

# East Andover Fire Department Fourth Of July Committee

By Chief Rene Lefebvre  
East Andover Fire Department

I am usually excited by the start of each new season, but the warm days of spring and the smell of fresh mud make April very hard to beat. Big heavy fire trucks on dirt roads make the challenge of responding to emergencies all the more interesting. After all, what is the fun of responding to a hot, dangerous fire if getting there is easy?

Jon Collette, AJ Barton, and I had an opportunity to show the fire station and the equipment to the Cub Scouts a few weeks ago. They have a very positive attitude toward safety and know what must be done to help their families during an emergency. I am sure that their training comes from their parents and the very strong support of their Scout leaders.

They had an opportunity to see a firefighter in full gear, a scary sight to a small child. Hopefully, by seeing what we look like and having a better understanding of why our clothes look so bulky, they will come to us and not hide when we are doing our searches.

We would be happy to address any group that would like a tour of our station. Many thanks to the Scouts and their leaders for coming to visit us – we had a great time!

Due to unavoidable technical difficulties, the Chief's Report did not make it into the Town Report. I will include it with this article. It is a bit dated, as it represents activities from 2008. I try to keep you more current each month but the report is, hopefully, informative.

## East Andover Fire Department Town Report for 2008

By Chief Rene Lefebvre  
East Andover Fire Department

*The EAFD was inadvertently omitted from Andover's 2008 Town Report.*

Your fire department responded to 111 calls for assistance in 2008. That number is slightly up from 2007. Though none of our team is paid, they do this work because they want to make a difference in our community. They really do want to help; the big trucks, sirens, smoke, and fire ... well, that's all good, too!

We have officially become an Explorer Post for the Boy Scouts of America. The goal of our post is to teach young people the skills of a firefighter and life safety professional. The Explorers have their own officers and raise their own funds to support their activities. I have found them to be eager to learn, ready to work and excited to use newly learned skills.

If you happen upon one of their



EAFD Chief Rene Lefebvre has the rapt attention of the Cub Scouts

fundraising activities, please lend your support. I am confident that my replacement will eventually come from their ranks.

We mourn the loss of retired Deputy Chief Brian Shaw. He was dedicated to the people of Andover and enjoyed being part of our team. It was both a pleasure and an adventure to have had the good fortune to serve with Brian. We will miss him.

A plan designed by the commissioners many years ago and supported by our capital reserve savings is to replace a truck when it is 20 years old. Our Engine 3 is approaching that 20-year mark. We will be studying plans this year and presenting you with a proposal for a replacement by fall.

We continue to enjoy a very positive relationship with our community. That is very important to us.

## East Andover Fire Department Members

- Stephen Barton
- Ed Becker
- Jon Collette
- JoAnn Hicks
- Jacob Johnson
- Rene Lefebvre
- Mary Ann Levesque
- Diana Miller
- Jeff Miller
- Mark Perry
- Joe Russell
- Ben Seaver
- Shawn Upton
- Explorers**
- Stephen AJ Barton Jr.
- John Bridgeman
- Adam Ellis
- Maurice St Jacques
- Zach St Jacques
- Jason Thompson
- Jessica West
- Commissioners**
- Tim Frost
- Roger Kidder
- Mark Thompson

By Judy Perreault  
Andover Fourth of July Committee

May is the month that volunteers collect donations for the Andover Fourth of July celebration. Irene Jewett is in charge of this and could use a few more volunteers to help raise the money for our big festivities. If you could help, please give her a call at 735-5271. It is not a hard job. It's only once a year, and you meet some nice folks.

## Old Memories

Four hundred forty-six voters cast their smiley-face stickers for the Fourth of July parade theme during town voting on Tuesday, March 10. The winner, with 167 votes, was Old Memories. Going Green was second with 117. Stars and Stripes was a close third with 113. Summer Daze received 31, and Magical Moments was last with 18. Thanks for all the enthusiastic voting.

We are looking forward to some new floats this year. I'm sure many of you have lots of Old Memories that you want to share.

## Parade Planning

Anyone can enter a float. Remember we have eight prize-winning categories. First through fourth places in the theme category pay \$100, \$75, \$50, and \$25 respectively. The special categories are Best Decorated, Best Costumes, Most Patriotic, and Most Unique. They may be theme or non-theme floats, and the winner in each category receives \$50.

There will be a Childrens Parade headed up by Sara Tracy-Arone. All the entrants receive \$1, a drink, a participant ribbon, and a chance to win more ribbons. Sara is a genius at think-

ing up games and activities to keep the children busy before the parade. They gather at the Pro-Claim building next to Pizza Chef on Main Street and join the parade as it comes onto Main Street from North Street.

Realtor Joyce Egge of Equine Homes is providing the prize money and judging for the animal category. It is a good day to show off your horses, donkeys, oxen, etc. and maybe win a ribbon.

Get out those antique autos, polish them up, and show them off. I bet there are a lot of Old Memories associated with some of those old babies. Old tractors, motorcycles, hearses, or unusual vehicles are also good entries.

An old favorite, the Bektash Shriner's Drum and Bugle Corps, will march in the parade, as will a new group: the Bluff Point Quohog Diggers Band. Of course Leapin' Lena and Captain Morrill will be there, and hopefully a few surprises.

You may register your float or other parade entry on the day of the parade. Registration and line-up is at the Proctor Field House. Parking is limited, so only parade entries are allowed in this area.

## Flea Market

For flea market space on the Village Green, contact Howard Wilson at 735-5427. Spaces usually go fast, so call early.

The Fourth of July committee always needs volunteers, especially the day of the Fourth and before. If you can help, please call committee chair Bob Ward at 735-5061 or parade chair Judy Perreault at 735-5493.

# SWAP EVENTS START MAY 9

The first Swap Event of the spring will take place on Saturday, May 9, at the Andover Transfer Station. Bring your unwanted items to the Transfer Station between 8 AM and 1 PM, and stop by to pick up useful items and treasures until 2 PM. The earlier you can bring things in, the better!

As in previous years, upholstered furniture or electronics cannot be

accepted. Swap Events occur on the second Saturday of the month, May through October, with a rain date on the following Saturday. At each event volunteers are present to help unload, load, and keep the tables in order.

If you would like to help out, please contact Susan at 735-5389 or hld@mtnbrook.com.

## GOING AWAY?

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