

### Pick Up Your Andover Town Report!

The Andover Town Report 2012 is now available. **Town Reports will not be mailed this year** (except by special request to 735-5332), so visit [Andover.NH.us](http://Andover.NH.us) to read it online, or pick one up at any of these locations:

- the Town Hall
- the town libraries
- the town post offices
- the Transfer Station
- AE/MS

## 2012 Town Report Published in New Size

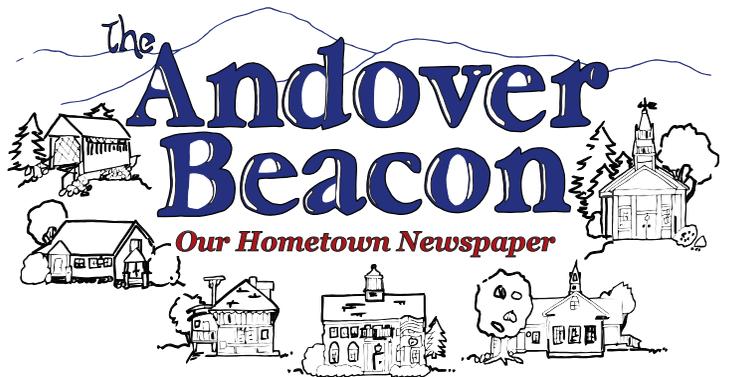
More room for text and numbers; same cost

By Carly Strathdee, *Beacon* intern

The Andover Town Report underwent apparent and essential changes this year, increasing from 5.5 by 8.5 inches to 8.5 by 11 inches, the size of standard letter paper. The Board of Selectmen made the decision as a solution to a major problem: how to fit considerably more information in the Town Report without spending significantly

more money.

Past Town Reports were bound in a method that could only handle 120 pages plus the cover. However, the 2012 report surpassed this limit. The Board of Selectmen considered multiple solutions, including a new binding technique, which would have cost substantially more money; and decreasing font size, which would have diminished readability. The Board's decision to increase page size saved about 14% of the cost and improved readability. 



**The Andover Beacon**  
Our Hometown Newspaper

[AndoverBeacon.com](http://AndoverBeacon.com)    **March 2013**    **735-6099**



Eric and Leonard Johnson fired up the evaporator at Tucker Mountain Maple for the first boil of 2013 on February 16. Photo: Heide Johnson

## Maple Weekend on Tap for Andover Sugarhouses

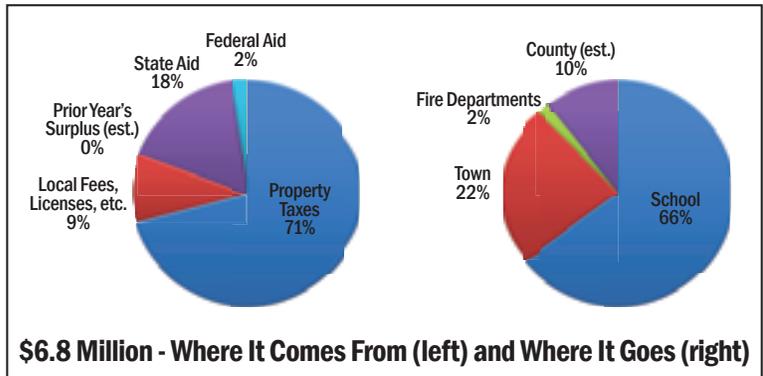
March 23 and 24 is New Hampshire Maple Weekend

Press release

The 2013 maple season is underway for Andover sugarhouses. Local sugarmakers as well as other producers around the state have begun the annual ritual of converting the clear sap into

the liquid gold we all love: maple syrup. Governor Maggie Hassan has declared Saturday, March 23, and Sunday, March 24, as New Hampshire Maple Weekend. Maple Weekend is an annual open house held by the maple producers of the state to showcase their amber-colored liquid jewel and the products

See *Maple* on page 3



## 2013 Budgets Set for Annual Meetings

By Charlie Darling, *Beacon* staff

Budgets for 2013 for the Andover School District, the Town, and the Fire Departments have been finalized by the Budget Committee and will be presented to voters at the annual meetings. The finalized budgets are the same as discussed in detail in the front-page article in the February issue of the *Beacon*. (Old issues of the *Beacon* can be read online at [AndoverBeacon.com](http://AndoverBeacon.com) –

click the “Beacon Archives” link.)

The net 2013 Town budget, including recommended warrant articles, is up by about \$123,000 from last year's comparable figure. The net School Budget recommended by the Budget Committee is up from last year by about \$146,000. The bottom line for Andover taxpayers, including small decreases in the fire department budgets, is an overall

See *Budgets* on page 2

Please! Get A Round Tuit Today!

## DON'T FORGET TO SUPPORT THE BEACON IN 2013!



To the 121 Andover residents who have sent checks this year to support the *Beacon* in 2013: 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 donation yet, please use the form on page 4 and “get a round tuit” right away. Thanks! 

## New Check-In Policy for Town Meeting

Quick ballot votes, legal show-of-hands votes are the goal

By Carly Strathdee, *Beacon* intern

Town Moderator Dan Coolidge has set in place a new check-in policy for Town Meeting that has been adopted by many other New Hampshire towns to improve the legality of show-of-hand votes and to speed up ballot votes.

The new policy will require Andover residents to get an Andover Voter Card and a set of three color-coded yes/no ballots when they check in upon arrival at Town Meeting that evening. Check-in for Town Meeting and the new voter card and yes/no ballots will be available after 6 PM.

During the meeting, if a show-of-hands vote becomes necessary, cardholders will vote by waving their voter

card in the air. Only hands holding a voter card will be counted.

If during Town Meeting a ballot vote becomes necessary, the new check-in policy will really earn its keep. Instead of lining up for a 45-minute check-in process, voters will simply show the ballot clerk their Andover Voter Card and hand in one of the yes/no ballots they were given earlier.

“Remember,” Dan cautions, “you only get one Andover Voter Card and one set of yes/no ballots. If you lose it or forget to bring it to Town Meeting, it can't be replaced.”

The new check-in policy will be a big change for many residents; however, Town officials have been working to construct a smooth and quick-moving process which will benefit the Town and the voters. 

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