

# Town Plans For Predicted Pandemic

By Anne Hewitt  
For the Beacon

Avian flu, so much in the news of late, is not yet a problem... but its threat looms in the future. Epidemiologists feel that we're due for a pandemic, a global disease outbreak. It may be sooner or it may be later...it may be avian flu or it may be some other flu. The experts can't say exactly what or when, but they feel sure it will happen.

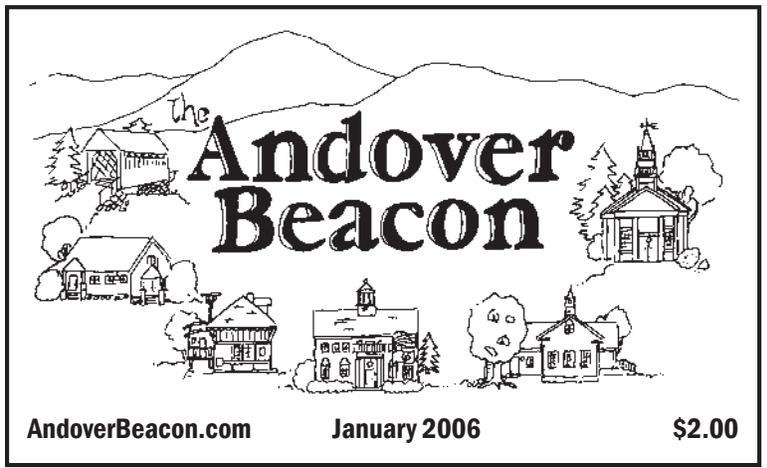
An influenza pandemic occurs when a new influenza virus emerges for which there is little or no human immunity, begins to cause serious illness, and then spreads easily person-to-person worldwide.

Governmental agencies at all levels are preparing for the possibility of a pandemic. Prevention techniques can be helpful, but once an outbreak arrives an

action plan should already be in place. Pandemic preparedness involves government, healthcare providers, emergency response, agriculture, education, business, communication, community-based, and faith-based sectors, as well as private citizens.

Planning for such a catastrophe started after September 11, 2001 in anticipation of a smallpox outbreak. New Hampshire developed 29 regional plans coordinated around hospital services. Andover's Safety Committee is expanding its plan to address not just smallpox, but "all hazards."

East Andover Fire Chief and Andover Rescue Squad member Rene Lefebvre is involved in that process and attends training sessions that recently have focused on avian flu. He shared information from *See Pandemic on page 6*



AndoverBeacon.com

January 2006

\$2.00

## 2006 Property Taxes Likely Higher Than 2005

By Charlie Darling  
Beacon staff

Before you read this article, you might want to read *Understanding The Town Budget on page 4*. It should make this article easier to understand.

The property tax bills that we received in December for the 2005 tax year were about 16% higher than the tax bills for 2004. Unfortunately, the Budget Committee predicts that we will see another large increase in our tax bills next year as well.

### Budget Highlights

The proposed school budget for 2006 is up about 10%, but we won't know until the school year ends in June whether there will be any unexpended surplus from the current school year that can be used to lower the school tax portion of our 2006 tax bills.

For the town tax rate, the Board of Selectmen has committed to using funds from previous years' surplus to keep the 2006 town tax rate at \$1.44 per \$1,000 of assessed value, the same as it

was in 2005.

Both fire departments' tax rates are up slightly from last year. The impact of the 2006 Merrimack County budget on our 2006 tax bills is, at this point, unknown.

### Public Hearings

If you wish to comment or raise questions about the requested local budgets, please attend the public hearings at the Andover Town Hall, where all of the details of these budgets will be reviewed and discussed. The public hearings will be held on:

January 11, 2006 at 7 PM: Andover School Budget

January 18, 2006 at 7 PM: Town, Fire Departments, and Water District Budgets

### School District Budget

The Andover School Board has proposed a budget for 2006 of \$3,560,488, up \$326,395, or 10.1%, over the appropriated budget for 2005.

The major components of this budget  
*See Budget on page 6*



Rather than covering a cough or sneeze with your hands, health experts recommend using the crook of the elbow, as demonstrated by Ms. Hildebrand's second graders at AE/MS, to prevent spreading germs. Photo: Anne Hewitt

### A Challenge To The Andover Community:

## WILL UNCLE SAM PARADE FOUR MONTHS EARLY?

By Charlie Darling  
Beacon staff

In order to keep publishing the *Beacon*, we have to have the financial support of at least 300 households in our second year of publishing. Since last October, we've received 191 donations, gift subscriptions, and out-of-town subscriptions.

We thank everyone who has been so generous to date! It's thanks to you and to our wonderful advertisers that every household in Andover has a copy of this month's *Beacon* to read, to learn from, and to enjoy.

Now it's time to get serious about motivating at least another 109 people to write a check. To help us reach this vitally important goal, Uncle Sam from Andover's Fourth of July parade has issued this challenge:

"To the good citizens of Andover:

"WHEREAS *The Andover Beacon* is an important part of life in our small town, and

"WHEREAS the *Beacon* can't operate without the funds it raises in part through donations, gift subscriptions, and out-of-town subscriptions, and

"WHEREAS we could all use a little fun and excitement when winter starts to drag and it seems like spring will never come,

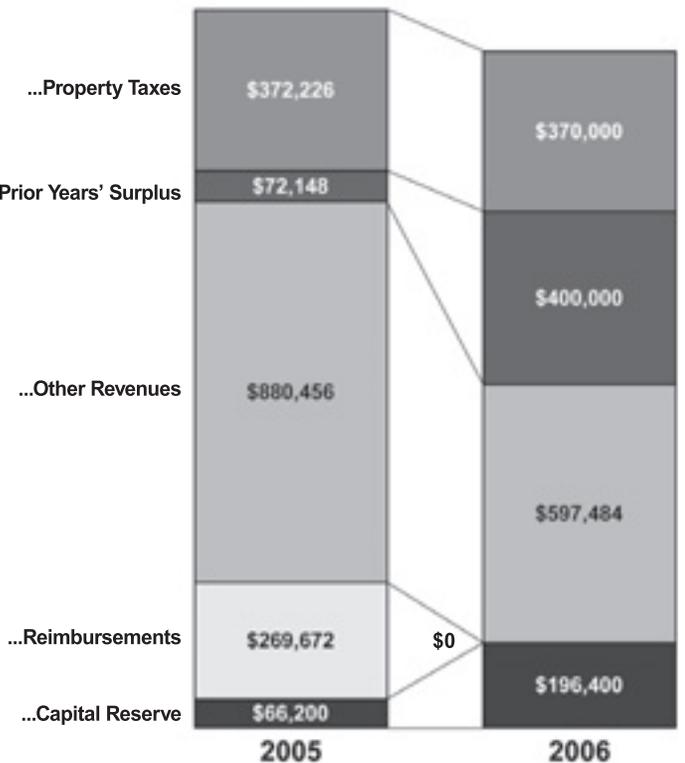
"THEREFORE,

"IF, by 5 PM on February 22 the *Beacon* has achieved its goal of 300 or more members in its second publishing year,

"THEN I, Uncle Sam, will march down Main Street in the Village of Andover at Noon on the Fourth of March, 2006. The good citizens of Andover and its many clubs and orga-

*See Uncle Sam on page 2*

### Town Revenue Estimates from... (before tax credits)



# SUPPORT THE BEACON!

The *Andover Beacon* is mailed free to all Andover addresses thanks to the support of our volunteers, our members, and our advertisers. Have you done your part to support our community newspaper?

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# Beacon Bits

It's the time of year when we're all thinking about 2006, the shiny new year we've been given, and how we're going to spend it. Like the rest of us, the *Beacon* has goals and dreams it needs to focus on in 2006. Here are a few of the most important ones.

**Goal #1: Build a firm, sustainable financial foundation.** Getting to 300 members will get us to break-even every month, a critical milestone we have yet to reach. Beyond that milestone, adding more members and more advertisers will start erasing the "hole" in our finances that over a year of month-to-month losses has created.

Here's how you can help us reach this vitally important goal:

- If you aren't a Beacon member, become one today! There's a form on page three that makes it easy. If you're not sure whether you're already a member or not, call me at 735-6099 and I'll look it up for you.

- Give the gift of the *Beacon* to friends and family who live out of town. Whether you give a gift subscription or a *Beacon* t-shirt (available at the Andover Service Club's Thrift Shop), they'll really enjoy it.

- If you have a business, consider an ad in the *Beacon* or consider sponsoring a page of the *Beacon*. Details are on our Web site at [AndoverBeacon.com](http://AndoverBeacon.com), or call me at 735-6099.

- Talk to your friends and neighbors and ask them to support the *Beacon*. There's nothing more important you can do for the *Beacon* in the long term than to help other people realize that it's worth supporting.

To help reach our important financial goals for this year, we're considering:

- Bumper stickers or pins so *Beacon* members can show their support and thereby encourage others.

- A neighborhood canvassing campaign to get neighbors encouraging neighbors to support the *Beacon*.

**Goal #2: Continue to involve more volunteers in publishing the *Beacon*.** We know from experience that the fewer volunteers involved in publishing the *Beacon*, the less likely it is to continue publishing. This is a simple reality that we can never ignore.

Volunteering for the *Beacon* must be easy and enjoyable for everyone. Our philosophy is "Do something you enjoy, and do it when it's convenient for you." We don't ask our volunteers to make big commitments, and we work hard to match each volunteer to a job they enjoy.

New volunteer positions we'd especially like to fill this year include:

- Help with production, especially preparing ads or photos for print. This is a great opportunity to learn some new skills on your computer.

- Help managing the flood of articles and photos we receive every month. Keeping track of what's where

is an exciting challenge.

- More *Beacon* "guides," volunteers who help other people in the community get organized and motivated to create the articles and photos the *Beacon* needs every month. We especially need *Beacon* Guides in the following areas – Town News; Andover Town Government; People and Events; Proctor Academy; Merrimack Valley High School

- More writers who enjoy writing about town news and town government.

- Someone to coordinate the activities of all our volunteers and help find new volunteers.

- An Events Coordinator to help with the *Beacon's* involvement in various community activities like the Fourth of July, or like the new ideas listed below.

- An ad sales manager to oversee sales and production of the ads in the *Beacon*.

**Goal #3: Find ways to give more back to the community** while advancing our first two goals. There are many community activities that the *Beacon* could help make happen and that would, at the same time, help the *Beacon* reach its financial and/or volunteering goals.

Here are some of the ideas we'd like to explore:

- Should we help organize block parties around Andover as a way to build community and as an opportunity to raise funds for the *Beacon*?

- Should we organize informal classes to help our volunteers and others in the community learn new skills (especially skills that they can use at the *Beacon*)? Would a class on using your digital camera be well received? Or how about one on community outreach and publicity for local organizations? Or one on designing ads and flyers?

- Should we organize a kids and grown-ups town game night to benefit the *Beacon*? Board games, card games, party games – all good reasons to spend an evening away from the TV.

**2006 Will Be A Great Year**

2006 will be the year we get the *Beacon* on a firm financial footing – we simply have no choice in the matter. Like every other year, it will be a year of finding more ways to make it easy and enjoyable for everyone to volunteer for the *Beacon*. And this year we'll start exploring ways to give more back to the community while still advancing our financial and volunteering goals.

It's going to be a great year for the *Beacon*! Please join the fun and do all you can to help these dreams come true.



**Next Month's *Beacon*...**  
...should be in mailboxes on Friday, Feb. 3. Please get all ads, articles, etc. to us by **Sunday, Jan. 15** at the latest. And earlier is always better!

# Letters

Regardless of the parking situation and the addition of a split rail fence between the East Andover Post Office and Bowie's Market, I sincerely hope that everyone will make the effort to support Bowie's Market. I know that 99.9% of us really enjoy having a store in town again.

Bruce and Chris Bowie have made a great effort despite the loss of their store in Bradford. Let's show them that East Andover can be a great place to do business by being "neighborly" and stopping by. Our actions will speak much louder than any words.

I hope you will join me in this effort.

*Jackie Adams*

Shouldn't we be able to pay our town taxes, license fees, registrations, etc. by credit card? If there is a fee associated with this it should be absorbed by the Town because this option would bring in more dollars in a timely fashion and the money is available immediately to the Town.

*Don Varnum*

[According to Town Administrator Mark Stetson, New Hampshire law allows a municipality to accept credit cards, but it is neither practical nor common practice for municipalities to absorb the fee – it would mess up budget calculations.

A petition with 25 signatures of registered voters would put the credit card issue before Town Meeting for a vote.]

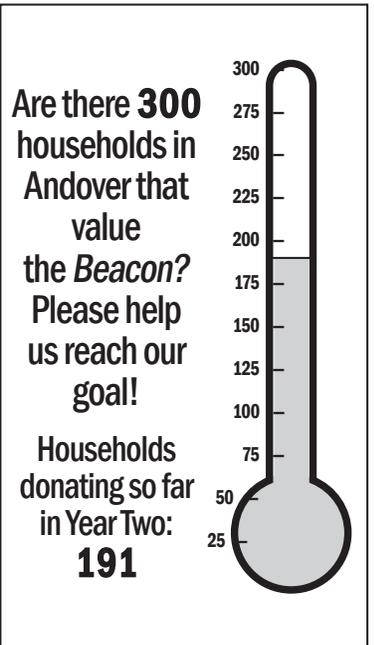
## Uncle Sam from page 1

nizations are invited to march along behind or to simply come and enjoy the silly spectacle."

It's a good bit of silly fun, but it's in support of a very serious and very important goal – to put a firm, sustainable financial foundation under the *Beacon*.

If you haven't already done your part in that cause, now is definitely the time. Please use the form on page three and contribute as generously as you can.

For more information about the *Beacon* or if you have questions, visit our Web site at [AndoverBeacon.com](http://AndoverBeacon.com), e-mail us at [Info@AndoverBeacon.com](mailto:Info@AndoverBeacon.com), call us at 735-6099, or write us at PO Box 149, Andover 03216.



## BEACON MEMBERS WIN!

Each month the *Beacon* holds a random drawing among its members to give away valuable prizes provided by area businesses. **Become a member** for a year, support the *Beacon*, and join the fun! This month's winners are:

Blackwater Junct. Rest.	Breakfast for Two	Bill and Beth Chamberlin
Bowie's Market	Breakfast for Two	Wayne and Sally Nicoll
Handknits By Judy	Handknit Scarf	Ken and Nancy Tripp
Jake's Market in Andover	\$10 Cash Card	Steve and Lynsey Perkins
Mackenna's Restaurant	\$10 Gift Certificate	Mike Vercellotti & Nancy Witherspoon
Andover Service Club	Cookbook	Karen and Don Gross

**Winners – contact the *Beacon* at 735-5331 to collect your prize.**  
*Prizes not redeemable for cash.*

The *Andover Beacon* is published monthly by Community Publishing of Andover, Inc., a New Hampshire non-profit corporation. **Board of Directors:** Steve Darling, Judy Evans, Bryan Johnson, Nan Kaplan, Chuck Will.

As a community newspaper, the *Beacon* relies almost totally on volunteers. **When you have the time and the inclination, please help – NO COMMITMENT REQUIRED!**

The *Beacon* is mailed free to all Andover addresses. We ask for a minimum \$25 annual donation from out-of-town or seasonal subscribers who would like the paper mailed to them. **We welcome donations from the community** and depend on your financial support for a large part of our operating budget.

Publisher: Charlie Darling  
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*Beacon* Guides: Heidi Terwilliger, Joanie Filon, Ray Mitchell, Carmen Bates, Doreen Perreault, Emily Baker, Shirley Currier, Tracy Merriman  
Production Assistance: David Powers  
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# TOWN MEETING ISSUE COMING

By Charlie Darling  
Beacon staff

The February and March issues of the *Beacon* are the most important issues of the year. They help our community prepare for a productive, constructive Town Meeting and School District Meeting, as well as meetings for our two fire departments and the Water District.

The March issue is also the issue in which we publish "The Rest Of The Town Report," a section that gives 20 or more of the local non-profit organizations that serve our community a chance to let us all know what they've accomplished in the past year and what they plan for the next.

Pulling together all the material for these two issues is a very big job, and we have very little time to do it. Material for the February issue needs to be in hand by January 15, and for the March issue by February 15 – in other words, before you know it!

Here's how you can help:

**If you belong to any committee...** talk with other committee members about what information your committee has that voters need to understand before Town Meeting. Get in touch with the *Beacon* right away so we can start planning how best to include that information in the February and/or March issues.

**If you belong to a local non-profit organization...** find out who might write a short (250 words) annual report for your organization by February 6 at the latest. Urge them to get in touch with the

*Beacon* right away for details about what to cover, how to send it to us, etc.

**If you're involved in preparing a warrant article...** give careful thought to what voters need to know to vote intelligently on the article, then get in touch with the *Beacon* right away to discuss how the *Beacon* can help get that information into voters' hands.

**If you're a candidate on one of the March ballots...** consider preparing a short statement (150 words maximum) and providing a head-and-shoulders photo for the March issue. Materials must be in our hands by February 6 at the latest. Contact the *Beacon* right away for details.

**If you're planning to prepare something for the February or March issues...** please don't blindsides us with it. Contact us right away to discuss what you're working on so we can be prepared.

**If you have any interest in town government...** please volunteer to help us make the February and March issues the best they can be. We need people to organize and coordinate, to research, to write, to edit, to contact people...to do all kinds of things! Please let us know how you'd like to help. Your help is very important!

The *Beacon* can't serve the community to its full potential, especially for the critical February and March issues, without your help. If there's anything you can do to help, please contact us at 735-6099 or Mail@AndoverBeacon.com as soon as possible.

# County Taxes Are Correct... But Are They Fair To Andover?

By Jim Danforth  
State Representative

The December *Beacon* raised the question of why Andover's share of the overall County assessment has increased by so much more than the overall County budget itself has increased. Based on my long conversations with County staff and officials, it's not because of an error in calculations.

Andover's share of the County budget is 1.9%, while Concord's share is 25.9%. Everything being equal, this means that Andover's total real estate assessed value should be 7.5% of Concord's. And based on the State's equalized assessed valuations from 2004 for Andover, our \$274,459,881 valuation is indeed 7.5% of the City of Concord's \$3,630,522,465 valuation.

But based on personal observation of the size of Andover and the size of Concord, I have a hard time seeing how Andover's tax base could be 7.5% of Concord's tax base. I think that percentage should be a lot lower, maybe around 4%.

### Other Ways To Compare

Real estate valuation isn't the only way to compare two areas. Here are some other ways to look at whether we're paying just our fair share of the County budget, or more.

**Commercial Property:** I have not been able to obtain the numbers com-

paring the commercial property tax base of Concord and Andover; but I feel it would be fair to claim that Andover has less than 1% of the commercial property of Concord.

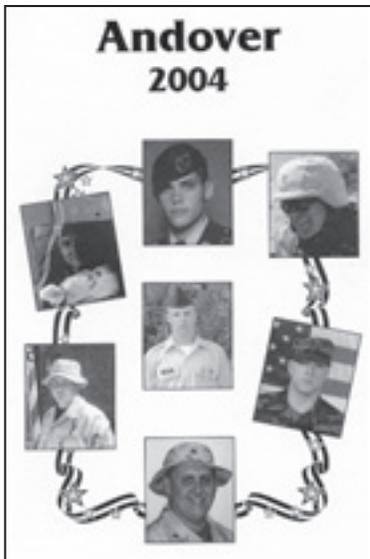
**Population:** A population comparison between Concord (population 41,380) and Andover (population 2,174) shows that Andover is only 5.25% the size of Concord.

**Benefits:** Based on the current 2005 County tax assessment and the 2004 benefit analysis of County services (including employment by Andover residents but excluding the County prison), Andover property owners will be paying about \$80,000 more in County property tax than Andover receives in benefits from the County.

Using the 2006 County budget and 2005 County tax rate, Andover property owners would pay \$602,075 to the County under the current system based on property value. If County taxes were based on population, Andover would pay \$421,452. With a direct benefit estimated at \$522,075 for the residents of Andover, the population method seems to give a number that's too low to be fair.

I have written to Merrimack County Commissioners asking that a committee be set up to investigate possible methods of determining towns' and cities' share of the County tax rate that would be fair.

# 2004 Town Report Wins Award



The 2005 Local Government Center Conference was held over three days in mid-November in Manchester. On November 17, Andover was awarded second place for its 2004 Town Report.

The New Hampshire Local Government Center conducts an Annual Report Contest each year. The awards are given to towns in each of six population categories, plus one for the cities.

Andover's win this year was no fluke. Rather, it's our fifth Town Report award in the past 12 years. In 1993, the town won first place. It won third in 1997 and 2000 and second in 2002 and again this year.

The plaque for the 2004 Town Report award is on display in the Town Office lobby.

Pictured on the cover of Andover's award-winning Town Report 2004 were seven Andover servicemen. Clockwise from the top: Benjamin Beauchemin, David Grover, Matthew Adams, Larry Wilson, Jeremy Shedd, Kevin Barry. Center: Nicholas Meier (1980-2004).

# Advertise in The Andover Beacon

The *Beacon* is Andover's most eagerly read source of good news from Andover, East Andover, West Andover, Potter Place, and Cilleyville. It is mailed every month to over 1,100 households in Andover and to many seasonal residents and out-of-town subscribers. For more information, call our ad sales team or visit [AndoverBeacon.com](http://AndoverBeacon.com)

Judy Evans  
735-5331

Connie Powers  
735-5454

Marj Roy  
735-5112

Tina Barton  
735-6476

Ad Size	12 months prepaid	6 mo ppd	3 mo ppd	1 mo ppd
Sixteenth page	\$182	\$102	\$54	\$19
Eighth page	\$374	\$210	\$111	\$39
Quarter page	\$662	\$372	\$196	\$69
Half page	\$1,334	\$750	\$396	\$139
Full page	\$2,486	\$1,398	\$738	\$259
Pre-printed insert	\$1,334	\$750	\$396	\$139

# BECOME A BEACON MEMBER!

Seasonal Gift	Local or Out of Town	Here's my member donation of \$_____ for (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal (\$25 min) <input type="checkbox"/> Out of Town (\$25 min) <input type="checkbox"/> Gift (\$25 min)
	Local or Out of Town	Your Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ Phone or E-mail _____
Seasonal	Local or Out of Town	Other Name _____ Other Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ Phone or E-mail _____
		Seasonal: which months are you at the "other" address? _____

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**TOWN of ANDOVER**

**Andover Budget Committee**

**Public Hearings**

**Andover School Budget**  
**January 11, 7 PM**

**Town, Fire, and Water Budgets**  
**January 18, 7 PM**

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# UNDERSTANDING THE TOWN BUDGET

By Charlie Darling  
Beacon staff

This is the second year now that I've struggled to really understand the Town budget in order to be sure that the *Beacon* explains things as clearly and fairly as possible. It's still a maddeningly complex set of issues, but I'm starting to see some underlying basic ideas that are helping me understand it all a little better.

I thought it would be useful to lay out those basic ideas here, to help those of our readers who are interested prepare for the Budget Committee's public hearings in January and Town Meeting in March. These basic ideas won't make you a municipal finance expert – far from it! But they may help you be a bit less confused by some of the things you hear.

**Idea #1:** *The total budget amount may have very little impact on our property tax bills.* The total budget amount has to account for every dollar that the Town will spend this year. But just because we have to spend a dollar doesn't necessarily mean that dollar will appear on somebody's property tax bill. The total budget amount could go up, but our property tax bills could go down – or vice versa.

How's that possible? Keep reading!

**Idea #2:** *We have five different ways to get the money to cover the total budget plus any tax credits we grant.* And only one of those ways is from property taxes.

Some of the money to cover the budget is money that we've already saved in previous years for a specific purpose. These savings are called Capital Reserve Accounts or Trust Funds.

Some of the money to cover the budget is money that the state or federal government will directly reimburse us for as soon as we spend it. Last year, for example, we put \$350,000 in the budget to rebuild the Dyer's Crossing bridge, but the state paid us back 80% of that.

Some of the money to cover the budget comes from fees and taxes other than the property tax. At around \$300,000, motor vehicle permit fees are by far the

biggest example of this type of money, but it includes dog licenses, building permits, the sale of recyclables, interest and penalties, and many other types of income to the Town.

Some of the money to cover the budget can come from money left over from previous years, if there is any. The Selectmen and/or Town Meeting often use money from "previous years' surplus" to cover specific budget items or to make the total revenue numbers work out in a certain way.

Finally, whatever money we need in order to cover the budget, but that we haven't taken from one of the four sources of money listed above, has to come from the town portion of our property tax bill.

**Idea #3:** *The town portion of our property tax bill is determined by a complex juggling act.* The juggling act starts with the total town budget – the money we need to spend in the coming year. But after that, it's all about "revenue" – the money with which we'll cover that total budget.

As discussed above, there are only five sources of revenue. Here's how those sources of revenue cover our expenses for the year.

- We take money for some budgetted expenses out of Capital Reserve Accounts and Trust Funds. That's pretty straightforward because the rules for how money in those accounts can or can't be used are clear.

- We count on reimbursements from the state and/or federal governments for some budgetted expenses. Last year we counted on a lot of reimbursement revenue for the Dyer's Crossing bridge project. This year, none of our budgetted expenses are reimbursable. In general, we have a good idea of what's reimbursable and what's not.

- We make our best guess about the revenue we'll get from fees and taxes other than the property tax. But this gets tricky – how many motor vehicle permits will be issued next year? How much revenue will we earn from the recyclables

See Balance on page 5

## Are You Concerned About A Parent, Friend, or Family Member Living Alone?

Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association, your valued, professional local home care agency since 1970 is ready to help.

We offer a variety of services for seniors who want to remain at home, including:

- Health Status Monitoring
- Medication Assistance
- Light Housekeeping
- Cooking
- Bathing
- Hairdressing
- 24-Hour Nursing On Call

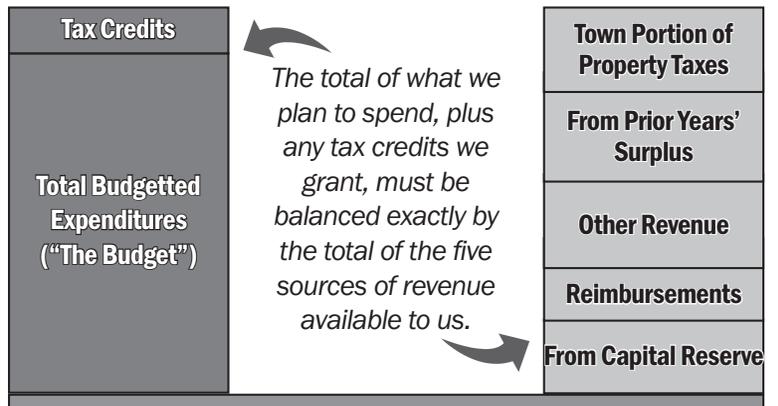
**WE CARE WHERE YOU ARE**



Let us create a personalized plan for you or your loved one.

Please call Maureen at  
**(603) 526-4077**

Be sure to ask for the "Safe and Secure at Home" program.



## BALANCING THE TOWN BUDGET

# Help Prevent An Epidemic In Andover

By Charlie Darling  
Beacon staff

Even if a pandemic rages in the world around us, there's no law that says you and your family have to get sick. If you and enough of your neighbors take the necessary precautions when the flu arrives, Andover could be spared many of the dire consequences that experts are predicting.

The secret to staying healthy when flu is everywhere starts with "thinking like a germ." You can't get the flu if flu germs can't get inside you. If you stop them while they're still outside, you won't get sick.

And flu germs don't get inside you by magic. They are spread from sick people to well people by simple, everyday actions and behaviors, many of which we don't even think about.

When flu is around, it's time to think carefully about these everyday things, because you can change almost all of them and drastically reduce the chance of getting the flu.

### Stay Healthy

To keep from getting the flu...  
...keep your hands away from your face as much as possible. The easiest way to get the flu is by getting flu germs on your hands and then giving them a free ride to your mouth, nose, or eyes.

...wash your hands often. If the flu is around, your hands will be picking up flu germs constantly. Stop those germs before they get any further!

...avoid places where the germs are. Don't go to public places and public events any more than you have to. And as soon as you get home, wash your face and hands.

...keep your immune system strong. Dress warmly, particularly your head and neck, so your body doesn't have to divert energy from your immune system to keep itself warm. Take a good multi-vitamin every day. Consider immune-system-enhancing herbs like echinacea.

...stop, drop, and roll into bed at the first sign of a problem. If you feel the

slightest hint of "something coming on," put your normal routine on hold for a few hours or a day. Get some extra rest and drink lots of hot liquids – give your immune system some help in fighting off the germs. Half a day off now might save you, your friends, and your family each a week or two of misery.

### Keep It To Yourself

If you do wind up sick, do everything you can to "keep it to yourself." Epidemics aren't caused by sick people – they're caused by sick people spreading their sickness. To protect your friends and family...

...get into bed and stay there. It's what's best for you, and it's definitely best for your friends and family not to have you around and about, spreading germs.

...don't cough or sneeze into the air or into your hands – that's a sure-fire way to spread flu germs. Cover your mouth and nose with a large handkerchief or the crook of your elbow instead. Use disinfect hand-wipes on your hands and face after each cough or sneeze.

...if things get bad enough that the state issues quarantine orders, cooperate! If things are that serious, then lives are at stake – quite possibly yours or your family's – and obeying a quarantine order may be the best way to save your own life or the lives of others.

### Traffic Advisory

#### From the Beacon Traffic 'Copter

In early December, New Hampshire DOT welded reinforcing steel plates to six of the nine beams that support the bridge over Hame Shop Brook on Bradley Lake Road. After an inspection, DOT informally advised the Selectmen that the bridge can handle legal loads again. Upon receipt of a formal notice from DOT the Selectmen plan to remove the posting.

Planning continues for rebuilding the bridge in the spring.

## Balance from page 4

we collect at the Transfer Station and sell? Nobody can be exactly sure.

• The Selectmen and/or Town Meeting can take money from the previous years' surplus account, if there is any money there to take. The Selectmen often take enough from the previous years' surplus account so that the rest of the revenue we need (which at this point can only come from the town portion of the property tax) works out to a certain amount.

• Finally, whatever we haven't raised in these other ways has to be raised through the town portion of the property tax. The remaining amount we need is divided by the total assessment of all the taxable land and buildings in town to come up with the town portion of the property tax rate, and that's what appears on your tax bill.

### Estimated Vs. Actual

So we spend money all year, and we raise money from five different sources to cover that spending. And because there are a lot of unknowns in setting the budget and estimating revenues (to say nothing of unexpected equipment breakdowns or unusual spring and fall floods), things never work out exactly as planned.

If we come up a little short, the Selectmen have to take the difference out of the previous years' surplus account. If we come out a little ahead, the difference goes into the previous years' surplus account to help out in future budget years.

Then it's time to start work on the next year's budget, and the cycle starts all over again.



School Board and SAU 46 officials: Front (l-r): Andover School Board members Robin Boynton, Vicky Mishcon, Doug Boisvert, David Hewitt, and Renee Goodwin. Back: Dr. Michael Martin, SAU 46 Superintendent of Schools; Jane Slayton, AE/MS Principal; Kathleen Boucher, SAU 46 Human Resources Manager; Christine Barry, SAU 46 Assistant Superintendent; Kristin Flaherty, AE/MS Assistant Principal; Robin Heins, SAU 46 Business Administrator.

Photo: Charlie Darling

# AE/MS Facility Study To Be Unveiled In Public Meeting

By Vicky Mishcon  
Andover School Board

The Andover Elementary / Middle School Facility Study is complete. It will be presented to the public on Tuesday, January 10 at 7:30 PM in the AE/MS gym.

This is a very important public meeting, as the results of the Facility Study will help the Andover community decide whether or not to expand or update our school building, our school grounds, and our educational programs. These decisions could impact the school budgets for the next several years, as there could be capital costs and operational costs to implement any changes.

The Facility Study is a direct response to one of the five goals in the AE/MS Long Range Plan. Dr. Mark Joyce and Mr. Dennis Pope of the New Hampshire School Administrators As-

sociation conducted the independent study for the Andover School Board, soliciting input from the public, the AE/MS staff, and the School Board.

Please join the Andover School Board at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, January 10 in the school gym for this very important public meeting.

## AE/MS FACILITY STUDY

### PUBLIC PRESENTATION AE/MS Facility Study

January 10 at 7:30 PM  
AE/MS Gym

Please plan to attend to hear the consultants' recommendations for expansion and/or update of the AE/MS building and grounds

For more info, call 735-5494



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**Budget from page 1**

get increase are:

- High school tuition up \$154,160
- Faculty salary up \$60,864
- Special education up \$51,836
- Roof repairs \$30,000
- High school tuition reserve fund \$25,000
- Fuel and energy up \$16,118

The impact of the proposed school budget on 2006 tax bills would be \$10.64. That figure may turn out to be lower if, at the end of this school year in June, there are any unexpended funds to apply to the 2006 budget.

At the end of the 2004/2005 school year in June 2005 there was \$95,289 of unexpended surplus that was used to reduce the 2005 school tax rate from \$9.31 to \$9.01. We won't know until next June whether there will be any unexpended funds to lower the 2006 school tax rate.

**Town Budget**

For 2005, Town Meeting passed a budget for the Town of Andover of \$1,567,138. Significant portions of the expenditures in this budget were covered by reimbursements from the state for highway projects.

After taking into account:

- revenues from sources other than property taxes,
- reimbursements from the state,
- withdrawals from capital reserve accounts, and
- the application of \$72,148 from previous years' surplus,

the net amount to be funded by property taxes was \$372,226, and the resulting tax rate for 2005 was \$1.44.

For 2006, the Board of Selectmen propose a budget of \$1,494,153. Again taking into account:

- estimated revenues from sources other than property taxes,
- reimbursements from the state,
- withdrawals from capital reserve accounts, and
- the application of approximately \$400,000 from previous years' surplus,

the net amount to be funded by property taxes can be held the same as in 2005, approximately \$372,000. The Selectmen have committed to holding the town property tax rate for 2006 at \$1.44, the same as for 2005.

The big question raised by these town budget figures is why, when the total budget is down by about \$70,000, do we have to use over five times as much money from previous years' surplus than we did last year to achieve the same tax rate?

Part of the answer lies in a one-time revenue boost of about \$114,000 we received in 2005 from the sale of two pieces of town land (one on Chase Hill Road and one on Depot Street). That lowered significantly the amount the Selectmen had to use in 2005 from previous years' surplus.

Another part of the answer involves the 2005 Dyer's Crossing bridge project. The 2005 budget included about \$350,000 in expenses for the Dyer's Crossing bridge project. The state reimbursed us for 80% of that expense – that's about \$280,000 of the 2005 budget that we didn't have to cover with "local" money.

The final part of the answer lies in several major increases in expenses for 2006, including:

**Purchase a road grader.** By appropriating \$80,000 this year (instead of the \$30,000 we've been appropriating each year as a capital reserve for replacing the grader), we'll have enough (along with the existing capital reserve) to replace the failing grader this year instead of next.

**Highways and bridges.** The special project for 2006 is to resurface Chase Hill Road, which will cost more than we normally spend each year on special highway projects. It will be cheaper to do the job all at one time, rather than split it up into two years, so this year's special project appropriation is \$22,700 higher than last year's. Coupled with an increase in equipment rental costs of over \$15,500, the Highway and Bridges appropriation is up by \$37,740.

**Bradley Lake Bridge repair.** The Town's share of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation's budget to rebuild this failing bridge is \$24,000.

**Purchase trash trailer for the Transfer Station.** By appropriating \$22,000 this year (instead of the \$10,000 we've been appropriating each year as a capital reserve for replacing the trash trailer), we'll have enough (along with the existing capital reserve) to replace

it with a bigger one this year instead of next. The current trash trailer is worn out and is filled nearly to capacity several Saturdays during the summer.

**Police salaries.** Andover is currently the third-lowest-paying town of our size in terms of what we pay our police officers. An increase of \$12,439 this year includes a small rise in hourly pay rates, plus the cost of increasing from 24 hours per week to 32 the number of night hours when we have an officer on duty.

**Transfer Station expenses.** An increase of \$12,639 includes increases in operating expenses like salaries; trucking expense to Penacook; tipping fees at Penacook; construction debris disposal fees; and hazardous waste collection fees.

Most of these major increases have to be covered 100% by the town, unlike last year's Dyer's Crossing bridge project, which was 80% covered by the state. To cover these increases without increasing the property tax rate (and without the "help" of selling \$114,000 of land, as we did last year), the Selectmen have committed to using about \$400,000 from previous years' surplus.

So the bottom line is that in a year when Andover's total budgeted expenses have decreased slightly, we have to come up with over \$300,000 more money from local sources than we did last year.

**Fire Department Budgets**

The Andover Fire Department tax rate is estimated at \$0.61 for 2006, compared with \$0.58 for 2005.

The East Andover Fire Department tax rate is estimated at \$0.33 for 2006, compared with \$0.32 for 2005.

**County Assessment**

The Merrimack County assessment for 2006 to Andover taxpayers is as yet unknown, but it is anticipated to be at least as large as it was last year, at a tax rate of \$2.29.

*Special thanks to Ed Hiller, Vice-Chairman of the Budget Committee, and to Mark Stetson, Town Administrator, for their extraordinary expertise, patience, and help in the Beacon's coverage of this year's budget. They stuck with us through endless drafts and were always there to nigger out the most arcane details or to air the broadest theoretical and philosophical concerns. Our coverage would not have been even remotely possible without their contributions.*

**Pandemic from page 1**

a recent seminar with the *Beacon*.

"Avian flu has greater potential for impact because it is more likely to strike everyone, not just the very young and old typically affected by flu. In comparison, a population of 100,000 hit by a 'normal' flu would result in about 10 people hospitalized and one death. Avian flu within the same 100,000 could incapacitate 3,000 people, send 75 to hospitals, and kill half of them. Considering New Hampshire's situation, that's about 10,000 really sick people, and we only have about 2,500 hospital beds."

The experts are saying we could see a third of the population or more sick in bed for two weeks, all at once. This raises serious questions of having enough people to carry on critical everyday tasks like fire, police, rescue, and medical services. Suppliers of fuel, utilities, and financial services will be affected as well. Hospitals likely will be full; evacuation centers may need to care for people who can't stay at home. Evacuation centers will need stockpiles of food and supplies.

"A recurring message we're getting is that local communities will be pretty much on our own," Chief Lefebvre added. "We can't count on a lot of help from the state or federal governments – they'll simply be overwhelmed."

Jane Hubbard, of Hubbard Consulting, concurs. "We should plan on no outside help. The state will be so consumed with tracking cases that there essentially will be no assistance to the locals." Hubbard Consulting was hired by the Town of Andover through a state/federal grant to assist communities in developing emergency response plans.

"Right now we are a little bit ahead of the regions on this...we expect much more dialog in the months to come on how Andover will fit into the regional plan," Jane added.

Chief Lefebvre's contacts with other towns leaves him with the same feeling. "Andover's ahead of most communities. The hard part will be quarantining those who are sick, their families, and protecting the caregivers. We're social creatures, and limiting contact with each other to avoid contagion may be the greatest challenge."



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## Concord Monitor Story Features The Beacon

By Elizabeth Walters  
Concord Monitor staff

The questions start near the end of every month. At the Andover Elementary Middle School, around town and in the post office, everybody wants to know the same thing: When is the new Beacon coming out?

In the 15 months since it first published, the Andover Beacon has become the most comprehensive and most popular way for people in town to find out what their neighbors are up to, including who got married, who's serving in Iraq and how the third- and fourth-grade soccer teams did this season. And at a time when readership is declining in most newspaper markets and communities are decrying a fall-off in volunteerism, the Beacon, which is staffed by volunteers, has managed to become a part of community life.

"People are reading about different programs and getting really involved in things," said Doreen Perreault, who writes stories and recruits other reporters as the school "Beacon guide," or section coordinator. "It's kind of pulled the community back together."

The Beacon took its name from a subscription-based newspaper that closed in 2003, said its publisher, Charlie Darling. Its loss was lamented around town, and Darling, who has a background in publishing, became convinced that Andover needed a new paper. He recruited a board of directors and some writers, and in October 2004, the inaugural Beacon rolled off the presses and into every mailbox in town.

The Beacon operates on a few key principles, Darling said. It seeks to provide its readers with valuable news they couldn't find elsewhere, and it does so by delivering to every home in town. It relies on a large network of writers to cover the organizations they're involved in, an approach Darling finds more sustainable than having just a small group of very hardworking volunteers.

"It happens all over town, in spare bedrooms and on kitchen tables," he said. "You just don't stop recruiting new people."

The Beacon has undoubtedly succeeded in involving the community. The latest 24-page issue features articles by more than 35 different authors, and more than 130 residents appear in photos. Darling received five extra pages' worth of content that will have to wait for next time.

Stories that made it in the recent issue include a breakdown of the town's tax rate, a 25-question quiz about the Andover Rescue squad, bulletins from the Soo-Nipi Audubon chapter and the Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association, and a firsthand account from resident Bill Matulevich of his work in Red Cross shelters in hurricane-devastated areas of Louisiana.

"It's one more way to get kids to read, because kids love reading the Beacon," said Jane Slayton, the principal of Andover Elementary Middle School.

It's also a good way to get kids to write. Several students have submitted articles.

"I think they like seeing their name in the paper and seeing the fruits of their labor," said Heidi Terwilliger, who's recruited several young writers as the sports Beacon guide.

Simply by mentioning them, the paper has helped with town events, too. Slayton thinks the reason that this year's Veterans Day activities at the school drew more vets than ever before was that the Beacon previewed the event. Likewise, she said, last year's annual school meeting was over in a matter of minutes in part because the Beacon ran stories beforehand explaining every town and school warrant article.

But the Beacon is struggling with its financial model, which Darling compares to public broadcasting. Like PBS, the Beacon gives people content first, then asks for a contribution. The difference between the Beacon and PBS is that the Beacon has only about 1,150 households to ask for help. Only 150 have made contributions so far.

"To be perfectly blunt, no, we can't continue at the level we're at, long-term," Darling said.

The paper operates as a nonprofit, although it's not exempt from federal taxes because it accepts paid advertising. It has no office to incur utility costs, and it owns no computers. It just needs to break even on the approximately \$2,500 a month it costs to create, print and distribute an issue. For that to happen, Darling estimates that the paper needs 150 more households to contribute and 80 paid advertisers; the Beacon now has about 60.

The paper is also selling T-shirts, seasonal subscriptions and gift subscriptions for out-of-town readers.

Darling is an optimist, though. Pointing out in the latest issue that the number of contributing households leaves 86 percent of Andover's homes still to write checks, Darling wrote, "I confess to being a 'glass 14 percent full' kind of person." Plenty of people have told him they're going to contribute, he said — they just haven't done so yet.

Overall, Darling's excited that the 60 to 80 hours he puts in on the Beacon each week for a small salary are paying off. Others are quick to credit him with the paper's success, but he credits the whole town.

"The Beacon is not only about the community of Andover; it's by the community of Andover," he said. "It's part of the community of Andover in a very real way."

As the weather grows colder, the town's ski programs are getting under way. The snowmobile trails will open. The Andover Fire Department will hold its poinsettia sale, and the East Andover Fire Department will hold its Christmas tree sale. The East Andover Village Preschool's students plan to turn themselves into reindeer.

Most people will be too busy to take in everything. But in January, they can read about it all in the Beacon.



The rebuilt and remodelled main showroom at the Barn Store shows no sign of the fire that gutted it last July. Photo: Charlie Darling

## The Barn Store Bounces Back

By Charlie Darling  
Beacon staff

The July 11 electrical fire that badly damaged the main floor and showroom of The Barn Store on Route 4 in Salisbury is just a memory now. On December 10 the repaired and refurbished showroom was reopened for business.

Since the fire, the store had been operating with a greatly reduced inventory, using the undamaged ground floor and rented trailers to accommodate customers. Employees and customers alike are thrilled to have the main floor back in use and to have The Barn Store's full range of inventory available again.

The rebuilding project included

some new features as well. There's now a dressing room off the showroom floor, and a kitchen and dining area should be in operation this spring for breakfast and lunch.

The Barn Store is also planning to sell hormone- and antibiotic-free pork, lamb, and beef. The locally raised meat will be available in a variety of cuts including steaks, chops, bacon, legs of lamb, and the like.

*The Barn Store is on Route 4 in Salisbury, a bit south of Route 127. It is open seven days a week, Monday through Friday 7 AM to 6 PM, Saturday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, and Sunday 9:30 AM to 4 PM. You can reach them at 648-2888.*

## College Classes Return To Franklin High

New Hampshire Community Technical College (NHCTC) Laconia announces the new Franklin Campus opening to be located at Franklin High School (FHS) on Central Street in Franklin. Eight new evening classes will be offered at FHS starting January 17.

The new courses to be offered will be:

- Accounting I
- Introduction to Business
- Growth and Development of the Young Child
- Introduction to Exceptionalities
- College Composition
- Fundamentals of Mathematics
- American Government
- Introduction to Psychology

Each course will be offered one night a week from 6 PM to 8:45 PM.

"NHCTC Laconia offered college credit courses at FHS for three years starting in 1998," says NHCTC Laconia Interim President Don Morrissey. "The response was always good, and the

College would have remained, but the remodeling of the high school created space issues and space needs required us to leave. We're glad to be back."

Laura Cleaves has been hired as the new Franklin Campus Coordinator for NHCTC Laconia. Cleaves held the position of Registrar at the New Hampshire Institute of Art in Manchester for 10 years. Earlier she had been a clerical supervisor at the University of New Hampshire in Manchester.

Representative Jim Ryan of Franklin has been instrumental in bringing college programming back to FHS and has advocated well for NHCTC Laconia's return. Support has followed from Franklin School Superintendent Dr. Robert McKenney and FHS Principal Dr. Robert Braman.

For additional information and to register for Franklin spring classes, contact Hill at 524-3207 ext. 718 or Rae Gammons ext. 740. Financial aid is available.



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## Board Of Selectmen

November 21

*Condensed from approved minutes*

**Present:** Chairman Dennis Fenton, Selectmen Roger Godwin and Andrew Gup-till, Town Administrator Mark Stetson

The Board further reviewed Road Agent John Thompson's recommended budget for 2006. The budget covers re-building all of the currently paved portion of Chase Hill Road and about 200 feet of Emery Road.

The work would include replacing existing drainage structures, installing underdrain where necessary, reclaiming the existing pavement, slightly lowering the grade near the top of the hill, adding several inches of crushed gravel, and putting down a two-inch thick base coat of pavement. The final one-inch top coat would be applied a couple of years down the road.

Thompson's plan calls for crushing approximately 5,000 yards of gravel at the Transfer Station and using about half of that amount on this project.

After a lengthy discussion the Board approved increases in the hourly rates paid for trucks hired to plow and sand.

Thompson told the Board that the Pinewood Lane drainage project is now complete. He also told the Board that the grader is again out of service, this time with an electrical problem in the cab. He opined that it would be fixed and operable within a day or so.

The Board reaffirmed its previous decision to enforce the penalty clause in the contractor's contract for the Dyers Crossing Road bridge for not completing the job on the schedule specified in the contract.

The Board acknowledged receipt of two estimates from the Department of Transportation (DOT) regarding the Bradley Lake Road bridge. One is to replace only the five worst steel stringers, for approximately \$43,000. The second is to replace the deck and stringers with a pre-cast concrete deck and new railings for an estimated cost of \$118,200. Either option would qualify for the state Bridge Aid Reimbursement Program, leaving the Town responsible for only 20% of the total cost.

The Board quickly determined that, for a net cost to the Town of just under \$24,000, replacing the entire structure makes the most sense. The replacement work would be scheduled to be completed in the spring. However, the DOT committed to making temporary repairs in the interim so that the weight posting for the bridge can be raised above the current three-ton limit.

The Board discussed an offer from Cersosimo Industries to install a temporary bridge on top of the existing Bradley Lake Road bridge to accommodate a logging operation. The Board expressed concern that, if they were to permit the use of this temporary bridge, vehicular traffic would have to negotiate both

a gap of almost a foot between the side and the railings, and a six-inch transition onto and off of the temporary structure.

The Board decided to require a statement from a licensed engineer attesting to the weight capacity of the structure and also a certificate of insurance from Cersosimo Industries insulating the Town from liability prior to agreeing to the offer. The Board also decided to limit the time that the temporary structure could be in place to no more than two days.

Under old business, the Board further reviewed and refined its proposed budget for 2006, and committed to utilizing surplus funds as revenue in order to keep the Town portion of the tax rate the same in 2006 as it was in 2005.

Stetson relayed a request from the Cemetery Trustees that the work of maintaining the cemeteries in 2006 be put out to bid. After a brief discussion, the Board opined that the current proposal for 2006, submitted by the contractor who did the work in 2005, is very competitive and should be accepted.

December 5

*Condensed from approved minutes*

**Present:** Chairman Dennis Fenton, Selectman Roger Godwin, Town Administrator Mark Stetson

The Board opened and rejected the only bid received for the sale of the 1998 police cruiser in the amount of \$126. Godwin suggested the Board try again using a Chinese auction strategy

with a tally kept in public view in the Town Office of the current high bidder. Anyone then would have the opportunity to place a higher bid.

Road Agent John Thompson reported seeing, earlier in the day, DOT personnel working on the bridge on Bradley Lake Road.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the need to examine the Town's safety practices in light of the tragic accident in New London last week that claimed the life of a highway department worker there. The Board committed to authorizing the purchase of whatever equipment is needed for the Town to comply with applicable federal guidelines.

Thompson told the Board that with the delivery of the approximately 400 yards of sand owed from Jon Ohler, the Town would probably be able to postpone the purchase of sand until after the new budget year starts.

The Board then met with Marty Smith and his surveyor, Web Stout, to review a plan for the construction of a pond and installation of a dry hydrant all for fire protection purposes which is a condition of the approval of Smith's recent subdivision of property on Route 4A. After Andover Fire Chief John Landry arrived and approved the plan, the Board agreed to extend the existing agreement with Smith for said construction with a new deadline for completion of August 31, 2006.

See Selectmen on page 9

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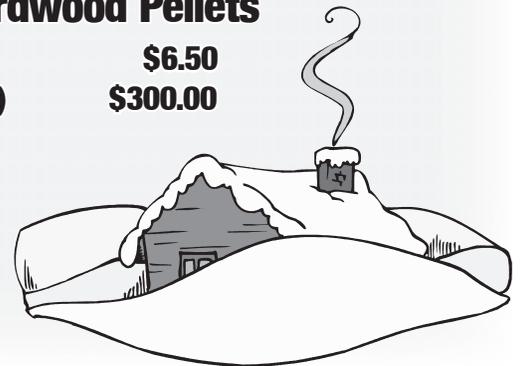
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### Selectmen from page 8

Under old business, the Board finalized its recommended budget for presentation to the Budget Committee at its next meeting on December 7. One notable change from the last draft that the Board reviewed includes funding to contract with Avitar the job of re-measuring and re-listing one third of all of the developed properties in 2006. In addition to satisfying a state requirement, spreading the work out over a period of years saves the Town significant money by not having to do a complete reevaluation.

The Board signed an agreement with Cersosimo Industries regarding the installation of a dry hydrant into a water body adjacent to Flaghole Road in Franklin in order to satisfy a requirement of a subdivision of land in Andover and Salisbury.

The Board approved a change order request from the Dyers Crossing Road bridge project contractor increasing the number of contract days by 30 days. The request was originally submitted to the supervising engineer in July and approved verbally at that time by the Board, but the written request did not arrive until recently.

Under new business, the Board decided to request a check as reimbursement for a computer glitch that failed to include the inventory penalty amount in the 2005 tax bill totals. The check is in lieu of a credit toward future invoices from Avitar.

The Board decided not to approve a recommendation for a motor vehicle inspection station license for a business on Plains Road until after the appropriate approvals have been issued by both the Zoning and Planning Boards.

The Board approved an abatement application for Proctor Academy for Denburg House as it now qualifies for the educational exemption and also one for David and Morgan Salathe for the portion of time during the current tax year that the Town owned the property that they purchased on Chase Hill Road.

The Board then met with Police Chief Glenn Laramie who reviewed briefly the number of calls for service for the department during the previous 30-day period. He then left the meeting.

The Board then met with Recycling Committee members Vicky Mishcon and Ken Tripp who presented a proposal for the Town to collect electronics for recycling. A Vermont organization has committed to providing regular pick up of a minimum of four gaylord boxes per trip of TVs, computer monitors, CPUs, and other electronic equipment for a fee per pound plus an amount for transportation. The attendants will continue to collect a fee for each unit and then place each one in the collection box.

The proposal as submitted suggests that the associated expense for the entire operation can be offset by the revenue received from the fees. The Board approved the plan conditioned upon confirmation that there is space for the collection boxes in the recycling building.

The Board approved a request from the Andover Snowmobile Club to pursue the appropriate permitting to install a culvert in Dawes Road, which is a Class VI road.

The Board approved the appointment of Don Bent from New London and Chuck Bodien from Salisbury as deputy health officers. Both are currently health officers in those towns and would only be called to Andover in the absence of (or if necessary to supplement the efforts of) Andover's own health officer.

The Board ratified its previous decision to indemnify those Town positions named on pages 2, 3, and 4 in the 2004 Andover town report and the Board decided to add the position of deputy health officer to the list.

### Conservation Commission

#### December 14

*Condensed from draft minutes*

**Present:** Jerry Hersey, Bob Ward, Tina Cotton, Nan Kaplan, Sandra Graves, Peter Southworth

**Treasurer's Report** - We will ask the Budget Committee to continue the 2005 level funding of \$500. The \$650 for the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension Service will come from the Conservation Fund. We considered asking to expand our share of the Current Use Tax from 50% to 100% as a warrant article at Town Meeting, but given the financial climate this year, we felt this should wait.

**Old Business** - Northern Line Rail Trail. Due to the fall rains, a section remains unfinished. An application to the Recreational Trails Program will be submitted soon.

Webster Lake Watershed Study.

Andover Master Plan. Progress is going slowly. The committee will soon sign contracts with the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension Service for the survey, with the Society for Protection of New Hampshire Forests for mapping, and with the Lakes Region Planning Commission.

Position on US Route 4. Will discuss with Jim Danforth.

**New Business** - Wednesday, January 11 meeting - we will invite Mark Stetson and Jim Danforth to join us to get information on New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) road projects.

NHDOT Surplus Lands - Another item to discuss with Jim Danforth.

Route 11 Project at Cemetery Corner. Chase Hill Road. Annette Bashaw inquired with Jerry about making Chase Hill Road a scenic road designation. Tina will get information.

Sandra brought an article from the *Concord Monitor* on the Concord Solid Waste Resource Recovery Cooperative [of which Andover is a member] siting a landfill that could contaminate the water supply.

The long-range planning meeting with Chris Wells will be on Wednesday, January 25 at 7:30 PM.

## Come Home to the Country



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  - Detached 2-car garage w/finished 2nd floor
- Andover \$989,000**



### New Rowell Hill Gem

- 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, 9' ceilings, 2.4 acres
  - 1st & 2nd flr master suites, HW & tile floors
  - Kitchen w/granite counters and SS appliances
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### Three Bedroom Cape

- Bright and open, hickory and tile floors
  - Eat-in kitchen, 2-car garage w/storage over
  - Bath w/soaking tub & tiled shower, basement
- Wilnot \$280,000**



### Three Bedroom Colonial

- Open-concept kitchen/dining, 3 levels
  - Formal living & dining room, 2-car garage
  - Formal foyer & entry hall, oil hot water heat
- New London \$329,000**

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# East Andover Fire Department

By Rene Lefebvre  
Chief, East Andover Fire Department

If you drive by the East Andover Fire Station you will see some improvements. Stephen Barton built an entry way at our main door entrance. With the help of Jeff Miller he also poured a concrete pad for our generator.

New insulated front doors have replaced the old original units that have served us well for many years, but were energy inefficient.

Christmas tree sales were a bit of a shock. By eleven on Saturday morning all the trees were sold. Again we thank you all for your support of our fund raising projects. We hope you had as much fun as we did.

I recently spent three days in Concord training and testing as all firefighters and EMTs must do to keep up with the latest equipment and maintain National Registry. On day one you are in a room with a group of people you have never met. As the training starts and questions are asked, the walls of being strangers start to come down.

This is not unique to emergency services. It takes most people time to become comfortable with people they do not know.

What is interesting to watch is the level of dedication these EMTs and firefighters have and the genuine concern they share for the people they serve. During breaks everyone tells war stories, and we all tend to make light of the work we do, though the training and seminars take on seriousness that makes you wonder if you are with the same people.

By the end of day three there were no strangers in the room – in a short time we had become friends. Perhaps people who are drawn to fire fighting and emergency medical work find an easy comfort with each other. Lord knows you need to be a little crazy.

The holidays are a time for families and friends to come together to celebrate the birth of Christ and be at peace. From all of us in Fire and Emergency Services may you all have a merry and safe holiday season.

# POLICE BLOTTER

The Andover Police Department responded to 200 calls for service from November 15 through December 15. The following is a partial breakdown:

- Burglary solved, Severance Road
- Runaway, Beech Hill Road
- Harassment, Pinewood Lane
- Traffic accidents at Route 4A, Beech Hill Road, Salisbury Road, Bay Road, and Route 11
- Assault, Smith Road
- Harrassing communication, Princess Dr

- Protective order issued, Main Street
- DUI arrest, Main Street
- Theft, Flaghole Road
- Neighborhood dispute, Bridge Road
- Gas theft, Currier Road
- Criminal mischief, Bridge Road
- Missing person, Flaghole Road
- Issued 59 motor vehicle warnings and seven motor vehicle summons
- Arrested**  
Robert Heath Jr., Danbury, age 38, DWI, open container

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# Plaque To Explain Webster Bust

By Leigh A. Webb

President, Franklin Historical Society

The Franklin Historical Society, recognizing the importance of the influence Daniel Webster had on not just the city of Franklin and the state of New Hampshire, but on the United States as a whole, wishes to acknowledge the treasure almost hidden within the city of Franklin and educate all who pass it as to its meaning and value.

The bust of Daniel Webster, which is located in front of the Congregational Christian Church at 47 South Main Street in Franklin, was dedicated 73 years ago in 1932 to commemorate the 80th anniversary of Webster's death and the 150th year after his birth.

Few people who have viewed this bust know who sculpted it or what the phrase inscribed thereon means. Therefore, the Franklin Historical Society has undertaken to solicit funds to create a bronze plaque which will be mounted on the wall beneath the bust to inform and enlighten all who read it.

The plaque will be cast by Lincoln Charles of Andover. Mr. Charles is a nationally renowned artisan whose metal fabrication business is in Franklin.

The plaque will read:

*Daniel Webster, lawyer, orator, politician and statesman, attended the Congregational Christian Church when visiting his birthplace and staying at "The Elms," the last home and final resting place of his parents, Ebenezer and Abigail Webster, and a working farm under both Ezekiel's and later Daniel's ownership. The pew Daniel Webster used is just inside the main entrance and is clearly marked with his name.*

*The bust of Daniel Webster in front of the church was conceived by famed sculptor Daniel Chester French, who was also the creator of the Lincoln Memorial figure in Washington, DC, and "The Minuteman" statue in Concord, Massachusetts. Daniel Chester French died in 1931 before completing the work, that task falling to his daughter, Margaret French Cresson, a noted sculptor in her own right.*

*The bust was dedicated in a public ceremony on October 12, 1932, to co-*



*incide with the issuance of a three-cent Postal Service commemorative stamp of Webster, based on this bust, in the 150th year after his birth and on the 80th anniversary of his death (October 24). First Day sales were offered only in Franklin (Webster's birthplace), Exeter (where Webster attended prep school), and Hanover (where he attended Dartmouth College).*

*The words, "I Still Live," engraved upon the base of the bust, are the last words uttered by Webster in this life."*

Contributions may be sent to the Franklin Historical Society, PO Box 43, Franklin 03235. Personal checks are gratefully accepted and should be marked on the memo line with the phrase "Webster Bust Plaque Fund."

Anyone giving \$100 or more will receive a complimentary copy of Alice Shepard's *The History of Franklin*. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of existing law. These checks will be placed in a special account, and once the \$3,000 goal is reached Mr. Charles will begin to craft this tribute to the man who graces the city seal of Franklin. To begin the campaign, the members of the Society unanimously voted to contribute \$300 to encourage others to do the same.

So much history goes unnoticed, and the Society hopes that this plaque will help to instill an interest in learning more about our city and about the famous figures whose lives are inextricably tied to its heritage.

You can follow the progress of the drive to "Place the Plaque" by viewing our Web page at [www.histsoc.org/NH/FHS](http://www.histsoc.org/NH/FHS).

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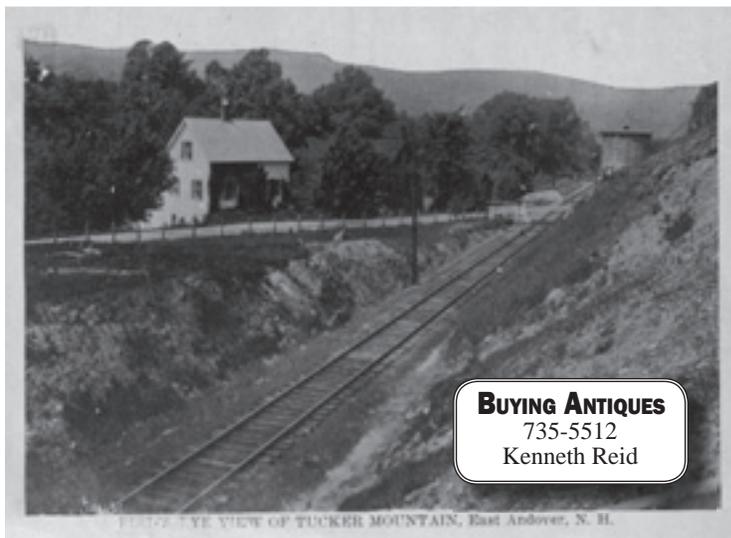


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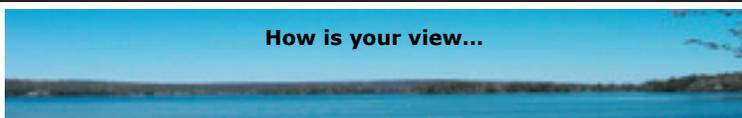
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# Heidi Murphy, Andover's New Conservation Officer

By Myra Mayman  
**Friends of the Northern Rail Trail in Merrimack County**

The Northern Rail Trail in Merrimack County opened on October 30 with a ribbon cutting ceremony followed by a walk/ride led by the Andover One-Wheelers from Blackwater Park to Potter Place. Approximately 120 people and five dogs participated.

Now that the trail is open there are questions and subjects that need to be discussed regarding trail usage and maintenance. We turned to a new Andover resident, Heidi Murphy, Conservation Officer of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, for answers to some relevant questions.

**MM:** Heidi, when did you move to Andover?

**HM:** This past July, from Wolfeboro. My husband, Ryan Murphy, is teaching sixth, seventh, and eighth grade science in the Andover Elementary/Middle School.

**MM:** What's your background?

**HM:** I grew up in Woodsville, which is part of Haverhill, on the Connecticut River north of Hanover. My father was in law enforcement.

**MM:** Have you always done this job?

**HM:** No, I taught eighth grade science in Wolfeboro.

**MM:** How long have you been a Conservation Officer?

**HM:** A little more than a year, after my one-year training that included training to be a certified police officer.

**MM:** What is your geographic area?

**HM:** Nine towns: Danbury, Hill, Boscawen, Salisbury, Andover, New London, Wilmot, Sutton and Franklin. My first job is to get to know the area, learn where people are and what they're doing.

**MM:** What are your responsibilities?

**HM:** They change with the seasons. For the most part, my job is to make sure that people involved with recreation are doing it safely and according to the law.

In the spring we're stocking fish in the lakes, ponds, streams, and rivers.

In the summer we're checking on



Heidi Murphy Photo: Myra Mayman

fishermen, stocking fish, and conducting search and rescue operations for people like lost hunters and hikers.

In the winter we're involved with ice fishermen, trappers, snowmobilers, and ATV-ers. We monitor their speed on radar panels, check that they've registered their vehicles, and make sure they stay on designated trails.

**MM:** What is your responsibility regarding the Northern Rail Trail?

**HM:** The trail is owned by the State of New Hampshire and administered by DRED. We patrol state-owned land. We patrol trail use by snowmobilers and ATV-ers in winter. When the trail isn't covered by snow it's illegal for ATVs to use the trail, and we patrol areas that aren't legal for ATVs. If it's not specifically designated as an ATV trail, then it's not allowed.

**MM:** Where can ATVs go legally when there's no snow?

**HM:** There are a number of places, like Clough State Park in Weare, the town of Stratford, with 200 miles of ATV trails, and the part of the Sugar River Trail that's open to ATVs. ATVs can ride legally on their own property and other people's property with written permission. People who want to find legal routes should go to the DRED Web site and find them.

**MM:** Do you like this job?

**HM:** I love it. Every day I go and learn a lot of different things and meet different people, and I'm outside!

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## Outdoors-Woman Workshop

Want to get outdoors more with your friends and family this winter? Here's your chance! The winter Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) workshop offers a choice of learning ice-fishing, winter outdoor survival skills, basic snowshoeing and tracking, or snowshoe biathlon (a combination of snowshoeing and target shooting).

"Women have a lot of fun and appreciate learning skills they can share with their families or simply enjoy on their own. It's a long winter here in New Hampshire, so make the most of it!" said Laura Ryder, program leader for hunter and aquatic education at Fish and Game.

Winter BOW is a one-day work-

shop. It will be held on Saturday, February 11 (snow date February 12), at the Owl Brook Hunter Education Center in Holderness. The program costs \$55, which includes a box lunch. Participants must be at least 18 years old.

The workshop brochure and registration form are now available to download at [NHBOW.com](http://NHBOW.com). You can also call 271-3212 to ask for an application. Sign up as soon as possible, as the workshops fill up fast!

New Hampshire BOW workshops are sponsored jointly by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department and the New Hampshire Wildlife Federation.

# Snowmobile Club Raffles And Italian Buffet Soon

By Allan Houle  
Andover Snowmobile Club

It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone. January is a big month for the Andover Snowmobile Club, with trails opening and grooming beginning.

We are excited to get our new groomer out onto the trails system. We are pleased to have purchased a new 2005 Camoplast BR-180 to replace one of our older groomers.

It is also a big month for club fundraisers, with the Annual Italian Buffet and our Snowmobile Raffle. On Saturday, January 28 from 5 PM to 6:30 PM at AE/MS we will be serving up a buffet-style meal of lasagna, spaghetti and meatballs, spaghetti and sausage, salad, garlic bread, beverages, and desserts. Each year the club has served 300-plus hungry patrons.

There is a lot of preparation that goes into getting ready for an event like this. It takes 10 volunteers four hours to prepare the night before. All desserts are homemade and donated by club members.

On Saturday, we begin setting up the gymnasium. Members help set up the tables and chairs for the meal, and placemats are set up by many of the club members' children. The raffle tables are also set up with all the buckets and donated prizes.

The kitchen at the school gets busy with volunteers preparing the salad and garlic bread and rolling up over 300 sets of plasticware. The ovens and steam tables come alive to take care of all the hot food. The serving table is also set-up with all the necessary pans, water, and sterno. All stations are manned and we begin serving at 5 PM and continue to 6:30 PM. After the meal is served, we begin the raffles.

## Soo-Nipi AUDUBON

Please come to the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter program on *Birding the Sky Islands in Arizona* on Friday, January 13 at 7:30 PM at Tracy Memorial Library, Main Street, New London. Speaker Ted Keene, local birding enthusiast who travels to birding hot spots in the United States, will show slides on the amazing variety of birds in the canyons of southeastern Arizona.

For more information please contact Ruth White at 763-4893.

On Sunday, January 15, Robin Gray will lead the annual birding trip to the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge on Plum Island off Newburyport, Massachusetts, to observe over-wintering shore and water birds.

Participants should meet Robin at the Warner Park and Ride, exit 9 on I-89 at 8 AM. Please bring lunch, beverage, binoculars, and a scope if you have one. Be sure to dress warmly! For details, call Robin at 927-4127.

### Easter Seals Raffle

Throughout the evening, individuals can browse the Easter Seal raffle table and take a chance to win one of a hundred or more raffle items from gift certificates, snowmobile supplies, homemade gifts, toys, and cash prizes. Multi-item raffle drawings take place following the 50/50 drawing. All proceeds raised from this raffle benefit Easter Seals.

### Raffle Sled

The Raffle Sled will also be awarded to some lucky winner at this event. The sled will be on display in the lobby and tickets will be available for purchase. This fundraiser supports the purchase of this year's new groomer.

The prizes this year are:

First Prize: 2006 Arctic Cat Z570 LX or \$2,500 cash

Second Prize: \$300 cash

Third Prize: HJC Helmet and Electric Shield, a \$250 value, compliments of Lakes Region Supply.

Tickets are \$10 each or three for \$25 and will be available for purchase the night of the raffle.

Good luck to all, and thank you for participating in our fundraisers!

### Club Celebrities

I was pleased to see club members Craig Mayo, George Burdick, Steve Burdick, and Mike Donnelly on television. I think it was New Hampshire Chronicle. They all did a wonderful job of representing the efforts of the Andover Snowmobile Club.

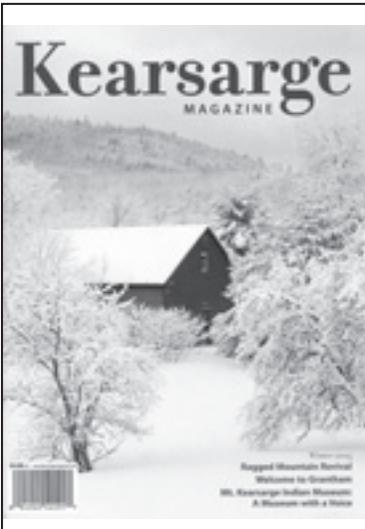
There was film footage of riders enjoying the groomed trails along with personal interviews with George in the groomer and Craig, Mike, and Steve on the trails. It was exciting to see our club represented on this level. Great job!

Happy New Year and Happy Riding.

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### Red Barn In Andover

David Brownell of Andover took the photo of this barn on Depot Street. It appears on the cover of the current issue of *Kearsarge Magazine*. According to the photo credit, "award-winning photographer David Brownell, a former contributing editor to *Outdoor Photographer* magazine, has had more than 200 covers on magazines such as: *Yankee*, *Outside*, *National Geographic World*, *Time For Kids*, *Sports Afield*, *Ski*, *Skiing*, *Powder*, *Snow Country*, *Sail*, *Cruising World*, *Walking*, *Travel Holiday*, *Awake and Country*."

You can see more of David's work at [TinyURL.com/5p2gv](http://TinyURL.com/5p2gv)

The cover of the current issue of *Yankee Magazine* features a photo of the Cilleyville-Bog Bridge by William H. Johnson of Bristol. On page two of the magazine it says, "On the Cover: A covered bridge. A fresh snowfall. It doesn't get much more Norman Rockwellian than this scene in Cilleyville, New Hampshire." Bill Johnson's award-winning work has appeared in many other magazines, including *Country*, *Forest Notes*, *Modern Maturity*, *National Geographic Traveler*, *Travel+Leisure*, and *Vermont Life*, as well as in many books and on many calendars. You can see more of Bill's work at [AGPix.com/williamhjohnson](http://AGPix.com/williamhjohnson).




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**Andover Historical Society**

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The Historical Society would appreciate the donation of a small chest freezer for use at the ice cream stand at its August fair. Please contact **Richard Brewster** at 735-5457.

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**Pre-School Story Time**

Gloriana Brown reads to Amy Makechnie and her pre-schoolers Brynne (l) and Nelson at the Andover Library. Tay Clark, Andover Librarian, shows a book's pictures while Gloriana reads aloud from a copy of the book.

Gloriana, the daughter of Pam and Tom Brown, is five years old and enjoys being schooled at home. She volunteers at the library on Wednesday mornings, working until 10 AM when Pre-School Story Time begins.

Pre-schoolers and their parents are invited to enjoy story time with Tay and Gloriana every Wednesday at 10 AM at the Andover Library.

Photos: Charlie Darling



# Andover Libraries

By Ray Mitchell  
*Beacon* staff

Today I stood and watched as five-year-old Gloriana Brown read a story to other pre-schoolers. Librarian Tay Clark held the book for the children to see the pictures. Gloriana read from her copy with enthusiasm and expression.

The Andover Library is a children's place. The colorful decor and child-size furniture invites little people to come and enjoy. It's carpeted so they don't have to sit on a chair. There are books and tapes for toddlers and elementary readers. The atmosphere is relaxed so children feel at home and un-intimidated.

The library staff makes it a point to invite children. The story hour described above meets Wednesdays at 10 AM. Usually it is an adult who reads the stories, but there are special treats some days.

Classes from the Andover Elementary/Middle School come regularly, too. Students come every other week to browse and select a book. The librarian greets the children and helps them with choices when needed. Our library is dedicated to developing the reading skills of our children.

I remember the library of my childhood as a quiet, adult place where children were more intimidated than welcomed. As a college student I overcame the aversion to libraries that was instilled in me as a child. The Andover Library is a place where children will learn that books and libraries are friendly and inviting.

The children's section and program may seem a nice addition to our library's mission. I consider it a key investment in our children. The world is too complex to be comprehended by illiterates.

Reading is the key to education. From books to newspapers to the Internet, the ability to read opens the gates to participation in the modern world. Learning to drive, voting your choices, knowing how long to nuke your popcorn - all require literacy. Children need to learn how to read early and well. The library is an assistant to the parents of our community.

Before I left, I asked our reader, Gloriana, to name her favorite books. *Little Toot* by Hardie Gramatky, *Little House on the Prairie* by Laura Ingalls Wilder, and *Heidi* by Johanna Spyri top her list.

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## Food, Friends, & Merriment!

By Tracy Merriman  
Beacon staff

In almost every society, food is the hub of a community. It is often the basis for a social event that brings the community together in celebration.

Here in Andover we do just that, and we do it often. I am already looking forward to the East Andover Fire Department's next chicken barbeque!

I thought it would be fun if we could share recipes, and a sense of community, right here in the *Beacon*. Send me one of your favorite recipes, and every month I will pick one to feature in the *Beacon*. I will prepare and eat the dish I choose, so the recipe will be tried and true.

To get the ball rolling, here's an absolutely superb venison recipe. It's called a soup, but it is so thick and hearty that it hardly resembles a soup at all.

You can modify this versatile recipe in many ways. It calls for ground venison, but works extremely well with venison sausage. Add more liquid to thin it out if you choose. Or cook it in a slow cooker – it smells so good as it simmers all day!

Don't forget a nice bottle of red wine to complement this dish. Enjoy!

Send your favorite recipe to

Cooking@AndoverBeacon.com or PO Box 149, Andover. Include your name and phone number so we can print a little interview along with the featured recipe.

### Venison Italian Soup

Contributed by Tracy Merriman

- 1 lb ground venison
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 tbsp minced garlic
- 1 can (14.5 oz) stewed tomatoes
- 2 cans (8 oz) tomato sauce
- 3 cups water
- 2 tsp dried basil
- 2 tsp dried oregano
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ tsp ground black pepper
- 1 can (15 oz) pinto beans
- 1 can (15 oz) green beans
- 1 carrot, chopped
- 1 zucchini, chopped
- 8 oz fusili (spiral) pasta

Brown venison, onion, and garlic over medium heat until meat is no longer pink. Add tomatoes, tomato sauce, water, and spices. Bring to a boil, and then simmer for about 30 minutes.

Stir in vegetables. Simmer for 90 minutes more. Add pasta, and cook until tender. Top with grated cheese, and serve with garlic bread. Serves eight.

## German Cookie Class At Alphorn Bistro

By Alex Graf

### Inn At Danbury & Alphorn Bistro

Baking cookies is a tradition in the Graf household that goes way back to my husband Bob's Swiss grandmother, who gave him a love for cooking and baking, as well as for recipes.

Since Bob and I have been married, we have always done a cookie marathon one Sunday afternoon after church in early December. As our family grew, each child got involved and started looking forward to this day of the year. We have many memories that will stay with our kids forever, and we are sure they will continue the tradition.

This year we thought we would share our love of baking (and eating) cookies with the community and with our wonderful dining guests. The event was a real hit. We could not believe the number of calls we received about it, and we want to apologize to those of you we did not have room for.

Bob and our 17-year-old daughter, Chelsea, did all the demonstrating and teaching. Chelsea started with the Springerle, a fun cookie with a wonderful anise flavor. It gets rolled out with a special rolling pin with designs on it.

Bob took over with the Leckerle, and he made Lebkuchen, a cake-like cookie



Bob Graf (in back) and his daughter Chelsea (in pigtails) help some excited children make Christmas cookies at the Alphorn Bistro's special German Cookie Class. Photo: Alex Graf

that is much loved by kids, who wear it on a string in the shape of a heart at all the Christmas Markets in Germany. The audience got to help dip the Lebkuchen in the chocolate glaze.

Bob and Chelsea demonstrated back and forth, just like a show on the Food Network. It was a blast!

Last but not least, the Almond Crescent cookies were made and baked. The kids loved dipping them in the powdered sugar after they came out of the oven.

The day went by way too fast. Everybody went home with all the recipes, smiles on their faces, a belly full of cookies, a tin of cookies, and gluh wine for the adults.

On the way out, the question was asked, "When will you do this again?"

We loved the experience – it was so much fun! The answer to that question is "Soon!" Maybe for Valentine's Day.

## Piano Concert To Benefit Proctor Music Program

Among many fabulous facilities at Proctor Academy is the Norris Theatre in the Wilkins Meeting House. This state-of-the-art performance facility is utilized extensively for many school activities and events. A vision of one of Proctor's long-time teachers and benefactors, Everett Jones, is the production of a series of performances in this spectacular theatre.

Everett has long envisioned using the Norris Theatre to produce a concert series to provide cultural enrichment for not only the school's student population but for the larger community of Andover, New London, and beyond. Still in its conceptual stages, Everett and co-producer, Bill Wightman, the new Instrumental Music Director at Proctor, have joined forces to produce a pilot performance combined with fund raising efforts for the equipment for the new music facilities.

On Saturday, January 7, Proctor Academy will present *An Evening with Pianist William Ogmundson*. One of New Hampshire's premier classical pianists, William Ogmundson is well known throughout New England as a soloist and teacher. He is a staff collaborative pianist at Plymouth State University and runs Three Oaks Piano Studio from his home in North Sutton. He is music director of North Sutton First Free Will Baptist Church and has performed throughout Europe. Cur-

rently, he is writing original music for the Lebanon Opera House production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. His first CD will be available this April.

Ogmundson's program for this special evening will begin with Mozart's *Sonata XVI in A major K. 300*, followed by Franz Schubert's *Four Impromptus Opus 90*, continuing with J.S. Bach's *Partita No. 1 in B flat*, and concluding with a sonata by Charles T. Griffes.

The concert will begin at 8 PM and tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. To reserve and/or purchase tickets in advance, call the box office at 735-6870 or e-mail AlexE@proctornet.com.

This concert promises to be a wonderful evening of classical music performed on the school's beautiful Yamaha concert grand piano and a perfect way to discover the entertainment experience that awaits you at Proctor's Norris Theatre.

This is the first in a series of concerts envisioned for the benefit of area residents and students. Proceeds from the concert will benefit a new recording studio adjacent to the Norris Theater on Proctor's campus.

Everett and the entire Performing Arts Department encourage you to join them throughout the year as they present both guest artists and student performances. For more information, contact Bill Wightman at 735-6248 or 763-8732.

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SAT., JAN. 7, 2006  
Concert Begins 8:00 pm  
Tickets: Adults - \$15 Students - \$10

Concert Program to include selections of Mozart - Schubert - Bach - Griffes.

Please reserve seats and/or purchase tickets by calling 603-735-6870 or by email to AlexE@proctornet.com

- At the Norris Theatre in the Wilkins Meeting House - Andover, NH



**An Andover Service Club Holiday Photo Album**

(Above) Kyle and Kody Keller won first and second place among fourth graders in the poster contest held by the Andover Service Club, and (right) Emily Lance won third place among fourth graders.

Photos: Fred Lance

(Below) Irene Jewett, Mary Ofenloch, Margo Coolidge, Club President Sara Tracy-Arone, Arlyne French, and Madalyn Goodwin (seated) take a break from the festivities at the Service Club's annual Christmas Luncheon, held this year at La Meridiana in Wilmot.

Photo: ASC member



**New Hampshire Circle Of Home And Family**

By Judy Perreault  
NH Circle Of Home And Family

The new Andover chapter of the New Hampshire Circle of Home and Family held a lunch meeting on December 5 at the home of Judy Perreault, with eight members attending.

After lunch, Judy presented a program on some of the outreach work done by the organization. This includes supporting Odyssey Family Center with books, toys, decorations, clothing, sewing machines, and craft supplies. The Webster NHCHF group has adopted a stretch of highway and cleans it three or four times a year. The Pittsfield NHCHF group makes a balloon quilt every year and auctions it off, and the proceeds support many of their community efforts. A member of the Hillsboro group makes sleeping bags for the homeless out of used blankets.

NHCHF groups support literacy projects, one involving the state correctional facilities. Cheshire county has an "Ouch!" doll project that goes to hospitals and emergency rooms. In Grafton county a member is making penguin jumpers for birds affected by oil spills.

These are only a few of the community efforts that NHCHF groups are making across the state.

The next NHCHF meeting will be held at the home of Shirley Currier on Monday, January 16 at 12:30 PM. The subject is Soup, and instead of bringing sandwiches the members will be making and sampling various types of soup. After lunch there will be a brief program about soup.

If you wish to attend the next meeting, call Judy Perreault at 735-5493.

**Blackwater Grange**

The Blackwater Grange #152 held its December meeting on December 8. Twelve members enjoyed a pot luck supper, which was followed by a short business meeting, a program, and an exchange of gifts.

Grange members wish everybody a Happy New Year and will see you when Grange meetings resume in April!



Diane Rice (r) of the Andover Lions Club presented Danielle Adams (l) and Siobhan Reid with awards for their winning entries in the Lions' annual Peace Poster contest.

Photo: Charlie Darling

**Andover Lions**

By Diane Rice  
Andover Lions Club

The Lions Club of Andover is one of many Lions Clubs worldwide that participated in the 18th Lions Club International Peace Poster contest. The contest is an annual event and is an attempt to emphasize the importance of world peace to young people everywhere.

The winning poster was selected by a panel of judges from both the Andover Lions Club and teachers and staff of the Andover Elementary/Middle School. The panel had a difficult time choosing among the many excellent entries.

This year's winner was Siobhan Reid. Siobhan received a \$50 savings bond from the Andover Lions Club for her efforts. Her poster was selected for its originality, artistic merit, and portrayal of the contest theme, Peace Without Borders. Her poster will now advance to stiff competition at the next district level.

Second and third place winners were Kyle Wylie and Danielle Adams. Kyle and Danielle each received a cash award of \$10.

The Andover Lions Club also delivered baskets of food and gifts of clothing and toys to several families in Andover as part of its Christmas outreach program. Funds for this and other projects come from the many events sponsored by the Lions Club, such as the annual Fourth of July Pancake Breakfast, the Lobster Bake, and other local activities.

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For more information, call the ASC President at 735-5738 or the Membership Chair at 735-5349 or [rfgs@tds.net](mailto:rfgs@tds.net).



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# OBITUARIES

**PHYLLIS MARJORIE EMERSON**, 94, formerly of Bristol, died December 3 at the New Hampshire Veterans Home in Tilton, after a period of failing health.

Phyllis served in the Women's Army Corp (WAC) in World War II as a Surgical Technician 5th Grade. She was a very spirited, ambitious and caring person who touched many lives throughout her long life. A strong advocate for senior citizens, she was a member and officer of the Bristol Chapter of the Gray Panthers, a national senior citizens' group. She was involved in a number of improvements for the safety and convenience for the seniors and children in the area.

She is predeceased by her parents, a sister and two brothers. Survivors include her daughter, Ann Emerson-Knott of Franklin; four grandchildren, Margaret Whedon of Franklin, John Knott Jr. of Grafton, Kathleen Hitchmoth of Andover, and Harold Knott of Danbury; five great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews.

**RUBY W. KEEGAN**, 87, of Franklin, died Sunday, December 11 at the Peabody Home in Franklin.

She was born in West Andover, the daughter of Charles and Sara (Stevens) Whittemore. Mrs. Keegan was raised in West Andover and was a graduate of the former Andover High School. She was an English teacher and librarian and was very active in the Swift Water Girl Scout Council and with the Franklin Regional Hospital.

Mrs. Keegan was a member of Franklin Business and Professional Women's Association and was a recipient of the Professional Woman of the Year. She also was a former board member of the Peabody Home.

She was predeceased by three sis-

ters, Alice P. Whittemore, Emily E. Whittemore, and Annie W. Thompson; and two brothers, David Whittemore and James Whittemore.

**ELIZABETH H. "LIB" (WIGGIN) RAYNO**, 88, of New London, died December 17 at the Clough Center, where she lived for the past eight years.

Mrs. Rayno had worked in the house-keeping department in Burpee Dorm at Colby Junior College in New London for more than 25 years. She was well known for her delicious cakes, pies, and donuts.

She was predeceased by her husband of 60 years, John, who died in 1996. She was also predeceased by her son, Stanley, who died in 1985; and her two brothers, Reginald, who died in 2000, and Donald, who died in 2001.

Members of her family surviving include a son and daughter-in-law, Robert S. and Gay Ellen Rayno of Pot-

ter Place; a daughter-in-law, Loretta Rayno of Wilmot; six grandchildren, Glenn L. Rayno, Douglas J. Rayno, K. Bruce Sanborn, Emily Collinson, Peter Sanborn, and Kitty Burnham; 11 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandson; and nieces and nephews.

*Normally the Beacon will print the obituary of an Andover resident or a short summary of the obituary of someone with a connection to Andover.*

*If friends or family would like a particular obituary handled differently, please let us know at 735-6099 as soon as possible.*

## Production Assistant

If you have page layout and/or ad design skills, or would like to learn, then *The Andover Beacon* wants you! Volunteer as much or as little time as you like to help create ads or lay out the paper.

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## Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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## Andover Congregational Church

By Judy Evans  
Andover Congregational Church

Happy New Year! I trust this finds you reflecting on the year 2005 and most recently the time spent with loved ones and friends celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

At the time of holidays many people find themselves feeling less than joyful. Perhaps some – including me – are missing loved ones who have passed on. Some are just plain lonely after the Christmas season. Perhaps money is tight at this time of year with the cost of fuel and other living expenses. Some young people may be facing many challenges in life, including a lot of peer pressure.

Please know that the folks at Andover Congregational Church are ready to welcome you to worship with us and trust you will find comfort and peace in God's house.

In the Book of Matthew we read the words of Jesus: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Again, I wish you all a Happy New Year. May the year 2006 be full of many blessings. And please accept an invitation to come as you are and worship with us.

*Sunday School and morning worship begin at 9:30 with childcare provided. For more information about outreach programs for people of all ages call Pastor John at 735-5160.*

## ANDOVER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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Wednesday 3 - 7 p.m.  
Thursday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

## Kearsarge UU Fellowship

By Sally Bergquist  
Kearsarge Unitarian Univ. Fellowship

The Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is very pleased to be back in the beautifully renovated Stone Chapel at Proctor Academy. It is bright and clean, attractive and welcoming. We are looking forward to another year of interesting and thought-provoking services in a fresh new setting.

A temporary change has had to be made because of the delay in completion of the children's downstairs Sunday School area. For the time being, children attending Sunday School will go directly to the Proctor Service Building located to the right rear of the Chapel. The Sunday School teacher, Brittany, will be there to welcome them.

It's good to be home again!

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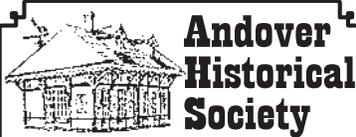
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## Andover Historical Society

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- Tend the museum in the summer
- Help care for Society properties
- Help with the 19th Century Fair

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## Out & About

### Yoga Workshop

Kearsarge Council on Aging, New  
London, Wednesdays, January 11 to  
February 22, 10:30 AM. Focus on how  
breathing can reduce tension and stress.  
526-6368

### Genealogy Workshop

Kearsarge Council on Aging, New  
London, Tuesday, January 17, 10 AM.  
Heather Makechnie of Andover will  
assist with genealogical research. 526-  
6368

### Hypnosis with Jane King

Kearsarge Council on Aging, New  
London, Friday, January 20, 1 PM.  
Learn how hypnosis gently empowers  
you to improve your life. 526-6368

### Lakes Region Snowmobile Club Radar Runs

January 29, Webster Lake in West  
Franklin. Races begin at 10:30. Alan  
Carignan 496-6146 or Steve Proulx  
934-2170.

### New England Sled Dog Club Races

February 4 and 5, 9 AM to 5 PM,  
Profile Falls/Franklin Falls Dam area.  
NESDC.org.

### Boston Celtics Basketball Game

February 10, Fleet Center for Boston  
Celtics vs. Portland Trail Blazers. Bus  
departs Franklin Recreation Center  
4:30 PM. Registration deadline is Janu-  
ary 6. \$45 includes bus and ticket. 934-  
2118 or rec@franklinnh.org.

### Open Volleyball Night

Sundays, 5 PM to 6:30 PM, Franklin  
Recreation Center. 18 years of age or  
older. One-time fee of \$10 for Franklin  
residents, \$15 for others.

### Veterans Memorial Ski Area

Ski a local, historic, family ski area  
in West Franklin. For more information,  
contact Kathy Fuller, mkf@metrocast.net  
or 934-3296.

## HONORED Abigail Smith

Abigail Smith of Andover earned a  
place on the first quarter High Honor Roll  
at Tilton School. Abigail is in 11th grade.

## SHIPPED OUT Brian Drew

Brian Drew of Currier Road shipped  
out for Iraq on December 11 with his  
Army heavy artillery unit. Once in  
Bagdad, he intends to pursue the possi-  
bility of becoming a sniper.

Brian will be deployed in Iraq for six  
months, then will return to the US for  
two weeks, then will return to Iraq for  
a year.

Brian is the oldest of Launa Deshaies' eight children. He is the son of Robert Drew and the step-son of Joseph Deshaies. Brian's brothers Eric, Robert, and Jeremy all live in Andover.

Also hoping for Brian's safe return  
are his sister Shauna Drew, his half-  
brother and half-sisters Albert, Nicole,  
and Felicia Deshaies, and his grandpar-  
ents, Ellsworth and Sandra Miller of  
Salisbury.

Brian reports that you can't get beef  
jerky in Iraq, so he's asking friends and  
family to send him a supply. If you'd  
like to send him some, you can drop it  
off with his brothers at 39 Currier Road  
in Andover.

## Oxbow 4-H Club

By Heidi St. Jacques  
Oxbow 4-H

Our annual December Christmas  
celebration and Yankee Swap took place  
on December 11 at the Shottes home in  
New Boston. We enjoyed a wonderful  
dinner and fun gift swap. We collected  
many items for a food basket which we  
donate yearly to a needy family.

Our club includes members from  
many towns, so each year we put all  
the town names in a hat and randomly  
choose a town to receive the food basket.  
This year the basket went to New  
Boston.

Our next meeting will be held on Janu-  
ary 8 at 4 PM at the St. Jacques' home  
in Andover. We will review our current  
bylaws and discuss our goals as a club  
for the upcoming year.

For more information about 4-H, feel  
free to attend our next meeting or con-  
tact the University of New Hampshire  
Cooperative Extension Service at 225-  
5505 or Merrimack@ceunh.unh.edu.



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Girl Scouts' Holiday Tea – Front (l-r): Shannon Haley, Emily Bates, Tiffany Poul-  
lin, Scout Armstrong, Shyanne Goodbread, Emma Davis, Hannah Munson.  
Middle: Erin Hanscom, Rebekah Stearns, Megan Hanscom, Emily Lance, Sara  
Tracy-Arone portraying Juliette Low, the founder of Girl Scouts. Back: Megan  
Coll, Stephanie Nelson, Mariah Haley, Abigail Lance, Brianna Keniston.

Photo: Katherine Stearns

## Andover Girl Scouts

By Brenda F. Lance  
Andover Girl Scouts

The Andover Girl Scout troops assisted the Andover Service Club with Andover's annual tree lighting on Sunday, November 27. The Scouts provided cookies, cocoa, and crafts in the lobby of AE/MS before the tree was lit.

The Girl Scout troops also went Christmas caroling at some local businesses on Thursday, December 8. About 20 girls in kindergarten through ninth grade and six leaders sang at the Andover Thrift Shop, at Pizza Chef, at the Andover Post Office, at New Horizons Hairstylists, at the Andover Public Library, and at the Andover After School Program. Following that, they returned to AE/MS and had hot chocolate. It was nice to have the newest Daisy Girl Scouts join us, as well as the Senior Girl Scouts, who are now in high school.

The troops held their annual Mother/Daughter Holiday Tea Party at the Masonic Hall in Potter Place on Sunday, December 11. We were treated to finger sandwiches, appetizers, and desserts, along with tea and cocoa served in real china teacups! This annual event has become a favorite, where everyone is encouraged to dress up for the occasion.

We were honored to have the Girl Scout founder, Juliette Low, (a.k.a. Sara Tracy-Arone) join us for tea dressed in fancy vintage clothing. We would like to thank the Masons for allowing us to use their facility.

### Girl Scout Cookies

Our major fund-raiser will be starting on January 6. That's right! You can order your favorite Girl Scout cookies from January 6 to February 3. Cookies will arrive in mid-March. Please consider supporting Girl Scouting in Andover by purchasing a box (or more!) of cookies. All of our funds for programs, activities, and recognitions come from monies raised from the fall product and

spring cookie sales.

If you are watching your weight, or have other dietary restrictions, and do not wish to have a box of cookies, please consider donating a box to our Gift of Caring community service project. Before the cookie program begins, each Troop decides which organization in their community they would like to visit and deliver boxes of donated Girl Scout cookies to. When ordering for themselves, customers can also purchase a box of cookies as a gift for that troop's chosen organization.

This is a great way for customers to still make their donation to the Girl Scouts, and in this case, they get the added satisfaction of having helped out two organizations at once. In the past, we have donated cookies to the Merrimack County Nursing Home, to Peabody Home in Franklin, to the Andover After School Program, and to the Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association food bank in New London, to name a few.

For the past two years, we have also participated in the Council-wide project of shipping cookies to soldiers. Last year, Girl Scouts of Swift Water Council worked with the New Hampshire Air National Guard Family Program to ship more than two tons of cookies (5,484 boxes) to New Hampshire men and women stationed overseas.

In addition to the ever-popular Thin Mints, Samoas, and Trefoils, there is a new cookie this year. It is called "Cafe Cookie," and it is a crisp cookie caramelized with brown sugar and a hint of cinnamon spice.

If you don't know a local Girl Scout, look for our cookie booths around town in late March or call one of the leaders: Lisa Hanscom, 735-5972; Brenda Lance, 735-5122; Katherine Stearns, 735-6115; or Joanna Seeley, 735-5117.

Thank you for your continued support.



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## Ski Or Snowshoe Free At Pine Hill

Andover residents are invited to a Free Ski/Snowshoe Day at Pine Hill Nordic Ski Club's new venue on Saturday, January 28 from 9 AM to 4 PM. Pine Hill Nordic Ski Club offers 20 kilometers of groomed ski trails, seven kilometers of snowshoe trails, and five kilometers of backcountry ski trails.

To get to Pine Hill Nordic Ski Club, turn off Route 11 in Wilmot onto Pine Hill Road; take the second right off Pine Hill Road; at the fifth driveway on the left, look for the "Pine Hill" sign. If that lot is full, go two more driveways on the left and look for the sign for parking.

For more information, visit Pine-HillSkiClub.com or call 735-5000.

## Andover Basketball

Here's the schedule for the Andover teams playing in the Quad Valley Recreational Basketball League.

K1 means Kearsarge Team 1; S means Sunapee. Home games are played at Andover Elementary/Middle School; Kearsarge games are played at Kearsarge Regional Middle School; Sunapee games are played at Sunapee Elementary School.

### Andover A1

Third and fourth grade girls  
Coach: Amy Levesque  
Dec 17 - K1 at 9:45  
Jan 7 - @ K2 at 4:00  
Jan 14 - @ S1 at 9:30  
Jan 21 - @ K1 at 11:00  
Jan 28 - K2 at 11:00  
Feb 4 - S1 at 9:45  
Feb 11 - K1 at 9:30  
Feb 18 - K2 at 11:00

### Andover A2

Fifth and sixth grade girls  
Coach: Melissa Thompson  
Dec 17 - Bye  
Jan 7 - @ K9 at 12:15  
Jan 14 - K6 at 9:30  
Jan 21 - S3 at 12:15  
Jan 28 - @ S4 at 1:30  
Feb 4 - K8 at 11:00  
Feb 11 - @ K7 at 12:15  
Feb 18 - K7 at 9:45

### Andover A3

Fifth and sixth boys  
Coach: Dave Powers  
Dec 17 - A4 at 8:30  
Jan 7 - S5 at 11:00  
Jan 14 - S6 at 11:00  
Jan 21 - S7 at 9:30  
Jan 28 - Bye  
Feb 4 - @ K10 at 4:00  
Feb 11 - K13 at 11:00  
Feb 18 - @ K11 at 11:00

### Andover A4

Fifth and sixth boys  
Coach: Tom Frantz  
Dec 17 - A3 at 8:30  
Jan 7 - K10 at 9:30  
Jan 14 - @ S5 at 1:30  
Jan 21 - S6 at 11:00  
Jan 28 - K11 at 9:30  
Feb 4 - Bye  
Feb 11 - @ S7 at 11:00  
Feb 18 - K12 at 12:15

The tournament will be held the first weekend of March. Andover 1 will play at home, while Andover 2, 3, and 4 will play at Kearsarge Regional Middle School.



**Bill Koch League  
Youth Nordic  
Skate Race**

**11 AM Saturday, Jan. 14  
Blackwater Ski Area**

Young skiers age 5-13 welcome!  
Lollipop/J6-J3 categories.

NENSA members - \$5  
Non-members - \$10

For more information or to register:  
Brooks Bicknell at (603) 735-6941  
or Brooks@Proctomet.com or visit  
www.AndoverOutingClub.com

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### ChildFind Clinic Pre-school Screening

On Saturday, January 7, from 9 AM to 11 AM the Special Education Staff of the Andover School District can screen your child for possible disabilities in the areas of:

- Speech • Vision
- Hearing • Motor ability
- Learning

There is no charge for residents of the Andover School District. For an appointment, call Kristin Spanger Flaherty at 735-5494.



The Kearsarge Youth Hockey Association Bantam team (ages 13 and 14) includes Ryan Davis and Jason Thompson from Andover. The team beat Salem 6-4 and played at St. Anslem College in Goffstown on December 18. Photo: Rose Davis



The Kearsarge Youth Hockey Association Pee Wee team (ages 11 and 12) includes Jacob Frost, Patrick Barton, and Breanna Davis from Andover. The team beat the Junior Monarchs 1-0 at the Tri-Town Arena in Hooksett on Sunday, December 18. Photo: Rose Davis



The Kearsarge Youth Hockey Association Squirt team (ages 8 to 10) includes Keith Davis, Logan Marcus, and Becca Stearns from Andover. The team lost to Twin Valley 5-0 on Sunday, December 18. They also played at Kimball Union Academy in Meriden. Photo: Rose Davis

## KHYA Learn To Skate

Kearsarge Youth Hockey Association will hold its Learn To Skate lessons at the Malone Rink at Proctor Academy. The lessons will cover 10 sessions on Saturdays from 8 AM to 9 AM starting on January 7.

The lessons are taught by certified learn-to-skate instructors led by Dr.

Gregory Curtis. All skaters are required to wear a helmet.

The course of lessons costs \$80. To register, contact Allen Abendroth, the KYHA registrar, at 863-7576 or Doug Windsor at 763-4171 or how2@adelphia.net.

For more info about KYHA, visit [www.nlrec.com/orgs/kyh.htm](http://www.nlrec.com/orgs/kyh.htm).

## Andover One Wheelers Raffle Calendar Begins

By Lisa Hanscom  
Andover One Wheelers

It is time to draw names for the Andover One Wheelers' January Raffle Calendar. One winner will be drawn each day for the month of January.

The One Wheelers wish to thank the many local businesses who have supported us in this fund raising effort. Thanks go to:

**Andover**  
Blackwater Junction Restaurant  
Pizza Chef

**Franklin**  
Kate's Bar and Grill  
Grevior Furniture  
Franklin Savings Bank  
Aubuchon Hardware  
Benson Auto  
Century 21 Twin Rivers Realty  
Al's Pizza

**Tilton**  
The Red Blazer/Kalliopes  
Uno Chicago Grill

**Danbury**  
Ragged Mountain Resort

**New London**  
The Hair Station

**Concord**  
Veano's Italian Kitchen  
Imagination Village  
Don Giovanni Cucino Italiana  
The Barley House  
Capitol Grille

**Lincoln**  
Tio Juans Margaritas Mexican Restaurant  
Outback Restaurant  
The Red Blazer/Kalliopes  
Uno Chicago Grill

**Lincoln**  
Inn Seasons Resorts Pollard Brook  
Also, thank you to all our supporters who bought calendars. Good luck!

## AE/MS Boys And Girls Basketball Schedules

- Dec 15 @ Franklin A, 3:30
- Dec 20 Winnisquam B, 3:30
- Dec 21 @ Winnisquam A, 4:00
- Jan 4 Barnstead A, 3:30
- Jan 10 @ Laconia Christ. A, 4:00
- Jan 11 @ Newfound A, 3:30
- Jan 11 Newfound B, 3:30
- Jan 12 @ Winnisquam B, 4:00
- Jan 17 Franklin A, 3:30
- Jan 19 Newfound A, 3:30
- Jan 19 @ Newfound B, 3:30
- Jan 24 Franklin A, 3:30
- Jan 26 Winnisquam A, 3:30
- Feb 2 Campton B, 3:30
- Feb 7 @ Kearsarge A/B, 3:30
- Feb 9 @ Campton B, 3:30
- Feb 14 Kearsarge A, 3:30
- Feb 15 @ Barnstead A, 3:30
- Feb 16 Kearsarge B, 3:30

**WATCH US GROW!**

The Andover Recreation Committee has raised \$17,000 toward better, safer, more convenient, and more efficient facilities at Corson Field and Blackwater Park. Won't you help us reach our goal with a tax-deductible contribution today?

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Ann McLane Kuster is a shareholder and director of Concord law firm Rath, Young and Pignatelli. She focuses her legal practice primarily on legislative and policy matters for clients such as Dartmouth College, Dartmouth Medical School, The New Hampshire College and University Council, and New Hampshire Independent Schools. Her recent presentation, "What Are Bullying and Harassment?" was well-received by AE/MS middle school students.

Photo by Gretchen Hildebrand

## Bullying from page 1

student or teacher about the Eagle Code and they will tell you that the Eagle Code means:

- Always Be Respectful
- Everybody Is Responsible
- Make Good Choices

Safety: First, Last, and Always

Attorney Kuster congratulated the students on having a set of laws that govern them within their school environment and added that the group was among the most attentive and respectful she has seen, including high school and college audiences. Students were also encouraged to think carefully about their actions and how they might be perceived by others. Even though a student may not intend to harm another student, harm may occur.

Today's generation of kids has become desensitized to the issues and visual images of sex and violence. It is, therefore, important to understand exactly what bullying and sexual harassment are. Although the terms "bullying" and "harassment" are often heard, they are rarely defined in legal terms. Attorney Kuster took the opportunity to clearly outline how the State of New Hampshire views these behaviors.

### Bullying Defined

New Hampshire law defines "bullying" as a form of student harassment that:

- Subjects a student to insults, taunts, or challenges, whether verbal or physical in nature; and
- Is likely to intimidate or provoke a violent or disorderly response from the student being treated in this manner.
- New Hampshire law requires public schools to implement anti-bullying policies.

### Sexual Harassment Defined

The legal definition of sexual harassment is verbal or physical conduct imposed on the basis of gender that denies, limits, or results in different educational opportunities. Some examples include:

- Comments about body parts or appearance.
- Touching private parts, even on top of clothing.
- Graffiti on bathroom walls.

- Comments about sexual orientation.
- If attention of a sexual nature is interfering with a student's ability to do schoolwork, a sport, or to socialize or enjoy life, they might be a victim of sexual harassment.

What does a bully look like? Often, a bully is regarded as a "tough kid." Yet, in reality, bullies (who can be boys or girls) are kids who do not really feel tough on the inside. Attorney Kuster offered students advice about how to effectively deal with bullies to avoid becoming victims themselves. Studies have shown that bullies are often victims and victims often become bullies as a result of being bullied – a vicious cycle that is difficult to break.

A question and answer period followed the presentation where the students learned:

- Adults can bully, too.
- Students can be sued in civil court, even though they are not adults.
- Online harassment is the newest form of harassment.
- It is easy to become a perpetrator or a victim online.
- What you might think of as casual behavior and language could be characterized as harassment.
- Beware of what you say online and who you say it to – people are watching.
- Seek out the help of a trusted adult when you feel threatened in any way.

A special thank you to AE/MS Principal Jane Slayton for arranging the presentation and to Ann McLane Kuster for discussing these extremely important issues and offering real-world answers to students' questions.

### Resources

The following resources are helpful in combatting bullying and harassment:

- "Bullying Prevention is Crime Prevention" at FightCrime.org.
- Center for Prevention of School Violence at www.NCDJDP.org
- OperationRespect.org
- www.Bullying.org

## Donate!

The *Beacon* relies on voluntary donations for a substantial part of its budget.

## The Facts About Bullying

- Compared to their peers, kids who are bullied are five times more likely to be depressed.
- Bullied boys are four times more likely to be suicidal.
- Bullied girls are eight times more likely to be suicidal.
- Nearly 60% of boys who researchers classified as bullies in grades six through nine were convicted of at least one crime by the age of 24. Of that group, 40% of them had three or more convictions by the age of 24.
- One study of school shootings found that almost three-quarters of the attackers felt persecuted, bullied, threatened, attacked, or injured by others prior to the incident.
- 160,000 students are absent from schools nationwide each day because they fear being bullied.

## The Facts About Harassment

- In one study, 85% of girls and 76% of boys in grades eight through 11 reported some form of harassment.
- 13% of girls and 9% of boys reported being forced to do something sexual at school other than kissing.
- One in four girls stayed home or cut class because of harassment.

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## Andover Middle School Honor Roll

First Trimester

### Grade Five

#### High Honors

- Amelia Gilchrist
- Mariah Lansdown-Howard
- Kristi Perreault
- Madison Powers

#### Honors

- Jason Ashburn
- Cody Barton
- Ethan Barton
- Tim Braley
- Stephanie Croteau
- Ricky Dansereau
- Shrief Elmasry
- Alexis King
- Marissa Laro
- Meaghan Reid
- Jessica Underdahl
- Lydia Walker
- Mary-Jane Wittel
- Cameron Wood

### Grade Six

#### High Honors

- Siobhan Reid
- Michaela Trefethen

#### Honors

- Chantal Caron
- Breanna Davis
- Adam Ellis
- Caleb Frantz
- Megan Hanscom
- Steele Henderson
- Jeremy Mason
- Rhianna Newton
- Derrick Nowell
- Bridget O'Mara
- Maddy Pfeifer
- Joey Rego
- Kyle Wiley
- Andrew Young

### Grade Seven

#### High Honors

- Shawna Barton
- Will Henriques
- Haley Peters
- Alec Walker

#### Honors

- Joshua Bennett
- Canon Brownell
- Meredith Cline
- Katie Keller
- Kassie Lampert
- Becca Lance
- Emily Laro
- Katie O'Mara
- Sooki Vercellotti
- Sophie Viandier

### Grade Eight

#### High Honors

- Elizabeth Stearns

#### Honors

- Tenzin Dickinson
- Hannah Frantz
- Amanda Gilchrist
- Jim Hanlon
- Adam Smith
- Joshua Wagner
- Tyler Waive
- Jessica West
- Cory Wiley

High Honors: All As & 1s or 2s

Honors: All As or Bs & 1s or 2s



### AE/MS Knitting Club Welcomes Help

A group of third and fourth grade Andover Elementary School girls and boys are learning to knit. They meet after school on Tuesdays from 3 PM to 4 PM and would love to have some help and guidance from community members who are experienced knitters.

Could you join us with your knitting to work alongside a beginner and chat? If you are interested, please contact Holly Gagne at the school at 735-5494.

Above left: Bailey Powers, Jesika Heath, and Erin Hanscom. Above right: Shannon Haley. Photos: Gretchen Hildebrand



Students from the Andover Middle School Student Council are collecting dog and cat food for an animal shelter in Franklin. They are John Dukette (standing on left), Amanda Gilchrist (sitting on floor, left), Greg Hewitt (behind couch), Katie Bourdeau, Tenzin Dickinson, Hannah Frantz, Devon Levesque, Elizabeth Stearns, Lizzie Rego (all seated on couch), Amy Lamos (on floor, right) and Adam Smith (standing, right).

Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

## Kids – Join The Beacon Team!

AE/MS kids have done an awesome job of covering school events. Keep up the great work! The *Beacon* loves having your help.



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(Across from the Gazebo)

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## Detective Offers Internet Safety Talk At AE/MS

The Internet is an asset to students today, as they use it regularly for academic research and information. Many students now have access to a computer at home. Unfortunately, there are dangers associated with the Internet.

To address these dangers, Jane Slayton, Principal of Andover Elementary/Middle School, has invited Detective James McLaughlin of the Keene Police Department to come to AE/MS and talk with older students, staff members, and interested parents and community members regarding Internet safety. Detective McLaughlin, who specializes in Internet crimes against children, will offer his presentation at AE/MS on January 25 at 9 AM. All are welcome to attend.

Detective McLaughlin's presentation will look at what type of persons are committing child exploitation crimes, how child victims are engaged, and where on the Internet sex offenders look for victims. The goal of the presentation is to give participants information which will enable them to be more informed regarding how sex offenders operate, so they can then formulate home safety rules for themselves.

## Happy 4th Birthday ROBBIE SCHWENDLER

Love,  
Grampy and Grammie



# Middle School Learns The Legalities Of Bullying

By Lorraine Cline  
For the *Beacon*

What's the difference between a lawyer and an attorney? No, this is not another bad lawyer joke, but a question posed by Ann McLane Kuster prior to her recent presentation at AE/MS entitled "What Are Bullying and Harassment?" This eye-opening discussion about bullying, harassment, and how these behaviors are defined by the New Hampshire legal system was presented on December 13 to sixth, seventh, and

eight grade students. Middle-school teachers, specialists, and administrators, including members of the superintendent's office, were also present.

The attentive audience was quick to recognize that there is no difference between a lawyer and an attorney. But the question primed them to begin to look at social situations at school and how they are connected to New Hampshire state law and their own set of school laws, the Eagle Code. Ask any AE/MS See *Bullying on page 22*

**The Andover Beacon**  
AndoverBeacon.com January 2006 \$2.00

# December Flies By At AE/MS

By Jane Slayton  
AE/MS Principal

The Holiday Concert was performed before a standing-room-only crowd on December 15. The concert included students in kindergarten through grade eight as well as the beginner and advanced bands. The familiar holiday melodies are always a delight. Many of the classes added an accent to their songs with costuming and choreography. The third grade students played recorders.

It was impressive to see what the beginner band had already mastered in such a short time. The advanced band continues to dazzle the crowd, and this performance was no exception. There were several duets and a solo in addition to the band numbers. It is obvious that Mr. Hubert, the band director, and the talented musicians have worked hard these past few months.

The evening ended with the traditional slide show coordinated by Ms. Hildebrand, Ms. Connor, and Mr. Wiley.

## Holiday Shoppe

The Holiday Shoppe was held on December 19. Many beautiful, useful items were donated to the Holiday Shoppe by parents and community members. The children love to shop for their parents and siblings all by themselves.

The Andover Parent Teacher Organization filled the teacher workroom with snacks and treats every day the week before vacation. The PTO has found many ways over the years to show their appreciation for Andover's teachers.

## Snow Days

Students have enjoyed two snow

days in the month of December. They have both been Fridays. Snowy and icy conditions made travel unsafe. The first snow day is always an exciting event, although no one enjoys going to school the additional days in June. Middle School students were scheduled to go to a Manchester Monarch's hockey game but it, too, was a casualty of the storm. The Andover School District has a long-standing practice that if school is cancelled, so are evening activities.

## Cat Food And Dog Food

Eighth grade members of the Andover Middle School Student Council have put the word out that they are collecting dog and cat food for an animal shelter in Franklin. Several boxes have already been filled and are awaiting delivery in January.



# MVHS Girls Basketball

Kaitlin Anderson (above) from Andover has been named captain of the Merrimack Valley High School girls basketball team. Kaitlin is currently a junior at MVHS.

Katie Haley, Kristin Corliss, Haley Levesque, and Amanda Brule of Andover are also on the team, as is Taylor Miller of Salisbury.

If you have a chance, come down to support the girls at one of their games!

## MVHS Girls Basketball

Dec 2 @ Coe-Brown, L 48-44  
Dec 6 Pembroke, L 39-49  
Dec 10 @ Monadnock, W 23-49  
Dec 13 Milford, W 77-46  
Dec 14 @ Kearsarge, L 65-42  
Dec 17 John Stark, L 29-46  
Dec 19 @ St. Thom. Aq., L 46-36  
Jan 4 Coe-Brown  
Jan 6 @ Plymouth Regional  
Jan 10 @ Bow  
Jan 14 Lebanon  
Jan 17 Kearsarge  
Jan 20 Hanover  
Jan 24 @ Pembroke  
Jan 27 @ Bishop Brady  
Jan 31 @ John Stark  
Feb 3 Souhegan  
Feb 8 Bow



Andrew Young, Joey Rego, and Madison Powers perform with the Advanced Band at the AE/MS Winter Concert. Photo: Katherine Stearns

# Mark Your Calendar!

- Jan 2 – Board of Selectmen, 7
- Jan 3 – School Board, AE/MS, 6:30
- Jan 3 – Building Inspector, 7-8
- Jan 5 – Kearsarge Masonic Lodge, Potter Place, 7:30
- Jan 7 – ChildFind Clinic, AE/MS, 9 AM to 11 AM
- Jan 7 – An Evening With Pianist William Ogmundson, Norris Theatre, Proctor, 8 PM, 735-6870
- Jan 8 – Free Public Skating, Maloney Rink, Proctor, 3-4
- Jan 9 – Lions Club, Mr. D's, 6:30
- Jan 9 – Snowmobile Club, AE/MS, 7
- Jan 10 – Building Inspector, 7-8
- Jan 10 – Planning Board, 7
- Jan 10 – AE/MS Facility Study presented, AE/MS, 7:30
- Jan 11 – Andover Service Club, Potter Place, 10
- Jan 11 – Budget Hearing for Andover School District, Town Hall, 7
- Jan 11 – Conservation Comm., 7:30
- Jan 12 – Recycle Comm., Town Hall, 7
- Jan 13 – Soo-Nipi Audubon, Tracy Memorial Library, New London, 7:30
- Jan 14 – AOC Youth Nordic Skate Race, Blackwater Ski Area, 11
- Jan 15 – Free Public Skating, Maloney Rink, Proctor, 3-4
- Jan 16 – NHCHF, Shirley Currier's home, 12:30
- Jan 16 – Board of Selectmen, 7
- Jan 17 – Wilmot Community Center Senior Lunch, 12
- Jan 17 – Building Inspector, 7-8
- Jan 17 – Zoning Board of Adjustment, Town Hall, 7:30
- Jan 18 – Filing Period Begins For Town and School District Positions
- Jan 18 – Budget Hearings for Town, Fire Departments, Water District, 7
- Jan 18 – Rail Trail, Town Hall, 7
- Jan 19 – Library Trustees, Bachelder Library, 7:30
- Jan 22 – Free Public Skating, Maloney Rink, Proctor, 3-4
- Jan 23 – Lions Club, Mr. D's, 6:30
- Jan 23 – Master Plan Update, 7
- Jan 24 – Building Inspector, 7-8
- Jan 24 – Planning Board, 7
- Jan 25 – Internet Safety, AE/MS, 9 AM
- Jan 25 – Conservation Comm. planning meeting, 7:30
- Jan 27 – Filing Period Ends For Town and School District Positions
- Jan 27 – AE/MS Progress Reports sent home
- Jan 28 – Snowmobile Club Italian Buffet, AE/MS, 5-6:30
- Jan 29 – Free Public Skating, Maloney Rink, Proctor, 3-4
- Jan 31 – Andover Fish & Game, East Andover Clubhouse, 7:30
- Jan 31 – Building Inspector, 7-8
- Feb 2 – Kearsarge Masonic Lodge, Potter Place, 7:30
- Feb 5 – Free Public Skating, Maloney Rink, Proctor, 3-4