



Alana Ames of Moultonboro was one of many kids and adults who enjoyed the Andover Pumpkin Festival on October 22. The event raised \$1,615 in support of the Andover Food Pantry. Many families and organizations helped make the Pumpkin Festival a great success, including the Andover Lions Club, American Chunker, Byron's Septic, Four Corners Grille, the Andover Service Club, Two Mountain Farm, Fall Dog Farm, Immaculate Conception Church, RP Johnson and Son, *The Andover Beacon*, Mountain High Kennel, and the Henderson, Powers, Schwendler, Evans, and Gross families. Many thanks to all the contributors, the many volunteers, and all the attendees for their generosity!

Photo: Karen Gross

ANDOVER PROPERTY TAX BILLS

The 2011 property tax bills went in the mail on Friday, October 28.

The tax rate for 2011 was set at \$18.97 per thousand for Andover properties (\$3,794 in taxes for a \$200,000 property) and \$18.67 for East Andover properties (\$3,734 for a \$200,000 property).

This year's tax rate is up about \$2.00 per thousand (about \$400 for a \$200,000 property), which is about \$.30 per thousand more than the tax rates estimated last April based on the 2011 budgets passed at Town Meeting and School District Meeting. Watch for a more thorough analysis of this year's tax bills in the next issue of the *Beacon*.

Fire Departments Raising Funds With Christmas Trees & Poinsettias

By Rene Lefebvre
East Andover Fire Department

Your fire departments take great pride in being in the "help" business. Thanks to your support, we have the training and equipment available to help you with most fire, medical, or life saving issues. But we understand that tax dollars are not limitless, so we have fundraisers each year to help cover our expenses.

We will soon have our annual Christmas tree sale and the Andover Fire Department will have their poinsettia sale.

Christmas Tree Sale

Plan a nice family time for Saturday, December 3 – pick out a tree, see the fire station, have a ride in a fire engine, and enjoy cookies and hot chocolate.

The Christmas tree sale at the East Andover fire station will be part of a fun community open house. The station will be open, and you will be welcome to have a look at your equipment. We will have hot chocolate and cookies, and if the weather cooperates, we'll give rides in our new attack truck.

After you enjoy the open house, we hope you'll pick out a great Christmas tree – we will deliver it to your home for

no extra charge!
Poinsettia Sale

At the Andover fire station on Saturday, November 19, you'll find a beautiful array of poinsettias ready to decorate your Thanksgiving and Christmas table.

I should write ads. But that is my pitch: We need your help. Most of the dollars raised are used to purchase equipment that is beyond the reach of our tax funds.

Some people tell me that we should just ask for more tax funds. I disagree. We enjoy our fundraising projects, and we get to be with the people we serve in a pleasant atmosphere.

The poinsettia sale at the Andover fire station will be on Saturday, November 19, from 8 AM until sold out. The Christmas tree sale and open house at the East Andover fire station will be on Saturday, December 3, from 8 AM until sold out. (If you would like us to pick out your tree for you and deliver it, please call my home at 934-2197 before December 3.)

I hope to see you all at these two important fire department fundraisers!



The Andover Beacon

Our Hometown Newspaper

AndoverBeacon.com November 2011 735-6099

Town Administrator Resigns; Marj Roy Steps In

By Vicky Mishcon
Board of Selectmen

We are all sad to hear that our Town Administrator, Dana Hadley, is leaving us for a position at the Plymouth Village Water and Sewer District. Dana is a real "people person" who has obviously enjoyed his interactions with all the Town boards and committee members, Town employees, and the many community members he has gotten to know. Dana has brought many skills and insights to his job here in Andover and has gotten to know and appreciate the town's unique characteristics and the community very quickly. His patience, readiness to help, and quick sense of humor are qualities we all appreciate and will miss. Dana

will see us through the budget process and will attend the Town budget committee meetings.

The Board of Selectmen is very pleased to announce that Marj Roy will be stepping in as the interim Town Administrator and will continue her work as the Town Clerk/Tax Collector. Assistant Town Clerk/Tax Collector Joanna Sumner will increase her hours in the Town Clerk's office to allow Marj more time at her new desk.

The position of Town Clerk/Tax Collector may be open for the March election. Please inquire after January 1. If the position is open, the filing date for placing your name on the ballot is January 25 through February 3, 2012.



Kat Hitchmoth and Aimee Tucker are holding the "9." Both are Andover residents and members of the volunteer Planning Committee for Making Strides. Kimberly Laro, also of Andover, chaired the committee this year.

Photo: Kimberly Laro

Making Strides Tops \$568,000 To Fight Cancer

Making Strides press release

The 19th annual American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event took place in Concord on Sunday, October 16. Over 6,000 participants took part in this year's event, raising a record-breaking \$568,089. This is the fifth consecutive year in which the

Concord event has raised over half a million dollars and the largest amount raised by any of the eight New Hampshire events.

The opening ceremonies began with the welcoming of the survivors by volunteer event chair, Kimberly Laro of

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