

Beacon Bits

Good news on the *Beacon* fundraising front – we continue to creep steadily toward our goal of 275 households supporting the *Beacon* with a donation. We've just passed the 250 mark, putting us more than 90% of the way to our goal.

If you haven't shown your support for the *Beacon* yet, now would be a wonderful time to do so. There's a handy form at the bottom of this page – please snip it out and send it with a check today.

An End To The Free Ride?

Several *Beacon* supporters have asked, "Why not send the *Beacon* only to people who support it financially? Maybe that way more people would 'get a round tuit' and send their checks."

That's a perfectly reasonable question and deserves a thoughtful answer.

The *Beacon* is published by a New Hampshire non-profit corporation run by your friends and neighbors for the express purpose of "publishing information of interest to the community of Andover" – not to make money, not to advance any particular agenda – just to serve the community.

The Board of Directors has always felt that the community is much better served by a newspaper that's readily available to everyone. Restricting circulation to those who support the paper financially would greatly decrease the value of the *Beacon* to the community, and that would run counter to the mission of the corporation.

The best solution is for us all to continue to work aggressively at meeting the *Beacon's* fundraising goals. If you've already sent your donation, please check with your friends and neighbors to be sure they've done the same.

Together, we can make this work!



Next Month's Beacon...

...should be in mailboxes on Friday, May 4. Please get all ads, articles, etc. to us by **Sun., April 15** at the latest. And **earlier is always better!**

Letters To The Beacon

As I left the Andover School District meeting half an hour after midnight, I wondered how many Andover parents would be surprised to learn that about an hour earlier, the town was voting on several school security issues. The opinions on some of these items were so close that the moderator asked voters to stand on one side of the gym or the other in order for their votes to be counted.

As a high school teacher, I am familiar with the importance of having up-to-date, functioning classroom intercoms for communication and most importantly, door locks that can be operated from inside the classroom. Do Andover parents realize that both of these items were nearly removed from the Andover school budget Monday night? This is the kind of business taking place while many are putting their children to bed or fast asleep.

All school district voting should take place throughout the day. Citizen input on these issues could take place during a deliberative session. By having ballot voting throughout Town Meeting Day, all voters would have a more reasonable chance to cast their votes. Having this type of system would better allow for parents and other working people to vote!

Erik A. Anderson

I would like to take a moment to thank all the citizens who took the time to attend the School District Meeting on March 5. I am not sure, but it must have been pretty close to a record turnout. There were 392 citizens that voted on the proposed school bond.

I want to make sure that everyone understands that I appreciate their input. I do understand that the amount of the bond was large and that there are very many citizens who don't feel they can afford that kind of impact on their taxes. I can tell you from my position as a member of the school board, it is a difficult balance between satisfying the needs of the education of the students and keeping the budget as low as possible.

If you have any questions or would

like to discuss the needs of the school district, please feel free to call me at 344-2663.

In closing, I would like to encourage community members to attend our school board meetings the first Tuesday of every month. These are public meetings and all are welcome.

Sincerely,

Doug Boisvert

I would like to thank Charlie Darling and the staff of *The Andover Beacon* for their awesome coverage of information leading up to this year's School District Meeting and also the Town Meeting. The thoroughness of the information that was presented was amazing. I am sure not too many people understand the time it takes to keep such an awesome newspaper going. I know time and time again Charlie had to readjust his schedule to accommodate the information that we all so desperately wanted to have printed in the *Beacon*. Thank you, Charlie and the wonderful staff at *The Andover Beacon*, for providing the community with such a quality newspaper. Keep up the good work!

I would encourage the community to help support *The Andover Beacon* if they haven't already done so. We

are very lucky to have such a dedicated group of people helping keep *The Andover Beacon* alive.

Sincerely,

Doug Boisvert

Thank you so much for your written votes on Tuesday, March 13, for Library Trustee! I greatly appreciate your support and consideration for the position.

Brandy Collette

Enclosed you will find a check for the *Beacon* for 2007. We had originally intended to send it a year from the last donation, which would have gotten it to you in June, but your eloquent pleading in the March *Beacon* says to us that you want to get all donations in earlier in the year. So here it is.

We would like to take this opportunity to say that we cannot understand any household in Andover who does not contribute to the *Beacon*. This paper is crammed full of town news and town interests. It covers not only the politics, schools, churches, organizations, sports, arts, people, and calendars for the area, but also the police, fire departments, rescue squad, and any other items that any member of the commu-

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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:

Andover Pizza Chef	Large 2-Topping Pizza	Leo & Donna McCabe
Andover Service Club	Cookbook	Deb & Mike Huntoon
Blackwater Junct. Rest.	Gift Certificate	Roger & Mary Pellerin
East Andover Marketplace	Gift Certificate	Brenda & Fred Lance
Jake's Market and Deli	Gift Certificate	Peter Zak & Mary Lloyd Evans
Kearsarge Magazine	1-Year Subscription	Mary Ann Levesque
MacKenna's Restaurant	Gift Certificate	Joan Gross
Mary Kay - Sarah Anderson	Gift Certificate	Maria Glorioso
New Horizons Hairstylists	Hair Care Products	Barbara Lynch & Julie Rector

Winners – contact the Beacon at 735-5331 to collect your prize.

Prizes not redeemable for cash.

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 Subscr. (\$25 min)
			Your Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ Phone or E-mail _____
			Other Name _____ Other Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ Phone or E-mail _____
Seasonal: which months are you at the "other" address? _____			

Andover Beacon • PO Box 149 • Andover NH 03216 • Thank you!

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