

# FIRECRACKER 5K FUN RUN

By Tom Frantz  
Friends of the Northern Rail Trail

The Andover Fourth of July Committee, in conjunction with the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail in Merrimack County, is holding a 5K race/walk as one of Andover's Fourth of July activities. The out-and-back event will start at 9 AM on Monday, July 4, at the Blackwater Park off Lawrence Street in Andover. Registration will begin at 8 AM.

Last year's race drew over 100 runners. The majority of the runners were from the area, but runners from as far away as Kansas and Nevada competed for prize money and the gold, silver, and bronze spikes that were awarded to the top three finishers in each age group.

Last year's overall male winner

was Michael Hoffman of Rochester, New York, with a time of 17:53. The top female finisher was Bonnie Cruz of Springfield, New Hampshire, with a time of 21:30.

The out-and-back race is held on the Rail Trail that passes through Andover. The course is flat, fast, and scenic. There will be free t-shirts given to the first 100 entrants. As in past races, each top male and female overall finisher will receive \$50. Gold, silver, and bronze railroad spikes will be presented to the top three male and female finishers in each age category.

More information is available by calling 735-6490 or by visiting the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail in Merrimack County at FNRT.org.

Please join us for this Andover Fourth of July tradition.

# Fourth Of July Committee

By Judy Perreault  
Andover Fourth of July Committee

Strike up the band! No, make that *three* bands, for that is what we have managed to sign up for this year's Fourth of July parade.

The Bektash Drum and Bugle Corps will be joining us once again. It wouldn't seem like the Fourth without their presence in their bright uniforms and playing patriotic music.

The Quahog Diggers Band are also on the schedule. Their fife and drum music and period costumes reminds us of earlier times when America was fighting for its independence.

A new addition this year is the New Hampshire Pipes (as in bagpipes) and Drums Band. We are looking forward to seeing them march in our Andover parade and hearing their music.

Uncle Sam will be in the front of the parade. He is an imposing figure and inspires a feeling of patriotism.

Did I hear a cannon fire? It must be Captain Morrill and his crew clearing the way for our marchers. I hope the noise doesn't spook the horses pulling the Concord Coach. I don't think the passengers would like a wild ride down Main Street. They haven't recovered from that robbery a couple of years ago.

The Andover One Wheelers will be wowing the crowd with their agile maneuvers on their unicycles. They make it

look so easy, but it takes a lot of practice.

Leapin' Lena will live up to her name as she turns and lifts her way down the parade route. She is the ballerina of the car world – minus the tutu.

## Fields, Farms, and Forests

Fields, Farms, and Forests is the parade theme, and we are looking for some new and innovative floats this year. They can be on trailers, on the back of pickups, or drawn by a tractor or riding mower.

It used to be a tradition among families to have a float in the parade. It would be nice if that activity were revived. We always had a great time planning ours. The children ransacked the attic looking for costumes. Visiting friends helped make the signs. It was fun.

Calling all children! Decorate your bikes, carts, carriages, and yourselves, and enter the Children's Parade. Gather at the Pro Claim building, where Sara Tracy and her helpers will have drinks and activities. Entries will be judged and ribbons awarded.

We have an animal category in the parade, so bring your horses, donkeys, oxen, etc. to be judged and entered in the parade. Joyce Egge of Equine Homes is once again providing the prize money.

Don't let Leapin' Lena be the only vehicle in the parade! Polish up those vintage cars, trucks, and motorcycles.

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**The Swap Shop will be open on June 11 from 8 AM to 2 PM and welcomes (before 1 PM) reusable items in working condition like toys, clothing, books, bicycles, and kitchenware. Please, no upholstered furniture, tires, windows, doors, electronics, or porcelain fixtures.**



**PLEASE NO** UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE, TIRES, WINDOWS, DOORS, ELECTRONICS, PORCELAIN FIXTURES

**We Said Yes. We'll Be There! Will You?**



**ONE DAY. ONE COMMUNITY. ONE CHALLENGE**  
A Powerful Day of Giving & Serving Others

**Saturday, June 25, 2011**

Ever get a helping hand? Don't just pay it back.....






Calling on families, businesses, EVERYONE in our communities! Teams of volunteers (you?) will head out to paint, fundraise, rake and more... making a difference on one day for those who need our help! This one day will be the spark that inspires more giving today and onward.

**Register now: [WeBuildItForward.com](http://WeBuildItForward.com)**

**Visit the website, join a team, serve in your own way.**

Join us as we build new relationships between all members of our diverse community: from business owners and schools to students, youth and their families! This campaign is a one-day event that will bring us all closer and raise awareness as we find creative new ways to appreciate, serve and build our communities together - building momentum for a year of thinking differently.

Andover, NH ph. 603.735.5193  
Sunapee, NH ph. 603.763.9070  
Hours: Mon - Sat 7am - 5pm, closed Sun

check out our website: [www.rpjohnsons.com](http://www.rpjohnsons.com)  
Follow us on Facebook & Twitter



**Please! Get A Round Tuit Today!**

## DON'T FORGET TO SUPPORT THE BEACON IN 2011!



To the 175 Andover residents who have sent checks this year to support the *Beacon* in 2011: *Thank you!* Every check, no matter how large or small, is a big help and an important sign that the community values the *Beacon*.

Over 1,100 Andover households receive every issue of the *Beacon* at no charge throughout the year. If you're one of the households that haven't made a voluntary non-deductible donation yet, please use the form on page 4 and "get a round tuit" right away. Thanks!



## DO YOU HAVE MICE & BUGS IN YOUR ATTIC?

Do you need more insulation? I can help. The Summer Season Insulation Special will lower your fuel bills and rid your attic of mice and other pests. Call me at 735-6140 for more information and to set up your free inspection and estimate. My name is Jim and I am your TERMINIX Inspector.