

Through the Reading Glasses: November 2013

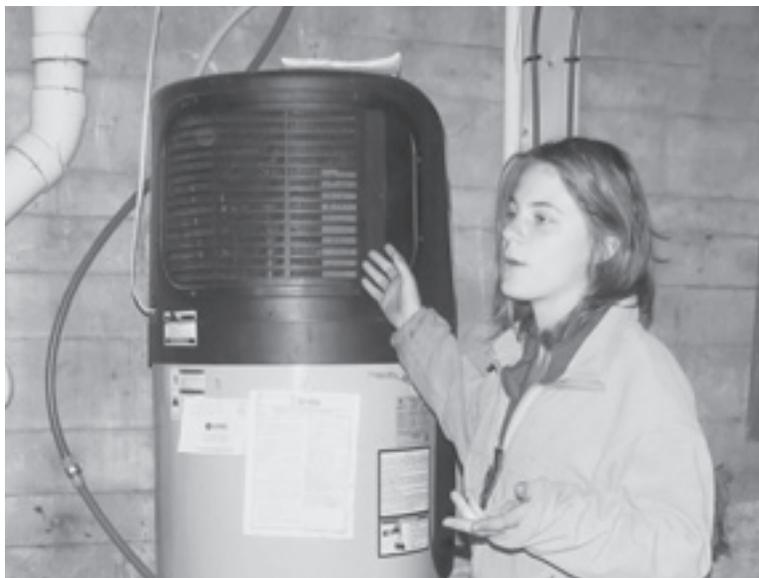
By Janet Moore,
Andover Libraries Trustee

After a minor seasonal adjustment to the delights of the wood stove, i.e., how to revel in the warmth without falling asleep, I've settled into two good reads. Sue Grafton's latest, *W is for Wasted*, features the optimistic and fearless private eye, Kinsey Milhone, in her latest go-round with the shady characters of Santa Teresa, California.

This time, she discovers she has been named executor and sole beneficiary in the will of a homeless man found near the beach, a man who turns out to be

yet another long lost relative with a fortune to bequeath.

Colum McCann's new book, *Transatlantic*, features, among others, ardent abolitionist Frederick Douglass and former Senator George Mitchell of Maine, the man who brokered the Northern Ireland Peace Accords. But the story takes off with the transatlantic flight of Alcock and Brown, who landed in Ireland after a first-of-its-kind journey from Newfoundland aboard their airplane, a construction they pieced together of canvas, wood, and metal in a field above the sea.



Sophie Viandier explains the operation of a high-efficiency water heater she installed recently in the basement of the Franklin Highway house she's rehabbing.
Photo: Larry Chase

Andover Energy Group Minutes: October 2, 2013

October 2

Attending: Sophie Viandier, Susan and Larry Chase, Vicky Mishcon, Janet Moore.

1. "Financing Alternatives for Alternative Energy" workshop is on for Saturday, October 19.

2. Groton Wind Farm visit is set for Wednesday, October 23, except for transportation. We need a firm list of who's going. We will check with Rachel MacDuffie at Proctor and the New London Energy Committee for van and for extra interest. There was mention of a Salisbury person, Kate Epsom, who apparently gives great talks on sustainability.

3. Sophie's Weatherization Workshop will include thermal insulation, solar panels, mechanics of energy systems, least change for the greatest effect. This will be on Saturday, November 9 at Sophie's house, 1129 Franklin Highway.

4. Susan has received a detailed prospectus from Steve Condon at Revision Energy for a municipal energy project which would provide the Town buildings with 81 kilowatt-hours a year. Susan will send Steve's prospectus to committee members. She also offered information from a company called EEI, an investment/energy company.

5. Charlie Darling, Beacon editor, would like to discuss with Sophie any shared information and structure con-

cerning our Meetup site. Sophie can add Andover's events to the Kearsarge Valley Transition Initiative's site.

6. Sophie has been attending the Proctor Environmental Action Committee. The plans for the new dining hall may allow for a biogas accumulator. Proctor may also re-start their composting system.

7. The Kearsarge Valley Transition Initiative is a bit on hold for Andover.

8. Should we start up a firewood bank of some sort? Perhaps we could join with the New London wood bank, under Steve Allenby's direction. Larry will see if the Andover Lions Club might take this on, along with the Andover Food Pantry.

9. Members discussed possible use of Ken Wells's solar demo on Town Meeting Day in March.

10. The Mill at Freedom Falls, in Freedom, Maine, has a micro-hydroelectric installation that may be of interest to the committee, Arch Weathers has advised. Visit MillAtFreedomFalls.com.

11. A Proctor parent has a mini-hydroelectric company and is looking for a site for a prototype. Vicky will contact him about Andover as a possibility.



Free, Hands-On Energy Efficiency Workshop to Lower Energy Costs

November 9 in
East Andover

Press release

A hands-on workshop for local homeowners interested in lowering their energy costs will be offered by a young Andover resident who is rehabbing her house from basement to attic in order to improve its energy efficiency.

Demonstrating techniques she learned at Yestermorrow Design and Build School in Waitsfield, Vermont, Sophie Viandier will open her small Cape Cod cottage at 1129 Franklin Highway (State Route 11) in East Andover to workshop participants between 10 AM and noon on Saturday, November 9.

The workshop, free and open to the public, will be limited to 20 participants because of space constraints. Advance registration is encouraged. Contact Larry Chase at 735-5135 or LBChase@aol.com.

com to sign up.

The workshop will cover such topics as how to conduct a home energy assessment, determine cost-effectiveness with a focus on ecological responsibility, and implement creative ways to keep a home comfortable. It will also allow participants to learn about Sophie's recently installed solar-electric (photovoltaic) system and a system of earthen mounds, troughs, and ponds she's creating to capture and make use of rainwater.

The Andover Energy Group, a local organization interested in sharing information about alternative energy sources and ways to improve energy efficiency, is the workshop sponsor. Local residents who would like to receive alerts about future workshops, presentations, and other events may indicate their interest by sending an e-mail to the address above.



GOT NEWS? Mail@AndoverBeacon.com or PO Box 149 or 735-6099

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