



Vicky Mishcon (l), a member of the Andover Board of Selectmen, rode along with Mike Dukette as he plowed out East Andover in the wee hours.

An Inside Look At The Challenges Of Winter Road Maintenance

By Vicky Mishcon
Andover Board of Selectmen

“Good morning, Vicky! Ready to go?”

Jon Champagne, Andover’s road agent, has pulled into my driveway at 3:30 AM, the headlights illuminating a light snowfall. Somewhat dazed at the early hour, I was nevertheless eager to ride along on Jon’s first run for Wednesday’s storm.

Jon had been up since 2 AM listening to weather reports and checking his roster of drivers and trucks. After he picked me up, we went out on the road to evaluate the conditions.

We drove up and down the hills of Andover, only the tracks from animals zig-zagging across the empty nighttime roads. Jon was evaluating the pre-conditions of the snow-covered roads. Was there any ice forming from drainage problems? Was there sufficient sand coming up from previous applications? Would there be school buses running, or would school be cancelled?

On certain hills and at intersections, Jon would apply his brakes at 20 mph and see if his truck skidded. Then he would plow a short section and back up and apply his brakes again. At about an inch and a half of snowfall the truck began to skid, and he made the decision to start waking up his drivers and start the plowing on the main routes. Lesser roads that don’t get through traffic, or have few residents, would get plowed later when three inches had fallen or conditions became icy.

Jon takes into account that every year there are new drivers on the road with little to no experience in winter driving. He also considers older drivers and the school buses as he decides when to start plowing and sanding.

We also drove by the state highway shed on Route 11 and Switch Road to see if their plows were getting started. The state trucks tend to plow snow across the intersections with the Town roads, so if Jon waits for the state to get

See Plowing on page 6

Please! Get A Round Tuit Today!

BEACON STARTS 2009 FUNDRAISING

By Charlie Darling
Beacon staff

It’s that time of year again – time for Andover residents, each of whom receives the *Beacon* in their mailbox each month at no charge, to make a voluntary contribution to help keep the *Beacon* going.

The *Andover Beacon* is published by Community Publishing of Andover, Inc., a New Hampshire non-profit corporation. We rely on voluntary donations for about a third of the *Beacon’s* annual operating expenses.

Other than a salary for me and commissions for our ad salespeople, the *Beacon* is produced entirely by volunteers. But it still takes a budget of over \$65,000 a year to bring the *Beacon* to

every mailbox in Andover every month at no charge.

About two-thirds of our budget is covered by the approximately 125 advertisers you see in the *Beacon* every month. That leaves about a third of our annual budget that has to come from somewhere other than ads. Some comes from out-of-town subscribers and gift subscriptions, but most of it has to come as voluntary donations from the residents of Andover.

Especially in tough economic times like these, it’s vital that the *Beacon* have solid financial support from the community. Please “get a round tuit” right away and send in your envelope or the coupon on page 2 today!





the Andover Beacon

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February 2009
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2009 Tax Bills Could Rise 3.8%

By Ed Hiller
Andover Budget Committee

The Andover Budget Committee has been hard at work for the last two months to come up with budgets to recommend to the voters at the annual meetings this coming March. This task has been a particularly difficult one this year, considering the distressing present state of the national and local economies.

We felt that it was necessary to consider the financial difficulties that many taxpayers are facing and to come up with budget recommendations that were as lean as possible. Where an expenditure could prudently be postponed until next year or later, or where some traditional expenditures could reasonably be reduced this year, we have recommended these actions.

Andover taxpayers were dealt a major shock this past fall when their 2008 tax bills arrived showing an increase of 11% over the previous year. The Budget Committee felt that it was extremely important to make every effort to avoid such a big increase in taxes again this coming year.

To achieve this goal, the commit-

tee looked to each governing body to recognize the seriousness of our present economic situation, and to cooperate by deleting from their requested budgets the “want” and “nice to have” items in favor of “need” and “must have” items. In most cases this cooperation was provided.

Unfortunately, the Budget Committee’s proposed budgets for 2009 will still result in an estimated tax rate for 2009 that is 3.8% higher than the rate for 2008. This compares with the 11% increase we had to deal with last year.

The recommended Andover budget amounts are shown in a table on page 4. The budgeted amounts listed here are “net budgets” that omit expenditures that are so-called “pass-through” items, that is, those expenses that are completely reimbursed by grant money or other sources of revenue, and that do not require any current year taxes for their funding.

Estimating this fall’s tax rates is always very approximate because of the uncertainty in estimating the amount

See Tax Bills on page 4



Scenes like this one were common all over Andover and throughout a broad swath of New England during the ice storm on the weekend of December 13. This photo shows the broken yellow birch that took out the power on Kearsarge Mountain Road. Staff photo: Charlie Darling

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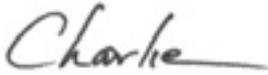
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Beacon Bits

I was shocked to find that ad sales for this issue dropped about 20% from last issue. Some of the drop is seasonal, to be sure. Some is the normal ebb and flow of ads and advertisers. But based on what I hear from Suzy and Connie, our ad sales team, some is definitely due to the unpleasant economic climate.

Clearly, the *Beacon* needs to keep an even tighter rein on costs than usual. I had 48 pages of material for this issue, but trimmed it to 44 to save money. As the size of each issue is about our only variable expense, don't be surprised if the *Beacon* contracts further as we all work through this downturn together.

I know it's hard to think about fund raising in times like these, but we've got no choice – the *Beacon* depends on the generosity of the community for a substantial part of its annual budget. Please support us at whatever level you can, and please “get a round tuit” today, before you forget. It will make a big difference to the whole community!



Next Issue of the *Beacon*...

...should be in mailboxes on Friday, Feb. 27. Please get all ads, articles, etc. to us by **Sunday, Feb. 15**, at the latest. And **earlier is always better!**

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We couldn't publish the *Beacon* without you. Everyone in Andover appreciates your support of the *Beacon*!

We know you've been meaning to support the *Beacon*, but you just haven't quite gotten... Well, now you've got one! PLEASE SEND A CHECK TODAY!



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:

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Blackwater Junction Rest.	Gift Certificate	Craig Sliter
Judy Evans	Handknit Scarf	Bill & Loretta Bates
Jake's Market and Deli	Gift Certificate	Donna Baker-Hartwell
Kearsarge Magazine	1-Year Subscription	Lincoln & Robin Charles
MacKenna's Restaurant	Gift Certificate	Doris McClintock
Mary Kay - Laura Condon	Gift Certificate	Lois Magenau
New Horizons Hairstylists	Hair Care Products	Lana Nelson

Winners – call volunteer Judy Evans at 735-5331 to collect your prize.
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The *Andover Beacon* is published monthly by Community Publishing of Andover, Inc., a New Hampshire non-profit corporation. Board of Directors: Steve Darling, Nan Kaplan, John Kinney, Betsy Paine, Chuck Will.

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 depend on donations from the community for a large part of our operating budget.

Publisher: Charlie Darling
 Ad Sales: Connie Powers, Suzy Brown
 Member Drawings: Judy Evans
Beacon Guides: Heidi Terwilliger, Shirley Currier, Heather Makechnie
 Writing, Editing, & Proofreading: Nan Kaplan, Jeff Goodrich, Ann Williams, Margo Coolidge, Grace Stetson, Lauretta Phillips, Robin Powell, Joyce Quinn, Fiona Petersen, Nancy Tripp, Sandee Waine, Vicky Mishcon
 Production: Sean Cox, Diane Beaudoin
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Distribution: Mary Demers, Judy Perreault, Don Gross, Lily Ordway, Wayne Nicoll
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Local Health Care Ideas Presented to Obama-Biden Transition Project

By Charlie Darling
Beacon staff

From December 15 through December 31, the Obama-Biden Transition Project encouraged community members across the country to hold grassroots Health Care Community Discussions and report back on the conclusions the participants reached.

Andover resident Don Kaplan, a retired physician, organized one such discussion, held at his home on December 23. Participants included Dr. Duncan Coolidge, a retired physician; Jim Danforth, a former Republican state representative; Al Epperly, a former member of the Danbury Board of Selectmen; Eula Epperly, manager of the Danbury Food Pantry; Howard George; Nan Kaplan, a former medical office manager; Bill Leber, a former Republican state representative; Vicky Mishcon, a member of the Andover Board of Selectmen; and Laura Powers. The group was evenly divided between Republicans and Democrats.

The meeting lasted two hours, and each participant spoke for five or ten minutes. In addition, there was much

general group discussion.

Four specific cases of problems with the current health care system were brought out by the group and included in its report back to the Transition Project:

Case 1 – A family of two earners, with total income over \$50,000, could not obtain group insurance. They obtained a policy for the parents, which provides coverage only after \$10,000 of initial costs. They covered their three children with the federal Healthy Kids Policy.

Case 2 – A family in which the major earner was between jobs for two months and without health insurance had to manage the cost of cancer therapy in the interim.

Case 3 – An individual has had a problem for two years with his primary coverage (Medicare) and supplementary coverage (Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts) not making payments for hospital care.

Case 4 – An individual with Part D bridge payment amounts to \$4,000 in uncovered drug expenses.

See Ideas on page 8



Cindy Benson of Andover and Linda Francisco-Demers of Wilnot pose with a mounted photo of the new president at Andover's Inaugural Party.

Photo: Caren Swanson

Townpeople Hold Inaugural Party In Stone Chapel

By Cindy Benson
For the Beacon

On Tuesday, January 20, area neighbors and friends gathered at the Proctor Stone Chapel for an Inaugural Party to celebrate the historic swearing in of President Barack Obama. One of thousands of such gatherings held all over the country, the party brought over 60 local residents together to celebrate and recognize the work of the millions of Americans who helped achieve this victory.

“There was an unbelievable groundswell of participation during the campaign around the country, and tonight is our night to celebrate that excitement and accomplishment here in Andover,” said Cindy Benson, one of the organizers. Gisela Darling spearheaded the evening, soliciting volunteers to help with decorating, publicity, and food. Participants watched highlights of the day's inaugural events on a big screen, thanks to the help of Jim Cox, technology.

See Party on page 6

Andover To Undertake Property Revaluation

In 2009 the Town will undertake a “revaluation,” updating the assessed value of each property in town to its current fair market value. To understand this important and complex undertaking, the Beacon (AB) interviewed Town Administrator Dana Hadley (DH).

AB: Why is the value of real estate so important to the Town?

DH: It's what property taxes are based on. You take the entire town budget and divide it by the total value of all the land and all the buildings in town.

The result is the tax rate, which says that for every dollar of assessed property value, if we collect so many cents we'll have enough to cover the town, school, and fire department budgets plus the taxes we have to pay the county.

AB: That's not new. So why do we need a revaluation of our assessed property values this year?

DH: Historically, it didn't matter what method you used for assessing property for the purpose of computing taxes, as long as it was fair. Most towns didn't bother updating the assessments very often, because as long as Property A, which is worth twice what Property B is worth, has an assessment that is twice the assessment of Property B, everybody is paying their fair share.

The actual assessment figure didn't matter, as long as Property A's assessment was twice Property B's assessment. They might both be half of what each property was really worth, but ev-

See Reval on page 8

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Tax Bills from page 1

of future revenues that will be available to offset expenses. On top of that, the County taxes remain to be seen. Assuming that revenues in 2009 will be the same as they were for 2008 and that the County tax remains the same, the table on the far right summarizes our present estimate of the 2009 tax rates.

Andover School Budget

The effort to establish an affordable and workable 2009-10 budget for the Andover School District started out with two large and unavoidable expense increases over 2008-09. The contracted tuition cost for our high school students at Merrimack Valley will go up by \$188,000 (cost per student up from \$9,200 in 2008-09 to

\$11,743 in 2009-10). And the total salary raises for 2009-10 specified in the teachers' union contract are \$93,000.

Without a reduction in other expense categories, the School District 2009 tax rate could be expected to increase by at least 11% over 2008. Andover taxpayers

Proposed Net Budgets for 2009			
Department	2008 appropriated	2009 proposed	Change
School	\$4,031,333	\$4,236,578	\$205,245
Town	\$1,386,756	\$1,399,161	\$12,405
Fire			
Andover	\$71,593	\$69,849	-\$1,744
E. Andover	\$51,219	\$51,033	-\$186
County	\$771,975	\$771,975	---
TOTAL	\$6,312,876	\$6,528,596	\$215,720

Net budgets exclude pass-through items that don't impact this year's tax rate. Two common examples: the State reimbursing the Town for part of a road project, or the Town buying a police cruiser with funds appropriated in prior years.

had faced a similarly sized School District tax rate increase of 11% in 2008, which drove their total tax bills up to an unprecedented level. The Budget Committee felt that it was unacceptable to

propose another massive tax increase for the coming year.

Recognizing that the number of students in Andover's elementary/middle school has been shrinking over the last several years (from 264 in 2005-06, down to 228 in 2008-09), the Budget Committee and the School Board cooperated to plan a reduction in staffing for 2009-10 that would result in significant budget savings and yet not impact the school programs.

The resulting proposed School District budget for 2009-10 is \$4.237 million, up 5.1% over the net appropriation for 2008-09 of \$4.031 million.

The estimated school tax rate is up 7.3% over last year's rate. However since the Town tax rate is down somewhat (see below), the overall impact of the school tax increase is not as bad as it might

be.

Andover Town Budget

The proposed 2009 net budget for the Town is \$1.4 million, only \$12,405 over the net appropriations voted for 2008.

This budget increases the amount allocated to Highways and Bridges for

Tax Rate Estimates for 2009				
Department	2008	2009	Change	
School	\$10.93	\$11.73	\$0.80	7.3%
Town	\$2.15	\$2.00	-\$0.15	-7.0%
Fire				
Andover	\$0.65	\$0.63	-\$0.02	-3.1%
E. Andover	\$0.33	\$0.32	-\$0.01	-3.0%
County	\$2.84	\$2.84	---	---
Total Estimated Tax Rates for 2009				
Andover	\$16.57	\$17.20	\$0.63	3.8%
E. Andover	\$16.25	\$16.89	\$0.64	3.9%
Tax On A \$200,000 Property				
Andover	\$3,314	\$3,440	\$126	3.8%
E. Andover	\$3,250	\$3,378	\$128	3.9%

summer and winter operations from \$320,000 in 2008 to \$385,000 for 2009, an increase of \$65,000 or 20%. However, to keep the total Highway budget reasonably flat, the amount allocated to Special Highway Projects is reduced from \$266,000 appropriated for 2008, to \$192,000 for 2009. This will fund the repaving of Maple Street and Channel Road, the installation of erosion control on Sam Hill Road at Sucker Brook, and the repaving of the upper portion of Chase Hill Road from Emery Road to the end of the pavement. Paving of the lower part of Chase Hill Road from Route 11 up to Emery Road will be included in the Special Highway Projects for 2010.

The Selectmen estimate that with anticipated revenues, plus judicious use of some previous year unexpended surplus, they will be able to fund this proposed budget with a Town tax rate of \$2.00, down \$0.15 from the Town tax rate for 2008 of \$2.15.

Andover Fire Precincts

The proposed budgets for 2009 for the Andover and East Andover Fire Precincts are slightly reduced from the appropriations for 2008. The resulting tax rate for the Andover Fire Precinct is expected to reduce from \$0.65 in 2008 to \$0.63 in 2009, and for the East Andover Fire Precinct from \$0.33 in 2008 to \$0.32 in 2009.

Estimated Total Andover Tax Rate

The total estimated tax rates for 2009 are \$17.20 for Andover taxpayers and \$16.89 for East Andover taxpayers. These rates are approximately 3.8% higher than the rates for 2008. By comparison, the 2008 tax rates were 11% higher than for 2007.

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Letters To The Beacon

As I perused the Holidays 2008 issue of the *Beacon* I was struck, not for the first time, by how blessed I am to live in a town full of the spirit of generosity and giving all year round. Whether it is residents donating to the new food pantry, parents volunteering for the PTO, the Recycling Committee's Swap Shop, or any number of other gifts, this town never stops giving to and caring for its own.

We are facing difficult economic times, and I have no doubt that we will all feel the pinch of recession. More importantly, I have no doubt that we will keep giving to and supporting each other in whatever way we can. Thus I would like to take this opportunity to say, "Thank you, and keep up the good work."

Jaime Powers

As a parent, an educator, and a taxpayer, I have decided to run for a position on the Andover School Board. I have two daughters, one in kindergarten and another who will be starting kindergarten in a year and a half. As a result, I have direct, personal interest in the success of AE/MS, and as a high school science teacher in an outside district, I have first-hand knowledge of the needs of children and teachers in the classroom.

Finally, as a taxpayer, I can bring a balanced, fair-minded approach to the business of the School Board. This seems to be a good time to have some fresh minds making decisions for our community, and most importantly, our children.

Thank you, and I would appreciate your support this March.

Erik A. Anderson

I would like to thank the Andover After School Program and the Andover Five Alive Program for the weekly use of the Hamp House building for our Boy Scout meetings. We have used the building for many years – four years with the Cub Scout Den, and now for the past several years with Boy Scout Troop 489. We are able to use the building during the evening hours weekly.

This building has been a great help to our organization, and I hope we will be able to use the space for many more years.

Thank you,

Kathy Bennett

Scoutmaster, Troop 489

The Andover After School Program (AASP) and Andover Five Alive Program (AFAP) are lifesavers for me.

Being a single parent who works an eight-to-five job in Concord, I don't know how I would have managed getting my son to afternoon kindergarten last year and also have a place to go after school. With these two vital programs, I was able to get my son onto the bus in the morning, and he would go directly to the Five Alive Program until the afternoon kindergarten started and then return to the Andover After School Program once school was finished.

I feel that the Programs' location right on the school grounds is a huge asset, as it eliminates the need for unnecessary transportation of these young children. Once they have reached the school by bus (or whatever means they may use) they no longer have to leave the school grounds until the end of the day when they are picked up.

The staff have always kept the kids busy with games and activities as well as having them work on any homework assignments they have. By having his homework completed before I pick my son up, it allows me to just quickly check it after we get home, and then we can spend more time doing other family activities.

Kevin Kraft

I am writing in support of the Andover School District warrant article by petition recently submitted on behalf of the Andover After School Program (AASP), requesting the District voters to direct the School Board to reverse its decision not to renew the lease on the Hamp House property for use of the AASP.

This ill-advised decision by the School Board evidences a lack of appreciation for a current community service, as well as a lack of understanding and vision regarding the relevance of such programs to the overall health, safety, and education of the broader community. Their expressed issue appears rooted in their reluctance to serve as landlord (though apparently only to the AASP, since other leases on the property are not challenged). They cite concerns such as safety, need, community relevance, etc. In short a shifting litany of issues – some valid and addressed, many others unfounded and disproven.

Repeated attempts by AASP board members, involved parents, and sup-

portive community members to address these concerns have resulted in meetings and action plans toward mitigating these issues. The AASP and its constituents worked in good faith and with considerable investment of time and resources to craft a proposed lease agreement that would shift responsibilities, fiduciary and otherwise, to AASP. These conciliatory efforts proved fruitless.

Rumor has it that a long-term lease agreement with any tenant of the Hamp House property would stand as a barrier to a reintroduction of the recently-voted-down school expansion issue. The afterschool program resides on the property where that building would need to go. However, the proposed Warrant Article contains an "out" clause in the event that such a bond issue is approved by the voters.

It is important to note that two of the dissenting board members utilized the program for their own children in past years. AASP was apparently a valuable resource then.

I encourage everyone's attendance at the School District Meeting on Monday, March 2, at 7 PM at AE/MS in order that your vote is cast and your voice be heard. Too often we passively endorse these "executive session" decisions by elected officials whom we hope have

our best interests at heart.

Danyl Furtkamp

Over the years I've heard the comment that we, as a town, should never have given up the old town hall on Main Street next to Pizza Chef (now the Pro-Claim building). Its central "downtown" location might have accommodated the expansion of the town hall, the expansion of the Andover library, the After School Program, the Service Club thrift shop, another town meeting room, a community center, a senior center, and so on.

Well, maybe it could serve various community needs and wants again. It's for sale. The listing price is far beyond what the Budget Committee would entertain, but with today's economy, it will probably be on the market for some time and will probably be sold for less than its listing price.

Andover folks have a way of pulling together in a cooperative spirit. Maybe the Lions Club, Service Club, the *Beacon*, the After School Program, and other groups could unite and somehow purchase the property for community purposes. Several tenants are providing some income to help offset expenses, and the building is in good shape.

Think about it ...

Tina Cotton

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Party from page 3

ogy specialist at Proctor, and enjoyed music from Sunday's inaugural concert at the Lincoln Memorial, which carried the theme "We are One."

A big roll of paper was spread out for people to write messages to the new president, which will be sent to the White House, along with letters from students at Andover Elementary/Middle School. One such message from a young mother said, "Dear President Obama, Those are words I have been waiting many months to scribe! Your ideas of peace, inclusion, hope, and healing inspire me to my core. Even more importantly, I am relieved for my

six-month-old son that you will be leading our country, mending wounds, and healing the earth. I have so much hope and pride in my country for the first time in my life! I wish you the best of luck and health while in office."

Another Andover resident simply wrote: "Dear Barack, Hope is here. We're with you!"

This inauguration certainly has brought hope and excitement to young and old alike. And the day was made more special still by this gathering of neighbors and friends wishing to celebrate a new era together.

A big thanks goes to Proctor for allowing the use of their beautiful space!

Plowing from page 1

started, he can clean up the intersections after they've been through and save the Town plows from doing the intersections twice.

It was 5 AM, and all the plow drivers had been called. We headed over to the sand pit off Morrill Hill Road. The mountain of sand there was impressive and, unfortunately, snow covered, as Andover has no shed to protect its sand and salt supply.

Jon began loading the sand with the backhoe, and large chunks of frozen sand tumbled down. The drivers were required to check their sand as it was being loaded and remove large chunks of frozen sand by hand to avoid clogging the sander.

In rumbled the 10-wheeler with the plow, wing, and sander, assigned to do the longest route in town: East Andover. This was to be my ride for the next three hours.

Jon introduced me to the driver, Mike Dukette from Wilmot, who seemed happy to have the company on his long route. Mike has plowed for many road agents as well as for the state and brings a lot of experience to the job. He likes the way Jon manages the schedule, because he sends everyone home after their run until it's time to go out again. It saves the Town money and lets the drivers get a much-needed break between runs.

The 10-wheeler is used on the East Andover route because of all the hills and the length of the route. It takes a lot of power to get a truck loaded with sand and pushing snow up Chase Hill Road, Dyers Crossing Road, Maple Street, and Elbow Pond Road. He's sometimes able to haul enough sand to cover the entire route without going back to reload at the sand pit.

As we drove along, Mike was constantly adjusting the amount of sand output based on the steepness of the hill, how sharp a turn is, how busy an intersection is, etc. When we came to a turnaround, he got out and checked the sander, his chains, and the plow blade. This was the only time to take a few sips of coffee, because once you start moving, there is no way to take a drink of anything as the heavy truck rumbles up and down the hills.

Andover was now starting to wake up and stir. We met a few cars along some of the narrow roads, such as Tucker Mountain Road, and Mike really appreciated the drivers who slowed down and pulled way over as we approached. He has a lot of levers and switches to attend to as he gears down, turns off the sander, and pulls up the wing in preparation for passing another vehicle.

Other obstacles we encountered were of the immovable variety. Mailboxes, fence posts, and parked vehicles in the right-of-way make it impossible to plow the road as needed. Mike knows exactly where his plow blades are, though, and neatly plowed within inches of these obstacles. In poorer conditions, these property owners might not be so lucky.

During my earlier run with Jon, he explained a good rule of thumb for determining where the right-of-way is. A Town drainage ditch is usually in the right-of-way, and a stone wall or utility pole often marks the right-of-way boundary. So if your mailbox or fence post or vehicle is within the right-of-way, any damage done by the road crew becomes your responsibility to fix. It's very difficult to avoid these during a heavy snowstorm when visibility is poor.

At 8:30 AM, five hours after my morning had begun, Mike and I rolled into the sand pit where some of the other drivers had gathered, already finished with their first runs. I had a new appreciation for the decisions our road agent has to make to keep our roads safe, and certainly gained respect for the science and art of plowing and sanding. Many thanks to Jon and Mike for the lesson in winter maintenance and the great conversations during the long morning.

Our road agent has one of the most important jobs in our town. Without good roads, not much can get done in a town. He works closely with the Board of Selectmen and the town administrator to do his job within the constraints of the budget, a very challenging job indeed. We all work together to prioritize projects for summer and winter maintenance as well as road and bridge improvements.

I have written this article to give people a small window into the workings of the road agent's job. Jon is happy to answer questions, so give him a call!

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1,000 Acres On Ragged Mountain Protected From Development

By Maddie Hanna
Concord Monitor staff

Condensed from December 19 Concord Monitor

A nearly 1,000-acre plot of land on Ragged Mountain in Hill [bordering Andover and the east side of the Ragged Mountain Resort in Danbury, and including the headwaters of Mountain Brook, which feeds Elbow Pond] will be protected from development under an agreement between the landowner and the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests.

The society recently purchased a conservation easement for 960 acres of the March Pond Forest, paid for primarily with grant money from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, said Brian Hotz, the society's director of land protection.

The easement, which the society paid for with \$235,000 in grant money and \$40,000 from donors, connects to a much broader section of land that conservationists are working to protect, Hotz said. And several of its streams feed into Smith River, which the society has targeted as an important tributary of the Merrimack River and suitable for restoring the Atlantic salmon population.

A conservation easement appeals to many landowners, Hotz said, because "it's a process for really conserving the land's values, or attributes, but still retaining ownership of the property." Though the landowner retains ownership, he turns over the chance to develop it further, which explains the monetary value of the easement. But easements are individualized, Hotz said, and in this case, the owner, who sold the land at a below-market price, kept the rights

to develop a portion of it – two sections of about 3 acres each, Hotz said.

Land has been turned over to conservation easements at a "pretty steady pace" in recent years, Hotz said. "I think the difference is there aren't really that many large parcels left. So having properties that are 1,000 acres," he said, is significant.

Besides preserving streams involved with the project to restore Atlantic salmon, the easement covers an area that "provides good habitat" for a number of species, Hotz said, including bears, bobcats, and songbirds "that need that interior forest land that isn't fragmented."

March Pond, which is about nine acres in size and sits near the middle of the area, has geese, ducks, and otters, Hotz said.

The purchase ties into what the society calls the Quabbin-to-Cardigan Initiative, an effort by about 20 agencies to conserve a large path of land that stretches from the Quabbin Reservoir in Massachusetts to Mount Cardigan in New Hampshire. That initiative, which Hotz said began around 2002, was partly a reaction to population growth, especially regarding immigration from Massachusetts to the southern part of New Hampshire, said Joyce El Kouarti, the society's communications director.

As people noticed farms disappearing in favor of subdivisions, they realized "it was nice to have that farm there; it was nice to have those woods there," she said. "It was an opportunity, I think, for the conservation community to build on that – yes, yes, you're noticing what we have . . . and don't just assume it's always going to be there."

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Vienna Marcus presents her Christmas list to Santa Claus.

Staff photo: Bob Bussey

Town Celebrates Christmas At Bluewater Farm

By Jackie Adams
Bluewater Farm & Lodge

Seeing all of the children with Santa at the Christmas party at Bluewater Lodge was a great way to start the holiday season. We had about 60 children visit Santa, and they were all just adorable!

Our crafters were great sports, and we thank them for participating. We also want to thank the Andover Service Club for all the great baked goodies,

and of course a special thanks to Santa for being there!

This wrapped up a very successful year of community events at Bluewater Farm. We look forward to 2009 and getting together again.

Our first event will be our Cabin Fever Dance on Saturday, February 9. Be sure you look for all the details in this issue of the *Beacon*.

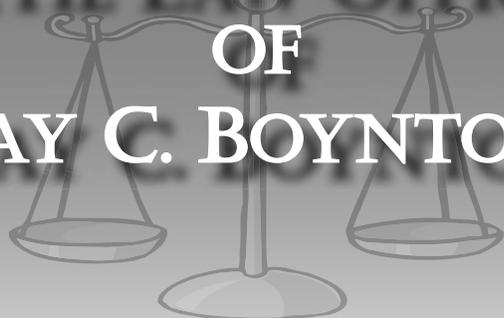
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Ideas from page 3

In addition to those four specific cases, the group passed on these specific comments to the Transition Project:

- Profit distorts certain functions of health care.
- Health care is a right, not a privilege, and should be for all.
- There should not be a single-payer system.
- Health insurance companies should be competitive and non-profit, as in Germany.
- There should be a limitation of specialists and a radical increase of primary care physicians.
- There should be more nurse practitioners and ancillary medical practitioners on the front line.
- Medical education should be free, thus eliminating extreme indebtedness of young physicians and hopefully decreasing costs and increasing primary care physician ranks.
- Drug prices must be radically regulated.
- Computerization in office and hospital should be networked.
- Individuals' medical and drug re-

cords should be on transportable computer chips.

- The policy of having "gatekeepers" needs to be studied.
- If a technology is overused, the reimbursement should be reduced (e.g. use of MRI in Japan).
- If a type of surgery is simplified and becomes faster to perform, reimbursement can be reduced (e.g. cataract surgery with implants).
- Rationing as in Canada, Sweden, and England may be a possibility, although it is anathema to Americans.
- Use of dollars in the first and last months of life need consideration.
- Respect people's end-of-life choices.
- Get America off the couch, off the grease, and outdoors.
- Determine why universal care is delivered for fewer dollars in other advanced societies.
- A national referendum on health care is needed (e.g. Switzerland).
- A march on Washington may be necessary to energize Congress.

For more information on the Transition Project or to voice your opinions, visit Change.gov.

Reval from page 3

everyone was still paying their fair share.

That all changed with the Claremont case over school funding. As a result of the court decision in that case, state laws were passed mandating that assessments not only have to be fair relative to one another – Property A's assessment has to be about twice Property B's assessment – but the assessments also have to be within 10% of the actual market value of the property once every fifth year.

This new law ensures that the state can do statewide calculations involving property values and the results won't be distorted by one town's assessments being, for example, about half of fair market value.

That's a big change from the old days – today, having town-wide assessments that are half or even three-quarters of the actual market values of the properties for more than four years in a row is illegal.

AB: So where does that leave Andover?

DH: Andover's assessments were last updated in 2004. Since then, we've had an assessor visit and check the physical data for every property in town. We did a third of the properties in 2006, a third in 2007, and a third in 2008. (That ensures that the data that is the basis for each property's assessment is accurate.) Now it's time again to get all the assessments in line with the actual market values.

AB: So how do you go about doing something as complex as updating the assessed value of every property in town?

DH: Well, clearly there's no way we're going to do it without help. It's too big a job, and it requires too much expertise. So we plan to hire Avitar Associates of New England. They're very competent doing assessment updates, and they're very familiar with Andover. They did the revaluations of all Andover properties in 1992 and 2004, and we are very fortunate that Mark Stetson, Andover's former Town Administrator, is now a key part of their assessing team.

AB: What will Avitar do?

DH: Come summer, they'll start with a database of current real estate sales data. The goal is to establish what every property in town would have sold for on April 1, 2009 if it had been for sale.

To be sure that they have good comparable data, they'll go to every house that sold in the past two years and check to be sure that the Town's property description matches the actual property

exactly.

Then, just like a real estate agent would do in helping you decide how much to sell your house for, they'll start with comparable sales data and adjust it for each property based on its similarities or differences to the actual sales data, its condition, and so on.

They'll also drive by every property in town to be sure that the property seems to match the basic data we have on file in the Town Office. If there appears to be a significant discrepancy – a new addition, for example – they'll correct the data for that property so all our Town property records will be up to date.

AB: OK, so they've got actual real estate sales data, they've got accurate descriptions of every property in town ... then what?

DH: Based on that, they'll use the same formulas that your real estate agent would use and come up with a fair market value for each property in town.

AB: If, as the result of the revaluation, my assessment goes up (or down), does that mean I'll pay more (or less) in property taxes?

DH: Not necessarily. If your assessment changes in line with the rest of the properties in town, then your share of the total town budget will be the same. But if your assessment changes by a lot more (or less) than other properties – the market value of lakefront property, for example, tends to move differently than the rest of the market – then your share of the town budget could be higher (or lower) than it was before the revaluation.

There's no question that there can be some shifting of the tax burden as a result of an assessment update. You'll see some tax burden shifting away from "average" houses and to property that's more sought-after. But that's exactly what you'd expect when you base the assessment on fair market value.

Mark Stetson and Avitar have done a good job monitoring sales in town to determine factors that impact value. The town's equalization ratio and property values have held well since 2004, unlike many other areas of the country. I believe that the revaluation figures won't be a tremendous shock to property owners.

AB: What if someone feels that his or her new assessment isn't fair and accurate. What recourse do they have?

DH: There will be opportunities for property owners to make an appointment and come to review their property information with the assessor, who will

See Reval on page 9



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Jennifer Coffey, State Representative

By Sandee Waine
Beacon staff

Jennifer Coffey of Andover was elated when receiving the news that she would be one of six New Hampshire State Representatives from District 6. This will be her first elected position, and she is very excited to be selected by voters in District 6 with confidence she could perform the duties of a State Representative.

“Yes,” she said, “this is my first time running. I have spent many years advocating for and against bills by testifying in front of committees of both the House and Senate, making phone calls, and sending e-mails. I felt I could do more good from the House floor for our state. I did have encouragement from my family, friends, and colleagues, but ultimately the decision was one made by my husband, my son, and me.”

I asked her about her campaign, how it was handled, by whom, and what did she see as her future in New Hampshire politics.

“It was important to me to speak to people one to one, via door-to-door and town events such as old home days, chatting at the local stores and transfer stations. I did accept an invitation to speak at a Veterans’ Home. I have a great deal of respect for them and consider it an honor to be invited into their home. The most important thing on people’s minds today is the economy, and this is a concern I share for the people of New Hampshire, including my own family.”

“I have seen friends lose their jobs, have concerns about affording their medications, and families worried about their job futures. It is my intent to do everything I can to help New Hampshire get through this recession.”

Jenn has had incredible support from many people, including Sam Pimm and Don Gorman, who served as her campaign managers; Chris Lopez, her fiscal agent; and many campaign workers



such as John Kinney, Jason and Mary Sorens, Liz and Seth Hipple, Seth Cohn, Chris Lawless, Rich Aldrich, Marilyn Jost, Bert and Jan Yeaton, Diane and Jeff Miller, Jon Bender, Kate Marshall, Mark Walden, Natalie Riker, Rene Goodwin, Scott Roberts, and Carl Soderstrom, as well as many more friends and family.

She credits the New Hampshire Liberty Alliance and the Reagan Network for guidance. Jenn believes that the most important thing facing the General Court (the official name of New Hampshire’s House and Senate) is the budget, and it will take a great deal of time to work it all out.

For all in District 6 who would like to contact her, you may do so at 748-1985 or Jenn.Coffey@leg.state.nh.us. She will make every attempt to respond within 24 hours.

“I see this duty much as I see my duties as an Emergency Medical Technician. My job is to help the people of New Hampshire and to always remember I took an oath to uphold the United States and New Hampshire Constitutions.”

Danbury’s Hearings Continue On Ragged Mountain Resort Expansion

By Bud Rice
For the Beacon
December 9

The Danbury Planning Board is currently conducting hearings on Phase One of a multi-phase development plan which involves up to 890 residences together with improvements to ski and golf facilities. Phase One entails 120 residences (62 cabins and 58 lots for development as single family residences) and improvements to recreational facilities and infrastructure.

The December 9 meeting of the Danbury Planning Board considered topics of traffic and improvements to New Canada Road carried over from previous meetings. The Board is con-

sidering giving tentative approval to the Traffic Plan. Lou Caron, acting for the Board, continues to analyze traffic situations. New traffic counts are planned during January.

In response to Ragged Mountain Resort’s request for clarification of road standards, road design standards were submitted by Mike Donovan, attorney for the Board. The Board voted to accept the standards definitions. The standards statement will be put in the Master Plan. Waivers from Town road standards will still need to be individually Board-approved. Aside from waivers for grade, right of way dimension, and intersection configurations (which

See Resort on page 10

Reval from page 8

re-visit the property if necessary.

For property owners who still don’t feel their new assessment is accurate, there’s an appeals process they can pursue through the Selectmen and, if necessary, through the New Hampshire Board of Tax and Land Appeals in Concord, or even through the county Superior Court. That will all be outlined in the information that will go out to each property owner with their new assessment.

AB: Once we’ve spent all the money to get our assessments to fair market value, how does the Town keep our assessments legal in years to come?

DH: The trick is to keep our town database of property descriptions totally accurate. So in 2011 we’ll start a new three-year cycle of visiting every property in town to keep our database up to date with changes in each property.

We’ll also watch real estate sales and compare them to the assessment of the properties sold. As long as the assessment and the selling price stay within about 10% of each other, we’re legal. Once we see, let’s say, waterfront property consistently selling at 110% to 125% of assessment, and we think there’s nothing that’s going to reverse that trend, then we know it’s time to think about another update. We’ve got no choice – it’s the law.

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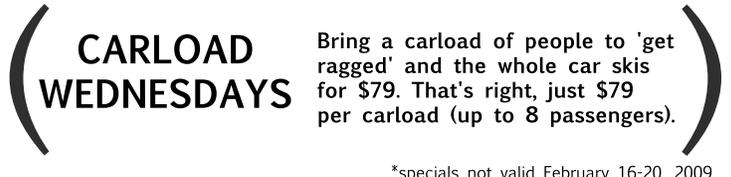
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Resort from page 9

had already been identified), road construction cross-section waiver requests may also be forthcoming.

Parking Plan had been discussed at previous meetings. Parking on Ragged Mountain Road had been identified as a potential problem. Lou Caron of LC Engineering, acting for the Board, prepared recommendations in a letter sent to the Board. Discussion suggested that this particular parking problem was related to a past failure to plow parking lots, causing a shortage of spaces. Discrepancies in representations of number of parking spaces to be provided were reconciled. The Board gave tentative approval to the Parking Plan and directed that a statement be put in the Development Plan to the effect that adequacy of parking will be reviewed annually and improved if need be. Moreover, selectmen apparently have the right to forbid parking on any Town street under fire safety authorities.

The Board took up the question of Housing Design Standards. Ragged Mountain Resort (RMR) has submitted the suggested guidelines. The process of design approval and control was discussed. RMR stated that lot sale contracts will incorporate an agreement that buyers will have to gain RMR approval through a Design Review Board (DRB) before construction. Two ideas for coordinating RMR and Town authority were discussed: the Town may

require DRB approval before providing a building permit; RMR may produce DRB approval placards, like building permits, to be posted alongside permits at the construction site and may require and issue certificates of occupancy, which is a practice the Town does not incorporate in its own procedure. These measures may be required through inclusion in the Development Agreement.

Preliminary discussion for purposes of clarification continued on Housing Design Standards and related subjects. The method of measuring the maximum height of residences was described as an average of greatest and least dimensions from grade to peak, and the height is to be below anticipated tree canopy height of 40 feet. Interval ownership, which includes time shares (among other things), will be prohibited. A fourth bedroom will trigger the requirement for a third parking space for each separate residence. Garage spaces are included in the parking space count. Set-backs for clusters and cabins are to be at least 30 feet in front and at least 10 feet for sides and in back. The smaller dimension is less than Town practices and is said by RMR to maximize ski in/out capabilities especially on side hill lots where the building is rotated to avoid or minimize uphill skiing. Streets in the development are to be owned and taxed through the Association in Phase One. Wood burning in residences will be prohibited. Skimobile riding, other

than for trail maintenance and the like, will be forbidden. Building on slopes of 30% or less is proposed which may leave slopes of 2:1 in nearby areas. Density calculations were based on 25% slopes. RMR indicated that building on slopes that steep helps minimize overall landscape disturbance.

A motion was passed to continue Housing Design at the next hearing on January 13. Potential other topics for that meeting include: Rental and Ownership Policies, Traffic Plan, Construction Mitigation, Trails and Open Space, and Fiscal Impact.

January 13

The Danbury Planning Board continues to conduct hearings concerning Phase One of a multi-phase project to develop residences and improve golf and ski recreational facilities. The January 13 meeting continues that of December 9, 2008. The next meeting is scheduled for January 27.

Lou Caron of LC Engineering reviewed for the Board the current status of the traffic study. A traffic count is to be made Saturday, January 17, at the intersections of Route 104 and Ragged Mountain Road; Route 4 and New Canada Road; and Route 4 and Route 104. These counts will verify or show a need to change the current assumptions that 20% of traffic is on Route 104 from the direction of Bristol, 10% is from Route 4 (then Route 104) from the direction of Enfield, and 70% is

from Route 4 from the direction of Webster/Salisbury. Of the 70%, 5% uses New Canada Road. Peak traffic times are expected to be Saturday morning and late afternoon when 50% to 55% of arrivals/departures take place. These assumptions, together with projected skier attendance at full build-out in 2023, indicate substantial congestion involving back-ups of 30 cars or so will occur in the afternoon peak hours on peak days at the intersections of Routes 104 and Ragged Mountain Road and Route 4 and Route 104. Measures to discourage traffic on New Canada Road at peak hours may be appropriate.

After discussion of Housing Design Standards as revised after the last Board meeting, a motion to approve design guidelines dated December 2008 was approved with two abstentions. The approval is tentative and can be reversed if new developments make that appropriate. Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CC&Rs) of December 4 with nine amendments dated January 5 were approved. Amendments covered items such as the use of placards and certificates of occupancy, lighting, floor space definition, signage, building separation, and the like.

The Board, after discussion, approved Rental and Ownership Restrictions such as rentals not to exceed 120 of 360 day periods and limitations on multi-owners.

Construction mitigation measures were discussed to include excluding construction vehicles from New Canada Road and Ragged Mountain Road on Sundays, providing for repair of heavy vehicle damage to Ragged Mountain Road, incorporating erosion control plans in lot development plans, and controlling noise from gravel crushing operations. In addition, the Board passed a motion to be provided, under non-disclosure limitations, the Audubon guidelines which RMR says it follows.

The next meeting is January 27 to discuss trails, ski/golf areas, open space, conservation, view-shed analysis, traffic, and other items. Power, utilities, storm water, and sewage treatment are to be taken up February 24, tentatively.

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The Andover Food Pantry, in the basement of the Town Hall, is literally overflowing with the community's generosity. Staff photo: Charlie Darling

Area Food Pantries Help Those In Need

By Heather Makechnie
Beacon staff
Andover Food Pantry

The Andover Food Pantry is in its third month of operation. Situated in a hallway in the basement of the Andover Town Hall, it is stocked by voluntary contributions from the community, and anyone in need simply goes to the shelves when the Town Hall is open and takes items that would help them, their family, or their neighbor.

While some have expressed doubts that a food pantry "sitting out in the open, with no one to guard it" could work in Andover, Town Administrator Dana Hadley says that, so far, "it has gone very well, and it is serving a good purpose."

Dana further explains, "The Town Office does not monitor the shelves, nor does it keep records. The community has open access to the resource. We have seen a good many people use it, and I, myself, have had occasion to refer people to it. We have not observed any abuse."

The pantry seems to be well supplied. "Just yesterday a group of students was here from Proctor, and they filled the shelves," says Dana. "So many from the community have been so generous. And that's a good thing, because I think that as the winter goes on and the economy worsens, we are going to see a significant rise in the need for the pantry here in Andover. It's probably going to get busier. Maybe there will be one or two who abuse it, but a mistake in kindness is never a bad thing. We are glad to be hosting the food pantry at the Town Hall."

Don Gross of the Andover Lions Club says, "The Lions Club would very much like to make sure that those in need in our community have enough to eat. It may be that there are some who, for one reason or another, do not feel comfortable enough to go to the pantry at the Town Hall. If so, they should call me or anyone of the Lions. We will package up the food and get it to you."

Interfaith Food Pantry

Esther Cain of the Interfaith Food

Pantry in Franklin (which serves eight communities, including Andover) reports that usership is up in the past two months. "Last month alone we had 26 new families that needed help."

She says that contributions are up, too. "Normally we see a marked increase in donations around the holidays. But this year it was wonderful. We still have food on the shelves from the generosity of people in the (extended) community."

Esther says that she is so grateful, especially, for the contributions from Andover. "I grew up as Esther Stafford in Andover. It has warmed my heart to see the outpouring of help from Andover recently, because I remember, as a girl, how warm and caring my neighbors in Andover were, and still are."

Esther points to one person, in particular, who really caught her attention. "There was a young boy from Andover who asked all his friends to give him food instead of birthday presents. He brought it all in and put it on the shelves."

"Also, an Andover man brought over his van, and we drove down to Manchester and absolutely loaded it with frozen turkeys, so there were turkeys for everyone for the holidays. He donated his time, strength, and mileage."

"The Andover Service Club brought all sorts of items and really shored up the stock. There is a lady from the East Andover Congregational Church who is bringing in fresh eggs on a regular basis. Now folks can bake or even just have an egg for breakfast."

"Checks have come in from Andover. We are very, very grateful for this spirit of giving which is coming from Andover. Thank you so much."

The Interfaith Food Pantry is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 to 11 AM and Wednesday from 5 to 7 AM. There is still need for drivers to go down to the New Hampshire Food Bank in Manchester several times a month. To contact the Interfaith Food Pantry, call 934-2662.

See Food on page 12



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The food pantry is located downstairs at the Andover Town Hall and is open whenever the Town Hall is open.

It's self-service, no questions asked. Take what you need or drop off what you can.

If you know someone in need, tell them about the pantry. If they are not comfortable going to the pantry themselves, for whatever reason, let a Lion or Beacon volunteer know – **WE DELIVER!**



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Food from page 11

Kearsarge Lake Sunapee

The Kearsarge-Lake Sunapee Community Food Pantry (KLSCFP) opened on January 28 at the First Baptist Church in New London. According to Virginia Register, an officer, the pantry will be open on Wednesday evening from 5:30 PM to 7 PM and Saturday morning from 9:30 AM to 11 AM.

"We held a training session, and 57 people from seven different churches in the area attended! We were overwhelmed. Colby-Sawyer students held a collection at one of their basketball games. Various churches have donated money. People have donated their time and talent to create a brochure, set up shelving, drive a truck to New Hampshire Food Bank in Manchester, and even sew curtains. So many people have come together to address this need."

The pantry will serve Andover, Bradford, Danbury, Newbury, New London, Salisbury, Springfield, Sunapee, Sutton, Warner, and Wilmot.

Says Virginia, "Our goal is to be welcoming, and to treat all with respect. While there is required paperwork, we hope to be able to provide a three-day supply of non-perishable food and some commodities to any hungry people, not just to low-income folks."

Virginia continues, "We will be holding a Kick-Off Community Potluck Supper on Friday night, February 20. Because of space constraints, there will

be two seatings; one at 5 PM and the other at 7 PM. Participants are asked to bring a potluck and to donate money toward a freezer unit."

New Hampshire Food Bank

Imagine 16,000 turkeys, all beheaded, plucked, wrapped, and frozen. That's how many turkeys were distributed this year by the New Hampshire Food Bank to residents of New Hampshire just during the holidays. Add to that five million pounds of other foods and commodities, and you can easily see that much good has been accomplished through the generosity of people like you and me who donate money and time to the cause. Most of that food is distributed through smaller agencies dotted about the state – for instance, the Interfaith Food Pantry in Franklin.

Currently foodstocks at the New Hampshire Food Bank are 28% below where they were last year in January. At the same time, the demand on the food bank from its participating agencies in the state has increased nearly 40%. "Clearly we need help," says Michele Garron, Operations Manager.

A new program for this year is "Plant a Row." As you pore through the seed catalogs, keep in mind that an extra row planted in tomatoes, beans, peas, or chard (or anything else your green thumb dictates) can be delivered to the Food Bank, where it will be either distributed as fresh produce or processed at the Manchester facility for distribution later in the year.

Get Ready For Town Meeting Season 2009

By Charlie Darling
Beacon staff

Town Meeting season is upon us. Here are the dates you need to keep in mind in order to participate in the important decisions facing our town this year.

Friday, January 30 – Filing period for Andover Town and School District Officers ends at 5 PM.

Tuesday, February 3 – Last day to petition the Selectmen to include an article in the warrant for Town Meeting.

Saturday, February 28 – Supervisor of the Checklist available to correct the checklist, Town Hall, 11 AM to 11:30 AM.

Monday, March 2 – Andover School District Meeting, AE/MS Gym, 7 PM.

Monday, March 2 – Andover Village District Annual Meeting, Andover Town Hall, 7 PM.

Tuesday, March 10 – Voting, AE/MS Gym, 11:30 AM to 7:30 PM.

Tuesday, March 10 – Andover Town Meeting, AE/MS Gym, 7:30 PM.

Tuesday, March 17 – East Andover Fire Precinct Annual Meeting, East Andover Fire Station, 7:30 PM.

Wednesday, March 18 – Andover Fire District Annual Meeting, Andover Fire Station, 7:30 PM.

For more info, contact the Town Office at 735-5332 or AndoverNH@tds.net.

NEWS FROM THE TOWN OFFICE

By Dana Hadley
Andover Town Administrator

I hope that everyone is staying warm these days by the woodstove, the radiator, or what have you. As I write this column, it is very cold and the temperature is dropping – six degrees in the past few hours. It is winter in New Hampshire.

I would like to recognize the sense of neighborhood and cooperation that happened during the December ice storm. On behalf of the Selectmen, I would like to thank the many people who responded to this emergency. I am hesitant to mention people by name in the event that I would inadvertently forget to mention someone, but there were so many folks who worked together in a wonderful spirit of cooperation during this event.

I would like to recognize the Town's emergency management team led by Director Ed Becker and Deputy Director Jane Hubbard. Due to many hours of planning and organizing, this team knew what needed to be done in this situation and were able to direct help where it was needed. It made a difference. For the past several years, Emergency Planning has been on the front burner, and our officials made us proud.

Thanks also to our Fire Departments, the Andover Police Department, the Rescue Squad, Road Agent Jon Champagne and his able crew, and the personnel from the New Hampshire Electric Coop and Public Service Company of New Hampshire. And we can't forget to thank the countless citizen volunteers for their dedicated service during this emergency.

A shelter was opened at the Andover

Fire Department where a few citizens were assisted by having a hot meal and a chance to get warm. We are very grateful for the thoughtful donations of food by Proctor Academy and others, and the volunteers who prepared it. It was wonderful how neighbors helped neighbors and friends by taking them into their homes to keep warm and making sure that they were OK. We already knew it, but Andover indeed is a great place to live.

The road agent and the highway crew have been working very hard to keep our roads safe. I appreciate their hard work. One issue that I have been made aware is that there are a significant number of homeowners who are plowing the snow from their driveways into the road. I would like to think that many times when this happens it is an accident, but with so many incidents I would ask that you make every effort not to impede the clearing of Town roads. This practice can pose a serious safety hazard, in addition to contributing to higher road clearing costs.

Also, it is very important to park out of harm's way during a snow storm. The plows have a difficult job to negotiate around parked cars safely. Selectmen are considering the necessity of a winter parking ordinance as well as an ordinance to address snow in the road. I ask that you be aware of the situation and do what you can to help.

I hope you take an active part in the upcoming Town and School District meetings. It is important for us to hear your voice. There are many ways to serve your town, and showing up for important meetings is certainly one of them.

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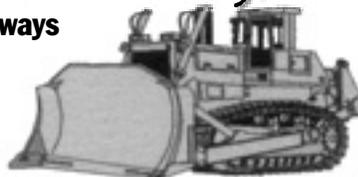
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Lessons Learned In The December Ice Storm

By Jane Hubbard

Andover Emergency Operations

After many emergencies we often say things like, "I wish we would have got batteries for our flashlights," or "Why didn't we think of draining the pipes when we knew we wouldn't have power and it was below freezing?"

Well, here is a list of lessons learned to help us be better prepared and knowledgeable for the next emergency.

- Have several gallons of water and extra food in your home for unexpected emergencies.
- Maintain medical supplies to support you for up to seven days.
- If you know that bad weather is coming, fill up your bathtub or five-gallon buckets with water to help flush toilets when you are without power.
- Do not keep generators in an interior, unventilated space, like your basement. A good rule of thumb is 10 feet away from your home, with the exhaust pointing away from your home. You may also want to notify your electric company that you use a generator during power outages.

- Do not try to warm your home with unsafe methods such as unvented space heaters. If you can't safely keep your house warm, then you need to seek help from a neighbor or go to a shelter.
- If conditions are safe, check on your neighbors to see if they need food or shelter.
- Have a spare phone that does not require electricity (like an old dial phone).
- Keep a battery-powered radio to tune in to emergency information.
- Keep spare batteries.
- Do not put yourself in an unsafe situation by driving through flood water, moving downed power lines, etc.

The Town of Andover will have information available through the Town Office at 735-5332 or the Andover Fire Station at 735-5353.

Keep any of the supplies listed above in a box for use during emergencies. Cut this article out and tape it to your box for future use.

If you know you may require assistance during an emergency, please fill out the Emergency Needs Survey, available at the March 2009 Town Meeting, in a future *Beacon* article, or the Town Office.

For more detailed emergency planning ideas, visit NH.gov/safety.

THE 15TH!!!!

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Andover Rescue Squad

By Philip Hackmann
Andover Rescue Squad

The recent ice storm brought friends, family, and neighbors together to help one another. After many days without power, many Andover and New Hampshire residents were grateful for the emergency services that were provided both near and far. During such an event it is amazing how we pull up our boots and manage with the situation at hand. Often it is putting others' needs before our own.

The efforts of Andover's town manager, emergency managers, fire departments, police department, town employees, and elected officials were monumental. One of the most fruitful efforts was a house-to-house welfare check of Andover residents. This was something that could only be accomplished in a small town such as Andover. If you were not home during this check, then you should know that members of both fire departments and the rescue squad went door-to-door checking on how those at home were fairing during the state of emergency. Usually the conversations were brief as so many homes were being checked.

During this recent ice storm, Andover's emergency managers put into use the All Hazards Plan and utilized it to guide actions taken during the response to the events. The emergency managers had much of the information needed readily available to them from prior planning that they had done. An Emergency Operations Center was opened in town to facilitate the collection of information and organize efforts to assist and care for residents.

During such an event, it is important to have as much knowledge of person-

al needs prior to the event occurring. Please consider contacting the emergency managers or town manager to let them know of personal needs that might be impacted during a natural disaster. What types of situations would benefit them during the preparation for emergencies? Individuals who have health care needs that require electricity such as special pumps, monitors, or oxygen are some good examples.

Another preparation is to register the types of home health care needs that you, a family member, or neighbor has with E-911. When a person with specific needs registers that information, it is relayed to safety personnel responding to a call for assistance. If you, a family member, or your neighbor might benefit from E-911 having this information, please contact Philip Hackmann at 934-3225 or Phil@proctornet.com.

Andover Rescue has two new members and one returning member. Jeff Clark and Jon Collette, also a member of East Andover Fire Department, have recently completed the lengthy process to become Emergency Medical Technicians at the Basic level. Heather Makechnie returns to Andover Rescue Squad as well. Thank you all for your work.

Lastly, please take the time to remove the snow and frost from your vehicles before heading out on the road. One of the common factors in collisions is the inability for a driver to see well. This also means removing the snow from the roofs, hood, and trunk of our vehicles. It can slide down and obscure your view, or it can fly off in sheets or as a flurry and decrease the visibility of others. Recently, ice sheets becoming airborne off the roof of a vehicle caused an accident.

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East Andover Fire Department

By Chief Rene Lefebvre
East Andover Fire Department

Once again we were required to staff our incident command post because of a weather-related incident. The December ice storm proved to be a challenge for Andover's police and fire departments and the road agent. The issues were around lack of electricity and downed power lines in the roadways. The focus of all the responders was to make sure every Andover resident was able to deal with no heat or water, or at best, very little.

Andover was very lucky when compared to some communities south of us that lost power for two weeks. Although I think we would have been well tested had the power been out that long, we were able to deal with each incident as it came along during our two day ordeal, and we were well into planning for a longer power outage when the lights came back on.

I remember when the concept of incident command and unified command was first introduced to local first responders. My thinking was that it was a very good idea, and we would need to embrace this system in order to be able to work with our larger neighbors. We did not realize how often we would need to employ this system of emergency operation in Andover!

The emergency service team has been working on ways that will help us to better manage our resources and to provide the people of Andover faster assistance during emergency incidents. We devised a questionnaire that asks whether you have special needs that will become a problem during bad weather or loss of electricity. This questionnaire will be sent around and then the information will be kept by the Emergency Management Director and used to place responders where they are needed most. Please help us by filling out the questionnaire.

I must say a quick word about our

Christmas tree sale in December. We had a very nice crop of trees this year and your response was overwhelming. We kept prices as low as possible considering the economy, but in the end we made some money and had a great time. Thank you.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors

A fire causes smoke and your smoke detector will sound for fire. It will not sound for a faulty gas appliance or a plugged chimney, or at least not as soon.

But a carbon monoxide (CO) detector will sense this product of combustion sooner and sound the alarm. We have had an up-tick in the number of calls due to carbon monoxide detectors. The increase may partly be due to more people having CO detectors in their homes; a practice greatly encouraged by your fire department.

We have several people hesitate to call us if the CO detector sounds because they cannot see or smell the problem. That is the danger of CO – it is often colorless and odorless. We will check your home for the dangerous gas and make sure the air is safe. We would much prefer to go to your home and find a faulty detector than to have you wait and have it turn into a real tragedy.

I am often asked if it is better to have a smoke or a CO detector in a home. The correct and only answer is *both*. New codes require one in each room. When it comes to fire and CO detection, more is better.

By the time you read this article our country will have a new president. The economic challenges for our leaders are unlike any we have ever faced. As we move forward in these uncharted waters, there are two truths that power my faith in man. 1) It is never as dark as you think when a fireman is holding the flashlight, and 2) Americans will always rise with courage and conviction; face any task; and prevail.

Explorer Scout Post 321

By Jeff D. Miller
East Andover Fire Department

The Explorers have been very busy training and doing fundraising. We held a bake sale to coincide with the East Andover Fire Department's annual Christmas tree sale.

We have conducted training here in town and have been to trainings in neighboring towns. We have been reviewing wilderness rescue, SCBA

(air packs), ventilation, forcible entry, building construction, sprinklers, and fire alarms. We will be training Thursday. Current Explorer members were voted in as full members to the East Andover Volunteer Fire Department.

The Explorer Post business meeting is at 7 PM on the second Wednesday of the month, and we try to train every Thursday night at 7 PM.

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Primer.
Primers can cover dark colors and give you a great surface so your paint will bond, cover and last longer.

Paint and Tools.
Use the right tools and paint for the job. Ask our staff for recommendations about brushes, rollers, trays, paint containers, and paint.

Clean-up.
With good prep, clean-up can be easy! Some paint remover for touch up and contractor trash bags complete the job.

How to do it.

SMOOTH PAINTING TIP

"Don't paint out of the can; pour some paint into a plastic bucket instead. Slip a rubberband over the handles of the bucket to take excess paint off your brush without a mess!"

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TOWN COMMITTEE MINUTES

Board Of Selectmen

December 1

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Dennis Fenton, Victoria Mishcon, Dana Hadley

Department Reports

The Board met with Road Agent Jon Champagne. There was discussion regarding his budget recommendation to the Budget Committee for the reclamation of Chase Hill Road. He advises that the 14 culverts on this road should be replaced if the reclamation work is done in 2009.

He also reviewed the work done by the road crew and discussed the recent small storms that resulted in ice that needed treatment. The road crew responded to Kearsarge Mountain Road to address a wash out that had occurred on that road.

Public Hearing – Parking Lot, Parker Place

In addition to the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator, the hearing was attended by:

- Patricia Cutter and Ed Hiller representing the Andover Historical Society,
- Alex Bernhard and Myra Mayman representing the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail of Merrimack County
- Leon Nelson, Greg Miller, and Craig Mayo representing the Andover Snowmobile Club

Chairman Fenton stated that this was the second public hearing on this subject. Previously, the consensus was to support a smaller parking lot located closer to the rail trail than the conceptions presented by the Department of Transportation.

Since that time, there has been a change in support. Myra Mayman said she was concerned that the state might sell the property that they own at Potter Place if there is no parking lot. This was a statement made at a Selectmen's Meeting that was attended by Bob Landry of New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT).

Selectman Fenton said the Town is

not interested in any further maintenance responsibilities.

Greg Miller asked how many parking spaces were planned for the parking lot.

Town Administrator Dana Hadley gave out a copy of the proposed lot originally presented by Bob Landry of NHDOT. Craig Mayo suggested that there could be some landscaping around the lot to enhance the area.

There was discussion regarding the snowmobile club's ability to secure grants from the trails division of New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development. There is a grant program available to assist with plowing expenses of parking lots for trails. Mr. Mayo said that the club would work with the Town regarding the parking lot maintenance.

The consensus of the public hearing was that the parking lot could be an enhancement to Potter Place for the snowmobile club, the rail trail, and the historical society. The Board will express support for the lot to the NHDOT.

New Business

Friends of the Northern Rail Trail: Alex Bernhard met with the Board and asked for the Board's support for a warrant article in the amount of \$250,000 for the construction phase of the rail trail from Potter Place to Danbury. This is the second phase of the transportation enhancement grant that has been received. The expenditure would be completely offset by this grant and would not affect the tax rate.

Pole License Agreement: The Board approved a pole license agreement for a new pole on Flaghole Road.

Abatement: The Board signed abatement orders to correct assessment errors discovered when the tax bill went out.

December 15

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Dennis Fenton, Victoria Mishcon, Dana Hadley

Appointment

Robert Landry and Charles Blackman, New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT).
See Selectmen on page 17

Office Hours & Meetings

OFFICE HOURS

Town Office: Mon-Fri 8:30-1
Town Clerk & Tax Collector:
Mon & Wed, 9-2
Tue & Thu, 1:30-6:30
Last Saturday of month, 9-11

Building Inspector: Tues, 6-7
Andover Library:
Mon, 6:30-8:30
Wed, 9-12 & 6:30-8:30
Thu, 12:30-4:30
Sat, 10-12

Bachelder Library:
Tues, 9-12:30 & 6:30-8:30
Thu, 6:30-8:30
Fri, 1:30-5

Transfer Station:
Wed, 7-5 (7-6 during summer)
Sat, 7-5

Swap Event (May-Oct):
2nd Sat (rain date: 3rd Sat)
Transfer Station, 8-2

**For more information,
call the Town Office
at 735-5332.**

MEETINGS

At the Town Hall unless otherwise noted

Board of Selectmen:
1st & 3rd Mon, 7
Planning Board: 2nd & 4th Tue, 7
Master Plan Update: 4th Mon, 7
Zoning Board of Adjustment:
3rd Tue, 7:30
Conservation: 2nd Wed, 7:30
Recycling: 2nd Thu, 7
Cable TV: 2nd Mon, 7:30
Recreation: 2nd Thu, 7, AE/MS
Library Trustees: 3rd Thu, 7:30
Andover Library or
Bachelder Library
Fourth of July: 1st Wed (Feb-Jun),
Andover Fire Station, 7
Andover Fire Dept: 1st Mon, Business, 7; 3rd Mon, Training, 7
Explorer Scout Post 321: 2nd Wed,
7, East Andover Fire Station
East Andover Fire Dept:
2nd Wed, 7:30
Rescue Squad: 2nd Tue, 7
East Andover Fire Station
School Board: 1st Tue (except Jul),
6:30, AE/MS

Mark Your Calendar!

FEBRUARY

- 2: Board of Selectmen, 7
- 2: Andover Fire Dept Bus Mtg, 7
- 3: Last day to turn in petitioned warrant articles
- 3: School Board, AE/MS, 6:30
- 3: Building Inspector, 6-7
- 4: Fourth of July Comm, Andover Fire House, 7
- 9: Cable TV Comm, 7:30
- 9: Master Plan Update Comm, 7
- 10: Planning Board, 7
- 10: Andover Rescue Squad, East Andover Fire Station, 7
- 10: Building Inspector, 6-7
- 11: East Andover Fire Dept, 7:30
- 11: Conservation Comm, 7:30
- 12: Recycle Comm, 7
- 12: Recreation Comm, AE/MS Science Room, 7
- 15: **Deadline for March Beacon**
- 16: Board of Selectmen, 7

- 16: Andover Fire Dept Training, 7
- 17: Building Inspector, 6-7
- 17: Zoning Board of Adj, 7:30
- 19: Library Trustees, 7:30
- 23: Master Plan Update Comm, 7
- 24: Building Inspector, 6-7
- 24: Planning Board, 7

MARCH

- 2: **SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING,** AE/MS, 7
- 2: Village District Meeting, 7
- 2: Andover Fire Dept Bus Mtg, 7
- 3: School Board, AE/MS, 6:30
- 3: Building Inspector, 6-7
- 4: Fourth of July Comm, Andover Fire House, 7
- 10: **VOTING,** AE/MS, 11:30 to 7:30
- 10: **TOWN MEETING,** AE/MS, 7:30
- 17: East Andover Fire Annual Meeting, East Andover Fire Station, 7:30
- 18: Andover Fire Annual Meeting, Andover Fire Station, 7:30

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TOWN of ANDOVER

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

March 2, 7 PM

Andover Elementary/Middle School

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TOWN of ANDOVER

TOWN MEETING

March 10, 7:30 PM

Voting 11:30 AM to 7:30 PM

Andover Elementary/Middle School

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Selectmen from page 16

Transportation (DOT)

The Board met with representatives from DOT. This was to follow up the discussion regarding the Route 11 Bridge Removal Project. There have been previous meetings with DOT, the Andover Historical Society (AHS), the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail (FNRT), and the Andover Snowmobile Club (ASC) about a parking lot.

At a public hearing held on December 1, there was consensus that the parking lot would enhance Potter Place for the snowmobile club, the rail trail, and the historical society by providing a place for visitors to park. Participants encouraged the Board's support for the parking lot.

Charles Blackman showed a plan for a 43,600 square foot parking lot that contains 26 parking spaces, each 12 feet wide by 25 feet long. This size would accommodate snowmobile trailers for winter use and provide adequate parking for rail trail use and for the historical society's Old Time Fair.

The plans call for the current Routes 4 and 11 access ramp to be used as access for the parking lot. Selectman Vicky Mishcon asked if DOT would consider eliminating the access ramp and have the access from Depot Street. Bob Landry said that in order for the parking lot to be built as part of this state project the access ramp at the location depicted on the presented sketch is necessary. He said that there may not be universal use of the lot if there was any confusion of how to get to it.

He also noted that there will be two street lights required to light the lot. Selectman Dennis Fenton expressed concern in regard to the electricity and maintenance cost of the parking lot. A rough estimate of the electric cost is \$600 per year. He asked DOT if they would check with their utility division in order to estimate the electric cost.

Charles Blackman said the project is scheduled for a bid release of February 2, and the bid specifications have to be prepared by his office no later than the first week of January, so it is very important for a decision to be made by the Town as soon as possible.

Selectman said that they would make a decision no later than the next meeting on January 5. They thanked Mr. Landry and Mr. Blackman for attending this meeting.

Department Reports

Road Agent Jon Champagne: He reviewed the work done as a result of the December 11 and 12 ice storm. The town was lucky that the damage was confined to many broken trees and limbs, and his work crew has been working to clean up the debris.

He reviewed his role and work with other departments during this emergency. He said that in situations such as this it would be a great help if the road agent out in the field had some way to communicate with the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This would be a

great benefit in the operation. He estimated the cost be \$4,500 for a radio.

Jon also told the Board that he supports a winter parking ban. He noted that in a few instances, residents who park their cars in the Town's right of way impact plowing operations.

Andover Police Chief Glenn Laramie: Chief Laramie reported on the activity in the police department for the period November 15 to December 14. During the period there were 224 calls for service. There was a burglary case that resulted in two arrests; one arrest on an electronic bench warrant; and seven auto accidents. Four accidents had damage in excess of \$1,000 making them reportable to the state. The department issued seven summons and 52 warnings during this period.

The chief spoke with the Board about the proposed new police cruiser. The state bid was awarded to Bonneville and Son in Manchester for a Dodge Charger at a list price of \$22,579. If the Town purchased the Dodge Charger it would be necessary to also purchase equipment that would fit this car. Chief Laramie estimated that another \$2,000 would be needed for this purpose, and it includes items such as the cage between the front and back seats.

Hillsboro Ford has contacted him. They will sell a Ford Crown Victoria for \$22,973. It would not be necessary to purchase any additional equipment for this car, as the department has equipment compatible with the Ford.

He asked the Board if they supported researching a purchase for Ford instead of the Charger, as in his view this would save money for the Town. He would like to gather that information so that he could bring it to the voters at the March Town Meeting. The Board encouraged the chief to further investigate the possibility of the purchase of the Ford Crown Victoria.

Andover Fire Chief John Landry: Chief Landry reviewed with the Board the emergency situation caused by the ice storm. He noted that a few residents were served at the emergency shelter at the fire house, and he spoke favorably regarding all the volunteers who worked at this effort.

He echoed the road agent's comment. See Selectmen on page 18

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Selectmen from page 17

ments regarding communication between the EOC and the road agent. He stressed that this is a safety issue as well. He also said that he would like to have a jack that carries the Town Office phone line in the fire house so that during emergencies residents who are calling the Town Office can speak to someone so their concerns and questions can be addressed.

Town Administrator Dana Hadley will work to get this accomplished.

New Business

Pole License Agreement: The Board approved a pole license agreement.

Abatement: The Board signed an order for abatement to correct an assessment error.

January 5

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Dennis Fenton, Victoria Mishcon, Dana Hadley

Jon Champagne, Road Agent

The Board met with Road Agent Jon Champagne. He discussed the proposed work to be done on the road grader to stabilize the plow. The Board had asked him to wait until this year to have that work done, so the work will be done soon.

He spoke to the Board about the possibility of having an ordinance enacted for a winter parking ban and for plowing snow into the road. Cars parked in the Town's right of way interfere with snow removal operations and many residents plow snow into the road, creating a safety hazard for the public and the plow driver. He estimates that there are 75 residents who are pushing snow into the street.

Selectmen will get the word out to residents that this is a problem and will consider if an ordinance is necessary.

There was discussion regarding the factors that lead to the Road Agent calling the contracted equipment to start plowing or salting. He said that he is proactive and works to stay ahead of storms. Depending on the nature of the storm he might have the plows start snow removal operation before three inches of snow falls.

New Business

Primex multi-year agreement: The Board reviewed and signed a multi-year agreement with Primex to serve the Town's need of worker's compensation insurance and unemployment insurance.

Septage agreement with Winnepesaukee River Basin Program: The Board reviewed and signed the septage agreement with Winnepesaukee River

Basin Program to provide septic haulers with an off-load site for Andover residents. This agreement is a five year agreement and will expire December 31, 2014.

Letter from Local Government Center: The Board reviewed the letter from John Andrews, Executive Director of the Local Government Center, outlining the benefits of membership.

Letter received from Cathy Ellis regarding hall use: The Board received a request from Cathy Ellis asking to use the meeting room on Sunday mornings. The Board after review decided not to offer the room as this was not a Town-sponsored event and on a Sunday it would be difficult to access the building as the Town does not have a maintenance person on staff.

Other Business

Abatement: The Board approved abatement on a property to correct information.

Pole License: The Board approved a pole license.

Planning Board

October 28

Condensed from approved minutes

Members present: Don Gould, Chair; Jon Warzocha; Nancy Teach; Paul Currier; and Wood Sutton, alternate appointed to Bill Zimmerman's position.

Also present for duration of appropriate items: Susan Schnare.

Introduction of Steep Slopes and Ridgeline Protection Ordinances presented by Susan Schnare of the Andover Conservation Commission

Schnare presented a map of Andover indicating the steep slope areas as well as a draft of both ordinances for review by the Board, and stated the ordinances are not to ban building but to protect scenic resources, as we currently have steep slopes indicated however there is nothing in the Zoning Ordinance to protect that land.

Schnare advises we need a "visual resources district" which would require

builders to meet certain criteria for areas above 1000' and lower in scenic areas (i.e. Proctor Green view of Ragged Mountain).

Currier states this can be done without overriding public protection; a visual impact study is necessary; and areas in which the existing views to be protected need to be identified.

Warzocha states a view-shed analysis is necessary, and the analysis needs to show how this will impact the townspeople; this needs to be attached to the Master Plan and analytical data is needed to present to the townspeople.

Warzocha also suggested using Google Earth to show all areas in and out of town and to have photos available also. Currier also agreed that this needs to be in the Land Use section of the Master Plan.

Zoning Board Of Adjustment

December 16

Condensed from draft minutes

Members present: Don Gross, Chair; Charlie McCrave, Vice-Chair; Amy Rankins; Susan Schnare; Jeff Newcomb; and Gillian Smith, alternate and Paul Fopiano, alternate.

Also present for duration of appropriate items: Robert and Kathryn Ward; Ken Guillemette

Correspondence: Planning Board decision of approval for Ken Rittmueller.

Rehearing: Request from Robert and Kathryn Ward for a rehearing for the October 21, 2008 decision denying request for rehearing

The Board agreed that if the Ward's application for a variance is approved, the request for a rehearing will not be necessary and decided to hold the public hearing first.

Public Hearing: A request from Robert and Kathryn Ward for a variance to permit location of first and second floor rear wall of building approximately 24" north of the previously existing north wall of the existing building as existed prior to August 2003. The undersigned alleges that the following circumstances exist which prevent the proper enjoyment of his land under the strict terms of the Zoning Ordinance and thus constitutes an unnecessary hardship due to the location of the building (prior to zoning) approximately 5'6" from the rear property line and secondly due to unforeseen condition of the rear portion of the previously-existing building which was discovered to have no foundation or footing. The property is located at 118 Main Street in Andover and is in the Village District.

McCrave opened the public hearing at 8 PM and read the hearing notice. Ward stated that his proposal is one of two options previously offered him and that if, upon discovering the conditions for the bump-out to the foundation after receiving the original variance in 2003, if he was to do this over again, he would have come back before the Board at that time.

See Zoning on page 19

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Zoning from page 18

Attorney Donovan gave an overview of the proposal which is for approval of the rear wall as constructed in 2003/2004, which was beyond what was originally approved by the Zoning Board. Guillemette states that the barn on his property is a residence and he feels he was portrayed as “unneighborly” earlier than was true and that he was satisfied with the 2003 proposal and allowed the Wards to make use of his property to access the rear of their building.

He also feels assumptions were made regarding the knowledge of the foundation location; however, he has not had a change of heart regarding the original decision but feels the additional two feet should not be allowed. He also feels this will diminish the value of his property, as the Ward home was too close prior to 2003, but okay due to it being built prior to zoning. He also will determine if the Ward’s new septic is too close to the property line.

He also feels the variance should not be granted as he feels the work was done underhandedly and was rushed, and that is why the cease and desist was issued and that zoning should be enforced.

Ward states that the original permit allowed 6’ 6” from the old corner, and he went 6’ 1”. It was clear to the Building Inspector what was being proposed. Part of the fence was removed for the foundation to be poured and was put back in place approximately two weeks ago, and there was no effort to hide anything, all construction was visible. There was no opposition on Ken’s part when all the framing was visible as well as the trucks going across Ken’s property.

Ward states the 4’ overhang was inappropriate so it was cut back to 2’. Ken opposed this; however, Bob felt it was debatable. Both the 4’ and 2’ overhang proposals are off the table and would like approval for what has been in place since 2004, and feels opposition at this time is a bogus argument and does not have merit.

Guillemette states he did not give permission for the foundation, only to use the driveway, and it is the Town’s job to oversee the work being done. Also feels if this is allowed, the value of his property would be diminished if he ever decided to sell his property.

Attorney Donovan states that these two neighbors used to get along; however, now is not the case and that Bob has admitted his error in the second floor proposal and feels that a fair outcome to this is for the variance to be granted.

There being no further comment from the public, the hearing was closed at 8:54 PM McCrave states a lot has transpired over the last few years – the Ward’s feel there have been a lot of missteps by the Board and vice-versa and feels that there are two other alternatives, the first being court, which he

feels nobody really wants, but will if necessary, and the second being having what was built torn down.

Smith feels the Board needs to be pragmatic and an agreeable and acceptable resolution is necessary. Schnare questioned what conditions would make this work, and Newcomb asked if the conditions could be determined prior to voting on the proposal, and the response was yes.

McCrave states that the Board needs to decide if what ended up being constructed had been the original application – would the Board have voted in favor of that, and he feels the Board would have voted in favor.

The following conditions were determined by the Board:

Specific distance from the rear of the building would be stated.

No other building on the property can encroach on the setback.

Reimburse the Town \$5,000, \$1,000 of which would cover Ken’s expenses for his survey.

No building permit would be issued and the variance would not be effective until payment is received.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the application subject to conditions.

Recycling Committee

December 12

Condensed from draft minutes

Present: Anne Hewitt, Dana Hadley, Ken Tripp, Susan Schnare, Nan Kaplan, Vicky Mishcon

The committee reviewed Transfer Station inventory and discussed what would be involved in taking tires out of the hopper. Dana is looking into pricing for a roadworthy trailer to collect and store the tires, and Ken will check with tire recyclers for details on their programs. The waste oil shed and shed for fluorescent bulbs should be added to the inventory.

To change to single stream recycling (SSR) we will need another hopper, ram, and trailer. Dana priced the pur-

chase cost of another hydraulic ram to be used for trash or recycling. The average price for a used, but good quality, ram was about \$30,000 with guarantee. This could be obtained from a firm in Hampstead.

Bill is going to get a quote from Bestway for the cost of a closed trailer to use for SSR. Dana estimates a trailer at \$10,000. Committee members agree that we should aim for 50% recycling once we begin SSR.

The plan for Transfer Station layout was discussed. There is a need to focus on creating a smooth traffic flow and safety considerations, like keeping people from having to cross traffic.

Our first year goals will be to move hoppers to improve traffic circulation and build a new office with bathroom for employees. We still need a full plan with cost, but Dana can get an estimate for construction of an office and overhang at this point.

The Christmas swap event, Christmas Without Cash, went very well, and \$80 in donations was collected that has gone to help Andover people having a hard time this winter.

To be discussed next meeting:

- Changes to commercial and business trash pickup requirements
- Developing a pay-as-you-throw

(PAYT) program

- Educational programs for SSR and PAYT
 - Organizing our volunteers into a formal support group
- Next meeting: February 12 at 7 PM at the Town Office.

Conservation Commission

November 12

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Tina Cotton, Sandra Graves, Jerry Hersey, Nan Kaplan.

Excused: Mary Anne Broshek, Ed Spencer, Bob Ward

Guests: Beth McGuinn, Susan Schnare

Beth McGuinn, Land Specialist for the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust, met with the Commission.

Beth came to talk in general terms about a possible conservation easement in Andover. Expenses involved with the easement came under discussion, and possible involvement of the Conservation Commission. The matter is to be taken up when the full Commission is in attendance.

Permit By Notification: Caroline Robinson appeared before the Commission to discuss the project on her prop-

See Cons Comm on page 20

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Cons Comm from page 19

erty which required a signed permit. Therefore, the Commission arranged to visit the property.

View Group Work: Susan Schnare presented the Introduction to the Proposed Steep Slopes and Ridgeline Protection Ordinances. There was general discussion and a consensus that the Conservation Commission should ask the Planning Board to look at the Ordinances. In order for the Ordinances to be put on the Ballot, hearings must be posted and held two weeks apart. We will ask Mary Anne Broshek to call Don Gould to pass on the concerns of the Conservation Commission.

Beaver Deceiver: Nan Kaplan reported that Skip Lisle had completed his work on the beaver control devices in the box culvert areas on Elbow Pond Road. We have not yet received his bill for the work done. There were two complete devices installed upstream of two culverts, and an additional piping device was installed downstream. The work will be funded by the Andover Conservation Commission and by voluntary donations.

Monitoring of Conservation Easements: The Newman Easement was monitored by several members of the Conservation Commission, who met with Mr. and Mrs. Jim McKenna to view their property. New signage and gates were in evidence. The requirements of the easement are being met. Bob Ward filled out and submitted the LCHIP monitoring forms.

The Fenvale Easement was monitored by Nan Kaplan and Sandra Graves and a guest. The property is in

good shape. The path around the pond had been blazed, which made the walk a pleasure. Moose tracks and fresh droppings were noted. The Cub Scouts are not using the circle area any more. It appeared that the heron rookery may no longer be occupied due to natural decay of the nesting trees.

Tina Cotton reported that David Pilla and Proctor Academy students will be conducting a wildlife studies project in the prime wetland area of Bog Pond. They will be comparing changes using the field sheets from the wetland project done by Derek Mansell and Susan Schnare 20 years ago.

Tina presented the Natural Resources Inventory which she had compiled on a compact disk. We reviewed the work she has done to this date ... 125 pages in all.

December 10

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Mary Anne Broshek, Tina Cotton, Sandra Graves, Jerry Hersey, Nan Kaplan

Also attending was Pat Moyer as potential candidate for Commission

Treasurer's Report – The budget request will remain the same for the upcoming year.

Correspondence

Letter from DES to Dave Pilla regarding the culvert work on Blackwater Lane. This application was pulled by Proctor. DES notes that a new application will be required if the work is to be done.

DES notification to Eric and Heidi Johnson that their "Notification of Forest Management or Timber Harvest Activities Having Minimum Wetlands

Impact" is considered sufficient and that work may begin with the provisions listed in the letter.

DES letter to Dan Allen regarding ongoing discussion of Rail Trail work and need for more specific information regarding wetlands.

DES Notice of Closure and Release of Recordation relative to the Green logging operation done by Shaun Hathaway. DES states that the property has been stabilized.

Letter from the Highland Lake Protective Association regarding damage at the town beach due to ice fishing. Mary Anne will check with Dana to see what action the Selectmen plan on taking.

Article from *The Weirs Times* in opposition to the 2008 Shore Land Protection Act.

Review of Action Items

List of conserved lands – map and lot number – Tina will get copies to all CC members.

Public Water supply regulations – Bob – still outstanding

Letter of Concern on DOT work – Bob – still outstanding

Map of Conserved lands and Current use lands – Ed – Mary Anne will contact Ed to get a progress report.

List of conserved lands on Granite – September 12 e-mail from Tina regarding the map of Andover Conserved Lands. A review of these lands will be an agenda item at a future meeting. Tina will provide the e-mails she sent to Ed.

SB 381

We discussed this law passed in 2008. Carol Andrews from the State Association of Conservation Commissions sent a clarifying e-mail. The point of the legislation is to remove a gray area of state law and allow town conservation funds to be used to help acquire conservation easements when a town does not wish to have a financial interest in the property. An example of a financial interest is when the town is the back-up easement holder. This means that should the primary easement holder – usually a land trust – no longer exist, the town is responsible for monitoring and enforcing the terms of the easement.

ing the terms of the easement.

A one-time warrant article is needed to enact this clarification. Mary Anne will meet with Selectmen to discuss the legislation and the course of action to be taken. Members will be notified of the meeting date so they can attend.

Master Plan Activity

Mary Anne reviewed the Master Plan meetings. Funding for the facilitator has now run out. Previously, the Conservation Commission voted to expend up to \$3,500 on technical assistance for Conservation-related items in the Master Plan. At the last Master Plan meeting, this technical assistance was specified as help with the section on future land use – with emphasis on those principles relating to Conservation Commission areas.

Progress continues to be slow, and the proposal up for discussion is to vote on whether the \$3,500 should be used to have the Lakes Region Planning Commission write the future land use section as unbiased, third party experts. The proposal was seconded, discussed, and approved. Mary Anne will notify Don Gould and Paul Currier of the results.

Guiding Principles 5 (views) and 6 (conserving natural resources) will be discussed on the second Monday in January. We will also be finalizing Guiding Principles 3 (promoting and preserving farming and forestry), 7 (provide choices in housing), 9 (coordinate with Proctor on plans for the future), and 10 (develop community infrastructure in village areas).

Natural Resources Inventory

The Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) is about 135 pages long. At the January meeting, Tina will do a presentation on the NRI and will review where we are. The NRI will have larger maps of each map in the body included in the appendix. Tina has given Mike Izard (Lakes Region Planning Commission) a CD of the NRI for his possible comments. Mary Anne will review the latest version and provide comments to Tina.

Smart Growth Audit

The Planning Board has indicated that they are not going to pursue the Smart Growth Audit to be conducted by the Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC). The Conservation Commission needs to decide if we would like to pursue this opportunity. Mary Anne will contact LRPC and Don Gould to continue the discussion and determine how this audit could be used to help with the Master Plan and, as suggested by Tina, how it might be able to offset the expenditure of the \$3,500 set aside for technical expertise.

Note: An application for the Smart Growth Audit was submitted on December 31, 2008 as the combined effort of Mary Anne, Don Gould, and Paul Currier.

View Group

There are four remaining items for this project:

- Members need to submit the outstanding one-page write ups on See Cons Comm on page 21

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Cons Comm from page 20

high-elevation areas.

- The special places identified by Andover residents needed to be added to high-elevation areas.
- The specific GPS coordinates need to be identified so the locations are precise.
- Using the above information, a “Visual Resource Overlay” needs to be created.

Bradley Lake Meeting Planning

No progress reported on this item.

Beaver Deceiver at Elbow Pond

The bill for the work at Elbow Pond was received. Nan will pursue the private donations.

Scenic Roads

Stone wall damage on a scenic road remains. We discussed options, and Mary Anne will talk to Dana about the best way to proceed.

School Board

December 2

Condensed from draft minutes

Present: School Board Members Doug Boisvert, David Hewitt, Kent Armstrong, Robin Boynton, and David Powers; Administrators Mike Martin, Christine Barry, Robin Heins, Kathleen Boucher, Jane Slayton, and Julie Gaudette; Public: Don Gould, Alan Hanscom, Michelle Keezer, Toby Locke, Bonny Morris, and Susan Nellen

Financial Report – Robin H. reported on the current budget. Three accounts are being watched. Question and answer session followed. David H. moved to accept the financial report. Doug seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Principal’s Report – Lengthy discussion about Foreign Language.

Public Participation – None

Good News – Dr. Martin reported that there have been no snow events.

Old Business

Agreement Community Field – Discussion about adding a line in the rules about crowd control and expectations for usage of school property. Also to be added is documentation of adding to school grounds only with permission from the Principal.

Hamp House – Discussion about extending the lease at the Hamp House. David H. moved that the District not renew the lease that expires on June 30, 2009. Doug seconded the motion. Kent spoke to the insurance and liability issues. He addressed the purpose of the Hamp House and the concept of expansion, and the recent history regarding the roof. Bonny Morris commented and Don Gould spoke to liability concerns with an empty building. Motion carried 4-1.

Energy Study – Robin H. discussed the Jordan Institute Report. The Board decided to hold off right now. Robin will let the Jordan Institute know. Jane asked that we consider some energy savings projects regardless of Jordan Institute Report.

Softball – Dr. Martin stated that the administration is not recommending the addition of the team. David H. moved that District not offer softball at AE/MS. Doug seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor. Dr. Martin will write a letter to Melissa Thompson and the Andover Recreation Committee regarding this decision.

Kindergarten – Options are still being discussed.

New Business

Fire Chief’s Report – Chief John Landry addressed the re-inspection of the facility. There is still room for improvement. He is pleased with the quick response from the administra-

tion. He feels that the lack of house-keeping in some classrooms is contributing to the problem. Discussion followed about which projects need to be addressed.

Action Item: Last year’s list of concerns needing to be addressed will be provided for review at the January Board meeting. Fire Safety needs to be added to Old Business for next meeting.

Issues need to be addressed on an ongoing basis. Chief Landry offered to come in and provide training for the staff about how to use the fire extinguishers. David H. suggested that we look into a foam system for the kitchen. There was also discussion about the tray return door, which has been identified as a safety issue.

Policy Revisions – Robin B. and Chris are working on this.

One Wheelers – Proposed trip in packet review by Alan Hanscom. Robin B. suggested adherence to the Board policy and to not take action tonight. The Board will vote on this item in January

School Calendar 2009-2010 – Confirmed the vacation dates. MVHS will get the first draft on Monday. Chris and Jane will put this out to staff. Move forward to next month’s agenda.

Snow Removal – Discussion about bid specifications, bidders, and getting references checked.

Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Martin discussed the action by the State regarding the state aid.

January 6

Condensed from draft minutes

Present: School Board Members Doug Boisvert, David Hewitt, Kent Armstrong, Robin Boynton, David Powers; Administrators Mike Martin, Christine Barry, Kathleen Boucher,

Julie Gaudette, Jane Slayton; Public: Tina Cotton, Don Gould, Alan Hanscom

Minutes of Previous Meeting: David P. inquired about the amendment to minutes from November 4. The correction refers to the screening of *Including Samuel*. David H. asked about the sentence referring to budget cuts. The following sentence should be added: “The Board does not support this.” Change “could” to “would” have to be cut reducing by \$160,00. David P. moved to accept the minutes of December 2 and December 22 with the amendments. Doug seconded. All were in favor.

Public Participation: Tina Cotton shared a story about a student with a disability.

Good News: The snow situation on the roof is being monitored. The SAU will investigate the roof leaks.

Old Business

One Wheelers – David H. moved to approve the One Wheeler trip to Pennsylvania. Robin B. seconded. All were in favor.

Calendar – Board discussed the calendar and how it matches up with MVHS. David H. moved to approve calendar. Kent seconded. All were in favor.

Hamp House Insurance – Dr. Martin spoke to how the building being empty might impact insurance.

Hamp House Renovations – Kent spoke to the opportunity at the Hamp House. Doug doesn’t see a need to take action on the item.

Annuity Change – David H. moved to approve the change. Robin B seconded. All were in favor.

Snow Removal – Doug moved to table this to a future work session. Kent seconded. All were in favor.

Proposed Budget 2009-2010 – See School Board on page 22



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History Quiz – This is a photo of an oil painting done around 1947 of a particular spot in Andover. It was painted by a visiting artist named Wei Lin Choi. The painting hangs in the home of Lloyd and Judyth Perreault in East Andover. Can you identify the scene the painting depicts?
 Staff photo: Heather Makechnie

Andover Historical Society

By Suzy Norris
Andover Historical Society

We are busy lining up events for the upcoming year: spring and fall speakers sponsored by the New Hampshire Council on the Humanities and raffles for March (Town Meeting day) and July Fourth.

The Potter Place museum reopens on Memorial Day weekend, and we look

forward to another Fourth Grade Visit Day (Salisbury, Webster, and Andover) at the museum on the first Wednesday in June.

We would like to welcome our new members: Bruce Barrett, Donald Clendenen, Carol Fortin, Brenda Lance, David Mason, Harvey Pine, Diane Pumphret, Nancy Teach, Nancy Tripp, and Richard Van Wagenen.

School Board from page 21

Andover Budget Committee agreed to open the School Budget Public Hearing and then recess the meeting. They will have a work session. Public Hearing will be recessed to January 28. David H. distributed a letter for the Board's review which will then be given to the Budget Committee.

David H. moved to send the letter. Robin B seconded. All were in favor.

Fire Safety – Dr. Martin is putting together a spreadsheet of projects and what has and hasn't been done. David P. looked into reversing the doors over vacation and was successful.

David P. asked about the new fuel use situation with the state. The question was brought back for Robin H. to answer. David H. asked to get the tank topped off.

Other – Propane tank discussion. The Fire Chief had recommended that our propane tanks be buried. Robin B.

remembers past discussion regarding this. The item will be added to February agenda. Kent will bring the regulations for burial of the tanks.

New Business

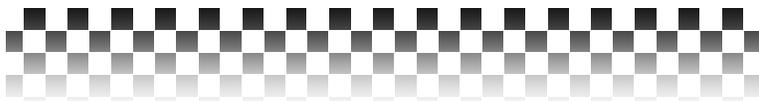
School Board Picture – Discussion about updating member contact information and adding minutes to the Web site. Robin B. would like to wait until after District Meeting and will speak more to this in February. This should be added to February agenda.

Other – Discussion continued regarding the budget.

A Board packet will be made available for the public at Board meetings.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Martin spoke to the letter from Ed Murdough. Dr. Martin spoke to the economic stimulus. We may have the opportunity to apply for some money.

Non-Public Session – Doug Boisvert made a motion to enter non-public session to discuss personnel. All were in favor.



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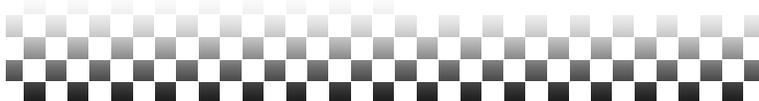
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50 YEARS AGO

FEBRUARY 1959

Here's some old news from the Andover, East Andover, West Andover, Potter Place, and Cilleyville "gossip" columns of the Franklin Journal Transcript, selected by Heather Makechnie.

February 5, 1959

All the Andover High School classes are buzzing with plans for our Winter Carnival. Each class has chosen its candidates for the Queen, King, and attendant.

Queen candidates are: Nancy Heden, Freshman; Constance Smith, Sophomore; Mary Etta Reed, Junior; Janet Smith, Senior.

King candidates are: Ervin Nelson, Freshman; Dale McLeod, Sophomore; John Thompson, Junior; Murray Smith, Senior.

Attendants chosen are: Donna Crisp, Freshman; Lauretta Prince, Sophomore; Patricia Glidden, Junior; Faye Sullivan, Senior.

The candidates from the class with the most points in the sports competition will be crowned King and Queen.

(Note: Mary Etta Reed and John Thompson were crowned after the Junior class narrowly won. Escorts to the court included Richard Clapper, Machy Charles, Bryant Andrus, and Arthur Rounds. Music was furnished by Herman Seavey and the Music Makers.

February 12, 1959

Proctor Academy held their annual Winter Carnival last week, and Westmount High School ski team was here from (Westmount, Quebec) Canada. Proctor won, by the way!

February 19, 1959

The Heart Fund Drive was held in town Sunday, with Mrs. Elizabeth Pincio, chairman. Others helping were Mrs. James Keniston, Mrs. Noah Jewett, Mrs. Lewis Putney, Mrs. Margaret Burdick, Mrs. David Tibbetts, Mrs. Chester Sheldon, and Mrs. Albert Hoyt.

Mr. Robert and Mrs. Marion Whitcomb of Flaghole Road in East Andover, and their daughter Kathie are in satisfactory condition at Franklin Hospital. Much sympathy is extended to them for the death of the baby, little four-month old Robert, after a terrible head-on collision on Route 11 on Washington's birthday. Two other children, Cheryl, six, and Timothy, three, were uninjured.

The elimination spelling bee was held at the East Andover school on the 18th, with pupils from grades 5-8 taking part. Mrs. Mayla Morse and Miss Mildred Caswell were the teacher instructors and Willard Wyeth pronounced the words for the youngsters. Those taking part were Cynthia Phelps, Susan Huntoon, Jacqueline Lull, Barbara Klotz, Lillian Jurta, Barbara Corliss, Beverly Miller, Steven Smith, Steven Wollmer, and Steven Chamberlain from the 5th and 6th. Albin Guptill, Sharon Brown, Wanda Prescott, Marsha Kimball, Marion Blake, David Jewett, Sandra Harding, Donald Sturges, Rufus Stacey, and James Hersey from the 7th and 8th. Winners were first, Steven Wollmer from the 5th grade and second, David Jewett 8th. They will compete at Concord later in the month with other school students from the county.

Reminiscence
The Old Swimm'n' Hole

By Amy Fierro Tagliaferri

I learned how to swim in the Blackwater River. We shared a deep area of the river with our neighbors – they say that area was a former mill and that's why it was 16 feet deep in spots.

Our neighbors would use the big rock on their side of the river to dive off, and we would use two underwater rocks that were a natural path into the water. The rocks were just about a foot underwater, and I would push off from the last one as I paddled my legs. Eventually I could swim all on my own.

Our swimming hole was the best. The Eaves, our neighbors, made a diving board out of a plank and a spring they said was from a car, and one year

they even fashioned a cable pulley that was suspended over the river which we reached by climbing a ladder. You'd grab on, swing down the cable, and let go! Fun!

The only downside of our swimming hole was the bloodsuckers, but we would bring a container of salt and just pour it on, and they would fall off and die. The water was clear and clean, with hot springs here and there. I often wonder if anyone still swims there.

As a child, Amy lived in the house that recently burned down on the west side of Route 4. From her backyard she'd cross the railroad tracks to get to the Blackwater and the swimming hole near the old bridge on Gale Road that used to connect Routes 4 and 4A.

Digging Into Native History At MainStreet Bookends

Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum has received a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council to sponsor a thought-provoking public program entitled *Digging into Native History in New Hampshire*.

Digging into Native History in New Hampshire will be presented on Friday, February 27, at 7 PM at the MainStreet Bookends in Warner. The free program will feature an informal talk by Dr. Robert Goodby, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Franklin Pierce College. He is actively involved in teaching and archaeological field research in New Hampshire and is the author of more than 50 technical reports on New England prehistoric archaeology.

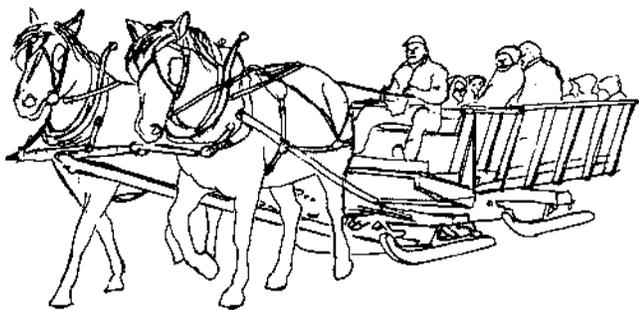
Using slides, Dr. Goodby will ex-

plore Abenaki history which has been reduced to near-invisibility as the result of conquest, a conquering culture that placed little value on the Indian experience, and a strategy of self-preservation that required many Abenaki to go "underground," concealing their true identity for generations to avoid discrimination and persecution. Archaeological evidence shows their deep presence here, inches below the earth's surface.

Digging into Native History in New Hampshire is one of over 250 programs and exhibits available to organizations statewide, through the Humanities To Go! catalog. For more information, contact the New Hampshire Humanities Council in Concord at 224-4071 or on the web at NHHC.org.

Reminisce!

The *Beacon* wants to publish your memories of Andover in days gone by. Big events or everyday moments, our readers would love to share in your memories.



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Reminiscence: Andover Girls High School

The following interview was conducted with Dorothy Whitney Fenton of Laconia by Bertha Fenton, her sister-in-law, for the Andover Historical Society's on-going Oral History project. It was recently transcribed by Joanna Sumner.

Dorothy taught in Andover's first high school in 1931, at which time it was called Andover Girls High School. This interview takes place in Bertha Fenton's home on May 25, 1985.

If there is anyone out there with a computer and good typing skills who is inspired to help the Historical Society transcribe our growing library of interviews, we can provide a transcription machine and some good listening!

Call Susan Norris at 735-5369.

DF: I was Dorothy Whitney when I came here to Andover to teach school. I was born in Henniker, New Hampshire in 1910. My parents soon moved to Lakeport and in 1927 I graduated from Laconia High School and went from there to Keene. I was in the first class in Keene to receive a degree for four years of teacher preparation and that was during the depths of the Depression.

For a number of years I had been working as a waitress at Kennebunk, Maine, and I started out the summer with no job [for the fall] in sight. Just before time for the hotel to close on Labor Day, I had a call from Earl Freeze, su-

perintendent of schools for Bristol and Andover, asking for an interview.

My boss at the hotel was very agreeable to my interviewing Mr. Freeze in one of his private rooms. He came down to the beach to see me.

It seems that Proctor Academy had decided somewhat late that they would phase out girls as a part of the student body. They had decided that the girls who would be juniors and seniors could continue.

The town had thought at first that they would send the girls to Franklin, but that meant that they left on the early morning train and after school closed in the afternoon they would have to wait in Franklin for what they used to call The Peanut, which was the train that came in about 10:30 at night.

(Ella Carr explained once where they got the name The Peanut. It was from the old Latin expression for the next-to-the-last of anything: the "penult." The people in town called it The Peanut.)

Andover Girls High School

This did not please many of the parents. Then someone found out at the time school law in New Hampshire said that girls must be educated at home through the 10th grade. Which meant, if they didn't want the girls to go to Franklin, they had to find someplace in Andover for that little group of girls. So they decided that they would try to have

a two-year high school for girls.

[Added by Polly Richardson Richards – At Town Meeting the year the town needed to make the decision to build a high school, some gentleman got up and said that things should be left as they were. Ella Carr stood up and thumped her cane on the floor and said, "And what are you going to do with the girls? Drown them at birth like they do in China?" The vote passed.]

My interview was pretty exciting because I had not expected to have any kind of work at all and believe me I jumped at the chance to be the principal and the whole faculty for a two-year school. I helped close up the hotel dining room on Labor Day and that evening came to Andover because school was going to begin the next day.

Ella Carr was chairman of the school board, and because her brothers had not wanted her to live alone in that big house, she had decided she would board the new teacher. So I arrived at her house that evening, and she explained some of the local situation to me but not by half of what it was going to be involved.

The next morning when it was time for school to begin, Ella walked me around the corner to the old fire station. I thought I looked pretty nice for that walk because one of the last things I did before I left the beach was to buy a new outfit – white pleated skirt and a blouse with a blue bolero jacket – but I had quite a summer tan. I found out later that a number of people in the village said to Ella later, "Have you really hired a negro?"

When we got around the corner, there were several cars parked in the dooryard of the fire station. Parents had brought children to school. Ella unlocked the door, we went up the stairs followed by several girls and their fathers. Up on the second floor of the fire station was the fireman's club room. The pool table was still up. There were several card tables and a lot of folding chairs, a package of history books, some paper and some pencils, and a flag. And that was the new high school.

The fathers helped dismantle the pool table and lean it up against the wall and

opened up enough card tables for the girls who were there. There were 16 or 18 girls, I think, in the ninth and tenth grades. There was a desk which I was told I could use. The first time I opened the drawer, I discovered it was full of playing cards and other little goodies that the firemen had had for their club meetings.

How we ever had school for three or four days with history books and pencils and paper, I don't know. In a few days supplies began to come in.

That first year I taught English, two years of English really at the same time, and world history and algebra and a very nifty course called Art in Everyday Life, which the state board said could be used as an elective.

We were rather informal in those days. For example, everyone brought her lunch, but in the winter one of the famous past times was jumping out of the window into the snow bank, which of course was fun, but we came back rather soggy sometimes.

The fire truck and the hose were down stairs, and the toilet facilities were down stairs. By the way, there was no running water in the building, so we weren't terribly sanitary. But if there were a fire and the hose was spread out to dry afterward we had a lot of hopping to do over the wet hose to get to the toilet, but the girls always managed.

That year was interesting because one of the neighbors had a corn field that came right up to the edge of the building, and he hadn't harvested all the corn, and the pheasants came to eat the corn. So every day we had a lot of bird watching to do, which didn't do a bit of harm, but the pheasants came, six or eight of them at a time, right out beside the school house.

Of course the Currier children, who lived right across the street, were very interested in our coming and going. I remember once when Clyde Currier, I think, opened the door and shooed in their cat – a white-faced cat on which he had drawn facial features with somebody's lipstick. I remember, too, that Florence Mackenzie's dog use to be a regular attendant and very often slept under my desk through a whole session.

The activities that we had were very informal. We weren't very social. I was pretty naïve. I was rather young, too.

Ella Carr, of course, being very active politically, insisted that I should register to vote. So when I became 21, I went down to the Town Hall to register, and Ed Hamp and some other jokers in charge of the list of voters insisted that I had to prove that I could read and write.

They gave me the opening paragraph, I think, of the Declaration of Independence to prove that I could read. Of course, they knew that I should be able to, but I had to do it in front of a whole group of local politicians.

Watch for more of this interview in a future issue of the Beacon.



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Andover Fish & Game Club Willis Nowell Memorial Kids Ice Fishing Derby

Saturday, February 21

Bad weather: February 22
Register at 9 AM
Derby runs from 9:30 to 12:30

Kids, 15 & under!

Free food and drink
Lucky prizes
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Tackle provided

Eagle Pond, Wilmot
735-5311

Andover Snowmobile Club Friends of the Northern Rail Trail

By Allan Houle
Andover Snowmobile Club

The Andover Snowmobile Club has worked very diligently to keep up with our trail systems. The ice storm in December created a few problems with downed trees. Efforts were made to clear all of the damage and get the trails back in order. Currently all trails are open and grooming is being done when conditions allow.

Don't miss our annual Italian Buffet on January 31 at AE/MS from 5 PM to 6:30 PM. This event is one of our major fundraisers, and we have a good time with it. Hope you'll join us and have a good time, too.

We will also be hosting our 6th Annual Highland Lake SnoFest on Saturday, February 14, from 9 AM to 2 PM. This is an Antique and Vintage Snowmobile Show. It is held at the

Andover Fish and Game Clubhouse in East Andover. There will be some very interesting snowmobiles on display for everyone to enjoy.

We also have hot food and beverages on hand for everyone to enjoy. You can get there by snowmobile on Corridor 2 or by automobile on Route 11.

It is always interesting to see the beginnings of the snowmobile. At one time there were over 150 manufacturers in the sport of snowmobiling. We typically have a parade with the old sleds. We also display vintage videos inside the clubhouse. People's choice trophies are awarded for the Best Antique and Best Vintage snowmobile. We will also have dash plaques for all that display.

If you are interested in displaying a sled or need more information regarding this event, you can contact Allan Houle at 768-3951. Hope to see you there.

Willis Nowell Memorial Ice Fishing Derby On February 21

By Rich Gross
Andover Fish and Game Club

The Andover Fish and Game Club is sponsoring its 26th annual Willis Nowell Memorial Ice Fishing Derby at Eagle Pond in Wilmot, off Route 4.

The Derby is for kids 15 and under. Registration starts at 9 AM, and the Derby runs from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

The Derby will be held on Saturday, February 21, with a bad-weather date of Sunday, February 22. Tackle will be provided.

There will be plenty of free food and drink, and lucky prizes, ribbons, and trophies will be awarded. Please join us for a great time. If you have any questions, call 735-5311.

SUNAPEE-RAGGED-KEARSARGE GREENWAY

The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition once again is leading a series of exciting winter hikes throughout the Lake Sunapee region. A special feature this year will be a moonlight walk.

Hikes range from easy to difficult. Hike leaders will offer full details for each event, including starting place and time and equipment needs. There is absolutely no cost to participants, except for their personal food, equipment, and transportation to the hike site.

Since winter hikes require special attention to physical conditioning, weather, and snow conditions, hikers are encouraged to evaluate their capabilities carefully before joining any group.

The remaining hikes for this winter are:
Saturday, February 7: The Fells in Snow – Snowshoe the Fells in Newbury with its beautiful views of Lake Sunapee. Lisa and Dick Correa, 518-281-1494. 2 miles. Easy.

February 8, 9, or 10: Moonlight Over the Greenway – A 9 PM snowshoe trek near Pleasant Lake in New London, if conditions are perfect. Bailout date: March 10, 11, or 12. Dave Cook, 526-4570. 3 miles. Moderate.

Saturday, February 14: The King and You – Snowshoe old trails – with a few diversions off trail – at the King Hill Reservation in Sutton. Art Robbins, 927-4377. 4.5 miles. Moderate.

Saturday, February 21: Put On the Boards – A cross-country ski trip from Twin Lake Villa in New London to Morgan Pond. Andy Hager, 526-2846. 6 miles, round trip. Moderate.

Sunday, February 22: From Brook to Bridge – Start at New Hampshire Route 114 in Springfield to Kidder Brook Bridge, then downhill to Twin Lake Villa. Wayne Nicoll, 735-5721. 6 miles. Moderate.

Saturday, February 28: Flex Time – An adjustable hike from Granite Hill Road in Wilmot to Pleasant Lake in New London. Brent Scudder, 763-0187. 2 to 3.5 miles, as the group wishes. Easy to moderate.

Saturday, March 7: Tour de Trail – SRK Greenway Trails Director Gerry Gold's favorite long-distance challenge. Six miles along the Sunapee Ridge to Lake Solitude and Lucia's Lookout, and return. Call 526-2857. 12 miles. Difficult.

The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition is a non-profit volunteer organization that promotes hiking and land conservation amid the rugged beauty of three major mountains. Its 75 miles of trails, incorporating 14 separate hikes through Andover, Danbury, Goshen, Newbury, New London, Springfield, Sunapee, Sutton, Warner, and Wilmot, are open to all.

For information, visit SRKG.com.

January 21

Condensed from draft minutes

Present: Alex Bernhard, Pecco Beaufays, Steve Darling, Mike Loomis, Charles Martin, Myra Mayman, Analeyah North, Peter Southworth.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 18, at Andover Fire House

Correspondence: Vicky Mishcon wrote a letter of appreciation from the Andover Selectboard and Andover-Proctor Liaison Committee.

Old Business

Health Initiatives: Mike introduced the new Walking Guide from the Caring Community Network of the Twin Rivers (CCNTR). The map includes an expanded Northern Rail Trail section. Mike is looking into new grants (HEAL) for wellness activities to address adult and child obesity. Discussion followed on signage and markers and use of the rail trail as a health/exercise resource. Mike requested a letter of support by February 16 and input on our ideas for how to proceed. Myra and Ed Hiller will draft a letter to CCNTR. Mike suggested we hold a Choose Franklin meeting in Franklin in May.

Grants Update: From e-mail, Craig reported he will prepare more applications this spring and he's waiting to hear about the Bikes Belong and The Hiking Society grants.

Technology Report: Steve noted that Heather continues to support our Web site from California. The Web map needs updating and GPS coordinates will also be added to the site to improve access to the trail. Steve will investigate getting a waiver on the Google Check Out fees. We should update our testimonials section as well.

RTP 2009 Application: Charles shared a topographical map showing the proposed Franklin section (1.9 miles)

and passed around the RTP grant application (our fifth) with extra emphasis on Franklin organizations.

TE Update, Potter Place to Danbury: Engineering progresses with help with permitting from Dan Allen. This project now looks to happen in '09 or '10.

Action Items: Save April 16 for the New London Inn dinner.

Water Problems: East of Valley Road bridge, water is draining onto 19th-century retaining wall, pushing out stone. Postponed.

Statewide Rail Trail Association Meetings: The first meeting was held November 2007 at Highland Lake Inn. A second meeting was held in November 2008 in Manchester and had 42 attendees. The outcome of the meeting was the desire to establish a permanent New Hampshire Rail Trail Alliance. A steering committee was formed to develop initial projects. This group should be helpful to FNRT-MC and the other trail groups to share information and have more clout with the state.

Andover Snowmobile Club Spaghetti Dinner: Alex is looking for volunteers to help staff the table at the dinner at AE/MS on January 31.

New Business

Meeting with Franklin City Council: The Council was very pleased that we were making progress and like the idea that we would be continuing into Franklin.

Bob and Charles requested that they send a letter of support for the RTP 2009 proposal. The Council voted unanimously to do so. The letter was received shortly thereafter and was included in the proposal.

Biking Programs: Pecco has developed inn-to-inn biking tours with three other inns. They make use of the Rail Trail.



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The Inn At Danbury Hosts Storytelling At Sunday Brunch

The Alphon Bistro at the Inn at Danbury is now hosting a Storytelling Brunch. The Grafts, owner of the Inn, were introduced to storytelling by Lauretta Phillips when Alex went with her to this year's opening gala dinner and storytelling at the Corner House Inn in Center Sandwich. Don Brown, owner of the Corner House Inn, has been hosting dinner and stories every Thursday night from the last week of October to the last week of May since 1988. The Grafts said they feel this is such a fantastic talent, they have decided to host a storytelling Brunch on two Sundays each month.

The first event took place January 25 with Lauretta Phillips. Lauretta, a resident of Andover, tells stories of all kinds. Most of the stories she writes herself, but she has also been known to tell some pretty tall tales, legends, and folk tales from a variety of places.

Lauretta has hosted The Talking Stick, a radio program at Colby-Sawyer College

in New London on WSCS 90.9 FM since February 1996, and is co-host with her sister Cora Jo Ciampi of The Tale Spinner Cafe on WKXL 1450 AM in Concord.

The line-up of storytellers at the Inn on Sundays is impressive, with tellers coming from New Hampshire and Massachusetts:

- Feb 8: Peter Brodeur of Elkins
 - Feb 15: Cora Ciampi of Gorham
 - Feb 22: Angela Klingler of Salem
 - Mar 8: Sharon Wood of Claremont
 - Mar 22: Andy Cheney (a.k.a. Ebenzer Webster) of Webster
 - Apr 5: Leeny Del Seamonds of Andover, Massachusetts
 - Apr 19: Patricia Darcy of Concord
 - May 3: Meredith Bird-Miller of Wilmot
- Guests arrive at 11:45 AM. Brunch is served from 12:15 to 12:45 PM, with storytelling to begin around 1 PM. Reservations are required.

For information about each of these tellers and the brunch itself, visit InnAtDanbury.com or call 768-3318.

Andover Libraries

By Diane Rice
Andover Library Trustees

As I skidded over ice and snow, thankful that the wind wasn't blowing or sleet coming down, and delighted that the lights were finally back on, lyrics from the musical *Damn Yankees* suddenly came to mind: You gotta have hope, mustn't sit around and mope. Get your chin up off the floor, you can open any door....You've gotta have heart!

This, of course, seemed a perfect lead-in for this month's article, since February is National Heart Month.

And how well our libraries have covered the topic, starting with books for our heart health like *Sweet and Sugar-free* and *The American Heart Association Cookbook*; moving on to *Eat, Pray and Love*, a tale of self-discovery by Elizabeth George, still on the bestseller list; then to advice for those contemplating romance or striving to rediscover it, there's Dr. Phil's *Love Smart - Find the One You Want, Fix the One You Got*; and finally, *Last Kiss* by Luanne Rice (no relation!), a new selection that awaits your reading pleasure.

And there's yet another kind of heart, one willing to take risks and follow a dream. Just read Andover's own Chris Bengivengo's *I've Always Wanted to Run a B and B*. These are only a few of the many books that will help us keep that chin up off the floor!

There are many recently purchased selections to choose from that belong to our libraries as well as an outstanding selection of books that have been donated to each library. These donated books, which are shelved separately, are in excellent condition and are in many cases duplicates of offerings already on the libraries' shelves.

Just pick one out for your reading pleasure, leave a donation of any size in the designated box, and enjoy. And when you've read it and perhaps passed it around, you can bring it back and start the cycle once again. You might even see it again at our annual Fourth of July Book Sale on the Green.

Special topical displays have also been created for the month of February, so do stop by, enjoy your libraries, and wish Mary and Priscilla a Happy Valentine's Day.

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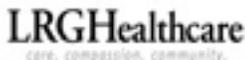
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Bachelor Book Club

By Brandy Collette
Bachelor Book Club

The Bachelor Book Club will be meeting on Saturday, February 14, at 9 AM to discuss the book *String Too Short To Be Saved* by former US poet laureate Donald Hall of Wilmot.

String Too Short To Be Saved is a collection of short stories, diverse in subject, but sutured together by the limitless affection the author holds for the land and the people of New Hampshire. Donald Hall tells about life on his grandparent's small farm in Wilmot where, as a boy, he spent his summers. Gradually the boy grows to be a young man, sees his grandpar-

ents aging, the farm become marginal, and finally the cows sold and the barn abandoned.

But these are more than nostalgic memories, for in the measured and tender prose of each episode are signs of the end of things – a childhood, perhaps a culture. In an epilogue written for this edition, Donald Hall describes his return to the farm 25 years later, to live the rest of his life in the house of string.

Consider stopping by the Bachelor Library to pick up a copy and begin a journey through New England, as Donald Hall invites you to accompany him on his memories. Enjoy.

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Andover Lions Club News **ANDOVER BUYING CLUB**

By Tom Schwendler
Andover Lions Club

The Andover Lions Club is finishing up its newest and most exciting fundraiser, the Third Annual Calendar Sweepstakes. This is a raffle where only 1,000 tickets were printed, and a winner is selected for every day of the month of January. The winners receive a prize ranging from \$50 to \$400, depending on the day they were picked.

Starting last July, all members of the

Andover Lions Club have been selling these tickets for \$10 each all around town. With your help, this fundraiser was a great success! We were able to raise thousands of dollars for the local communities of Andover, Danbury, East Andover, and West Franklin. In addition, a portion of these funds will help us fight curable blindness around the world.

If you have any questions, please contact me, Tom Schwendler, at 526-2105.

Andover Lions Club Calendar Raffle Winners

1/1	Shea Gallagher	Newport	\$300
1/2	Stan Kilty	Newburyport, MA	\$100
1/3	David Wiener	Sandy Hook, CT	\$150
1/4	Jillian Barton	Anaheim, CA	\$100
1/5	Jim McGonigle	Danbury	\$50
1/6	Richard LaFlamme	Franklin	\$50
1/7	Margie Fenton	East Andover	\$50
1/8	Fletcher Kaplan James	East Andover	\$50
1/9	Norwood Tilson	Campton	\$100
1/10	Richard Silva	St. Johns, IN	\$150
1/11	Doc Karwocki	Penacook	\$100
1/12	David Marceau	Andover	\$50
1/13	Alexander Klein	Nashua	\$50
1/14	Alexander Barton	Anaheim, CA	\$50
1/15	Tim Frost	East Andover	\$50
1/16	Kasie Burnell	Newbury	\$100
1/17	Jan Danforth	Buffalo, NY	\$150
1/18	Lisa & Jeff Clark	Andover	\$100
1/19	Mark Minard	Clancy, MT	\$50
1/20	David & Carol Foss	Stafford Springs, CT	\$50
1/21	Irene Jewett	East Andover	\$50
1/22	Judy Danforth	Buffalo, NY	\$50
1/23	Fred Plett	Goffstown	\$100
1/24	Eula Epperly	Danbury	\$150
1/25	Steven Powers	Danbury	\$100
1/26	Michael Parenteau	Rockland, ME	\$50
1/27	Peter Southworth	Andover	\$50
1/28	Pete Sorette	Franklin	\$50
1/29	Sue Norris	Andover	\$50
1/30	Dave Payne	New London	\$100
1/31	Connie McLeod	Andover	\$400

By Heather Makechnie
Andover Buying Club

Although there were ultimately 100 or so members of the cooperative purchasing group, only about seven of those participated consistently. In the last few order cycles we did not meet the required minimum volume and could not place an order.

This was inconvenient and unfair to those who had re-arranged their buying habits, and who depended on their bi-weekly order.

The buying club was officially disbanded as of December 31, 2008.

Ironically, since that time, there

have been 20 more people asking to become members of the group. Also, we received word from Associated Buyers out of Barrington (the company from which we purchased) that we had enough volume history to be in the 0% upcharge group. In effect, we were now pure wholesale.

Perhaps there will be another effort in Andover to start a cooperative group. We urge any principals thinking of organizing to contact us. We will be more than happy to share our experience.

Thanks to all who participated, who showed up early in the morning to help, and who spread the word.



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Andover Service Club News

By Julie Mayo
Andover Service Club

The January meeting of the Andover Service Club at the Masonic Hall was a delightful gathering with Opening Devotions by Sandra Graves. Delicious refreshments were served by Judy Evans, Faith Downes, Elizabeth Elenowitz, Sandy Miller, Margo Coolidge, Sandra Graves, and Julie Mayo.

We discussed the Jhumpa Lahiri book, *The Interpreter of Maladies*,

which was an entertaining collection of short stories. Let Diane Rice know of a book you enjoyed which could be read by all.

Next month on Wednesday, February 11, we will have a revival of the auction! Please bring a gift-type item and prepare to have a few laughs. Proceeds go to the scholarship fund. Meeting begins at 10 AM at the Masonic Hall in Potter Place, led by President Sara Tracy-Arone.



Enjoying the NHCHF Christmas party are (l-r) Natalie Lively, Jane Martin, Pat Fleury, Rose Tilton, Shirley Currier, Nancy Barrett, Irene McKinley, Pat Baker, Wanda Smith, Janet Kuhlmeier, and Connie McLeod.

Photo: Judy Perreault

New Hampshire Circle Of Home And Family

By Judy Perreault
New Hampshire Circle of Home and Family

In December the Halcyon Seekers had a Christmas Party at Connie McLeod's home, which was decorated very festively. Nancy Barrett and Connie were our hostesses.

What a feast: Corn chowder, hot sandwiches, pickles, chips and dip, and a delicious dessert. Judy Perreault brought candy mice as favors.

After lunch we rolled into the living room for an auction. There were many items to choose from, and the bidding was hot and heavy. We all went home with new treasures, some more than others, and our treasury received a healthy boost.

We welcomed Wanda Smith as a new member.

Also in December a number of the members helped out at the AE/MS Holiday Shoppe. This is an opportunity for the students to shop reasonably for their families. All the items were donated. It was fun helping the children make their selections and putting them in decorative bags.

In January we were back to bring-

your-own-sandwich for lunch at Judy Perreault's home. Our topic was Birds: how to attract them to your yard and how to identify them.

There were some great suggestions on bird feeders, types of food, and how to provide water. Keeping bird feeders clean to prevent disease was stressed and the same for water and birdbaths. For bird identification a good pair of binoculars and a bird book was recommended.

A number of our members feed the birds and were familiar with many of our local birds. Dedicated bird watchers fly all over the United States to see a rare bird sighting.

We finished up the meeting by making pine cone feeders. A mixture of fat, seeds, cornmeal, and peanut butter was spread over a pine cone. A wire was attached so it could be hung outdoors.

Our next meeting is at Rose Tilton's home. The subject is "Are You Getting Your ZZZs?"

We meet the third Monday of the month, except in July and August. For more information or if you would like to join our group, call 735-5493.

Blackwater Grange #152

The December meeting of the Blackwater Grange #152 had to be cancelled because of the ice storm. The Grange doesn't meet in the early months of the year, so the next meeting will be in April.

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ANDOVER'S BIGGEST LOSER

By Jen Braley
For the Beacon

The Biggest Loser is still going strong! We finished up our first ten-week session before Thanksgiving. Brian Reynolds won the competition by losing a total of 30 pounds and winning \$350. Brian did an amazing job and was a real inspiration to everyone.

Second place went to Christine Dukette, and Jen Bent came in third. They also did great.

We had taken "before" pictures at our first meeting, and at our last meeting we took "after" pictures. It was so much fun to see how much we had changed in ten weeks. Some people wore clothes that they had worn to the first meeting, and after ten weeks those clothes were way too big.

As a group we lost a total of 515 pounds! Everyone should be very proud of themselves.

Second Session

We started our second session after Thanksgiving, and average about 45 people weighing in each week. As of the beginning of January we have now lost a total of 800 pounds since September.

We start each meeting off with everyone weighing in; the person with the highest percentage of weight loss each week goes home with \$50. Some of our weekly Biggest Losers this time around have been Sarah Lester, Melissa Barton, Stephanie Barton, Jen Bent, Ashley Conley, and Michael Brubaker.

After the weigh-in, we have raffles for gift certificates, exercise equip-

ment, exercise and nutrition books, etc. Audrey Pellegrino, The Practical Nutritionist, follows the raffle up with a nutrition talk. Every week we go home with lots of valuable information from her. Many members have also signed up to take various cooking classes and nutrition lessons with Audrey at her home.

Amy Makechnie from Proctor has been spending time with us doing core workouts. She really knows how to work us out! Everyone is getting stronger with each workout. We also had Jessica Pine from Creative Movements come for a yoga workout. That was the first time a lot of us had done yoga, and we enjoyed it. I really want to thank Amy and Jessica for taking the time to help us out; we all appreciate it.

Third Session

This session will be ending on Tuesday, February 17, with a two week break while I am on vacation. We will restart on Tuesday, March 10.

The meetings are every Tuesday night at the Andover Elementary/Middle School. Weigh-ins start around 4:30 PM and end around 6 PM when Audrey begins her talk. Physical challenges and workouts are optional. We usually finish up around 7 PM. The cost to join is \$10 and \$5 each week after that.

If you would like to join us or have any questions, please call me, Jen Braley, at 735-5097 or e-mail me at BraleyJen@tds.net.

Summer will be here before you know it! Take some time out for yourself, and come join us on Tuesdays.

WCA SENIOR LUNCHEON

On Tuesday, February 17, at noon the February Senior Luncheon will be held at the Wilnot Community Association (WCA) Barn on Village Road in Wilnot Flat.

Maggie Stier, Field Service Representative of the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, will be our speaker. The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance is the statewide, nonprofit historic preservation organization which works closely with communities, homeowners, and a variety of partners to provide technical expertise, financial assistance, and supportive policies. Among its programs, the Preservation Alliance provides research, outreach, and advocacy to secure funding for the

Land and Community Heritage Investment Program.

Maggie will present *Tales from the Road: Saving New Hampshire's Favorite Buildings*. She'll talk about some of her favorite experiences as field service rep for the Preservation Alliance, including stories about buildings that the audience will know.

The luncheons are sponsored by the Wilnot Community Association and Wilnot Ladies' Aid Society in cooperation with the Belknap/Merrimack Community Action Program. All area seniors are invited to join us for good food, conversation, and entertainment.

Reservations should be made at 526-4540 or KMckibbin@comcast.net. A \$2 donation is requested.

COA Walkers Top 5,200 Miles

By Grace Stetson
COA Walking

Once again we need to extend a huge thank you to Proctor Academy for allowing us to walk in their gym. This walking program, which is also sponsored by the Kearsarge Council on Aging (COA) has been going on for over 11 years now in Proctor's gym. We walk Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 10 AM.

It is a really great program and has become a habit with many of our walkers, providing them with very healthy, early morning exercise. It has been used by many people over the years whose doctor has told them to walk, walk, walk.

This includes cardiacs, post-operative hip, knee, and back surgery patients, as well as chronic lung disease patients.

I have personally witnessed the improvement in many of these people. We also have many very healthy people walking to stay healthy.

The atmosphere is very friendly and all seniors 55 years old and over are welcome. We have had some younger individuals who qualify and have walked as well.

Last year was another banner year, with a total of 64 people walking 5,235 miles. Based on an average 25 minute mile, this translates into 2,215 hours of walking. So come walk with us in 2009!



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Amy's Amigos at last year's Relay for Life.

Photo: Dave Tibbetts

Amy's Amigos Plan For 2009 Relay For Life

By Amy Rheäume
Amy's Amigos

On June 5 and 6, Amy's Amigos will reunite to participate in this year's American Cancer Society's Relay For Life at Kearsarge Regional High School (KRHS). This fun-filled, overnight event empowers everyone to help fight cancer by raising money and awareness to support the American Cancer Society's lifesaving mission.

Teams of people camp out and take turns walking around the KRHS track. Relay For Life symbolizes the hope that people who have lost their lives to cancer will not be forgotten, that those who face the disease will have support, and that one day cancer will be eliminated.

Amy's Amigos team member Katelynn Muzzey, age 12, writes:

"Amy's Amigos is a team that helps raise money for cancer. I'm part of the team.

I walk for my mom, Amy. She has lung cancer. She got diagnosed in January, 2008. It was hard for me because I'm at the age where I understand what's going on and I need her. Next year I will be 13. That's a tough year.

"I like the Relay. It's a fun way to raise money for a good cause. There are themes every hour. I loved it last year. I can't wait for this year, and I hope you will come and help raise money for a disease that takes one person's life every minute."

To join Katelynn and Amy's Amigos, to sponsor our team, or to create your own Relay team go to RelayForLife.org/klsnh or contact me at rheumeam@proctornet.com or call 735-5537.

Kearsarge Workcamp To Help Area Homeowners

Casey Family Services of Concord and Trinity Bible Church of Sutton plan to bring up to 450 teenagers and adults to the following communities: Bradford, Sutton, New London, Andover, Warner, Wilnot, Sunapee, Springfield, Newbury, and Grantham to improve the homes of local residents.

Elderly, handicapped, and lower-income residents of these areas in the Kearsarge region will get free home repairs.

In the identified Kearsarge areas, as many as 80 local residents will benefit from the work of a projected 450 adult and teenage volunteers at the Kearsarge Workcamp in July 2009. The Workcamp will provide free home repairs through the Group Workcamps Foundation program, sponsored locally by Casey Family Services and Trinity Bible Church.

The Group Workcamps Foundation is a non-profit, interdenominational Christian volunteer home-repair organization headquartered in Loveland, Colorado. This summer, an anticipated 30,000 young people and adults will participate in 64 Workcamps in communities across the United States and Canada.

At each Workcamp, teenagers and adults, all members of church youth groups, volunteer a week of their time to repair homes throughout the community. "This represents about 12,000 hours of volunteer labor – worth at least \$80,000 to the community," said Ed Rennells, director of Casey Family Services.

"These really are remarkable young people," said Joel Fay, Vice President of Group Workcamps Foundation. "Each one is actually paying for the privilege of working in your community. Workcamp registration fees are used to cover our costs for food, insurance, and building materials."

The Workcamp will be housed at Kearsarge Middle School, with Workcampers sleeping on classroom floors, eating in the cafeteria, and enjoying evening programs in the gym. "This service to the community would be impossible without the wonderful cooperation of the Kearsarge School District," remarked Doug Dean, pastor of Trin-

ity Bible Church. Group Workcamps Foundation will reimburse all costs to the lodging facility.

The idea behind the Workcamps started in Colorado in 1977 when residents suffered from the Big Thompson River flood in which hundreds of homes were damaged or destroyed and over 140 people lost their lives. Church youth groups of many different denominations came from across the country the next summer to help.

In 1978, the program went nationwide to include other disadvantaged areas throughout the country. This summer's 64 Workcamps will take place in many different states, including, but not limited to, Florida, Virginia, Montana, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Illinois, Kentucky, New York, Tennessee, and Minnesota. Many Workcamps will also take place internationally. Now in its 31st year of service, Group Workcamps Foundation has hosted nearly 300,000 volunteers who have worked on almost 45,000 projects across the US, Canada, Belize, and Puerto Rico.

Repairs offered through the Workcamp include interior and exterior painting, weatherization, porch and wheelchair ramp construction, and other work. Residents interested in applying to receive assistance may contact Doug Dean of Trinity Bible Church at 927-4213.

Casey Family Services is a fully licensed and accredited non-profit child welfare agency providing a broad range of programs to meet the changing needs of at risk children and families. Casey Family Services believes that families are most successful when surrounded by a caring, responsive, protective community. We believe that the Kearsarge 2009 Work Camp is one of the many programs which help to support this mission.

Trinity Bible Church, founded in 1977, is solidly based on the reliability and authority of Scripture. The church is led by a group of elders whose collective task is to "shepherd the flock." Among them is Doug Dean, Trinity's fourth pastor since 1991.

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A Look At Andover Businesses In The Current Economic Woes

By Heather Makechnie
Beacon staff

Ross Gittell, a University of New Hampshire professor who specializes in economic forecasts for the state and New England, says in *New Hampshire Business Review* that New Hampshire will fare better than other states in the region and the country, but will lose an estimated 16,000 jobs into 2010 and see unemployment rise to 7.4 percent — up from the current 4.3 percent rate.

He says the retail, financial, and construction sectors are expected to see sizable job losses as consumers have slowed down their spending and new building projects are being put on hold. However, he says that we are now in the steepest part of the decline and the economy should stabilize by the end of the year.

The *Beacon* contacted a few local businesses to see whether Andover is feeling the pinch. All of these businesses are members of New Hampshire Made, a group which helps market small businesses in New Hampshire. Andover resident Laurie Ferguson, the executive director, explains that the businesses selected all tend to be in the artisan or tourism sector.

"I get contacted a lot by media, asking what I see happening in the economy. I have to say that there is no easy answer, because there are many different types of business," says Laurie. "Have we lost any members in New Hampshire Made? Yes, you bet. Businesses are going under. But for every business we lose, another business joins. And there are a lot of people who have lost their jobs in another company who are now starting their own business."

"No question," says Laurie, "retail is hurting. The restaurants are hurting. The highway toll-booth count is way down. Lodging is way down. Big stores are hurting. But many small businesses are doing very nicely."

Continues Laurie, "People are taking every opportunity to network, to co-market, to partner their business with another business. They are sharing

booth space at fairs, they are sharing advertising space, they are joining shipping and mailing cooperatives, and they are being very creative about marketing themselves."

Country Pine Furniture

Joan Osteen at Country Pine Furniture, which makes handcrafted, long-lasting pine, oak, cherry, maple, and ash furniture, from stools to entertainment centers, says that the economy has been very bothersome.

"Our revenue is down quite a bit, much lower than last year at this time. Our orders are down, and people are really shopping around for contract work. If they want an entertainment center, for example, they will shop and they will settle for pine rather than cherry.

"Our pumpkin and wreath sales were lousy. We still have some of the wreaths hung on our building. Our Christmas trees saved us. We had the best trees at the best price, and we sold out. That seems to be what people are looking at, price and value. We're looking forward now to lawn furniture season."

Country Spun Treasures

Marsha Siegel has officially closed her Country Spun Treasures Quilt Shop on Flaghole Road and is currently selling off her inventory. It was a business move she planned even before her husband, Gary, died at the end of October. "There simply was not enough traffic at this location. I have to say, though, that this winter's Open House, which is my big showcase sale, was at least as good as last year. I was very surprised. I will continue to hold the Open House."

Marsha continues, "I may sell my horses, but I won't sell my Jacob sheep. I will continue to operate my wool business from this location, selling their fleece for spinning and quilting."

MooseMan Nature Photos

Rick "MooseMan" Libbey's MooseMan Nature Photos features moose and loon photos shot from a kayak in wilderness settings. His products include matted and framed prints, stationery, jewelry, and calendars. Services include

slide shows and wildlife discussions.

Rick says he has found the last part of 2008 to be a perplexing but rewarding time for his business, which is in its fifth year. "I thought that my business would get hit, but instead I find that my retail sales are up 200%. This is the revenue I get from craft fairs and festivals, etc. If I had to guess, I would say that this is because people are staying local with their money.

"Also, my speaking engagements (the best part of my job) are way up. Where I am seeing a decline is in the wholesale part, the products I try to place with small shops and stores. They are being very careful, and I have to accept a much lower minimum order."

New England House B&B

Chris Bengivengo at the 1906-built New England House Bed and Breakfast on Main Street reports that, while earlier in 2008 they saw 110 days when they had at least one booking, in December they went 30 days with no clients at all. "We are currently at a 50% decrease over last year. We are fortunate in that we are right next to Proctor Academy, and parents will come to see their children no matter what. Also, most of our business tends to be three seasons, with winter being quieter."

Chris moans that when oil prices soared they locked into a fuel price that now has them paying \$1.50 per gallon over market price. "The double wham-

my of low patronage and fuel prices is killing us." He says that with tourism dollars down, their strategy is to co-market with Ragged Mountain Resort and with other bed and breakfasts.

They also are trying to attract local dollars. "With 16 seats, we can entertain small groups very well. Wedding or shower parties, craft groups, teas, special dinners, business groups, romantic get-aways ... we are an excellent place for local residents." Bengivengo says that they remain "guardedly optimistic."

The Constant Quilter

Linda Barnes is the owner of The Constant Quilter, which sells quilting supplies and notions and hosts workshops and classes. Linda says that they really felt a slow-down in December, which was unusual in that December is usually the busiest time of year.

"However, it was a really busy fall. And business is picking back up again in January. We have been able to keep all our help. We're being very careful not to over-order our inventory. And we're reining in advertising.

"Last year's shop hops [when several quilt shops put together progressive events] were very beneficial for us. I have put together one myself called the Leprechaun Tour in March, connecting eight shops. And we are happy to provide space for any group that wants to get together to do craft projects."

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Trailside Cafe Closes In East Andover Marketplace

By Heather Makechnie
Beacon staff

Denise Keene had hoped that changing the focus of her convenience store to a cafe would save her business, but she readily admits that this economy has gotten the best of her. The Trailside Cafe in the East Andover Marketplace closed at the end of January.

Keene's tenants at the end of her building at 776 Franklin Highway, KJ's Pet and Sport, will move their business into the larger space Denise has vacated. Kevin and Jennifer opened the new business in November.

Says Jennifer, "We have a wonderful location, and the timing was right. We are going to run a full convenience

store. While we will still sell pet and sport products, we will also sell pre-made sandwiches, salads, and beverages, as well as tobacco and alcohol. There will be lots and lots of coffee — nice gourmet coffee, and plenty of snacks. We want to have a nice place for local people to gather. There will be a section of fine wines and gourmet items. We'll sell souvenirs and local products. And of course, DVDs."

Jennifer says their plans still include sponsorship of outdoor events. She expects the new store to be open in February.

Denise Keene says the smaller of the two spaces will now be available for rent.

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OBITUARIES

FRANK G. BONK, 83, of Franklin, died at his home on Tuesday, December 9, 2008.

He was born in Franklin on January 17, 1925, the son of William and Anna (Crusciel) Bonk. Frank was a graduate of Franklin High School, class of 1942.

Family members include four daughters, Marsha Rexford of Contoocook, Deborah Kane of Manchester, Brenda Jurta of East Andover, and Pamela Ward of Bristol; two sons, Jeffrey Bonk of Santa Monica, California, and Christopher Bonk of Concord; 10 grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; and nieces and nephews.

Donations may be made to a charity of one's choice.

BARBARA ELIZABETH FLORENCE, 81, of Franklin, died Thursday, December 11, 2008, at the Merrimack County Nursing Home of Boscawen.

Born on July 7, 1927, in Meredith to Clarence F. and Lena Mae (Drake) Dolloff, Barbara was raised in Meredith and graduated from Inter-Lakes Regional High School.

Barbara is survived by her beloved husband of 59 years, Ralph E. Florence of Tilton; two daughters, Gail and Patrick Mead of Andover, and JoAnn and

Henk deBoer of Pittsfield; a brother, Clayton Dolloff; nine grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

JOAN D. (PEITZ) GROSS, 83, of Main Street in Andover, died Friday, December 12, 2008, at Concord Regional VNA Hospice House.

She was born in Hillside, New Jersey on November 18, 1925, the daughter of Charles and Agatha (Derenthal) Peitz. Joan received a bachelor's degree in health education and her RN from New Jersey City University. Later in life, she earned a master's degree in health education from Plymouth State College.

She lived in Springfield and Hillside, New Jersey, before moving to Andover in 1968.

Joan was a registered nurse and worked for the State of New Hampshire where she helped organize and establish many area Visiting Nurse Associations. She and her late husband also owned and operated the Potter Place Inn.

Joan was a communicant of Immaculate Conception Parish in Potter Place. She was a member of the Andover Service Club, active in Kearsarge Area Council on Aging, and was one of the founders and organizers of what is now Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse

Association.

After retirement, she spent much of her free time tutoring people to read. She volunteered at the Andover grammar school where she won an award and also in Franklin tutoring adults to read.

She was predeceased by her husband of 37 years, John N. Gross, in 1987. She was also predeceased by one brother and two sisters. Members of her family surviving include a daughter, Donna Vilsmeier of Manchester; four sons, Donald J. Gross of Andover, Russell J. Gross of North Sutton, Richard J. Gross of Andover, and Raymond J. Gross of Colorado Springs, Colorado; 10 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated at Immaculate Conception Church in Potter Place. Burial will be in New Hampshire Veterans Cemetery, Boscawen, at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association, PO Box 2209, New London 03257; to the Andover Rescue Squad, PO Box 209, Andover 03216; or to the American Lung Association, 20 Warren Street, Suite 4, Concord 03301.

FRANCES A. (WOODS) HUNTOON, 95, of Christian Avenue, Concord, formerly of Potter Place, died Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at Concord Hospital.

She was born in New London, January 23, 1913, the daughter of Otis and Minnie (Adjutant) Woods.

She moved to Salisbury at a young age, attended Salisbury schools, and then moved to Potter Place. Mrs.

Huntoon had lived in Concord since 1991.

She had been employed by the Austin Home in Webster and had done domestic work at various homes in the New London area. She was in the housekeeping department at Proctor Academy for 15 years.

Mrs. Huntoon was a member of the Andover Congregational Church, the Andover Service Club, 50 years in the Grange including the Pineconia Grange in Concord, and a former member for 38 years of the Blackwater Grange. She was a 50-year member of Crystal Rebekah Lodge No. 68, and since 1995 the Hopeful Rebekah Lodge No. 31 of Newport.

Mrs. Huntoon enjoyed cooking, her flower gardens, and needlework.

Her husband, Joseph B. Huntoon, died in 1976.

Members of her family surviving include two daughters, Elizabeth A. and her husband, Vance Duff, and Janice Woodward, all of Concord; two grandchildren, Paula Nash and her husband Andrew, and Carrie Duff; four great-grandchildren, Emily, Amanda, Isabel, and Brendan; and nieces and nephews.

Friends called at the Andover Congregational Church, with a funeral service following with the Reverend John Wagner, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Proctor Cemetery in Andover in the spring.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Havenwood Heritage Heights, 33 Christian Avenue, Concord 03301 or to the Andover Congregational Church, PO Box 211, East Andover 03231.

See Obituaries on page 33



The community is invited

as we honor Board members and staff, and hear from a compelling speaker on a subject of significance for all of us.

VNA Annual Meeting

February 19, 2009 • 4:00 pm
Wilmot Community Center

Guest Speaker: Patrick L. Clary, MD • "Ten Hospice Myths"

Why will so many of our neighbors die without hospice care?

*Patrick Clary helps us examine some of the beliefs that lead half of us to choose death in nursing facilities, hospitals and other institutions without the support of hospice. Clary has been one of the physician-leaders of the hospice movement in New Hampshire since the 1980s, is the author of **Dying for Beginners**, and was first exposed to mortality as a medic with US infantry units in Vietnam. Donald Hall says "he has condensed his diverse experiences into a book of poetry suitable for mortals, or anyone who loves them."*

Copies of **Dying for Beginners** will be distributed free to the first 40 to arrive at the meeting; one copy per household.

RSVP Cathy Raymond 603.526.4077 x231
Refreshments Served



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Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Reverend William E. Nelson, Minister
Stone Chapel of Proctor Academy, Andover
11 AM Worship
526-8213 • kuufnh.org



Chadwick Funeral and Cremation Service

The calendar has changed and 2009 has arrived!

Wouldn't it be a good idea to make an appointment to preplan in January or February? It's a great way to start the year and a wonderful item to have accomplished. Perhaps Gram or Gramp has been putting it off and you could help make it happen. You could make the suggestion, be supportive, and know what's going on if you are a part of the process. If Gram and Gramp are more private then just help them make the call.

Help each other on the journey as we travel together.

Call Charlie or Marion Hafner at 526-6442, or e-mail us at Hafner@tds.net.

Charles and Marion (Chadwick) Hafner
526-6442 • www.ChadwickFuneralService.com • Hafner@tds.net

Obituaries from page 32

BRIAN H. SHAW, 60, of Emery Road, died Wednesday, December 17, 2008, at the Franklin Regional Hospital after being stricken ill at home.

He was born in Franklin on March 26, 1948, son of Hale P. and Yvette J. (Lefebvre) Shaw.

Brian was a lifelong resident of East Andover. He graduated from Franklin High School and later took night classes there offered by Nathaniel Hawthorne College with a BS degree in business administration.

A farmer, Brian owned the Brian Shaw Farm. He was a US Army veteran and served in Vietnam. Brian was a member of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau and former deputy chief of the

East Andover Fire Department and Rescue. He especially loved animals and his friend, companion and dog, Casey.

Brian attended the Andover Congregational Church in East Andover. He was predeceased by his wife, Shirley A. (Kelley) Shaw, who died in 2006.

His family includes his son, James B. Shaw of Franklin; his daughter, Lisa M. Cox of Laconia; grandchildren Alexandra Cox of Laconia and Logan Shaw of Franklin; his parents, Hale and Yvette (Lefebvre) Shaw of East Andover; his brother, Emile Shaw of East Andover; his fiancée, Brenda Greene of East Andover; aunts, uncles, and two nieces; and four grandnieces.

Calling hours were held at the William F. Smart Sr. Memorial Home in Tilton. A

funeral service was held at the Andover Congregational Church in East Andover. Spring burial with honors will be held in Oak Hill Cemetery in Salisbury.

In lieu of flowers, Brian's family kindly requests that contributions be made to the New Hampshire Humane Society, PO Box 572, Laconia 03247.

ANTOINETTE "TONY" MARIE (GODERRE) MARTIN, 94, a longtime resident of Main Street in Andover, died Friday, December 26, 2008, at Merrimack County Nursing Home in Boscawen, following a period of failing health.

She was born in Plainfield, Connecticut, on January 2, 1914, a daughter of Adrian and Rose (LaBonte) Goderre. Antoinette lived in Baltic, Connecticut, before moving to Andover in 1945. A homemaker, she also worked as an inspector for the former plastic shop in Franklin for many years.

She was a parishioner of Immaculate Conception Church in Potter Place, and she and her husband were very involved with the inception of the church and its construction plans. She was the oldest living member of the church.

Antoinette was predeceased by her husband, George J. Martin, who died in 1996, and three grandchildren.

Her family includes three sons, Richard A. Martin of Salisbury, Alfred G. Martin of Errol and George M. Martin of Chester; her daughter, Jean M. Putney of Birmingham, Alabama; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

According to her wishes, there were no calling hours.

A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated in the spring at Immaculate Conception Church in Potter Place, with burial following in Lakeview Cemetery in East Andover, both at a later announced time and date.

Memorial donations may be made to Immaculate Conception Church, c/o Our Lady of Fatima Parish, 724 Main Street, New London 03257.

ETHEL VIOLA (JOHNSON) SKOLDBERG, 97, of 372 Chase Hill Road in East Andover died Friday, December 26, 2008, with her family by her side.

She was born June 2, 1911, in Rhode Island, the daughter of Carl and Martha Johnson. Ethel was educated in Rhode Island and moved to New Jersey when she married her husband of 55 years, Eugene. While living in New Jersey she was employed with the Lipton Tea Company for 15 years. Prior to moving to East Andover, she lived for many years in Concord. She loved her family and enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband, Eugene Skoldberg, who died in 1987.

Her family includes her daughter, Karlene J. Anderson of East Andover; her sisters, Grace Pulver of upstate New York and Irene Erickson of Orange, California; three grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

See Obituaries on page 34



**In Memory of Brian Shaw
March 26, 1948 – December 17, 2008**

By Brenda Greene, Brian's fiancée

Sometimes the quantity of time you have with someone in your life isn't nearly as important as the quality. On December 17 I lost my closest friend, my best friend, and my true love.

When Brian came into my life nearly three years ago he immediately became the most important part of my life. There were very few days that you would not find us together either haying a field or cutting firewood or just going somewhere on a delivery.

Brian didn't like doing things without me or me without him. He became a father-figure to my daughter Heather and filled a large void in her life. My grandchildren loved him dearly and always looked forward to coming to the farm to ride on the tractor with "Grampa Brian" or to help him feed the cows.

Brian wasn't one to admit that the game of golf made sense, but he loved to go to the golf course and drive the cart and watch me play the game. And once in a while he would pick up a club and try it out for himself. He was afraid of the water because he couldn't swim, but he loved to go out on the boat and just hang out with our friends and go for a moonlight cruise, of course with his life jacket on.

He was a big man with a big heart and a generous soul. If you ever asked anything of Brian his answer was always, "Of course you can." He once helped a single mother whom he had never met. She was going through some hard times and could not feed her two boys, so Brian gave her enough money to buy a week's worth of groceries. That act of kindness gave them enough to get back on their feet. He would always say, "It was only a cord of firewood."

The day Brian passed away the snow started falling and continued off and on until the day of his service, but even with blizzard conditions hundreds of people showed up to remember and celebrate his life. That was a true testament of who he was and how much he was loved.

In the end, our time together was cut short. Even with a broken heart, I thank heaven and earth for my time with him, and nothing can ever take away the love we shared or our memories we had together away.

Thank you, Brian, from the bottom of my heart. You will forever be missed. I will always love you and look forward to seeing you again. God be with you.

Love always,
Brenda

On this cold winter day,
he decided he wanted to stay.

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the picturesque setting felt like home,
and laughter filled the air.*

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Dee Ganley, winner of the Crystal Heart Award, works at home in East Andover with her three dogs: Tucker, Dazzle, and Jax.

Dee Ganley Awarded Crystal Heart For Work In Prison Dog Program

Caring Animal Partners of New London, a local pet therapy group, awarded this year's Warren-Campbell Crystal Heart Award to Dee Ganley of Andover. The award is given to a person, or a group, in the central New Hampshire area who demonstrates through their outstanding actions the strong and important bond that exists between humans and our domesticated animals.

Dee Ganley, a veteran New Hampshire dog trainer and author of *Changing People, Changing Dogs*, earned the award for her participation in the New Hampshire Pathways to Hope Prison Dog program. This program takes dogs that need homes and places them in the State prison in Concord under the care of a specially selected group of inmates, who will train them as therapy dogs. When their course of training is com-

pleted, the dogs will be donated to those in need of their services.

Caring Animal Partners' President Robert Moser said of Dee, "She provides the experience, knowledge, and leadership to make this program viable. She has to evaluate the dogs as to their suitability for advanced assistance skill training, set up and supervise the training protocols within the prison, and be willing to make the hard decisions as to when an inmate or a dog are not progressing adequately. Dee has built a strong foundation for the future success of this program."

To learn more about New Hampshire Pathways to Hope's Prison Dog Program, visit PthNHpdp.org. To learn more about the broad range of teaching, training, and behavioral work of award recipient Dee Ganley, visit DeesDogs.com.

BORN Griffin Palmer Mayo

Douglas and Kathleen Griffin Mayo of Mashpee, Massachusetts announce the birth of their son, Griffin Palmer, born December 31 at Falmouth (Massachusetts) Hospital. Griffin weighed in at seven pounds, two ounces and 21 inches, and he joins his brother Quinlan Douglas, age four.

Maternal grandparent is Lydia Grif-



fin of Fall River, Massachusetts. Paternal grandparents are Donald and Julie Palmer Mayo of East Andover.

Obituaries from page 33

great-grandchildren.

According to Ethel's wishes, there were no visiting hours. A graveside service was held in Blossom Hill Cemetery in Concord.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Lake Sunapee Region VNA and Hospice at PO Box 2209, New London 03257.

HERBERT E. SHAW, 94, formerly of Tilton, died in Clearwater, Florida, on Tuesday, January 6, 2009.

He was born in Salisbury on June 12, 1914, the son of Frank and Gertrude (Gilpatrick) Shaw. He was raised in Salisbury and was a Tilton resident for more than 50 years. Antiques were his passion and, before his death, he was the oldest active antique dealer in New Hampshire.

Family members include his son and daughter-in-law, Herbert H. Shaw and Saiyo Shaw of Clearwater; brothers Frederick Shaw of Salisbury and Hale Shaw of Andover; a sister, Dorothy Atwood of Tilton; and lots of nieces and nephews.

His ashes will be placed at his grave in Tilton and at his parents' grave in Salisbury in the late spring. No services are planned.

KATHERINE "KAE" LAROCHE, 66, died Monday, January 12, 2009 at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, after a short illness.

Kae dedicated most of her life to education and was a teacher for 39 years, spending most of those years at Merrimack Valley High School in Penacook, where she was most recently employed. During her years as a teacher, Kae earned a master's degree in education from Notre Dame College in Manchester. She was also a member of the National Education Association and the American Association for Teachers of English, of which she was very proud.

Memorial donations may be made in her name to the ALS Association Northern New England Chapter, Concord Center, 10 Ferry Street, Suite 438, PO Box 314, Concord 03301.

RANSOM W. DAVIS JR., devoted husband and father, passed away on January 26, 2009 at New London Hospital surrounded by his loving family after a

long illness. He was 67 years old.

He was born in Laconia on August 22, 1941, the first son of Ransom W. Sr. and Evelyn (Ostrout) Davis. Randy spent his younger years in Connecticut, in Andover, and then in Danbury before moving to East Andover in 1965.

He served with the US Army as a Petroleum Refueling Specialist and was stationed at Fort Dix, New Jersey and Fort Wainwright, Arkansas. For 25 years he was a truck driver. He was previously employed for Berwick and Sons in Plainfield until his retirement in 1987 due to health issues.

Music was an essential part of Randy's life. He loved to play the guitar,



accordion, and keyboard and sing. He was very talented and could play other instruments as well and played mostly by ear. Playing solo for his family and friends or in a band was just fine with him, as long as he could be making country music.

Randy will be greatly missed by his loving family and all who knew him. He was predeceased by his parents and a brother, Chief Mst. Sgt. Roger Davis, USAF.

Members of his family surviving include his loving wife of 46 years, whom he married on October 18, 1962, Nancy (Brown) Davis of Andover; four daughters, Amy Diggett and her husband Joseph of Sterling, Connecticut, Bonny Morris and her husband John of Andover, Jeannette Shedd and her husband Larry of South Danbury, and Nannette Cain and her husband Phillip of Franklin; three sons, Ransom Davis III and his wife Roseanne of Andover,

See Obituaries on page 36



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KEARSARGE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT – SPRING 2009 COMMUNITY EDUCATION

French for Beginners \$ 60
 Wednesday, 3/4, 11, 18, 25, 4/1, & 8 7:00-8:00 PM
 People go to the effort of learning new languages for varied reasons: traveling in non-English-speaking countries; communicating with non-English speakers; showing respect for another's language and traditions, etc. This class will help you create language use you are able to use by learning sounds and structures you need and acquiring use sources available you (especially the internet).
 Instructor: Curt Eckers Location: KRHS Room #10

Intermediate French \$ 60
 Thursday, 3/5, 12, 19, 26 & 4/2 6:15-7:45 PM
 Delve deeper into this romantic language. Build upon what you already know and/or refresh your memory.
 Instructor: Delphine Hill Location: NLES Library

German for Beginners \$ 60
 Tuesday, 3/3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & 4/7 7:00-8:00 PM
 People go to the effort of learning new languages for varied reasons: traveling in non-English-speaking countries; communicating with non-English speakers; showing respect for another's language and traditions, etc. This class will help you create language use you are able to use by learning sounds and structures you need and acquiring use sources available you (especially the internet).
 Instructor: Curt Eckers Location: KRHS Room #15a

Italian for Beginners and Not-Quite-Beginners \$ 60
 Thursday, 3/5, 12, 19, 26 & 4/2 (Five Sessions) 4:30-6:00 PM
 This class is for beginners *and* all those who would like a refresher. Come and brush up on your Italian speaking skills from the best our District has to offer in this exciting class where Italian is continually spoken.
 Instructor: Delphine Hill Location: NLES Library

American Sign Language for Beginners \$ 60*
 Wednesday, 3/4, 11, 18, 25, 4/1 & 4/8 7:00-8:00 PM
 Explore and learn the basics of this fascinating language. Learn new words each week. Enjoy communicating in a whole new way. **Book purchase required.**
 Instructor: Pooch Baker Location: Bradford Community Center

Intermediate American Sign Language \$ 60*
 Wednesday, 3/4, 11, 18, 25, 4/1 & 4/8 8:00-9:00 PM
 For those who have taken the beginners course, this is your next step to be more proficient in this very important "language." **Book purchase required.**
 Instructor: Pooch Baker Location: Bradford Community Center

Hi/Lo Aerobics & Toning (every Mon & Wed) \$ 45
 3/2 & 4, 3/9 & 11, 3/16 & 18, 3/23 & 25, 3/30 & 4/1, & 4/6 & 8 5:15-6:15 PM
 A mix of cardiovascular and weight training. Geared for all levels.
 Instructor: Beth Stern Location: KRHS Activity Room

Intermediate Step & Toning (every Tue & Thur) \$ 45
 3/3 & 5, 3/10 & 12, 3/17 & 19, 3/24 & 26, 3/31 & 4/2, & 4/7 & 9 4:15-5:15 PM
 A step aerobics class for people who have stepped before, mixed with toning exercises for all the muscle groups.
 Instructor: Beth Stern Location: KRHS Activity Room

Cardio Mix & Toning (every Friday) \$ 45
 3/6, 13, 20, 27, 4/3, & 4/10 4:15-5:15 PM
 A mix of step and hi/lo aerobics and toning.
 Instructor: Beth Stern Location: KRHS Activity Room

Additional supply fee. Information available at 1st class.

Learning to See: Basic Photography Course \$ 85
 Tuesday, 3/3, 10, 17, 24, 31, & 4/7 7:00-9:00 PM
 Bring your film or digital SLR camera to class. Composition, shutter speeds and f/stops to be discussed. Metering, fill flash, studio lighting, ISL, and white balance introduced. Some outdoor, hands-on classes included.
 Instructor: Peter Johnston (formerly of Flash-Photo) Location: KRHS Room #19

Portrait Drawing \$ 85
 Wednesday, 3/4, 11, 18, 25, 4/1 & 8 7:00-8:30 PM
 The student will learn to interpret and draw the human face. Learn this unique and important component of fine art and illustration. You will be offered a foundation for viewing the human face in a realistic manner, understanding proportion, shadow, light, and three dimensional space. Mediums will include pencil, pastel, or any dry medium the student is comfortable with like charcoal. Water-based paints are optional. The class may include a model for each session. Students should have at least a year of drawing experience.
 Instructor: Jeff Aarons Location: KRHS Room #20

Knitting for Beginners \$ 60
 Sunday, 3/1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 (5 Sessions Only) 2:00-3:30 PM
 Get ready to settle in to a comfy chair and start working on a winter project to keep you warm. Bring a pair of scissors, a pair of #7 knitting needles, and a skein of worsted weight wool to your first class and enjoy the camaraderie, conversation, and good instruction this class will provide you.
 Instructor: Sarah Hirsch Location: Bradford Community Center

First Aid for Hazardous Marine Life Injuries \$ 50*
 Thursday, 3/12 & 19 (2 sessions only) 6:00-8:00 PM
 Entry-level training designed to train and educate the general diving public and interested non-divers in the first aid techniques for a suspected hazardous marine life injury. This course will also introduce divers to the identification of potentially hazardous marine life and how to avoid related injuries. The course will provide an excellent opportunity for experienced divers and instructors to continue their education. **A \$12 fee will be collected during the first class for the book.**
 Instructor: Gene Tappan, EMT Location: KRHS Room #24

Pilates Mat Class for Beginners \$ 60
 Tuesday, 3/3, 10, 17, 24, 31, & 4/7 5:30-6:15 PM
 Pilates are totally low impact, extremely safe, and yet aerobic because of the amazing form of stretching, exercising, and rhythmic breathing, all integral to the class. Students are encouraged to ask questions to ensure confidence and safety. You will need an exercise mat, loose clothing for comfort in stretching, and have your hair pulled away from your face.
 Instructor: Angela Tarlton Location: KCPA - Warner

Beginner Ballet for Adults \$ 60
 Monday, 3/2, 9, 16, 23, 30, & 4/6 7:00-8:00 PM
 Instructor: Angela Tarlton Location: KCPA - Warner

Beginner Tap Dancing for Adults \$ 60
 Tuesday, 3/3, 10, 17, 24, 31, & 4/7 4:30-5:30 PM
 Instructor: Angela Tarlton Location: KCPA - Warner
Both classes above will require the proper shoes and dance clothing. Beginners, as well as those who have danced/tapped before and wish to review are welcome.

Basic Oil Painting \$ 85
 Monday 3/2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 4/6 7:00-8:30 PM
 This class will guide the student through fundamentals of painting in the oil medium. It will include how to use the materials, surfaces, and preparation with sketches through application of paint. Techniques will be discussed as the class proceeds. Students will need a basic oil set with bristle brushes-rounds and flats, pencils, and non-toxic (turpentine replacement such as Gamsol or Turpenoid Natural are required for safety reasons), and linseed oil, plus rags. Two years of drawing experience required. Materials will be discussed at first class.
 Instructor: Jeff Aarons Location: KRHS Room #20

Beginner/Intermediate Pottery Making (Limit 10) \$100*
 Tue & Thur, 3/3 & 5, 3/10 & 12, 3/17 & 19, 3/24 & 26, 3/31 & 4/2, 4/7 & 9 6:00-9:00 PM
 The last group who took this workshop had so much fun! Want to continue what you started? Are you new to the craft? You will receive an introduction to clay, including wheel-throwing and hand building techniques if you are a beginner, but will also be able to build upon what was learned last time if you are beyond the novice stage. This workshop will be completely hands on and will take you from the initial stage of a lump of clay right through the glazing and firing process. If you have ever wanted to try your hand at this fascinating craft, this is your opportunity.
 Instructor: London Dupere Location: KRMS Room #115

Beginner Stained Glass (Choose one session only) \$185**
 Mondays 3/2, 9, & 16 or Thursdays 3/12, 19, & 26 6:00-8:30 PM
 No experience will be necessary to take this fun class. You will learn everything from breaking, cutting, and soldering the glass, to designing and creating fun projects. You will get your own kit with tools to take care of all your stained glass making needs. Supplies to bring from home: Scissors, glue stick and masking tape. ****\$10 registration fee to KRSD due with registration, \$175 fee to be paid to instructor – includes tools and tool kit.**
 Instructor: Carolyn Demers Location: Instructor's Studio-Route 103, Bradford

Mosaic Stepping Stone (Choose one session only) \$ 85**
 Mondays 3/23, 30 & 4/6 or Thursdays 4/2, 4/9, & 4/16 6:00-8:30 PM
 Learn how to create beautiful stepping stones for your garden. You will work on cutting and breaking art glass using patterns. Everything is included, even the mold, which is yours to keep. ****\$10 registration fee to KRSD due with registration, \$75 fee to be paid to instructor – includes all supplies.**
 Instructor: Carolyn Demers Location: Instructors Studio-Route 103, Bradford

Piano Lessons \$100**
 Tuesday, 3/3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & 4/7
 Whatever piano-playing stage you are in, whether beginner, intermediate or just needing a refresher, this is the workshop to take. Lessons will be held in 30 minute increments beginning at 5:30 PM and running through 7:30 PM. Call the SAU for your choice of times and for directions. First come, first served. Instructor: Andrew Gosnell Location: KCPA - Warner
****\$10 registration fee to KRSD due with registration, \$90 fee to be paid to instructor for the six instructional sessions.**

YOGA \$ 75
 Thursday, 3/5, 12, 19, 26, 4/2, & 4/9 6:00-7:30 PM
 Relieve the stresses of your day. Find your center and fill it with quiet, rest, and relaxation. Become aware of your body and its overall health. Join Fran Vainas for an hour and a half and unwind. All levels of expertise are welcome.
 Location: Bradford Community Center

Ballroom Dancing! \$100 (couple)
 Tuesday, 3/3, 10, 17, 24, 31, & 4/7 6:15-7:15 PM
 Couples – check this out. Beginner Ballroom Dancing in our own backyard! Very basic class suited to those who have not done Ballroom before or for a refresher for those who have. Nonthreatening teaching style, students will be encouraged to have fun while learning. You will need shoes with totally clean soles due to the high tech dance floor at the Studio.
 Instructor: Angela Tarlton Location: KCPA - Warner

Registration Form

Class Name	Price
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
TOTAL ENCLOSED FOR CLASSES	

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: Day: _____ Evening: _____

Please fill in both day and evening phone numbers, if applicable.

Please make checks payable and mail to:
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 Luci Koban
 169 Main Street
 New London, NH 03257

QUESTIONS? Call Luci at 526-2051 ext. 221 *OR* email lkoban@kearsarge.org

THE FINE PRINT:

- **Classes are for students aged 17 and older and are subject to a 3 person minimum enrollment.**
- **When school is cancelled due to inclement weather there will be no night classes. Tune in to the local weather for information.**
- **Full refunds will be granted** if requested **before the second class** or if a class is cancelled.
- You will not receive a confirmation of your registration. You will only be contacted if the class is full or there has been a change in the day or time.

****SIGN-UP NO LATER THAN February 20, 2009****





Three Andover residents – (l-r) Betsy Paine and her children Olivia and Will Henriques – made a fast trip to Washington to attend the inauguration.

Andover Students Attend Historic Inauguration

By Jane Slayton
AE/MS Principal

Olivia Henriques, a sixth grade student at AE/MS, and her brother Will, a ninth-grader at Proctor, got up early on Inauguration Day for a whirlwind trip to Washington, D.C. Their long day began in Andover at 3:45 AM as they woke to catch an early flight with their mom, Betsy Paine, and their grandmother.

They arrived in our nation's capitol to crowds of about two million other enthusiastic visitors with the same goal. Hurriedly running some 35 blocks, dodging long security lines, and weaving in and out of crowds, Olivia and her family finally found a spot near the Washington Monument with a pretty clear view of one of many Jumbotrons set up for the day.

They were fortunate to settle in just

in time to hear Joe Biden take the oath of the vice presidential office. Olivia said it was quite an experience when the two million onlookers became quiet as Barack Obama was sworn in as the 44th president of the United States. The crowd around them then erupted into cheering and hugging and tears of joy. It was an experience she will never forget.

Olivia noted that the only crazy – and a bit scary for her – crowd experience happened as they tried to maneuver through Union Station to begin their trip back to Andover. The pushing and shoving, the guards with guns, and the big-crowd experience was unsettling. However, Olivia said she would do it all over again!

An exhausted Olivia said the day was “happy, historical, and absolutely amazing.”

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Space is limited to 22.

The Andover Afterschool Program at the Hamp House will be open for “date night” for moms and dads. Your child does **not** have to be enrolled to participate. Call Susan Nellen 735-6566 or email bmmor@yahoo.com to register! All proceeds will go toward the program space.

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After School Programs Are Vital Community Services

By Bonny Morris
AASP/AFAP Board

The Andover After School Program (AASP) and Andover Five Alive Program (AFAP) are a vital service in our community. We provide school day care for kindergarten and after school care for children in grades kindergarten through fifth (and sometimes sixth) grades until 6 PM.

As more families work outside the home, enrollment in AASP and AFAP has steadily increased. This year the program serves close to 30% of the kindergarten through fifth graders at AE/MS.

The Hamp House, on the grounds of Andover Elementary/Middle School, is ideally suited to host AASP and AFAP. In most of our neighboring communities, after school programs are housed on school grounds, and the programs work together with the schools for success.

As AASP/AFAP's current lease for the Hamp House with the Andover School District expires on June 30, we are preparing a warrant article for the School District Meeting on Monday, March 2 at 7 PM at AE/MS. We are asking you to consider the following:

“To see if the District will vote to direct the School Board to reverse its prior decision and renew the lease on the Hamp House for the use of the Andover After School Program (AASP). The AASP seeks a ten (10) year lease from the School Board, with a termination clause for both parties requiring one year's notice. The AASP proposes to immediately repair the roof covering and reinforce the roof snowload capacity per the recent engineering evaluation, and to provide full and complete liability insurance coverage. There would be no additional cost to the School District as a result of this warrant article. The Andover After School Program will continue full financial responsibility of the Hamp House per the terms of the lease. (By Petition).”

As you consider this warrant article,

Obituaries from page 34

Matthew Davis and his fiance Amanda of Andover, Mst. Dep. Sheriff Glen Davis and his wife Kathy of Mathews, Virginia; 13 grandchildren, Zachary, Ty, Ryan, Alex, Haley, Erika, Breanna, Tucker, Brendan, Eli, Keith, Cordell, and Jacqui; one sister, Diane Belloir of Franklin; five brothers, Robert of Franklin, William of Seattle, Washington, Gary of Warren, Richard of Manchester, and Raymond of Prescott, Arizona; nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A spring burial will take place at the Proctor Cemetery in Andover. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Andover Rescue Squad, PO Box 209, Andover 03216 or to Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association, PO Box 2209, New London 03257.

please keep these facts in mind:

A new lease would have no impact on the tax rate and would help us continue to provide a vital service to the children and their families in our community.

Approving the warrant article will allow us to immediately replace the roof covering, make repairs to increase snowload capacity, and make some additional cosmetic interior improvements such as new sunroom windows, carpeting and flooring, and interior paint.

On school days, the hours between 3 PM and 6 PM are the most dangerous hours for our youth. After school programs not only provide a safe, supervised setting to protect youth, but they also provide the supports that lead to greater academic success, strong friendships, and greater expectations for the future.

Parents miss an average of eight days of work per year due to a lack of after school care. Decreased worker productivity related to parental concerns about after school care costs businesses up to \$300 billion per year.

The Hamp House has had two recent engineering inspections. One refers to the building as being in “good condition” and the other states the roof framing is in “very good condition.” No safety concerns were noted.

AASP/AFAP has an engineering plan and funds to immediately replace the roof covering and bring the snowload capacity to current standards, all at no cost to taxpayers.

AASP/AFAP will provide full and complete liability insurance coverage.

AASP/AFAP will continue to assume full financial responsibility for the Hamp House.

AASP/AFAP have fully addressed any concerns expressed by the School Board this fall and winter regarding liability and structure.

The Andover Recreation Committee, the Andover One Wheelers, the Boy Scouts, and the Young Life/Wyldlife programs all benefit from use of the Hamp House.

AASP and AFAP are New Hampshire state licensed childcare programs as well as non-profit charities.

The potential costs of not renewing the lease to the taxpayers could be an increase in insurance due to non-occupancy, utilities and maintenance costs, busing costs for enrolled students, etc.

AASP/AFAP has looked at several alternative locations this fall and has had no success. The Hamp House location meets all state, fire, and health licensing requirements.

Please vote Yes for our warrant article to renew the lease on Monday, March 2, at the annual School District Meeting at 7 PM at Andover Elementary/Middle School. In the meantime, stop by and visit the Hamp House and the child care programs to learn more.



Scouts Derrick Nowell (l) and Cam Wood (r) graduated from National Youth Leader Training. Ray Bellemore, NYLT scoutmaster, officiated.

Photo: Karen Frink

Boy Scouts Troop 489

By Karen Frink
For the Beacon

Life Scout Cameron Wood and Star Scout Derrick Nowell spent June 29 through July 5 participating in National Youth Leader Training (NYLT) at Camp Bell in Gilmanton. This was a week-long outdoor experience for present and future young troop leaders, with the focus on teaching advanced leadership skills based on the "patrol method."

Participants were placed in a patrol of eight other scouts, with a Patrol Counselor assigned to each patrol to advise and help the scouts throughout the learning process. Patrols were on their own to set up campsites, cook meals, construct patrol projects, and plan and carry out other activities. The scouts also worked on improving their outdoor skills, orienteering using compasses, and practicing knot tying.

When the scouts returned home, their challenge was to take what they had learned and apply it to the troop. Cameron chose to help other scouts advance in rank and to try new ideas to keep the scouts interested. Derrick's plan was to introduce religion to the troop by showing the scouts how to earn religious medals.

On December 7, the scouts presented

their troop plans at a ceremony held at Camp Carpenter, after which they were presented with NYLT graduation pins by Ray Bellemore, NYLT scoutmaster.

Troop 489 would like to thank the Andover Lions Club, our charter organization, for sponsoring Derrick and Cameron for this leadership training opportunity. Their generous support has always been a huge help to the troop and is greatly appreciated.

By Kathy Bennett
Scoutmaster, Troop 489

Boy Scout Troop 489 continues to meet weekly as the boys continue working on advancement of rank in scouts.

In November we took a trip to Concord and bowled candlepin at Boutwell's.

In December we played laser tag at the Space Center in Hookset, and then out for pizza at Sal's. (Thanks to Dave Marceau for the recommendation!)

We're hoping to get out to the Scout campsite in Andover for a campfire in the snow one of these weekends, and looking forward to the spring Camporee - a weekend camping event out with Scouts from other troops in the district.

For more information on Scouting, contact Kathy Bennett at 735-6142 in the evenings.

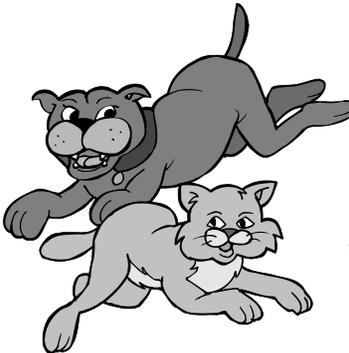


The Andover Girl Scout Troops entertained local businesses with Christmas carols on Thursday, December 18. They stopped at the Andover Thrift Shop, the Town Office, Pizza Chef, the Post Office, Jake's Market, Lake Sunapee Bank, Ragged Mountain Physical Therapy, and the Andover After School Program at the Hamp House. After they returned to AE/MS, they had cocoa and snacks, including the new cookies for sale at their cookie kick-off.

Back (l-r): Helen Armstrong, Kait Armstrong, Emily Lance, Brianna Keniston, Becca Lance, Shawna Barton, Erin Hanscom, Brenda Lance, and Emma Davis. Middle: Ainsley Goodwin, Colby Benoit, Shyanne Goodbread, Chloe Methven, Chelsea Thompson, Alisha Smart, and Emily Bates. Front: Tiffany Poulin, Madelyn Goodwin, Tori Braley, Katie Bent, Scout Armstrong, Aura-Jean Howe.

Photo: Deb Poulin

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AASD students, back (l-r): Aimee Linehan, Heidi Terwilliger, Brian Alexander, Michael Schamel. Front: Gage Fleming, Bailey Christensen, Charlie Reed, Joren Schamel. Photo: Leighton Terwilliger

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ANDOVER ACADEMY OF SELF DEFENSE

By Heidi Terwilliger

Andover Academy of Self Defense

Andover Academy of Self Defense closed the year out with a round of testing and Demo Day on December 20. Aimee Linehan and Heidi Terwilliger did a review test of second degree Black Belt, Michael Schamel confirmed first degree Black Belt, Brian Alexander advanced to first degree Brown Belt, Charlie Reed confirmed Junior Black Belt, Joren Schamel advanced to Junior Black Belt and Gage Fleming and Bailey Christensen advanced to Purple Belt.

Once testing was complete other students from the school joined in to put on demonstrations for all of their families. The demonstrations involved weapons, forms, and techniques.

Some students worked individually, while others worked in groups of two or more. Danny Cummings, Frank Cummings, and Jacob MacDuffie; Bailey Christensen, Christophe Courtine, and Gage Fleming; Juliette Courtine and Alex Ryan; Charlie Reed and Joren Schamel; and Brian Alexander and Michael Schamel all worked together in their respective groups using various techniques for

demonstrations.

Michael Schamel, Nathan French, Ashley Lucas, and Hayden Christensen all performed traditional forms, while Nicholas Terwilliger and Hannah French both performed combined forms where they took portions of two or more of their traditional forms and blended them together.

There were two traditional weapons forms, as well as two weapons forms developed by students. Heidi Terwilliger performed No Can Die and Ashley Lucas performed #1 Stick Form, which are both traditional bo staff forms.

Nicholas Terwilliger used knives and Nathan French used a sword to demonstrate the forms they each developed on their own. Heidi Terwilliger and Michael Schamel came up with a bo staff demonstration using various striking and blocking moves.

Aimee Linehan and Heidi Terwilliger finished with a form they developed using blocks and parries for all kicks and strikes thrown with an attack countered by blended techniques at the end.

The students that tested then received their new ranks. The day ended with everyone enjoying a little holiday get together before heading home.

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Magic Monday - Everyone can ski or ride for only \$40.

Ladies' Day Tuesday - For only \$46, ladies can ski or ride the entire day as well as enjoy a delicious complimentary luncheon buffet in Goosefeathers Pub. Childcare is also available on Ladies' Day at half-price.

Twofor (2-for-1) Wednesday - Bring a friend and two can ski or ride for only \$62.

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- #2 Grooming - North America
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New Andover Outing Club ski jumper Aidan Kellogg stands ready for his first competitive jump. Photo: Terri Daniels

Andover Outing Club

On Sunday, January 18, during snowy conditions and cold temperatures, 33 ski jumpers from New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York competed at the Andover Outing Club (AOC) in Andover. The meet took place at Proctor Academy's Blackwater Ski Area.

Five new Andover Outing Club ski jumpers made their competition debut on the K10 Meter ski jump. Jason Lewis took first place, followed by Sam Ladd taking second.

"We are delighted with our first year jumpers, it is great to see a new group of young kids on the hill to continue this sport" said Coach Tim Norris from the Andover Outing Club.

In the J5 Class on the K18 meter ski jump, new Andover Outing Club ski jumpers Alan Thompson and Jared Frost took first and second place. For the K18 event, the Andover Outing Club made a powerful showing with Warren Bartlett taking first place in the J4 Class and AJ King finishing with a strong second. In the J3 class on the K18 meter ski jump, the Andover Outing Club flew to another first place victory with Jake Hubbard taking the lead.

For the High School class on the K18 meter ski jump, Proctor Acad-

emy's Santanu Sanyal took first place followed by Concord High School's Eric Roth. Warren Bartlett took another first place win for the J4 class on the K34 meter ski jump followed by AJ King.

For the J3 Class on the K34 meter ski jump, Kyle Horner from the Andover Outing Club achieved a first place finish. Davey Rauseo from Andover finished in an impressive third place.

Only a half point separated the top two J3 competitors on the K38 meter ski jump. Lake Placid's Miles Lussi claimed a first prize victory and Luke Daniels of Andover took a close second. In the High School class Joe Merrow from Hopkinton High School soared into first place followed by Matt Bengtson from Concord High School.

The Andover Outing Club offers USSA ski jumping (USSkiTeam.com) and New England Nordic Ski Association-sanctioned cross-country ski programs (NENSA.net) for many ages, including parents! Seven kilometers of groomed cross-country trails and four lit jumping hills are available to the AOC through Proctor Academy. For more information about AOC's exceptional winter programs, contact Tim Norris, at tgn@proctornet.com.



Proctor student Mansfield Middleton races at the Blackwater Ski Area. Staff photo: Bob Bussey

Blackwater Ski Area Open To Andover Residents

By Heidi Terwilliger
Beacon staff

Blackwater Ski Area is open to Andover residents for downhill skiing at certain times. The cost is \$5 to ride the smaller lift and \$10 for the lift that goes to the top. It is best to call the ski area at 735-6850 to confirm that they are open before heading out to ski.

The schedule for February and March at Blackwater Ski Area is as follows:

February 2009

Wednesday, February 11, 3 to 5 PM
Thursdays, February 5, 19, and 26, 3:30 to 5:30 PM

Saturdays, February 14, 21, and 28, 10 AM to noon

March 2009

Tuesdays, March 3 and 10, 3 to 5:30 PM

Wednesdays, March 4 and 11, 3 to 5:30 PM

Thursdays, March 5 and 12, 3 to 5:30 PM

Blackwater Ski Club Racing

February 1, 10 AM: Buddy Warner Slalom Qualifier

February 7, 9:30 AM to 4 PM: Slalom J2 State Championship

February 15, 9:30 AM to 4 PM: Macomber Slalom

February 18, 1 PM: Prep School Championship Slalom

February 22, 9:30 AM to 4 PM: J3 Regional Slalom

Blackwater Ski Club practice takes place Monday through Saturday from 1:30 to 7 PM, so stop in and watch the skiers.

In Austria, Nick Fairall Soars To Best American Finish In Five Years

By Tim Norris
Andover Outing Club

On January 10, Nick Fairall of Andover soared to the best American World Cup ski jumping finish in over five years, finishing 23rd on the ski flying hill in Tauplitz/Bad Mitterndorf, Austria. The 19-year-old Andover Outing Club jumper soared 174.5 and 170.5 meters in a ski flying World Cup won by Austrian Gregor Schlierenzauer.

Nick, who also made finals in one of the recent Springertournee events, had qualified 25th on Friday to put himself into the show. He was 18th after the first round, easily cracking the top 30 to get a second ride.

Ski flying is the most spectacular event in ski jumping, with athletes soaring nearly the length of two football fields.

Nick's 23rd was the best US finish since Clint Jones of Colorado was 13th in Kuusamo, Finland in November of 2003.

Nick reports that going up the lift for his first jump, he had butterflies in his stomach. A ski flying hill is half again as big as the biggest Olympic jumps. You are in the air longer, and there is no way to do it half-heartedly – you have to go for it 100%.

"I tried to relax and not over-think things. Going down the inrun, I told myself: this is it, I have to go for it. As I cleared the knoll and kept going, it was an awesome feeling – really flying. I landed it and skied out. It was amazing to have skied well on a jump this large, a major milestone. As the day went on, I told myself to keep having fun, and that's what I did."

Andover's Chris Lamb forejumped for this competition along with several other US jumpers and had the longest jumps of the group.

To see videos of Nick's jumps, visit SkiJumpingUSA.com and scroll down a bit.

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The Andover Recreation Committee's fifth and sixth grade girls basketball team is off to a good start. Each girl on the team has scored at least one basket. They won their first two games against Sanbornton and Franklin and lost a hard-fought game to Winnisquam.

Pictured: Makenzie Donovan dribbles toward the basket in the game against Sanbornton. Caption: Mariah Haley. Photo: Vickie Haley

AE/MS Basketball

By Marissa Laro
AE/MS 8th Grade

The seventh and eighth grade boys basketball team lost a tough one against a quick, outside-shooting Franklin team, with the final score ending at 52 to 51.

Every member of the Andover team played great defense right down to the last second. They all should be very proud of how they played. They all deserve to be called Defensive Players of the Game. Madison Powers had some clutch steals, coming away with a total of six steals for the entire game.

Offensively the team was lead by Cam Doucette with a triple/double. Cam had 28 points, 10 offensive rebounds, and 13 defensive rebounds.

Also scoring in double figures was Tim Braley, with 17 points. Tim may also have set a new school record with a total of five three-point shots.

Coach Tiede is very proud of her

team. Their attitudes, sportsmanship, effort, and skills are a winning combination.

AE/MS Lady Eagles

The AE/MS Lady Eagles also played a fast-paced game against a strong opponent from Franklin. Franklin poured in 14 unanswered points with a strong press in the first quarter.

The Lady Eagles fought back in the second half. The game was full of end-to-end action.

With great teamwork, the Eagles pulled within two points with only a minute left on the clock. Unfortunately, the Andover girls just ran out of steam, falling in a 32 to 28 loss.

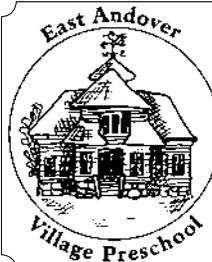
The team played extremely well after their slow start. Heart and Hustle awards go out to the whole team for playing so well together and working like a true team should. Special mention goes to Stephanie Croteau for scoring her first basket of the season on her birthday.



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Sunday: 8 AM to 2 PM

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AE/MS Parent-Teacher Organization

January 12

Condensed from draft minutes

Present: Carmen Bates, Becky Smart, and Maundy Abrahamson.

Original Artwork went home and response was good. Our profit this year was \$749. Thank you to all who were involved!

We received another check for ink cartridges for \$99.85 and have another shipment that will soon be sent out. Please keep sending in your empty ink cartridges!

Fun Passes will go home this Thursday upon Jane's approval. We were going to wait until spring, but if we send them home now, families can receive the Fun Pass books by the second week in February and take advantage of the ski location coupons for February vacation. These will be due back January 30, and the cost is \$25.

Popcorn Fridays will begin the Friday after the winter program. A parent has offered to give us some popcorn and oil to get us started. We need volunteers to come in and sell the popcorn to the children. We also still need to figure out what bags to use and a price – any ideas would be helpful.

We will be using the Proctor popcorn machine for this, and Becky has set that up with them. If you would like to spend a Friday afternoon selling popcorn, let us know.

The rug has received many comments, mainly how beautiful it is! Many staff members said thank you very much and think it is a great addition to the school.

The Lowe's grant that Jane sent in

was not selected to receive a grant for the fall 2008 period. She will resubmit it for the February 13 deadline. Keep your fingers crossed.

The Eagle Store cabinet has been purchased and cleaned and fixed up. It will be brought to the school this week. The first Eagle Store went well, even though it fell on a day of early dismissal and we had to hurry a bit. This will be done once a month for the remainder of the year. We are looking for a parent to come in and help with this and be a salesperson. We need to get the next date from Jane as to when the store can be open.

Moose Night planning is well underway. You should be seeing flyers around town. Save the date for February 7 – you won't want to *moose* it! It will be an interactive night with games, fun, door prizes, food, and raffles along with Andover's own Rick Libbey, the MooseMan, sharing his photos and stories of his encounters with moose. This event is for the community, so everyone is invited!

Happy January Birthdays to Mrs. Bent, Mr. Hubbard, and Mrs. Donaldson. Mel will be bringing in a treat for the staff this month!

Thank you to all the parents and community members who helped at the Holiday Shoppe. A big thank you to Audrey Pellegrino for all her work to pull this together for our children!

Our next meeting is on February 9. If you have any questions, contact Carmen Bates at CandDplus4@comcast.net or 735-5589.



Eighth grader Madison Powers (l) and seventh grader Maddie Trefethen came up tops in the spelling bee at AE/MS.

AE/MS Picks Spelling Bee Champs

By Molly Kidane
AE/MS Grade 4 Teacher

Andover Elementary/Middle School's annual Spelling Bee was held on January 13 in the school library. Twenty-eight contestants from grades four through eight competed this year. Students prepared for the bee using the Merriam-Webster Spell-It booklet which contains words originating from many different languages such as

Greek, Spanish, and Japanese.

After fifteen tense rounds, seventh grader Maddie Trefethen correctly spelled "spherical" to become this year's champion. The runner-up was eighth grader Madison Powers.

The next level of competition for Maddie is the regional bee which takes place on Saturday, March 7, in Plymouth.

Good luck Maddie!

The Practical Nutritionist Winter Classes

Raw Chocolate Treats

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Gordon the Bull Moose

Portrait by Rick Libbey, the Mooseman

Mooseman Presents An Evening Of Moose At AE/MS

On February 7 the AE/MS PTO is hosting Andover's own Rick Libbey, the MooseMan, for an evening at the school with us. Rick takes the most amazing photos of moose in their natural setting. His passion for moose will inspire you to want to know more about these creatures.

This event is for children and adults and is open to the whole town. There is no fee to attend, but there will be

raffles and lots of Rick's art available to purchase.

This will be an interactive night full of fun, snacks, door prizes, and games. Rick will share with us his amazing slide show and tell us of his incredible encounters with moose.

You won't want to *moose* this very special evening! Join us on Saturday, February 7, at 6 PM in the AE/MS gym.

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Andover One Wheelers

By Alan Hanscom
Andover One Wheelers

Planning is in high gear for the Andover One Wheelers' annual trip. There is a bus to rent, hotel rooms to book, meals to plan, and park tickets to buy.

This year the traveling team is heading for a week of fun in Pennsylvania. The state is known for its rich history, and we plan to visit several sites. Our first stop will be Valley Forge, site of the Continental Army's 1777-78 winter encampment.

We next travel to Lancaster to experience a bit of the Amish culture. The Amish are best known for resisting modern conveniences such as electricity and automobiles. Their uncluttered lives offer a lesson in simplicity.

Another important stop will be Gettysburg National Military Park. The three-day Battle of Gettysburg had the largest number of casualties of the

Civil War and was the turning point in the war. President Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address at the 1863 dedication of its cemetery.

The main event of the trip is a performance in Hersheypark. The Andover One Wheelers expect to parade through the amusement park entertaining guests along the way. Imagine standing in line for a burger and watching nearly 20 kids ride by on unicycles!

After the morning event, the team and family members get to enjoy the park and its 60 rides and 11 roller coasters. Tours of Chocolate World and ZooAmerica offer a break for weary travelers.

Throughout the trip, the One Wheelers will be perfect young ambassadors for Andover. Their polite behavior often generates comments from staff and guests. They earn their trip by hard work and dedication throughout the year. After all, their motto is Learning Through Commitment and Travel.



Through the fall and winter, construction crews have buried 1,000 feet of steam lines on the Proctor campus to connect the Field House and the Learning Center to the school's new biomass furnace. Photo: Chuck Will

Proctor Extends Wood-Fired Steam Heat To Major Buildings

By Chuck Will
Proctor Academy

What is that excavation project tearing its way through Proctor?

You may have noticed cyclone fencing protecting pedestrians from a major ditch. It started in September near the center of campus and slowly moved westward ... through North Street ... past Proctor Pond ... and finally up toward Farrell Fieldhouse and the school dining room.

The answer: 1,000 feet of new steam lines.

Many Proctor buildings are heated from a central steam plant located at the Buildings and Grounds Department. The Fieldhouse, on the western side of campus, was constructed fifty years ago with its own #2 oil-fired heating system, and in 1994, the Fowler Learning Center was built with a similar boiler.

"They've been two of the biggest oil burning facilities at Proctor all these years," Maintenance Director Will

Ames observes.

Earlier this winter, a new biomass furnace was installed at the central steam plant. Burning woodchips promises to be so economical – compared to the #4 oil we've been burning in the main steam plant – that it was decided to link both the Learning Center and the Fieldhouse to the central steam network.

"It's an example of spending money now to save money over time," comments Head of School Mike Henriques. "Eventually – depending on the rising cost of fuel oil – this project will pay for itself."

Evidence of the new wood chip boiler can be seen on cold winter days, as clean, white water vapor spews from the chimney at the heating plant. Emissions from the new boiler are estimated to be 95% cleaner than the black sooty smoke from the old oil boilers. It is a "win-win" situation: economically sound and environmentally responsible!

Volunteer!

The Beacon is a non-profit organization that relies on volunteers for almost everything. Please do your part to keep our community newspaper going strong. To find a role that's right for you, call Charlie at 735-6099.



Brian J. Prescott, V.M.D.
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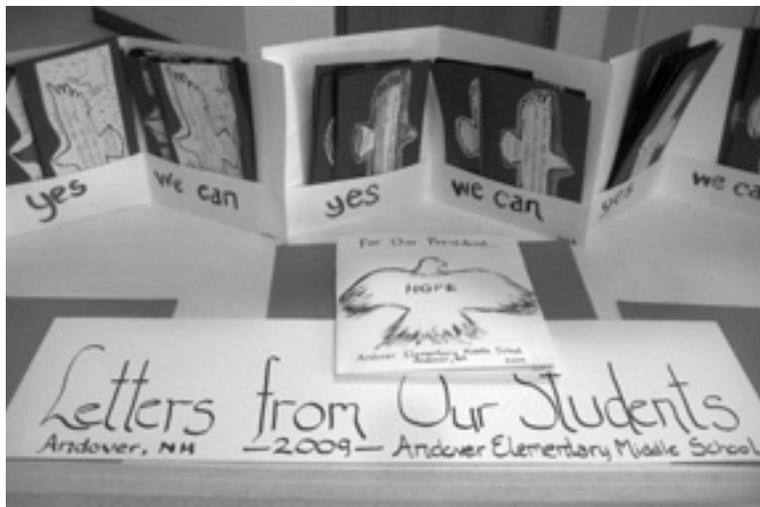
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Dear Mr. President . . .

By Jane Slayton
Principal, AE/MS

Students in grades one through eight wrote to President-elect Barack Obama the week before his inauguration. The letters will be sent to Washington, DC.

Concerns from students included the environment, global warming, the economy, the war, and many personal issues relating to their own family situation. I will share a few highlights from the letters below.

Dear Mr. President - I hope you stop the war, make more jobs, create more houses. Thank you. Chase, Grade 1

Dear Mr. President - Please try to be the best president you can be and please try to stop the war. Thank you. Sofia, Grade 2

Dear Mr. President- I hope you help the environment. When people cut down trees, make them plant trees back. Thank you. Chloe, Grade 3

Dear Mr. President - I hope that our country will stay safe. I also hope that there won't be another great depression. Thank you. Lauren, Grade 4

Dear Mr. President - I hope we can change the gas prices. I think we can get the troops back home. I loved your "Yes We Can" speech. Thank you. Mike, Grade 5

Dear Mr. President - Congratulations President Obama! Keep your promise to bring home the troops and make the economy better. Thank you. Ngawang, Grade 6

Dear Mr. President - I hope that you, with America by your side, help nurse the wounds in our country. For example, bring back up the economy on Wall Street so America isn't broke. Thank you. Sam, Grade 7

Dear Mr. President - Good luck with the next four years. I hope you stick to your promises. Thank you. Brian, Grade 8

Summit from page 44

inent topics: meaningful assessment - portfolios, girl-to-girl harassment, cyberspace harassment, student leadership, performance poetry to raise students' voices, respectful schools, and student empowerment.

A student panel discussion included students from Andover, the Compass School, and Woodsville High School. The Andover students shared the historical perspective and meaning behind the Talking Wall created in the AE/MS gym several years ago. The idea for the wall came from a breakout session at an earlier Teen Summit. The wall was created in the gym to show appreciation for the Andover community in which the students are fortunate to enjoy so much. The gym was selected because it is a central location and a common meeting space of community groups in Andover.

The students created a multicultural image showing the idea of community around the world. The center of the AE/MS wall bears the quotation, "Without a sense of caring there can be no sense of community." The students who played a key role in the original talking wall are now in college, and it is up to the

present student body to now carry on the tradition and create a new wall with ideas and help from the school community.

A highlight at the Teen Summit this year was the musical entertainment. Andover's Long Tail Monkeys started the conference on an upbeat note by playing their music as conference attendees filed in. The Long Tail Monkeys were a big hit with the middle and high school students from around the state. A few schools expressed interest in having the Long Tail Monkeys perform at their schools and exchanged contact information. The Long Tail Monkeys continue to be wonderful ambassadors for our community.

In the New England College Dining Hall, students ate while a band from John Stark High School played.

For more information about the Long Tail Monkeys, visit LongTailMonkeys.com. For more information about poet LeDerrick Horne, HorneOnline.com/poet/.

THE 15TH!!!!

Please have everything to the Beacon by the 15th of each month!

Film Screening of *Including Samuel* To Be Held at AE/MS

The Andover Elementary/Middle School is pleased to announce it has been selected as one of ten school districts in New Hampshire to host a free screening and discussion of the film *Including Samuel* with filmmaker Dan Habib. The nationally acclaimed film chronicles the Habib family's efforts to include their son Samuel, an individual with cerebral palsy, in school and every facet of their lives.

Including Samuel examines the educational and social inclusion of youth with disabilities and was built on the efforts of Dan, his wife Betsy, and son Isaiah, 11, to include his son Samuel, 8, in all facets of school and community. The documentary also includes four other families with varied inclusion experiences plus interviews with dozens of teachers, youth, parents, and disability rights experts.

Including Samuel was released in late 2007 to national acclaim. Since

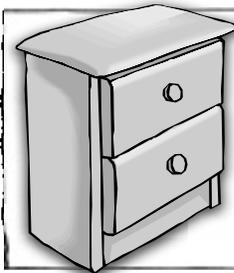
then, Dan has left his job as photography editor for the *Concord Monitor* to become filmmaker in residence at the University of New Hampshire.

Please join us for the award-winning film *Including Samuel*, a highly personal, passionately photographed film that captures the cultural and systemic barriers to inclusion. The film will be shown at AE/MS on Thursday, February 5, at 1 PM with Dan Habib and again at 7 PM with New Hampshire Connections.

If you'd like to attend one of these screenings, please RSVP to Assistant Principal and Special Education Coordinator Julie Gaudette at 735-5494, as space may be limited for the morning screening.

Donate!

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



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Contact Jeff McDaniel at 526-5023 or jeff.mcdaniel@newlondonhospital.org.

For information, go to development.newlondonhospital.org

P.S. If you have been waiting to make a donation, now is the time. Your gift will make a difference, so please call me today.

Jeff McDaniel



Mark Your Calendar!

JANUARY

- 30:** Filing Period Ends for Town and School District Officers
31: Andover Library, 10-12
31: Andover Snowmobile Club Italian Buffet, AE/MS, 5-6:30

FEBRUARY

- 3:** Last Day for Warrant Articles
4: Andover Middle School Youth Group, Andover Fire Station, 2:45-4
5: *Including Samuel*, AE/MS, 1 PM and 7 PM
5: Masons, Potter Place, 7:30
7: Andover Library, 10-12
7: Andover PTO, Rick Libby the Mooseman, AE/MS Gym, 6
7: Cabin Fever Dance to benefit Hamp House, Bluewater Farm, 7:30, 735-5159 for tickets (\$10), BYOB
9: Andover PTO, AE/MS Library, 6:30
9: Lions Club, Bluewater Farm, Bradley Lake, 6:30
9: Andover Snowmobile Club, AE/MS, 7
11: Andover Middle School Youth Group, Andover Fire Station, 2:45-4
11: MVHS Parent Advisory Group, 7
11: Service Club, Potter Place, 10
14: Bachelor Book Club, Bachelor Library, 9
14: Andover Library, 10-12
15: East Andover Grange Hall Restoration Baked Goods Sale, 11
15: **Deadline for March Beacon**
16: NHCHF, Are You Getting Your ZZZs?, Rose Tilton's Home, 12
17: WCA Senior Lunch, Wilnot, Maggie Stier, NH Preservation Alliance, 12
18: Friends of the Northern Rail Trail, Andover Fire House, 7
21: Kids Ice Fishing Derby, Eagle Pond, 9-12:30
21: Andover Library, 10-12
23: Lions Club, Bluewater Farm, Bradley Lake, 6:30
24: Andover Fish & Game, East Andover Clubhouse, 7:30
28: Andover Library, 10-12
28: Supervisor of Checklist, Town Hall, 11-11:30

MARCH

- 2:** **School District Meeting**, AE/MS, 7
2: Village District Meeting, Town Hall, 7
4: Andover Middle School Youth Group, Andover Fire Station, 2:45-4
5: Masons, Potter Place, 7:30
10: **VOTING**, AE/MS, 11:30-7:30
10: **Town Meeting**, AE/MS, 7:30
17: East Andover Fire Precinct Meeting, East Andover Fire Station, 7:30
18: Andover Fire Precinct Meeting, Andover Fire Station, 7:30



the Andover Beacon

AndoverBeacon.com February 2009 \$2.00



AE/MS students and staff attended the Student Leadership Conference at New England College. (L-r) Sam Barrett, Jake Hubbard, Tyler Holman, Ms. Slayton, Max Barrett, Thaddeus Bicknell, Logan Marcus, Kelsie Berry, Kristie Perreault, Olivia Henriques, and Mrs. Gaudette.

Photo: Karen Holman

AE/MS Students Attend Teen Summit

By Jane Slayton
Principal, AE/MS

Nine students from Andover Elementary/Middle School attended the seventh annual Teen Summit at New England College on January 14. One hundred and nine students and 28 educators came from 14 New Hampshire middle schools and high schools to discuss issues teenagers face as they learn.

LeDerrick Horne poetically delivered an inspirational keynote address to the students and educators. Horne

shared his experiences as a student who struggled through his early education. Horne's learning disability and the way it was handled left him with feelings of inadequacy and isolation through middle school and high school. Horne told the group how he was able to get a college education and the difficulties he faced along the way. Horne's story left an impression with the crowd that won't be forgotten.

The students attended breakout sessions that covered the following per-

See Summit on page 43



The AE/MS PTO has presented the school with a new rug with the school mascot – the AE/MS Eagle – portrayed in vivid colors.

Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

Andover Middle School Honor Roll

2008/2009 - First Trimester

- Grade 5 • High Honors**
- Riley Anderson
 - Max Barrett

- Grade 5 • Honors**
- Joel Beauman
 - Will Cox
 - Tyler Holman
 - Logan Marcus
 - Taylor Methven
 - Brendan Reid

- Grade 6 • High Honors**
- Alicia Barry
 - Kelsie Berry
 - Vincent Bolte
 - Erin Hanscom
 - Shelby Perreault
 - Bailey Powers
 - Fiona White

- Grade 6 • Honors**
- Kelsey Allen
 - Nicole Barton
 - Thaddeus Bicknell
 - Olivia Blodgett
 - Molly Comrie
 - Austin Hawks
 - Olivia Henriques
 - Jesika Heath
 - Alyson Mullett
 - Eli Shedd
 - Nicholas Terwilliger
 - Amy Wittel

- Grade 7 • High Honors**
- Katelyn Ashburn
 - Samuel Barrett
 - Trenton Bonk
 - Monica Newton

- Grade 7 • Honors**
- Haley Adams
 - Brooke Ellis
 - Nathan French
 - Erin Frost
 - Jacob Hubbard
 - Emily Lance
 - Kyle Smart
 - Skyler Smith
 - Rebekah Stearns
 - Maddie Trefethen

- Grade 8 • High Honors**
- Jason Ashburn
 - Mariah Landsdown-Howard
 - Marissa Laro
 - Madison Powers

- Grade 8 • Honors**
- Cody Barton
 - Ethan Barton
 - Eva Berton
 - Richard Dansereau
 - Alexis King
 - Kristi Perreault
 - Meaghan Reid
 - Cameron Wood

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

MVHS News

The Merrimack Valley High School National Honor Society held its fall induction ceremony on November 19. Among the nine new members are two Andover Elementary/Middle School graduates: Krystin Corliss and Katelin Haley.