

**DAN KOH
DECIDES NOT
TO MAKE BID
FOR CONGRESS**
PAGE 3



**A LOCAL DJ
GIVES
PEOPLE
A REASON
TO DANCE**
PAGE 7



**EX-ANDOVER
STAR HELPS
MAINE'S
FISHING
INDUSTRY**
PAGE 11

OUR 130TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

Issue No. 28

MAY 14, 2020

\$1.00

COVID loan fraud suspect has history of such crimes

By JILL HARMACINSKI
Staff Writer

Andover man charged with trying to obtain \$500,000

The Andover man charged with fraudulently filing for more than \$500,000 in forgivable federal loans during the COVID-19 pandemic complained to an undercover

agent about big businesses obtaining the loans, according to an affidavit.

David A. Staveley, who previously used the name Kurt D. Sanborn, was charged last

week with conspiracy and bank fraud. He is accused of lying about having several restaurants and dozens of employees in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

"In an ironic twist, (Staveley) complained about reports of large businesses being able to obtain (Small Business Association) loans under the Paycheck

Protection Program saying that 'the whole thing has become a little bit of a sham,'" according to an affidavit filed by FBI Special Agent Christine Grady.

Federal court records show that in 2018 Staveley changed his name from Kurt Sanborn "citing religious reasons."

In December 2015, Kurt Sanborn, then 48, formerly of Dracut, was sentenced to 27 months in federal prison in a See **SUSPECT**, Page 2



TERRY DATE/Staff photo

Ben Kellman, left, and Steve Golden look like a couple hombres from the Old West as they maintain social distance on their return from a turtle-watching expedition at Poms Pond in Andover on Wednesday.

Walk, paddle, and ride – safely

TERRY DATE
Staff Writer

On a recent morning two Andover friends embarked on a search-and-enjoy mission looking for one of the world's more ornery critters: snapping turtles.

One friend mentioned, as they walked the road at Recreation Park, how this was the first day people had to wear masks in public.

"Even if you are outside?" the other fellow asked last Wednesday.

He tightened a string on his face covering. "Okay, if it's the law," he continued.

They reached the road's end and entered a path to Poms Pond.

Fifteen minutes earlier, just above the road at a picnic table, Andover's health director, Tom Carbone, talked through a mask about this very topic, as well as how to think about coronavirus safety in the great outdoors.

The governor's mask order requires people to cover their nose and mouth in public when they're unable to keep 6 feet between them.

Whether you walk, paddle or ride, think about the probability – not possibility – of infection, said Carbone.

Andover's 32 square miles team with open space to enjoy land,



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Tom Carbone, Andover director of public health, demonstrates wearing a mask and observing social distancing when outdoors in the time of the coronavirus at Recreation Park in Andover.

Andover's 32 square miles team with open space to enjoy land, water and road activities.

water and road activities.

Ultimately, good judgement is key, he said. This morning, en route to Recreation Park, Carbone passed five walkers in semi-rural settings. Four of them wore no mask.

Their risk of infection looked highly improbable, alone and with ample opportunity to maintain

social distance if they came upon another walker or a bicyclist or runner.

Had people been walking in a group, they might have been advised to wear masks, said the director.

Carbone recently stopped running. Studies indicate people who exert themselves may emit greater viral loads. The viral stream extends to surprising lengths. Runners, like others, may not know if they are infected.

"I just felt I owed it to people to not be doing that any more, running," said Carbone, who now See **OUTDOORS**, Page 2

Vispoli objects to proposed tax hike

Town manager says money from 4.6 increase will be needed

By PAUL TENNANT
Staff Writer

estimated at \$150 million.

Last June, the Select Board voted 4-1 to instruct Town Manager Andrew Flanagan to try to build a budget that would require no more than a 3.65% increase in the real estate tax rate.

Much more recently, however, Flanagan proposed a budget that calls for a 4.6% tax hike. Flanagan said the additional money will go toward the town's unfunded pension liabilities, which he

Despite the original instructions to Flanagan, the Select Board voted 4-1 on March 14 to support his recommendation. The annual Town Meeting, originally scheduled for April 27 and now tentatively postponed until June 23 due to the coronavirus threat, will have the final word.

The lone dissenter, Alex Vispoli, said the board should have stuck with the 3.65% limit, especially in See **TAXES**, Page 2

Governor outlines Mass. process for restarting economy

By CHRISTIAN M. WADE
Statehouse Reporter

Gov. Charlie Baker outlined a road map this week for recovering from the economic pain of the coronavirus pandemic, laying out a step-by-step approach to restoring business activity.

Businesses in an array of industries remain closed under executive orders, but Baker said the state could begin gradually easing those restrictions as soon as next Tuesday, when they are set to expire.

He cautioned that the pace of reopening will depend on public health data. "The goal of the reopening

plan is to methodically allow certain businesses, services and activities to resume while protecting public health and limiting a possible resurgence of new COVID-19 cases," Baker told reporters. "We have to ensure that when we take one step forward we don't take two steps back."

Baker said there have been "positive developments" in the data on COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations, but the state isn't out of the woods yet.

As of Monday, there were 78,462 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Massachusetts and 5,108 deaths.

Baker said the state needs See **ECONOMY**, Page 2

COLORFUL EFFORT

'The flowers were just amazing'

By JILL HARMACINSKI
Staff Writer

In a very dark time in medicine, a group of volunteers provided a bright spot for dozens of local nurses last week.

Beautiful vases of fresh

flowers and candy lollipops were given to the nurses courtesy of an effort organized by the Islamic Center of Andover, founded by Faisal Ahmed.

"The flowers were just amazing," said Melissa See **FLOWERS**, Page 4



Faisal Ahmed, founder of the Andover Islamic Center, arranges fresh flowers in vases to be given to local nurses during Nurse Appreciation Week from May 6 to 12. Courtesy photo

INDEX

Classified.....	9
Crossword.....	7
Editorial.....	6
Letters.....	6
Obituaries.....	4
Police Log.....	4
Sports.....	11
Townspeople.....	7



7 97232 01810 0

Peggy Patenaude, REALTOR
978.804.0811
Peggy@JustCallPeggy.com

LOOKING FOR AN EXPERIENCED REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL YOU CAN TRUST?

CALL PEGGY PATENAUDE. OUR TEAM CAN HELP YOU BUY OR SELL A HOME, SAFELY.

The Peggy Patenaude Team

WILLIAM RAVEIS REAL ESTATE
| RAVEIS.COM |
12 BARTLET STREET | ANDOVER | MA | 01810

2019 Boston Top Real Estate Producers

TAXES

Continued from Page 1

view of the economic toll the coronavirus pandemic has taken.

“At the end of the day the reality is the Select Board approved, with my objection, a budget that will impose a punishing 4.6% tax increase to Andover residents and businesses starting July 1. Now given the disastrous effects of the pandemic this increase is unconscionable,” Vispoli said.

While the tax rate will rise by 4.6%, the average real estate tax bill will actually be \$40 less in the next fiscal year, Flanagan said. The higher tax rate will enable the town to put an extra \$1.7 million toward the unfunded pension liabilities, he said.

The increased value of new pipes installed by Columbia Gas will bring additional money to the town, according to Flanagan.

The Finance Committee unanimously supported Flanagan’s plan in March.

“By taking this action now, it saves the taxpayer money in the long run,” Flanagan said. While the Select Board voted last June to keep taxes within a 3.65% limit, members were agreeable to going beyond that figure if the addition went toward reducing the unfunded pension liability, he said.

Allotting additional money toward unfunded liabilities is consistent with the goals for the town manager, according to Laura Gregory, chairwoman of the Select Board.

Her colleague Annie Gilbert expressed a similar view.

“The goal the Select

“By taking this action now, it saves the taxpayer money in the long run.”

**Town Manager
Andrew Flanagan**

Board voted on last June was very clear that a 3.65% increase could be exceeded if the extra funding was used to address Andover’s greatest financial challenge: unfunded pension liabilities,” Gilbert said. “The town manager’s proposed budget, which we approved in March, is consistent with this goal, and the average tax bill will still be roughly \$40 less than what was originally projected when we set the goal in June. The alternative to this would create higher annual increases to the taxpayer in future years.”

The pandemic is forcing the town to modify the proposed budget.

“The town manager is currently preparing a revised budget to reflect anticipated decreases in state aid and local receipts. However, the goal is for the changes to not adversely impact taxpayers,” Gregory said.

Select Board member Chris Huntress said the 3.65% figure was based on the average of the last 10 years of tax increases.

“That was a goal, but we didn’t set it as a mandate,” he said. He also said the town needs to take a more aggressive approach to paying down the unfunded pension liabilities.

“We are on the hook for these liabilities,” Select Board member Dan Koh said. Koh was the sole dissenter in the June 2019 vote in favor of limiting the tax increase to 3.65%. He said the “arbitrary cap” could hurt the town’s ability to deal with climate change and other problems.



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Tom Carbone, Andover director of public health, recommends wearing a mask and observing social distancing when outdoors in the time of the coronavirus.



TERRY DATE/Staff photo

The gate is closed at the entrance to Poms Pond at Recreation Park in Andover. Town officials await guidance from the state before deciding on swimming regulations for the summer in this year of the coronavirus.

OUTDOORS

Continued from Page 1

walks daily.

In the weeks to come, The Eagle-Tribune will accompany hikers, people engaged in water activities and cyclists, to report healthy practices for each.

The town has yet to reach a decision on rules for swimming at public beaches or the more than 20 pools it regulates. It awaits guidance from the state.

Meanwhile, on Wednesday, over about 60 minutes, visitors were enjoying Recreation Park and Poms Pond.

They came to walk dogs, fish, skateboard, bicycle and spy turtles. Two shaggy dogs dove into the pond. The fishermen got skunked. And the turtle seekers – Ben Kellman and Steve Golden – saw no snappers.

Have a question on outdoors safety? Send it to Terry Date, 603-978-2373, or tdate@eagletribune.com.

ECONOMY

Continued from Page 1

to see a drop in cases and deaths for at least 14 days before a stay-at-home advisory and business restrictions are lifted.

The guidelines he rolled out Monday make clear that a return of activity in one of the hardest hit states in the country will be drawn out over months, and that social distancing measures and other controls will remain in place for the foreseeable future.

Each phase of the reopening plan could a last a month, or longer, depending on progress in reducing the number of COVID-19 cases.

During the first phase, the state would allow “limited industries” to reopen

for business with “severe restrictions” to protect workers and customers.

A second phase would allow more businesses to reopen “with restrictions and capacity limits,” while a third would let higher-risk companies resume operations.

The fourth and final phase, which the Baker administration called “the new normal,” would require the widespread availability of a COVID-19 vaccine.

“The goal of the reopening plan is to methodically allow certain businesses, services and activities to resume while protecting public health and limiting a possible resurgence of new COVID-19 cases.”

Gov. Charlie Baker

A 17-member advisory board led by Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito will issue a report next week outlining which businesses can initially reopen during each phase.

Any businesses that reopen would need to provide masks and other protective gear, install signage about preventing spread of the virus and require customers to practice strict social distancing by staying 6 feet apart.

Employees must also

practice good hygiene and allow employers to monitor their temperatures.

Business groups welcomed the guidance and said they hope the first phase will get underway next Tuesday, when the state’s restrictions are set to expire.

“Because if it is delayed much longer, many will run out of cash, and they hope not to have to close their doors forever,” said Christopher Carozzi, Massachusetts state director of the National Federation of Independent Businesses. “Small businesses are eager to reopen and help lead the way to economic recovery.”

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

Andover Townsman
 Established 1887
 ISSN 1524-1432
 USPS 025-440
 Published Thursdays by North of Boston Media Group
 33 Chestnut St.
 Andover, MA
 978-475-7000
 Ad fax 978-475-5731 • News fax 978-470-2819
 E-mail: townsman@andovertownsmen.com
 Web: andovertownsmen.com
 Periodical postage paid at Andover, MA, and additional mailing office.
 Postmaster: Send address changes to Andover Townsman,
 100 Turnpike St., North Andover, MA 01845
 Subscription - One year, \$52; two years \$90
 College subscription - One college year, \$35
ADVERTISING DEADLINES
 Advertising copy must be in the office by Monday at 5 p.m.
 Camera-ready advertising copy is due by Tuesday at noon.
 No cancellations honored after these deadlines.

FERRIS TREE SERVICE inc.
 ANDOVER, MA
 A Supporter of Run for our Troops 5K Run/Walk
 Family Owned and Operated Since 1971
 Tree Removal, Pruning and Stump Grinding
 Call For A Free Estimate
 978-685-8789
 www.ferristreeservice.com

STONE YARD
 WHOLESALE To The Public
 Stoneyard.net

Paving Bricks & Retaining Walls
 Decorative Landscape Stone Many Colors
 Loam - Bark Mulch - Sand - Crushed Stone - Gravel

Huge Hardscape & Stone Supplier

- River Stone
- Natural Round Stone
- Red Stone
- White Marble
- Black & Green Stone
- Yellow Round Stone
- Multi-Tan Natural Stone
- Granite Stone & More
- Base Pack & Sand
- Crushed Stone
- Cobblestones
- Granite Steps
- Granite Mailbox Post
- Granite Lamp Post
- Fieldstone, Wall Stone
- Flagstone (Many Types)
- Veneer Stone (Many Types)
- Boulders (Many Types)
- Fire Pits & Kitchens
- Brick, Blocks, Cement

TECHO-BLOC **ALLAN BLOCK** **KEYSTONE** **Cambridge pavingstones**
 (603) 898-5001 • 37 Lowell Rd., Rte-38 Salem NH
Open 6 Days Monday - Friday 8:00- 4:30
 We Deliver • Low Rate Saturday 8:00-3:00

SUSPECT

Continued from Page 1

bank fraud case in Concord, New Hampshire, according to records.

Also, Sanborn was previously charged with harassing a woman he was dating in Wayland.

Additionally he pleaded guilty to stealing \$284,000 from Diamond Action Inc., the company that owns the Lowell Spinners baseball team, according to published reports.

Staveley also used the

name of his brother, Gregg Sanborn, according to the federal court records. Gregg Sanborn told an IRS agent he gave Staveley consent to use his name.

“... This was done so that his brother could purchase and run the restaurant without having to disclose his criminal history,” according to Grady’s affidavit.

On Tuesday, Staveley and another businessman, David Butziger, 51, of Warwick, Rhode Island, were the “first in the nation” to be charged with SBA loan crimes, the Department of

Justice announced.

Stanley and Butziger were charged with “conspiring to seek forgivable loans guaranteed by the SBA, claiming to have dozens of employees earning wages at four different business entities when, in fact, there were no employees working for any of the businesses,” authorities said.

Staveley made an initial appearance before U.S. Magistrate Judge Lincoln Almond on Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Providence, Rhode Island.

He was released on an

unsecured bond of \$10,000 and his travel is restricted to the states of Massachusetts or Rhode Island for court purposes or meetings with his attorney. Staveley is also not allowed to obtain a passport or other travel documents while the case is pending, Almond ordered.

Per court order, Staveley must now live in Dracut with a person whose name was redacted in federal court records.

While he was deemed financial unable to hire a private attorney and appointed a public defender, Staveley was also ordered to undergo mental health treatment at his own cost, according to court documents.

Staveley is also not allowed to carry a firearm or other weapon.

If convicted on the federal fraud charges, he faces a maximum sentences of five to 30 years in federal prison and fines of \$250,000, according to court records.

Dr. Owen Reynolds and Rhonda Reynolds, NP
 Announce Their Retirement From
 Northeast Dermatology Associates (NEDA).

We want to thank all of the wonderful people of the Merrimack Valley whom we have had the great pleasure of treating for the last 28 years as well as the fantastic staff we’ve worked with. Thanks also to the numerous medical providers who have entrusted their patients to our care. We highly recommend that our patients continue to receive their care with any of the talented providers at NEDA’S offices in MA, NH and ME.

Steeplechase BUILDERS Inc.
 “The Pursuit of Excellence”
 Residential Design
 Custom Homes
 Additions
 Renovations
 Home Maintenance
 (978) 688-5036
 www.steeplechasebuilders.com

Koh will not run for Congress

By GENEVIEVE DINATALE
Staff Writer



Dan Koh

Selectman Dan Koh has decided not to run for Congress again in 2020.

"I decided not to because I think defeating the coronavirus and Trump are the biggest priorities for the year," he said.

Koh, who is the former chief of staff for Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, attempted to fill the void left by retiring Congresswoman Nikki Tsongas in 2018, but lost the 3rd Congressional Democratic race to Lori Trahan by 145 votes after a recount.

Months later, Koh ran for a seat on Andover's Select Board and won. He's been

on the Select Board for over a year now.

Koh says he's going to work closely with those who were on his congressional campaign, as well as his friends and family to do everything in his power to get Trump out of office.

"I think that we as Democrats need to focus on making sure that we don't have four more years of Donald Trump," he said. "So, I think it's important that we all, not just Democrats, but all of us as voters, get involved in this election, calling friends, knocking on doors

if we are allowed to, and doing anything else to get as many people to the polls as possible."

In addition to being on the Select Board, Koh is currently the chief operating officer of HqO, a software company in Boston. He lives on Windemere Drive with his wife, Amy Sennett, who is the general counsel of Catalant Technologies, also a software firm. The couple are expecting a baby girl this July.

And while he may not be running for office this year, Koh says he plans on re-entering the political arena in time.

"I absolutely hope to," Koh said.

Advocates seek expanded sick time for frontline workers

By CHRISTIAN WADE
Staff Writer

Rep. Nguyen one of bill's sponsors

Labor advocates are pushing to expand a voter-approved paid sick leave law to give frontline workers more time off during the COVID-19 outbreak.

The law, which went into effect in 2015, requires Massachusetts businesses with more than 11 workers to provide 40 hours of paid sick leave a year. Businesses with 10 or fewer employees must provide 40 hours of unpaid sick leave a year.

Advocates say the time off isn't sufficient, especially with self-quarantine rules that force people stay home at least 14 days if they believe they're sick.

A proposal gaining momentum on Beacon Hill would add another 10 work days, or 80 hours, of paid sick time to the law for use during the pandemic.

Backed by more than 100 lawmakers, the bipartisan proposal would apply to workers at private companies with more than 500 employees and those working at health care or nursing facilities that aren't

covered by a new federal paid sick leave law.

"We're talking about health care, nursing home and grocery store workers on the front lines of the battle against this virus who lack the ability to stay home with pay if they are sick," said Rep. Tram Nguyen, D-Andover, one of the bill's co-sponsors. "We need to do more to support these people."

The effort is being led by Raise Up Massachusetts, a coalition of labor, social justice and faith groups that put the sick leave question on the November 2014 ballot.

"Anyone who feels sick or may have been exposed to COVID-19 should be able to stay home and avoid exposing others to the virus," said Deb Fastino, the group's co-chair. "But many workers can't miss work to care for themselves or their family because they'd lose the pay they need to make ends meet."

Under the proposal, those who request time off would be paid by their employers at their regular rate, up to a maximum of \$850 per week. Employers would be

reimbursed by the state. The additional 10 hours of sick leave could only be used during the current or future states of emergency.

The benefits would be available to employees if they can't work because they're been infected, placed under a quarantine order, have COVID-19 symptoms and are awaiting test results, or have to care for a family member.

ESTATE PLANS

Protect Your Family
Protect Your Assets
Protect Yourself

Childrens' Trusts
Revocable Trusts
Medicaid Plans

PROBATE COURT
FAMILY WILL ISSUES

ATTORNEY
PETER J. CARUSO
(978) 475-2200

68 MAIN ST., ANDOVER, MA
pcaruso@carusoandcaruso.com

Please recycle this newspaper.

Be Independent for Life

Nichols Village

AN ACTIVE ADULT COMMUNITY

CALL 978-372-3930

One Nichols Way, Groveland, MA 01834
Nichols-Village.com

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
TEACHING HOSPITAL

You deserve the first name in cancer care. Right where you live.

Dana-Farber is here in Merrimack Valley.

Cancer is hard. But it can be a little easier with the right care close to your home and support system. Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, New England's top-rated cancer center, has a new, state-of-the-art cancer center in Merrimack Valley. So there's no reason to settle for anything less than the latest therapies, clinical trials and the expertise of our specialists. Take advantage of the first name in cancer care right where you live. **What we do here changes lives everywhereSM**

BEST HOSPITALS USNews NATIONAL CARES 2019-20

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

5 Branch St, Methuen, MA • 978-620-2020
dana-farber.org/merrimackvalley

5/1 ADJUSTABLE RATE RESIDENTIAL JUMBO MORTGAGE

2.750% **2.916%**
INTEREST RATE 30 YEAR APR

We want to help you make the most of your money. With our Jumbo Mortgage, you can get a competitive refinance rate which may lower your monthly payment. Apply now to take advantage of this limited time offer.

5/1 ADJUSTABLE RATE MORTGAGE - 30 YEAR TERM	RATE	POINTS	APR	PRINCIPAL & INTEREST PER \$1,000 BORROWED
INITIAL RATE	2.750%	0	2.916%	60 PAYMENTS OF \$4.08
FULLY INDEXED RATE	3.000%	0	2.916%	300 PAYMENTS OF \$4.20

Learn more at **EVERETT BANK.COM/JUMBOARM**

FOR ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CALL THE HOME LOAN CENTER 617-387-1110

The payments above do not include taxes and insurance. If you request or are required to establish an escrow, your payment will be greater.

All rates on Adjustable Rate Mortgages are subject to increase after consummation of the loan. Subject to credit approval. Minimum loan amount is \$510,401. APR effective April 24, 2020 and subject to change without notice. Annual Percentage Rate (APR) calculation assumes a \$550,000 loan with a 80% loan to value. Available for owner-occupied, primary residence, single family or condominium units. Must be a new loan to the bank and used to purchase or refinance (80% maximum LTV). Other terms and conditions may apply.

**EVERETT - 419 BROADWAY
LYNNFIELD - 771 SALEM STREET**

EverettBank
RIGHT BY YOU

Member FDIC
Member DIF
NMLS #443050



FILE PHOTO

Alex Zeng plays the tuba he made out of PVC pipe and other materials as school Superintendent Shelley Berman listens. Zeng was one of many Andover High seniors who displayed and discussed their projects at last year's Capstone Program, which was held at the Cormier Youth Center. This year, due to COVID-19, the program will be held virtually May 18 and May 19.

AHS seniors to present virtual Capstone projects

BY BILL KIRK
Staff Writer

It will be virtually impossible to admire the capstone projects created by high school seniors at the Andover Youth Center, as in years past.

But thanks to the magic of technology in the era of the coronavirus, it will be possible to view these remarkable creations virtually.

Starting next Monday at 6 p.m., the Andover High School Senior Capstone Program goes live -- on the web.

By going to the site: <https://sites.google.com/k12.andoverma.us/ahscapstone/home>, viewers can click on one of two live 6 p.m. presentations, one of two 7 p.m. presentations, and the 8 p.m. presentation.

The following day, the schedule is repeated, with two more presentations at 6, two more at 7, and a final one at 8 p.m.

The way the technology works, members of the public will be able to watch and participate as live panels of students present overviews of their year-long research projects and take questions from viewers.

Each student will give a five-minute "ignite" presentation and will then take questions from the viewing audience. Topics are drawn from a wide variety of fields including health care, the arts, education, sustainability, and politics.

Organizers said that with COVID-19 restrictions in place, it was necessary to take the show online.

"It has been heartbreaking for many Capstone students to realize that they are not going to have those celebratory moments of accomplishment that the annual showcase and The

Groups team up to provide meals to healthcare workers

Andover Cares, The Knights of Columbus, and other local civic organizations have come together to form Fuel The Fight, an initiative to provide a catered breakfast, lunch, and dinner for healthcare workers at Lawrence General and Holy Family Hospitals.

According to the Eventbrite announcement of Fuel The Fight, signed by the organization's directors, "75% of all (tax deductible) donations for Fuel The Fight made through Andover Cares will support feeding healthcare workers providing front-line support for citizens in our region. Any remaining donations will support this, or other local causes related to health and wellness in our community, which Andover Cares sponsors."

The goal of this fundraising campaign is twofold. It's designed not only to help healthcare workers, but the participating restaurants that are preparing the food for them.

If you would like to donate go to fuelthefight.eventbrite.com.

IF YOU GO

What: Andover High School Senior Capstone Program
Where: <https://sites.google.com/k12.andoverma.us/ahscapstone/home>
Who: AHS seniors present overviews of year-long research projects.
When: Monday, May 18 and Tuesday, May 19, 6-9 p.m.
Note: Links to full-length student talks will also be provided.

CAPS Talks bring at the end of an intense year," presented their culminating projects at the AHS Senior Showcase, a popular annual event hosted by the Andover Coalition for Education that draws hundreds of community members to the Cormier Youth Center to engage with students and their work.

The Andover High School Capstone Program is an advanced research class open to high school seniors. Capstone students spend the year conducting an original investigation into a question of their choice, developing their project through field research, a formal inquiry paper, a web-based portfolio, and a community presentation.

For the past three years, Capstone Students have

Andover hires new COO for public school system

Nembirkow leaving CFO job with Greenfield schools

BY GENEVIEVE DiNATALE
gdnatale@andovertownsmen.com

After several rounds of interviews, the Andover Public School system has hired a new chief operations officer.

The search began with interviews conducted by a screening committee comprised of about 12 people from the school district.

Ultimately, Superintendent Sheldon Berman made the recommendation to the School Committee that Steve Nembirkow was the best choice for the position. School Committee members concurred in a unanimous vote after interviewing Nembirkow during their April 30 meeting.

Nembirkow is a licensed attorney with more than 20 years' experience in school business and administration.

Most recently, he was the chief financial officer of Greenfield Public Schools



Stephen Nembirkow

"Steve is very, very well qualified. It was clear from the interview he understands the complexities of the job very well and he seems like a nice person."

School Committee Chair Joel Blumstein

from 2018 to 2020. Prior to that, he was the director of business and finance for the Mohawk Trail Regional Schools. And from 1999 to 2004, he was the business manager for the Chicopee Public Schools.

He has a law degree from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

"We are thrilled to welcome Steve as the chief operations officer for the Andover Public Schools," Berman said. "Throughout the interview process it was clear that his experience in municipal finance and budgeting, combined with his community relations expertise, aligned well with our goals at APS."

Nembirkow signed a three-year contract and will earn \$160,000 a year. He starts his job July 1.

"Steve is very, very well qualified," said School

Committee Chair Joel Blumstein. "It was clear from the interview he understands the complexities of the job very well and he seems like a nice person."

According to Blumstein, as COO Nembirkow will be tasked with handling the school's bills and budget, as well as the day-to-day management of food services, custodial work and bus routes.

With respect to the school system's budget, which was especially tight this year, Nembirkow said during his interview, "It's going to be a tough six or seven months budget-wise. I was looking at this. This is similar to the 2008 crash and the American Recovery Act."

Nembirkow replaces Paul Szymanski, assistant superintendent for administration and finance. Szymanski is retiring.

DALTON & FINEGOLD, LLP

The Expert and Efficient Greater Boston Law Firm

BUY, SELL, REFINANCE or evaluate your ESTATE PLAN

Our team of expert attorneys are ready to assist you and specialize in:

**Residential Real Estate
Commercial Real Estate
Estate Planning**

978-470-8400 | info@dflp.com | www.dflp.com

ANDOVER | BOSTON | NASHUA

PRESSURE WASHING



Residential & Commercial Cleaning
2020 SPRING SPECIALS

Soft-Wash Roof Cleaning Starting at \$99!
Pool Deck & Patio Cleaning Starting at \$99!
Exterior House Cleaning Starting at \$199!

Outside patios & bars, Concrete Cleaning,
Restaurants, Drive-Thrus, Warehouse Cleaning
Walkways, Dumpster Areas, Awnings,
Parking lots & Garages



WWW.PORTCITYPRESSUREWASH.COM
978-360-9473 | 978-572-2252
INFO@PORTCITYPRESSUREWASH.COM
Serving Massachusetts, Southern NH
and Southern Maine



Julie Ireland Childs
College Counselor



College Update for High School Students
COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
ARE CHANGING

- Zoom chats with admissions officers can be arranged
- Explore new ways to show your interest in college programs
- Explore virtual summer opportunities to highlight your strengths
- Seniors:
 - Consider deferring your college acceptance
 - Consider an "at home" Gap Year experience
 - Consider negotiating your financial aid package

USA College Bound provides:

- Research to recommend an appropriate range of schools
- Recommendations regarding standardized tests if required
- Zoom interview preparation
- Maintaining a timeline for the student
- Evaluation of essays
- Guidance in completing application forms
- Complete review of the application prior to submission

JChilds@usacollegebound.com

508.633.3223

Zoom meetings available

Jasmine Gautam and Brad Wright

proudly announce:

LAUNCH Financial Planning

An Independent Fee-Only Advisory For Individuals, Families, and Businesses

We aspire to inspire you to become financially self-sufficient through:

- Financial Planning
- Financial Education
- Investment Management



Learn more:
www.LaunchFP.com

Reach out:
(978)245-2424

2 Dundee Park
Suite 303-B
Andover, MA 01810

Opinion

Speeders should not rule the roads

A report last week showed a spike in traffic fatalities in April, even as the pandemic forced most commuters to stay home.

Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver said investigators believe speed or distracted driving were involved in most of the crashes that killed 28 people in April, one more than those who died on the roads in April 2019. Although the monthly death toll went up by only one, our roads were twice as deadly in light of traffic decreasing by half.

With the state of emergency declared by the governor on March 10, most businesses shut down quickly, and traffic volume plummeted. Anyone pulling onto a major highway saw much less traffic. They also saw cars flying by, often well above the speed limit.

Even so, the number of arrests by local and state police also fell dramatically, probably because police and court officers were reluctant to deal with people up close during the pandemic. According to the Registry of Motor Vehicles, citations for all reasons, including civil, criminal, arrest and warnings, dropped in both March and April compared to last year. In April, police wrote 4,385 citations -- less than one-tenth the 47,211 written in April 2019.

Traffic enforcement isn't all about tickets. The mere presence of police cars usually slows drivers, forcing them to pay attention.

So why did it take until April 25 for state police to implement a "speed reduction initiative?" According to spokesman David Procopio, troopers wrote 271 speeding citations within the first week or so of the program.

It appears it took more than a month for state police brass to recognize there were a lot of speeders and pre-occupied drivers on the roads.

No one is suggesting troopers were idle during this difficult time. But when state officials release information pointing to a deadly situation on our highways, it calls for a crackdown, one that could have taken place much sooner.

Some flowers for mom

A lot of symbolism was attached to the roses and hydrangeas many of us gave our moms on Mother's Day, and not just the usual kind. This springtime holiday, at least in Massachusetts, came with the few rays of hope represented by businesses beginning their long journeys back from COVID-19 closures.

Gov. Charlie Baker last week gave everyone's mom some flowers, figuratively anyway. In a quiet shift, he amended his order forcing non-essential businesses to close until May 18 to add a handful of new exemptions. Flower shops were among those included.

Florists didn't get a free pass to resume life as it was before the coronavirus swept across the land more than two months ago, leading to closures, cancellations and stay-home orders. Shops were allowed to "open," but only to fulfill phone and online orders. Customers still weren't allowed inside.

The state also limited the number of employees who may work at any time based on the square footage of the store. Florists and their workers must wear face masks, stand at least six feet apart, and not come into contact with customers. Also, shops must close for some period each day for cleaning.

The update doesn't just apply to florists. Other retailers, such as bookstores and even car dealers, may open under the same terms to do business remotely.

It's not an ideal arrangement. But it's more flexible than what was in place previously, and it's doubtless a preview of how our economy will return -- a process sure to be drawn out, as bandages of isolation and social distancing are slowly peeled away.

That's as it should be. Count us among those who see this new world with trepidation. On the other hand, the number of new coronavirus-related cases reported from one day to the next is no longer surging in Massachusetts, and businesses that can operate safely should be allowed to do so.

Baker had already carved out a long list of exemptions from his March 23 order closing much of the state's economy. The Retailers Association of Massachusetts pressed hard to expand the list to those included last week. We look forward not only to those coming back but others as well, provided that the public and their workers are protected.

Signs of that finally beginning to happen made a nice addition to the gifts we sent our mothers last Sunday.

WEB QUESTION

Select Board members recently voted to support a 4.6% property tax increase in next year's town budget, despite a vote last summer asking Town Manager Andrew Flanagan to draft a budget raising taxes no more than 3.65%. The higher tax rate is needed to defray the town's pension liability, Flanagan has said. Otherwise Andover will wind up paying more down the road.

What do you think of the increase?

BAD TIMING: A 4.6% tax increase is high, but the COVID-19 pandemic makes it especially bad for people who've lost work or are already facing financial strain. There's never been a more important time for the Select Board to keep its promises.

Rabbit Pond: Fun, games and contemplation

Gail Ralston

Andover Center for History & Culture

Tucked behind the Andover Inn on the Phillips Academy campus is a small pond that has been the site of a myriad of uses, both religious and secular.

Rabbit Pond first came of note during the early 1800s when students from the Theological Seminary walked to this spot seeking solitude. Facing the pond is Missionary Rock, installed at the 100th anniversary of the American Board of Foreign Missions. A plaque declares: "Here in the 'Missionary Woods' the first missionary students walked and talked, and on this secluded knoll met to pray."

In total, 248 missionaries were trained at the seminary to carry the Gospel "to the heathen world."

Also in the 1800s, at the same time students were praying, cows were mooing. Rabbit Pond was one of three

campus working farms. The grazing area extended as far as today's Bartlett Street, and continued until the surrounding fields were tapped for a different use.

In 1886, the town voted to spend \$10,000 to make the pond available for fire protection. About 7,500 feet of pipe were laid from the little pond to the center of the village, and 16 hydrants were installed.

With an idyllic view and a central location, Rabbit Pond next became the location of Andover's first golf course. Laid out in the 1890s, this land extended to Morton Street. By 1896, the town's interest in golf reached a fever pitch, and architect Alexander Findley was hired to lay out a nine-hole course.

Golf enthusiasts formed a club in 1897. As reported by the Townsman, "the course is very good for a natural one, but the advisory committee thought it best to make a few improvements on the green."

A small clubhouse was erected looking over the pond where members would

gather. Unfortunately, players did not find the course very interesting, and the site was closed in 1909, when the last match was played.

Let's you think too highly of the water in that pond, former Selectman Bill Dalton, who grew up in town, remembered that "tons of leeches lived in that water, and many of them introduced themselves to us when we were youngsters."

While swimming was technically not allowed, Dalton described sneaking through the woods and noted, "it was certain that we'd have leeches attached to us when we exited the pond." (Getting those off is another story!)

While Phillips Academy no longer had its golf course, for several years the pond was used as the school's varsity hockey rink. Impossible to control the weather, many games were ultimately canceled.

In 1942, attempts were made to prepare the pond for the winter, and boards were erected along the perimeter. At one point, according to

an alum, "the boards fell through the ice, as did the horse-drawn plow and mechanized plow, the tractor sent to rescue it and, on at least one occasion, the puck, at a critical point in the game."

By 1951, hockey was being played across campus on an indoor rink.

And, according to campus legend, a group of Humphrey Bogart's friends, incensed at his dismissal from Andover, tossed the innkeeper into the pond, thinking he had reported Bogart "for being too attentive to his daughter."

The truth was less interesting; Bogart had flunked out.

By the 1970s, and with formation of the Natural History Club, the pond was the subject of ecological and environmental problems. When draining the pond, an island formed and became the seasonal home of Canada geese, mallards and, in the fall, Great Blue Herons.

The public today still has access to this site, and, if one is lucky, a Great Blue Heron may still happen by. (I don't know about the leeches.)

Merrimack Valley shows resilience in the face of COVID-19

Rep. Tram Nguyen



Recently we received encouraging news that Gov. Charlie Baker has established a Reopening Advisory Board char-

tered to develop a strategy to reopen Massachusetts safely.

The board, comprised of public health officials and municipal and business leaders with various insights and experience, is to present its plan by May 18.

While this is a promising update, we must each maintain the personal discipline required to adhere to wearing masks and social distancing and to be ready for the potentially expanded protocols required for a safe reopening.

It is important to remember that we still have a long way to go to reach the point where we can safely reestablish our former daily routines.

COVID-19 science and data are evolving in real time -- each day we become better equipped to contain and manage the virus. And it is this science and data from the experts that must drive the decision-making process.

As I write this, across the United States, over 1 million people have tested positive, nearly 60,000 have died, and more than 120,000 have recovered. Many states are already reopening, and the experiences in these locations should also influence Massachusetts' decision-making.

The people of Massachusetts and the Merrimack Valley have shown tremendous resilience and strength in following the protocols that

have kept so many healthy.

Yet, nearly 60,000 of our fellow residents have tested positive for the virus, and we have lost more than 3,000 souls.

The heartache for those who have lost loved ones must be an even greater source of sorrow for them without the comfort of family and friends to share in the traditional ceremonies. I hope that one day soon we can acknowledge this loss with a statewide remembrance event.

The kindness freely given to family, friends and neighbors is comforting and should be a source of pride for all of us. Here in the Merrimack Valley, encouraging words chalked on driveways and sidewalks, signs thanking first responders, young people delivering groceries, buying pizza for Lawrence General Hospital's COVID-19

health-care workers and raising money for those in need, are occurring every day.

People making hundreds of face masks, others making face shields with their 3D printers, Meals on Wheels continuing to serve our seniors, and the local YMCA distributing more than 10,500 grab-and-go meals show the spirit and compassion of the Merrimack Valley.

Through your determination, we have gotten this far. I know we can continue to step up and help each other until happier times return.

Until then, thank you for all you are doing. Please continue to stay safe.

Rep. Tram Nguyen, D-Andover, represents the 18th Essex District in the Massachusetts House of Representatives. Her district includes parts of Andover, Boxford, North Andover and Tewksbury.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Generous community rallied behind family's food drive

Editor, Townsman:

Our family would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the entire community of Andover and beyond for its incredible generosity and spirit of giving.

The other weekend, our family decided to host an informal food drive out of our driveway in response to a request for food and donations that we received in an email from Lazarus House. We called it a "Driveway Drop and Dash" with the intention being that people could just drop off donations

in a safe way without having to interact with anyone or go inside any building to deliver items.

I wrote an email to some friends and neighbors and posted it on Facebook. My kids posted it on their Facebook pages.

If I was not a believer in the power of social media, I am now.

Our friends shared our posts on Facebook. Our church posted it on its website and passed it along to other houses of worship. The principals at West Middle School and Andover High School forwarded our request along to their students and staff. Clubs, sports teams and coaches

from the high school passed the word along as well. The response was incredible.

In one short week we shuttled eight full carloads of food, diapers, wipes and various other needed goods to Lazarus House. We received over \$1,500 dollars in monetary gifts for the Lazarus House. We received 99 separate donations; many were anonymous, and so we can not thank them personally.

We even got five Amazon boxes of food from former Andover residents who had moved to California.

The generosity of residents of Andover and the surrounding area is astounding. We feel very

proud to be a part of this community.

Thank you to everyone who opened up their pantries and their wallets to make this such a wonderful success. Lazarus House was overwhelmed by the support of this one drive.

The needs continue to grow with the recent increase in unemployment. On a recent Wednesday alone they served over 850 families.

For more information on how to help, please visit lazarushouse.org.

AME MATUZA AND THE NEPOMNAYSHY-MATUZA FAMILY Andover

READER ACCESS

EDITORIAL SERVICES

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

- **Editor Bill Cantwell** for comments on overall editorial content and quality; 978-691-8733, bcantwell@andover-townsman.com
- **Reporter Judy Wakefield** at 978-691-8726, or jwakefield@andovertownsmen.com
- **Reporter Sean Murphy** at 978-691-8727, or smurphy@andovertownsmen.com
- **Sports Writer Dave Willis** at 978-946-2473; dwillis@andovertownsmen.com

ADVERTISING

- **Account Executive David Schultz** at 978-946-2152 or dschultz@andovertownsmen.com

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

CUSTOMER SERVICE

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

Andover Townsman
Established 1887

Publisher
Karen Andreas

Editor
Bill Cantwell

Published Thursdays by North of Boston Media Group
33 Chestnut St., Andover, MA 01810
978-475-7000 •

News fax: 978-470-2819
E-mail bkirk@andovertownsmen.com
www.andovertownsmen.com

TownsBeat



Aya Murata, 49, of Andover is the associate director of college counseling at Phillips Academy. While in quarantine, she's writing positive messages in sidewalk chalk for those passing her home on School Street.

TIM JEAN/Staff photos

Messages of hope

Woman spreads cheer with sidewalk chalk

By Genevieve DiNatale
Staff Writer

Anyone who has passed Aya Murata's School Street home recently probably noticed her positive sidewalk-chalk notes.

Murata, 49, harnessed her creativity to write statements on the sidewalk.

"May today bring you joy, love and hope," she wrote, and, "We will get through this together."

Murata, who is the associate director of college counseling at Phillips Academy, came up with the idea as she sat in quarantine staring out her window.

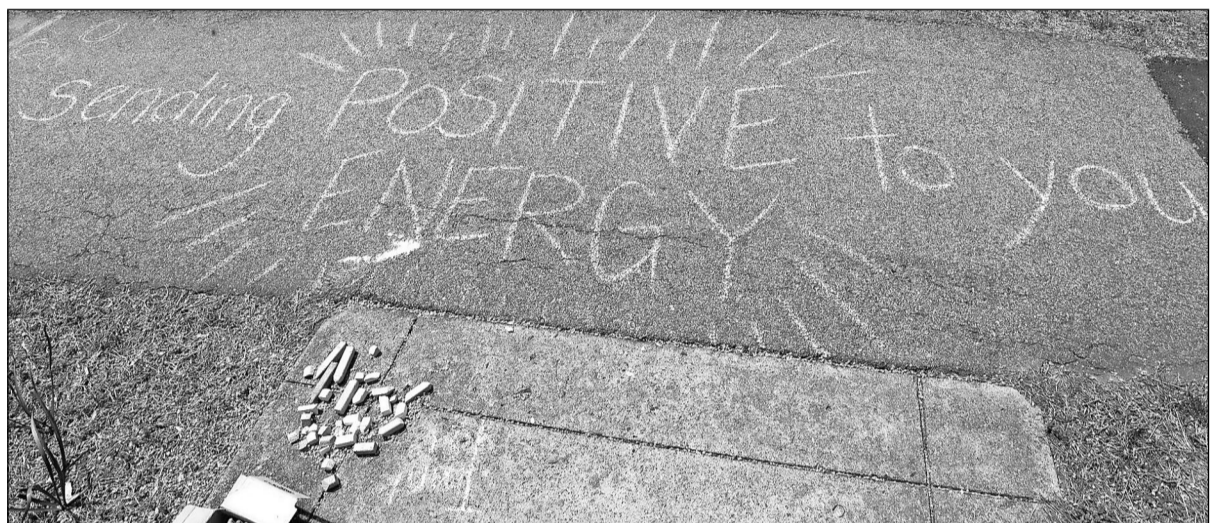
"I was thinking about the level of isolation that all of us are starting to feel," she said. "And as I looked out my window — School Street is a very heavily trafficked pedestrian street — I felt this may be a way to connect to others."

It's not just messages of kindness that Murata would like to share. She also makes notes that direct passersby to do a few jumping jacks and hopscotch.

"I think it's a way to deliver a message that might bring someone some extra joy to their day, maybe a little extra pep in their step," she said.



This message from Aya Murata reads "May today bring you JOY!"



"Sending positive energy your way" is just one of the many positive messages Andover resident Aya Murata has been sending.



Ted Teichert, an Andover-based DJ, appears with his traveling tiki bar.

TIM JEAN/Staff photos

'We are just trying to spread the happiness'

By GENEVIEVE DINATALE
Staff Writer

Taking drive-by parties to the next level, local DJ and former Selectman Ted Teichert has been hitting the town in his tiki bar trailer.

"People are kind of cooped up. It's something to look forward to," said Teichert, a lifelong Andover resident who currently lives on Linwood Street.

"They can go dancing in the lawn; we can bring the dance party to you. We are all in this together, so to say," he said.

Donning a Hawaiian shirt and playing the music of Jimmy Buffett, Teichert has made the rounds in Andover recently.

Just last week, he drove out to West

Andover where he went to the flower shops and nurseries.

"If people can't come see the music, I try to bring it to them and we try to keep socially distant apart," said Teichert.

Last Sunday, he went to the Whole Foods in town

and the Stop & Shop in North Andover and played some music for grocery store employees who came out from the supermarket and danced in the parking lot.

"We are just trying to spread the happiness," Teichert said.



Sheila Leaden, left, and Jackie Branscomb demonstrate how they do a social distancing party from Ted Teichert's tiki bar.



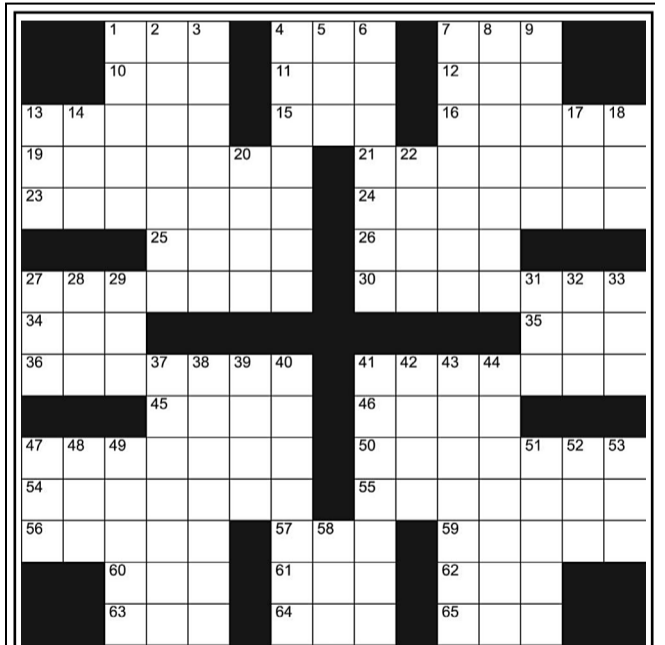
Ted Teichert makes an announcement from the tiki bar he attached to his trailer.



Ted Teichert dances to the music as he demonstrates how he does social distancing parties from a tiki bar attached to his trailer.



A sign on Ted Teichert's tiki bar trailer.



CLUES ACROSS

1. It's now called Experian
4. You can draw it
7. Very fast aircraft
10. Go quickly
11. Fifth note of a major scale
12. Biochemical abbreviation
13. Make somebody laugh
15. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
16. City in NE Morocco
19. Colorless gas
21. NE football player
23. A snake is one
24. Small spot
25. Inform
26. Republic of Ireland
27. Large statues
30. Documents about an individual
34. Helps little firms

Solution in Classified Section

35. Namibia's former name
36. Large insects
41. Thirsty
45. A well-defined track or path
46. One who utilizes
47. Plant-eating mammals
50. Not in tip-top shape
54. Alternate names
55. A part of a broadcast serial
56. City in central Italy
57. LOTR actor McKellen
59. Trees provide it
60. Men's fashion accessory
61. Type of screen
62. Snake-like fish
63. Possesses
64. When you aim to get there
65. Tooth caregiver

CLUES DOWN

1. Hit heavily
2. Italian rice dish
3. Some are cocktail
4. A citizen of Israel
5. Read-only memory
6. Passed by
7. Northern diving ducks
8. References
9. Iranian language
13. Swiss river
14. Woman (French)
17. Gov't department (abbr.)
18. Consumed
20. Ailments
22. Balkan Jewish appetizer
27. Reciprocal of a sine
28. Skywalker mentor __-Wan
29. Resinous secretion of insects

31. Similar
32. Female sheep
33. Cool!
37. Borders the Adriatic Sea
38. Flowers
39. It's sometimes upped
40. Immobile
41. Female body parts
42. Common request
43. Made a second thrust
44. Fell into deep sleep
47. Subway resident
48. Brew
49. The event of being born
51. Aspirations
52. Doctor of Education
53. Punk musician __ Dee Ramone
58. A subdivision of a play

Follow us on Twitter:



@andovertownsman



Please recycle this newspaper.



Support Our Andover Restaurants

DELIVERY OR TAKE-OUT!

It's time for the family to enjoy a great meal from your favorite Andover restaurant...*Again!*



NOW OPEN FOR TAKE-OUT



978.289-4165
casablancamexican.com



978.409.2268
pazzoandover.com



978.475-4082
lafinarestaurant.com



978.749.0011
yellagrille.com



NOW OPEN FOR TAKE-OUT



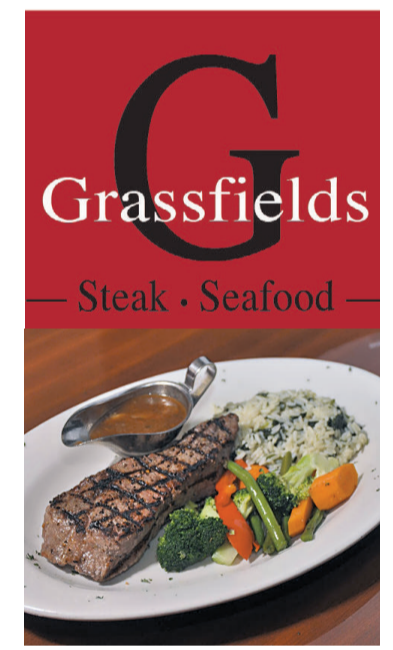
978-809-3338
uburger.com/content/andover-center



978.470.0320
dagsdeli.com



978.409.2119
buenomalo.com



978.475.7996
grassfieldsandover.com



978.475.1777
larosasofandover.com



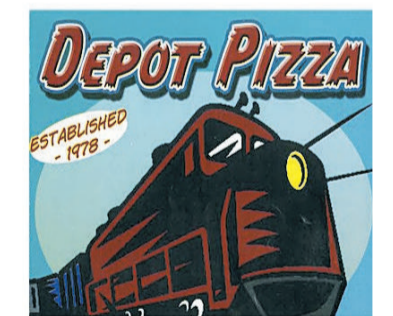
978.409.2328
townmarketandover.com



978.470.0582
mrgelatocafe.com



978.409.1814
89 Main St., Andover



978-475-0055
depothouseofpizza.com

We can't wait to see you...*Again!*



Churches make case for reopening

By CHRISTIAN M. WADE
Statehouse Reporter

Pastor Chris Dyer's tightly knit congregation has been worshipping remotely every Sunday since the state ordered churches to close their doors two months ago. But Dyer, a pastor at the Fellowship Bible Church in Methuen, said live-streaming services just isn't the same as seeing his parishioners fill the pews to pray, sing hymns and practice their faith.

"Out church is like a family and we were meant to be together, not to be isolated," he said. "There's a face-to-face dynamic that the technology can't replace."

He says the 150-member congregation is able to practice social distancing and is capable of reopening safely when the state eventually begins that process.

"If and when we get the OK to open up, we'll be just as responsible as everyone else and plan to continue social distancing and wearing masks," Dyer said.

Churches and other houses of worship have been shuttered since mid-March under Gov. Charlie Baker's emergency orders to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. The rules deemed churches "non-essential" and banned public gatherings of 10 or more people.

Dyer is one of 260 pastors who signed a letter to the Baker administration calling for churches to be "swiftly and publicly" recognized as "essential" and allowed to reopen after May 18, when the Baker administration is expected to unveil its plans to reopen the state's economy.

"It is upsetting that, unlike roughly half the states across our nation, churches in Massachusetts were not deemed 'essential' at the outset," the letter reads. "Faith leaders have been disappointed

that while marijuana dispensaries, liquor stores and abortion clinics were deemed essential, churches were not."

The pastors represent various denominations, with churches in several north of Boston communities including St. John the Baptist in Peabody, the South Lawrence Assembly of God, North Shore Bible Church in Essex and the Renaissance City Church in Haverhill.

Next Tuesday, the Baker administration is expected to unveil its plans for gradually reopening the economy provided that the rate of COVID-19 infections is subsiding. While Baker's emergency orders expire May 18, state officials have cautioned that not all businesses and entities will be allowed to reopen in the initial phases.

Bans on public gatherings have fueled confrontations in Massachusetts and elsewhere between religious leaders and local and state officials.

In Worcester, the pastor of Adams Square Baptist Church was fined \$300 last week when city officials said he held a Sunday service with more than 50 parishioners.

The pastors said their churches, if allowed to reopen, will follow "strict distancing guidelines" to keep their congregants safe.

"We are capable of following the guidelines for social distancing recommended by the Centers for Disease Control, just as other businesses Massachusetts has deemed essential," the pastors wrote. "We are able to take the same precautions that their staff and customers have taken."

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

Postponed Clown Town goes virtual this week

By MIKE LABELLA
Staff Writer

For over 60 years, the Andona Society has hosted a carnival in Andover's town common to welcome spring and bring joy to local families. The event, called Clown Town, is always held the weekend between Mother's Day and Memorial Day.

Andona announced in a statement recently that this year's Clown Town will be postponed to Oct. 16 and 17, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, families are still encouraged to get creative Friday, May 15 and Saturday, May 16, by participating in virtual Clown Town.

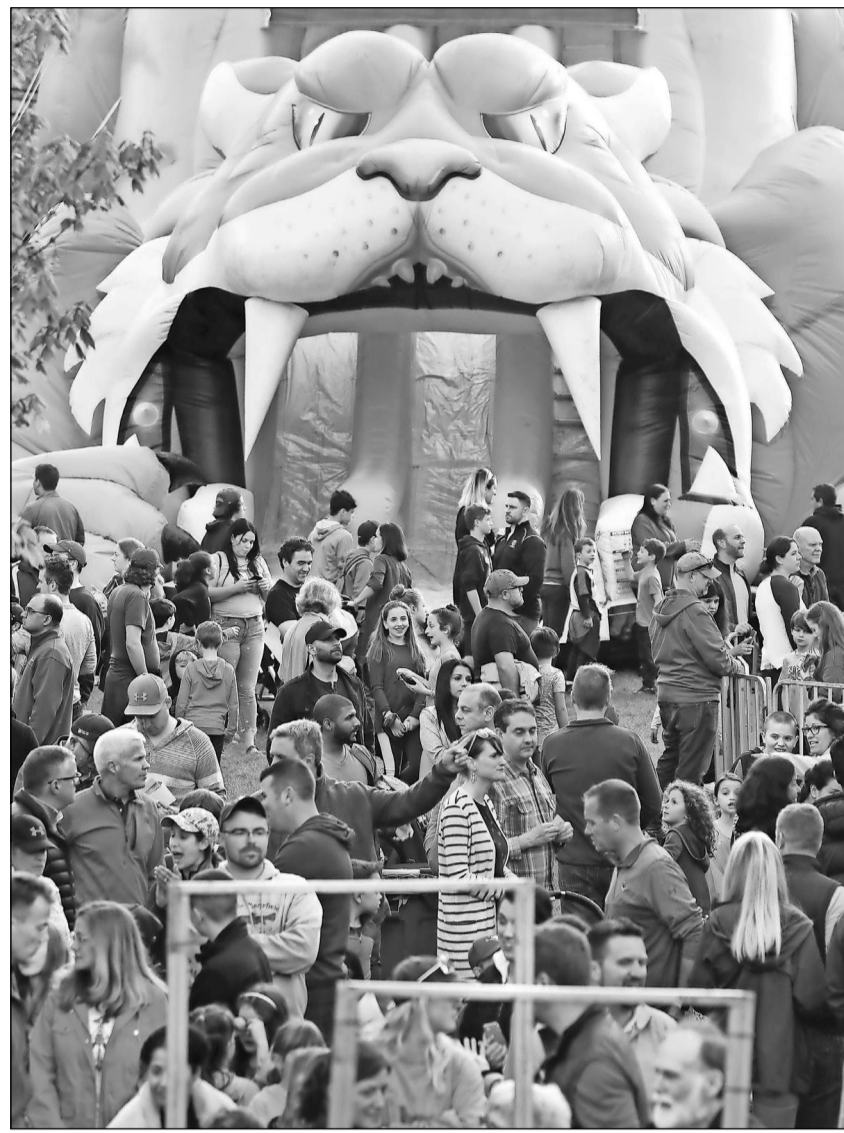
Suggested activities include lighting candles or strings of lights Friday evening, decorating your sidewalk or driveway with chalk Saturday, and printing a Clown Town coloring sheet to decorate with children, which can be found at andona.org. The finished products can be hung in windows.

Andona members encourage people to take pictures of their Clown Town spirit and send them clowntown@andona.org, or share it to social media with the hashtag #virtualclowntown. Participants will be entered to win a prize.

Clown Town is Andona's biggest fundraiser of the year. The group relies on money raised to offer scholarships, camper-ships and direct funds to schools, teams and enrichment programs.

In an average year, Andona raises and distributes \$50,000 to the community.

Organizers continue to welcome new Clown Town sponsors and volunteers. Visit andona.org for more information.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photos

A cloudy day with off and on showers didn't dampen the festivities as Andona's 63rd annual Clown Town last year. The event has been pushed to October this year, but people can participate in some virtual fun this week.



Mariella Forde and Colton Murray, both 3 and from Andover, share a ride on the Funny Car ride at Andona's 63rd annual Clown Town last year. The event has been pushed to October this year, but people can participate in some virtual fun this week.



Noah Morse, 3 of North Andover, uses two hands to enjoy his vanilla and strawberry swirl ice cream at Andona's 63rd annual Clown Town last year.

Benefits could keep workers on sidelines

By CHRISTIAN M. WADE
Statehouse Reporter

Generous unemployment benefits are giving some laid-off workers more income from federal and state payments than they normally make on the job, which some business groups warn could make it harder to bring those people back to work.

Massachusetts already provided some of the most generous unemployment benefits in the country prior to the coronavirus pandemic. A federal law approved in response to the outbreak has boosted weekly payments substantially.

The CARES Act, a \$2 trillion relief package signed by President Donald Trump in March, gave unemployed workers an additional \$600 a week for up to four months, and extended payments for those who've exhausted regular state unemployment benefits by another 13 weeks.

The new law also provides benefits for self-employed and "gig economy" workers for up to 39 weeks. Those workers also get the extra \$600.

That means some Massachusetts workers could get \$1,423 a week, including benefits from the state, which are capped at \$823 per week.

Jon Hurst, president of the Retailers Association of Massachusetts, said the payments could make it hard to bring some workers back as the economy reopens.

"There's going to be a lot of people who would just as soon sit home and collect the extra \$600 than return to work," he said.

Hurst said the problem is already affecting some employers who've been allowed to remain open, many of whom have taken federal loans to stay afloat.

Unemployment benefits in Massachusetts are capped at 30 weeks, though most people only qualify for 26 weeks.

The federal toppler expires, in most cases, at the end of the

summer.

How much someone gets from unemployment depends on a number of factors, but the weekly benefit generally amounts to half of someone's regular wages.

Those collecting it are supposed to return to work when able, but Hurst and other business leaders say they don't expect aggressive enforcement of those rules.

The state Department of Unemployment Assistance couldn't say how many workers are making more in benefits than they earned in their paychecks.

More than a quarter of the state's workforce filed for unemployment benefits in the past month, as officials forced a swath of industries to shut down to prevent spread of the coronavirus.

More than 780,000 workers have filed for regular benefits since the outbreak began in mid-March, while another 185,000 have filed for special benefits now available to people who wouldn't otherwise get unemployment, according to the state's Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development.

The state's unemployment rate, which was 2.5% in February, has skyrocketed to about 25%, according to state data.

The potential downside for employers from the combined federal and state unemployment benefits was raised by a handful of Republican lawmakers as Congress debated the CARES Act. They argued that generous benefits would incentivize people not to return to work.

Chris Geehern, executive vice president of Associated Industries of Massachusetts, said employers are trying new ways to draw employees back.

"Some companies are paying bonuses to employees who are working through the crisis," he said. "Mostly they're trying to make workers feel safe to come back to the workplace."

Mask mandates could lead to shortages

By CHRISTIAN M. WADE
Statehouse Reporter

BOSTON — With face masks now required in public, and more businesses seeking to reopen, experts say competition for protective gear could lead to new shortages.

Gov. Charlie Baker issued an executive order two weeks ago requiring masks in grocery stores, taxis, public transit and other places where social distancing isn't possible. A plan to gradually reopen the state's economy unveiled Monday says businesses must require workers and customers to cover their faces.

Baker has said masks need to "become the norm" as the state continues to battle the COVID-19 outbreak and takes baby steps to reopen the economy.

To be sure, officials stress the use of face coverings and homemade masks for the public, not surgical masks or the N-95 respirators worn by medical workers. While evidence is mixed on whether non-surgical masks prevent infection, experts say they improve a person's chances of not getting sick or infecting others.

But the mask mandate means that small businesses will be competing in the global marketplace against large corporations and state and local governments for higher quality protective gear that has been in short supply.

Darren Ambler, chairman of the North Shore Chamber of Commerce, said business owners are struggling to find new supply chains for protective gear.

"It's going to be one of the biggest problems as businesses try to reopen," he said. "They put a safety road map together for their business that includes wearing masks, but they can't get the equipment to fulfill it."

Ambler said the chamber is weighing a shared purchasing plan for North Shore businesses to buy protective gear.

Amid shortages, dozens of Massachusetts manufacturers have shifted to making masks, gowns and other personal protective equipment. The state has made \$10 million in grants available to local companies to produce the gear.

Supply chain experts say with many manufacturers and distributors operating below capacity, the market for protective gear benefits big players.

"They're focusing on big orders -- not just



STAFF FILE PHOTO

Weinan Qiu of Andover donned a white head-to-toe protective suit and medical-grade mask while in line at the Market Basket in North Andover.

because of profits -- but because that's how you serve the most people," said Yossi Sheffi, a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. "From a supply chain perspective, it's absolutely the right strategy."

Sheffi, director of MIT's Center for Transportation and Logistics, said he expects those kinks to be worked out as manufacturers bring back more workers and ramp up production.

But he said the shortage of respirator masks for frontline health care workers remains a pressing issue that has been compounded by a lack of coordination by the federal government.

"We just don't have enough respirators for medical workers," Sheffi said. "And it's not likely that we will have enough in the near future."

REACH MORE THAN 350,000 READERS.
classified marketplace.
The Eagle-Tribune • The Salem News
Gloucester Daily Times • Daily News
MON-FRI. 8AM-6PM
CALL 800.927.9200
ONLINE: ClassifiedsNorth.com
FAX: 978.685.1588

Print ad publication deadlines:
The Eagle-Tribune, Gloucester Daily Times,
The Salem News, Daily News of Haverhill
Monday 6pm Friday
Tuesday-Saturday 6pm day prior
Sunday paper 6pm Friday

Carriage Towne News: 12pm Friday
Andover Townsman, Daily News &
Haverhill Gazette: 6pm Tuesday

Concussion/change deadlines:
some by publication deadline

POLICY/ADJUSTMENTS: Advertisers must check insertions and report errors.
Reservations and cancellations must be made to only one regional office and then only for the regional office. We are not responsible for notices to publish and remain the right to reject, edit or cancel any ad. Ads are subject to credit approval unless paid for prior to publication.

Announcements

HAPPY ADS

Happy Retirement

Wish someone a Happy Birthday, Anniversary, Congratulations!!
Run a Happy ad
To place your ad call
The Classified Marketplace
978-946-2300

Real Estate

HOMES

NEW PRICE
AMESBURY
Perfect condition, 1718 Georgian, totally restored, two car garage, 4 fireplaces, all newer systems and windows, walk-in fireplace, 6 rooms, 2 bedrooms, a very warm and comfortable house with many original features and so much character and charm. Almost a half acre of land, plus a separate studio/workshop and full, usable attic-excellent storage. **\$379,000**
RIVER VALLEY R.E.
Call Joanie Purinton
978 462 6898, or office 800-773-9990

NEW PRICE
WEST NEWBURY
New to market - Elegant, spacious hilltop Colonial with every luxury and feature: 9 rooms, 4 bedrooms, huge vaulted ceiling family room with window wall, oak floors, front-to-back dining room with architectural mantle and patio doors out to screened porch. Double-level decks, gorgeous and private inground pool and custom pool house, 1.56 acres of lawns and woods, separate shop/garage plus attached two-car garage, all superbly updated in amazingly perfect condition! **\$899,950**
RIVER VALLEY R.E.
Pat Skibbee direct 978-502-4782
office 800-770-7770

Sports

LENDING A HAND

Former Andover standout Ali (McCoy) Farrell giving aid for Maine's fishermen



Ali (McCoy) Farrell, a former standout Andover High athlete, has settled in nicely in Maine.

By DAVE DYER
Staff Writer

Ali (McCoy) Farrell chuckled at the question. All things considered, does the longtime Andover resident now consider herself a Mainer?

"I don't think you're allowed to be called a Mainer unless you were born and raised here," said Farrell, a 2004 Andover High graduate who, as Ali McCoy, was a standout in both field hockey and lacrosse for the Golden Warriors. "But I would say yes."

The way Farrell has immersed herself in Maine society since moving to Camden, Maine, three and a half years ago would certainly justify that affirmative.

Since moving to Maine, Farrell has written a novel, "Pretty Combat," a solution-based book that addresses issues of a personal nature with a Maine slant. She also has two books written that are due out soon, "Pretty Rugged — Women in the Fishing Industry" and a children's book, "Lobster Girl Can," both of which deal with Maine's fishing issues.

She is also owner and founder of Sea Street Publishing and a photographer working for herself under Ali Farrell Photography.

But what has probably made her most beloved by Mainers is her current project in which she founded, "Maine's Working Waterfront — Seafood Connect," that connects fishermen directly to consumers.

"While writing my book ("Pretty Rugged"), I got close to people in the fishing industry and I found how they have been struggling, but the coronavirus has made it much worse," she said. "They (fishermen) export so much and rely on restaurants to buy from them, and now that's been taken away from them."

"They have lobsters in their traps, but since everything has closed down, they have no buyers and no outlets. I figured if I could act as a connector, we could get people the food they need while keeping the fishermen going."

"What we've been doing (through the "Working Waterfront — Seafood Connect") locally is eliminating the middle man. Through our Facebook page, we've

been placing fishermen up and down the coast in certain locations and they sell the fish from their cars. It's a drive through situation and people can find through Facebook where and when to buy."

Thus far, the transactions have been primarily for lobster, but Farrell anticipates widening the selection to include more crab, scallops, clams and haddock.

Within one day of starting that Facebook connection, Farrell said she took in orders for 960 pounds of lobster from nearly 49 interested buyers.

"So far, it's gone really well with a great response, but this is just a start," said Farrell. "The fishermen need a lot of help."

That Farrell reacted quickly to the coronavirus impact on fishermen is of no surprise to her former field hockey coach at Andover, Maureen Noone. She responded to the situation like she played as a midfielder.

"She was super aggressive and very quick to the ball," said Noone. "She was our Coaches Award winner and played a big role in our MVC championship team."

Moreover, Farrell has always been proactive. She still remembers going around Andover with her mother as a middle schooler to circulate a petition to start a lacrosse program at Andover High. The effort proved successful because the program started when she was in the eighth grade.

With the background in two sports in high school, with coaches like Noone, Farrell believes it's helped her achieve things that, at first, don't seem quite possible.

"I feel sports are so important and can teach you so much, that no matter how hard something is, you can get there," said Farrell. "I remember she (Noone) pushed us really hard and it was tough for us at times, but later you realize why she did it."

Farrell is hoping that the same lessons will be learned by her two children, 7-year-old daughter Mackenzie and 4-year-old son Callan. So far, they have two attributes that are dear to their mother's heart.

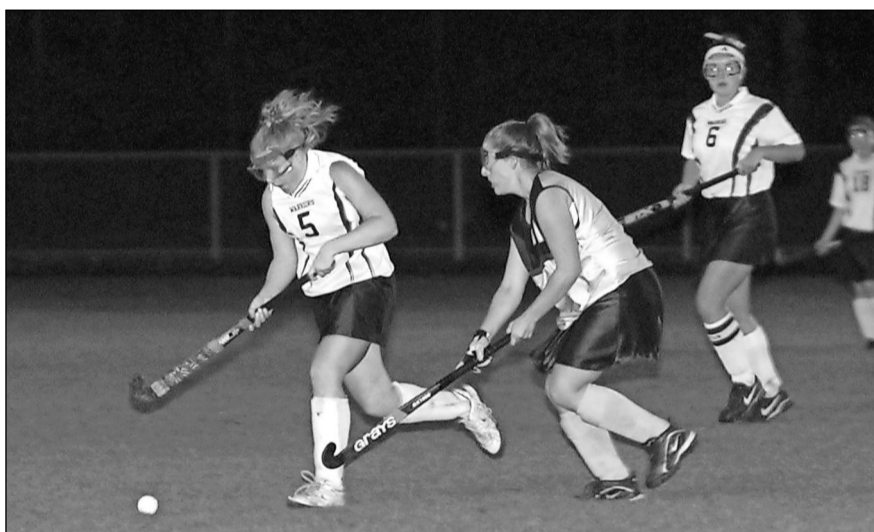
"They like to be active ... (and) they love to eat fish," said Farrell. "I was the same way (growing up) in Andover."

Courtesy photo



Ali (McCoy) Farrell's third book, "Pretty Rugged," is due out in June. Doing research on the book motivated her to help struggling fishermen during the coronavirus pandemic.

Courtesy photo



Ali (McCoy) Farrell (5), heading downfield as a senior, was aggressive and had quick reactions as an Andover High field hockey and lacrosse standout.

TIM JEAN/Staff File Photo

US vs. THE VIRUS

10 Questions with people from the world of sports

10 questions with pro golfer Rob Oppenheim of Andover

Bill Burt
Staff Writer

Andover native Rob Oppenheim is now a veteran on the PGA Tour.

Since becoming a professional golfer in 2002, Oppenheim has become a top competitor on the Web.com Tour and regular on the PGA tour scene.

Oppenheim starred for the golf, basketball and baseball teams are Andover High (class of 1998), and later became a star at Rollins College in Florida, leading them to a Division 2 national title.

Now a resident of Orlando, Fla., with his wife and two children, the 40-year-old Oppenheim is thrilled for golf to finally be returning.

Oppenheim took the time to answer questions about how he's doing during the coronavirus outbreak:

1. How has the shutdown of sports affected you personally?

I'm not able to compete on the PGA Tour. Golf courses have been closed, so I wasn't



Andover native Rob Oppenheim, top left, is with his family at the beach in Florida. His wife, Lacey, is top right with daughter, Zoey, and son, James.

Courtesy photo

even able to practice. However, it's been nice being home, sleeping in my own bed, and spending quality time with my family.

2. Do you know anyone personally afflicted with the virus and how are they doing?

Yes, I know two people

with the virus. Thankfully, both seem to be doing well.

3. What were your goals coming into the spring and how have they changed?

In order to keep my job on the PGA Tour, I need to finish inside the top 125 in the FedEx Cup standings and



Associated Press

Andover native Rob Oppenheim, facing the camera, has been a consistent competitor as a pro golfer for nearly two decades.

that's always one of my top goals. ...Currently, I'm 119. Nothing has really changed goal wise, it's just the uncertainty of what's going on and when our season will start up again. My main focus is to stay strong physically and mentally and be ready to go whenever the season gets going.

4. If there has been a positive thing come out of this virus, what is it?

Right now, it's really difficult to say anything positive about this virus. It's been devastating in so many ways. All I know is that we'll definitely be better prepared if

anything like this happens in the future.

5. What makes you most upset about the people and this virus?

I think now, people are taking this seriously. Initially though, I don't think that was the case. Stay at home!

6. What is your overall assessment of our political leaders?

This is truly an unprecedented time. I believe our leaders are doing everything possible, with the information they have, to make the best decisions for our country. Praying this ends soon.

7. With no NBA, NHL, PGA Tour, or March Madness how are you

getting your sports fix these days? (Had to put the PGA Tour in your question)

With school being from home now, I've become the phys ed teacher. I have two kids, Zoey (7) and James (4). We've been playing basketball, baseball, soccer, tag, dodge ball, hide-and-go-seek, basically any game we can think of. I also have a putting green in my backyard and we've been having chipping and putting contests. It's been fun.

8. Have you been ordering out at all, and if so, what is your go-to place?

Traveling as much as I do, it's been nice eating in and having family dinners. The Little Greek and Seito Sushi have been our go-to take out spots so far, but for the most part, we've been cooking at home.

9. What's your go-to movie or show to stream?

Currently I'm watching season 3 of Ozark on Netflix.

10. What will be the thing you'll most want to do right away post-coronavirus crisis?

Compete again on the PGA Tour.

Brain cells require exercise to thrive

Family Matters

Larry Larsen



Dear Doctor,

Is it true that mental activity can help older people. We are trying to get our mother to

do things to help her keep her memory and make her life better.

Daughter

Dear Daughter,

It would seem the maxim "use it or lose it" is helpful in dealing with the aging mental functions. What is the evidence?

Recent studies stress "neuroplasticity" or the apparent phenomenon of

more unified and cohesive brain functions are more critical than previously thought. Think of the brain as a responsive organ. It changes physically in response to what we experience. Here are a few examples.

There is a clear advantage to higher education. The more highly educated, the less likelihood there is, to a considerable degree, of developing dementia, including Alzheimer's disease. This has been clearly researched. The "why" is debatable. For example, is there a resistance to deterioration in brain anatomy in such individuals anyway?

Parts of the brain respond to training, work and life experiences. Musicians have a cluster of cells called Heschl's area. It grows with musical training and wanes if the individual stops.

A central area in the brain grows with multilingual training. Apparent mastery of more than one language results in clusters of new cells.

There is a famous study of London cab drivers. Their memory for streets in the warren of complex roads

and rules in London results in larger hippocampi, an area having to do with verbal and spatial memory.

We now know brain cells are produced de novo — anew — well into old age. We also know that able and bright individuals may be found to have the tangles

and plaques associated with Alzheimer's, but with no ill effects. The neuroplastic functions prevail.

This unique response to stimulation and experiences is developing into a remarkable body of evidence, which would indicate the "use it or lose

it" principle is a valid one. Make the brain do pushups in the gym of learning new things

Dr. Larry Larsen is an Andover psychologist. If you would like to ask a question, or respond to one, email him at lrryllrsn@CS.com.

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

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Clouds and sun	Showers and t-storms	Areas of low clouds	Showers possible	Showers possible	Showers possible	Showers possible
High: 67° Low: 49°	High: 69° Low: 52°	High: 63° Low: 45°	High: 61° Low: 48°	High: 53° Low: 47°	High: 61° Low: 47°	High: 69° Low: 50°

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather.com ©2020

Please recycle this newspaper.



To help us all stay safe and healthy in this unsettling time, we are offering private showings via Facetime, Virtual Tours and seller-approved one-on-one visits. In addition, all our agents are available by phone, text, email and Zoom.



NOBODY IN THE WORLD SELLS MORE REAL ESTATE THAN RE/MAX.

The Carroll Group at **RE/MAX** Partners

OPEN SATURDAY 12-2 & SUNDAY 1-3



67 RESERVATION ROAD, ANDOVER
\$799,900

SALE PENDING IN 3 DAYS



61 BIRCH ROAD, ANDOVER
\$829,900

NEW LISTING



7 YORKSHIRE DRIVE, TEWKSBURY
\$559,900

REAL ESTATE SINCE 1993
www.Andover-TopBroker.com
LET US GET YOUR HOME READY TO SELL!

- We help you sort, store, donate and sell items
- We arrange a deep-cleaning of your home
- We give a free home staging consultation
- We ensure smoke/carbon monoxide detectors are up-to-date and properly installed

We've assembled a team of 20 professionals that can address anything needed to prepare your home for sale and maximize your sale price. Our stager oversees the entire process, making it much easier for you to get your home on the market in tip-top condition.



4 FAIRWAY DRIVE, ANDOVER
\$1,299,900

NEW LISTING



1 SPARTA WAY, ANDOVER
\$724,900

NEW LISTING



95 KARA DRIVE, NORTH ANDOVER
\$739,900

Tom Carroll: 978-502-8347 • tcarroll@AndoverHomeSales.com

If you're thinking of selling and need a handyman or help with cleanouts, household good donations or repairs, give me a call. I have a full-time, full-service team with all the professionals you'll need to get everything done for you!

McInnis Law Offices

Concentrating in the areas of Estate Tax and Business Planning, Probate Administration and Elder Law
Please call today for our Estate Planning Questionnaire
(978) 686-6112

807 Turnpike Street
North Andover, MA 01845

ANDOVER CHIMNEYS
ALL TYPES OF MASONRY
Brick, Block, Stone, Cement - Repair Specialist
CHIMNEY . . .
Cleaning • Repairing • Rebuilding • Silencing • Pointing
Cap Installation / Est. 1971
FREE ESTIMATES - FIND US IN THE YELLOW PAGES
978-683-5139 ANYTIME

Grow Spring Sales!

Call (978) 946-2180

to Advertise Your Message