

POLICE BLOTTER

The Andover Police Department responded to 183 calls for service from February 15 to March 15. The following is a partial breakdown:

- Domestic disturbances – 2
- Accidents – 7
- Motor vehicle summons – 7
- Motor vehicle warnings – 35
- Reports of road hazards – 5
- House checks – 13
- Business checks – 14
- Pistol permits issued – 8
- Reckless driving complaints – 4

Thefts – 1
Harassing communication complaints – 2

Arrests

- Laura Fife, 45, Hill, DWI, disobeying an officer, open container
- Elijah Vanderveer, 29, Claremont, Operating after suspension, prohibitions
- Vernon Potter, 31, Concord, Insurance fraud
- Patricia Trader, 43, Sutton, Prohibited sales

Roof Shoveler Arrested At AE/MS

By Annmarie Timmins
Concord Monitor staff

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A photograph in yesterday's Union Leader helped the Concord police catch a man they say was wanted for insurance fraud.

Vernon Potter, 31, of Concord was pictured in the paper shoveling snow from the roof of the Andover Elementary/[Middle] School. Lt. Paul Leger saw the story, noticed the photo of Potter, and alerted the detective division, which has had a warrant for Potter's arrest since January.

According to the police, Vernon was wanted for allegedly submitting a false personal injury claim with Allstate/Encompass Insurance following an incident in 2006.

Yesterday, Detective Michael Guarino followed up on Leger's tip and learned that Potter was expected back at the school yesterday. Guarino made arrangements for the Andover police to arrest Potter.

Potter was held at the Merrimack County jail on \$10,000 cash bail pending his arraignment today.

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Don Gross Steps Up As New Building Inspector

Don Gross is Andover's new Building Inspector, replacing Lloyd Perreault, who is now a Deputy Building Inspector. The following is an interview with Don.

Andover Beacon: Why did Lloyd step down?

Don Gross: Lloyd has had a couple of very busy years as Building Inspector. He needed some time to catch up on several personal projects.

AB: Why did you decide to step up?

DG: As a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA), the importance of a good Building Inspector has become more evident to me. I hope to institute some changes, making this position an easy-to-use and valuable function for the community.

AB: What exactly is the role of the Building Inspector?

DG: The Building Inspector's role in some applications can be very complex when considering the entirety of the residential and commercial building codes. Fortunately, for most applicants some common sense and a few simple codes are all that apply.

Simply put, the Building Inspector's role is to take applications, provide information on building codes and Town rules, and inspect projects to ensure safe and sound building practices are being used.

AB: How does the Building Inspector's role mesh with other town departments like the Planning Board or the Zoning Board of Adjustment?

DG: The Building Inspector plays an integral role for both the Planning Board and the ZBA. Inspections are done as required on building projects, and often the inspection may include issues resulting from decisions of either board. Certain issues correctly attended to by the Building Inspector help to keep many problems from becoming issues for these boards. These groups working together provide reasonable checks and balances for the good of the community.

AB: Many people aren't familiar

with what's expected of them as far as the Building Inspector goes. Could you outline for our readers when they need to be in touch with the Building Inspector, how to do that, and so on?

DG: Most construction projects – including inside and outside projects for businesses and homes, as well as garages and sheds – require a building permit. Most projects require one or more inspections of proper location, construction, electrical, plumbing, etc.

The process is reasonably simple and inexpensive. The Town Office can provide the permit application and Town regulations most any time, and the Building Inspector is available during his office hours or by phone and appointment to answer questions or help in any way.

AB: Do you see any changes coming in how the Building Inspector operates?

DG: The Town's building permit process is simple and reasonable, and I like that. I use a common sense approach to business and will apply that as I conduct inspections and address issues. I hope to develop an information sheet for permit applicants pointing out some of the most important information they might need to know for their building projects.

AB: You've been on the job for a few weeks now. What mistakes do you see people making? What pitfalls should they be avoiding to make their lives (and yours) a little easier?

DG: Although I have only had this position for a few weeks, past experience and time spent on the ZBA have enlightened me on issues causing people some difficulties. With that in mind, I do have some advice:

- If you know there are Planning Board or ZBA issues, address them. If you are not sure if you have issues, do the research. The Town Office, board members, or myself are always willing to help.
- Leave time for all your approvals and permits so your project will not

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