What's more, as he learned more technique, he's gradually

gotten better, capping off his improvement by becoming the Division 1 North heavyweight champion two weeks ago by defeating Haverhill veteran Jay Levy in the finals. That improved his record to an impressive 28-8.

Heidtke's season has been better than Bolduc anticipated, but he did see some encouraging signs early on.

"AJ's a lot more aggressive than Payton was and we knew he was athletic," said Bolduc. "And because he was new to

the sport, he wasn't set in his ways. He would pick things up and do them the right way.

"He made a lot of mistakes early with positioning and balance but they're so much better now."

Heidtke improved in both areas over Christmas vacation when brother Payton came to Andover's practices and worked with him, and his improvement can be measured by his matches with Levy.

The Hillie senior pinned him early in the season at the

Whitman-Hanson Tournament, but Heidtke has won the last two matchups between them.

Still, Heidtke — who now wishes he had started wrestling as a freshman — knows that he's got plenty more to work on.

"The biggest thing I need to work on is my wrestling IQ, knowing what to do in certain situations," he said. "And I have to work on takedowns. I'm still a little hesitant to try them."

An offensive lineman for the Warriors, who also made 18 tackles on defense, Heidtke still considers football his top priority, but wrestling is growing on him and he sees how the two sports feed off each other.

What's more, he's even giving consideration to doing some off-season wrestling.

Because wrestling is so new to him, Heidtke didn't enter the season with high expectations or goals. But he did have one goal.

"I just wanted to be better at wrestling than my brother," he said.

Well, mission accomplished, at least mostly, because Payton never did win a sectional title. But there's still work. Over the weekend, he placed seventh at the Division 1 state meet at Methuen.

"He (Payton) placed eighth at state, so I did place better than that," said Heidtke.

Maita wins first ever Andover state wrestling title

WRESTLING

Elias Maita had a momentous Saturday, earning a tough-won state title.

The 160-pound Division 1 crown was history making as the Andover senior became the first state wrestling champion in school history.

"That's what I've been chasing all year," said Maita, who ran his record to 42-1. "I've been working hard for that all year. It was my goal all year to win a state championship, and I did it. So, I'm pretty happy."

Maita rode a strong third period to a 6-4 decision and claimed his third two-point victory of the year and second in two weeks over Achilles Gikas of St. John's Prep. Maita, who was seventh a year ago, pinned each of his first three opponents in a combined 3:38 to set up his rematch with Gikas.

"It was really tough to beat him a third time," Maita said. "That kid is good. He's real strong and a good wrestler. After the Woburn tournament when I beat Gikas (in overtime) for the first time, I was pretty confident in my chances (to win a title), and today, I got a chance to feel everybody out, so I'm pretty confident going into All-States. Hopefully, I can do well there, too."

Andover finished 14th with 56.5 points, continuing a three-year upward trend that began with an eight-point finish in 2018 and grew to 40 points last year.

"(Maita is) the hardest worker in the mat room, and that's been told to us by captains since he was a sophomore," Andover coach Mike Bolduc said. "He's a fantastic



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Andover's Elias Maita, left, beat St. John's Prep's Achilles Gikason on his way to winning the Division 1 state championship at 160 pounds last week. He is the first Golden Warrior to win a title in program history.

student, too. You saw him after he won a state championship — he's a very humble kid who knew he was in a battle."

playing in the state tournament," said Rucker. "But we wish we were playing someone outside of our league."

the Division 1 North tournament as the No. 6 seed, and were scheduled to open play on Monday against No. 11 Arlington (12-8).

BOYS BASKETBALL

Shahtanian red hot

Richie Shahtanian drained six 3-pointers on his way to 18 points as Andover edged Belmont 73-71 last Monday. Kyle Rucker continued on his torrid pace with a game-high 27 points and Aidan Cammann added 10 points for the winners.

The Golden Warriors (13-7) were named the No. 10 seed in the Division 1 North tournament, and were scheduled to play MVC foe, No. 7 Lawrence (15-6) on Tuesday. "We're excited to be

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Shaw, Krekorian score big

Tatum Shaw scored 17 points and Anna Foley added 11 points as Andover topped Lynn English 44-38 last Monday.

Shea Krekorian scored a team-high 16 points, but Andover fell to Woburn 57-56 last Wednesday. Tatum Shaw and Anna Foley each scored 15 points and Brooke Hardock added 11 points for the Warriors. Andover (14-6) entered

GIRLS TRACK

Parrott places in hurdles

Jodi Parrott placed seventh in the 55-meter hurdles (8.73) and was 14th in the long jump (16-9) to pace Andover at Mass. indoor All-States on Friday. Molly Kiley added an eighth in the 2-mile (11:19.15) for the Warriors.

BOYS TRACK

Makiej takes seventh

Michael Makiej placed in a tie for seventh in the high jump with a 6-4 to lead Andover at Mass. indoor All-States on Friday.

BOYS HOCKEY

Kobelski scores

Tim Kobelski scored Andover's goal in a 1-1 tie with St. John's Shrewsbury last Wednesday. Jake Brezner made 26 saves for the Golden Warriors.

The No. 13 Golden Warriors (9-9-2) were scheduled to open the Division 1 North tournament against No. 4 Belmont (10-5-5) on Wednesday (7 p.m.) in Woburn. The Warriors are led by Stephen Ingram (19 goals).

"It took the beginning of the season for the players to get used to me, and me to get used to them," said first year head coach Kevin Drew, whose Golden Warriors are 5-1-2 in their last six. "We feel good going into the tournament after really coming together as a team."

GIRLS HOCKEY

Warriors fall to No. 1

Kalli Archambault and Lauren Adams each scored a goal, but Andover fell to Haverhill/Pentucket/North

Andover, the undefeated No. 1 team in the state last Wednesday.

Lillian Jagger made 18 saves for the Golden Warriors.

Freshman Maggie Mullins made 23 saves in her first career start, but Andover fell to Reading 1-0 last Thursday.

Andover (10-6-4) is the No. 15 seed in Division 1, and was set to open play on Wednesday against No. 18 Barnstable (10-7-3).

The Golden Warriors are led by high-scoring Lauren Adams (16 goals) and senior winger Kate Gemmill (9 goals).

"We had a really great regular season," said first-year head coach Tyler Vigue.

"Lucky for us, our strength of schedule is the third hardest in the state. We've played playoff teams throughout the season, so the postseason is nothing new. As long as we commit to what's in front of us, we'll be fine," Vigue said.

Hockey champs

The Andover 8th grade hockey team won its third straight middle school championship in the Marden Hockey League's top Division. The Golden Warriors went 9-1-1 over the 2019-20 season, and are 30-3-4 over the past three seasons.

The team is, bottom row from left, Mason Lomasney, Brian Pierni, Kolin Belliveau, Brendan Murnane, Nate Hemman, Luke Rinklin, John Croll and Peter Elliott; Back row, from left, Tejas Prakash, Brooklynn Pizzimenti, Caleb Wooster, Oscar Gress, Nolan Marsters, Robert Hauser, Peter McLaughlin, Zanda Iannessa, Ryan Ehr Gott, Jacob Duval, Andrew Walles and coach Vic Pierni



Feds pump more money into public housing

Some Valley communities benefit, but Andover left out

By CHRISTIAN M. WADE
Staff Writer

Dozens of public housing authorities in the Merrimack Valley and elsewhere in Massachusetts are getting a fresh infusion of federal money to spruce up their properties and modernize aging infrastructure.

Andover, however, is not among them.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development says Massachusetts cities and towns will get \$88 million in grants this fiscal year as part of its latest round of local funding.

While Andover is left out of the mix, some North of Boston communities will see a slight increase from the previous year's round of capital spending.

Lawrence will get more than \$2.8 million while Beverly will get \$351,141. Gloucester will receive \$211,707 and Newburyport will get \$83,457, according to the federal agency.

The Boston Housing Authority is getting nearly \$29 million, the largest chunk of the Massachusetts grant funding.

The funding is part of \$2.7 billion being awarded nationally.

HUD New England Regional Administrator David Tille said the grants will help communities "provide the best housing possible for their residents."

Housing authorities can use the money for large-scale improvements such as new roofs or making energy-efficient upgrades to replace old plumbing and electrical systems.

David Houlden, executive director of Gloucester's Housing Authority, said the money is crucial for improving the city's federally backed housing units and to make the properties more livable.

"We couldn't maintain our federal housing if it wasn't

for this funding," he said. "This is basically a lifeline to keep our properties in a good state for future generations."

Like most communities with public housing, Gloucester also receives state housing funds and grants, and it works with local nonprofits to expand low-income housing options.

The city plans to use a portion of its HUD money to upgrade electrical systems and make other improvements at the 72-unit Willowood Gardens development, Houlden said.

The need for affordable housing has steadily increased, he said, and most of the state's public housing authorities are wrestling with long wait lists.

"I've never seen a demand like what we've seen in the past three years," said Houlden, who has worked in the field for four decades. "Our waiting lists have doubled."

The demand has been exacerbated by skyrocketing housing costs and rising rents that made Massachusetts one of the most expensive markets in the country.

Despite increased HUD funding, the Trump administration wants to eliminate affordable housing programs and shift the funding responsibility to state and local governments.

President Donald Trump's proposed 2021 budget recommends eliminating the community development block grant, which supports affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families.

It also proposes slashing annual contributions to two affordable housing programs — the Housing Trust Fund and Capital Magnet Fund. Both are currently funded through money the federal government collects from home mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

HUD previously proposed replacing the block grant with the opportunity zone program, which Congress



FILE PHOTO

Many Massachusetts communities are getting federal money for public housing repairs, but Andover is not among them.

passed in 2017 as part of the tax reform bill, but Congress rejected the move.

These communities are getting money, according to federal officials:

North Andover Housing Authority — \$217,543	Lynn Housing Authority — \$1,253,464	Beverly Housing Authority — \$351,141
Methuen Housing Authority — \$104,563	Gloucester Housing Authority — \$211,707	Salem Housing Authority — \$78,028
Lawrence Housing Authority — \$2,843,078	Newburyport Housing Authority — \$83,457	Danvers Housing Authority — \$186,314

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Morning rain	Colder	Mostly sunny	Plenty of sun	Becoming cloudy	Overcast and milder	A chance of rain
High: 51° Low: 27°	High: 36° Low: 24°	High: 35° Low: 19°	High: 33° Low: 18°	High: 37° Low: 26°	High: 47° Low: 39°	High: 53° Low: 41°

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