

AndoverBeacon.com

March 2015

735-6099

Andover Community Assoc. Hits the Ground Running

Variety of community projects planned

Press release

Entering their second month of volunteer work, a group of local residents calling themselves the Andover Community Association (ACA) are taking the Andover community by storm. Members of ACA's newly-formed steering committee include Carl Ahern, Susan and Larry Chase, Duncan Coolidge, Paul Currier, Jay Fitzpatrick, Vicki Mishcon, Janet Moore, Nancy Teach, Sophie Viandier, and Jennifer White.

For starters, they've decided to focus on four main areas:

Communications and connecting people's needs with local services, including:

- Make better use of the town sign in front of the Town Hall
- Sponsor a local help line to connect people needing help with people willing to help
- Update and expand the *Our Town* booklet originally published by the Andover Service Club
- Publish a community event calendar, both online and in print

A **time bank**, a non-monetary system for people with specific skills or willingness to work to trade their time with others in an organized pool of people with skills and available time.

Andover Institute to coordinate and host short courses, presentations, discussion groups, and the like. Topics would depend on the interests of the

See ACA on page 2

Planning Board Postpones Proposed Zoning Changes

Will gather more public feedback during 2015

Paul Currier, Planning Board chair

On Town Meeting Day this year, there will be no ballot articles on changes to the Zoning Ordinance. The Planning Board has decided to postpone any proposals for zoning ordinance changes until next year.

Earlier, the Board held two sparsely-attended public hearings. At each hearing there were comments that the proposed amendments have not been publicized enough for voters to become

aware of them and provide input.

In response, the Board has taken the proposed amendments off the ballot for this year so that they can continue to work on them, better inform Andover residents of the proposed changes, and get more public input.

Since September, the Board has been working hard on proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. These amendments would be the first major revisions to the ordinance since 1978, when the special exception process was amended to allow any use anywhere in

See Zoning on page 2

Donations to Beacon Down Almost 50%!

It's time for Andover residents to help fund the Beacon for another year, but so far the results are bleak. Donations are down almost 50% compared to this time last year (and this time last year was down over 15% compared to the year before that). **We have to reverse this trend.** Please do your part!



It's not just Boston that's having to take extraordinary measures to deal with all the snow this winter. The Road Agent's crew brought in heavy equipment and two big orange dumpsters from Dumpster Depot and worked until dawn shuttling dumpsters of snow to Blackwater Park.

Photo: Charlie Darling

Finalized Budgets Show Estimated Tax Reduction of 4%

Holding off
on special projects

Ed Hiller, Budget Committee

The 2015 Andover School District budget recommended by the Budget Committee was presented in the front-page article in the February *Beacon*. A

raised by taxes compared to last year to be down by \$37,098 (down almost 1%).

The February article in the *Beacon* also presented a draft Andover Town budget. Since that article appeared, the Budget Committee has considered and finalized its recommendations.

The finalized Town budget (net of pass-throughs) is \$1,650,169. The net appropriation for 2014 was \$1,830,331. The reduction compared to last year is \$180,162 (down 9.8%).

The Budget Committee and the Selectmen agreed to postpone adding further funds to the Lawrence Bridge Capital Reserve Fund until an engineering study of the bridge's deficiencies is completed.

Detailed analysis of the costs and See Budgets on page 3

Proposed Net Budgets for 2015			
Department	2014 appropriated	2015 proposed	Change
School	\$4,754,533	\$4,774,465	\$19,912
Town	\$1,830,331	\$1,650,169	-\$180,162
Fire Depts	\$127,412	\$128,412	\$1,000
TOTAL	\$6,712,296	\$6,553,046	-\$159,250

Net budgets exclude pass-through items that don't impact this year's tax rate. Two common examples: the State reimbursing the Town for part of a road project, or the Town buying equipment with funds appropriated in prior years.

total appropriation of \$4,774,465 is proposed, up \$19,912 over last year's appropriation. Since the New Hampshire Department of Education is increasing the Education Grant to Andover for 2015 by \$57,010, this results in the amount to be

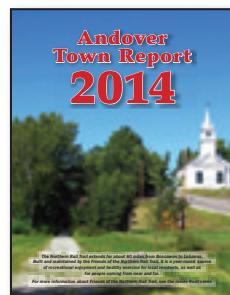
further funds to the Lawrence Bridge Capital Reserve Fund until an engineering study of the bridge's deficiencies is completed.

Detailed analysis of the costs and See Budgets on page 3

Pick Up Your Andover Town Report!

The Andover Town Report 2014 is now available. **Town Reports will not be mailed** (except by special request to 735-5332), so visit Andover.NH.us to read it online, or pick one up at any of these locations:

- the Town Hall
- the town libraries
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- AE/MS



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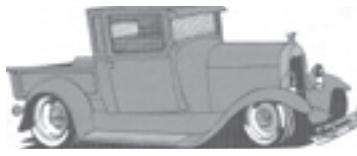
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Thank a Snow Plow Driver!

Doing their best
at a very tough job

Beth Frost, for the Beacon

What a winter it has been! As I look out the window of my warm and cozy house, I can see the plow trucks going by. Some are driven by people who work to keep our town roads and parking lots safe, and some are driven by people who work to keep driveways and private parking lots safe. Have you ever thought about how we depend on these drivers?

I think we often take them for granted.

We expect to have the roads cleared as soon as it starts snowing. After all, we have places to go.

These great people work long hours to get the job done. So what if the plow drivers have to leave their warm beds, miss their baby's first birthday party, their daughter's dance recital, or their son's basketball game? So what if they can't visit a family member who has been hospitalized; we need our road plowed.

I challenge you to thank these people. If you see them at the local store, ask them how long they've been out working, or how long they expect to be out. Ask them how long it's been since

they had a hot meal.

Have patience, and keep a few facts in mind: Breakdowns happen ... equipment fails. The trucks and equipment see a lot of miles and hours, and despite frequent and regular maintenance, stuff breaks. Unexpected things happen, even when drivers are careful. Think about glare ice, steep hills and curves, and visibility of 20 feet or less.

Whether privately employed or working for the Town or the State, all this happens with a budget in mind: a budget for sand, salt, maintenance, overtime, and repairs. The reason the plow goes by again and again after a storm ends is to push back banks, especially in a winter like this where storm follows storm; otherwise roads become very narrow.

Nighttime snow removal may disturb your peaceful slumber, but that is the safest time for major snow removal in school yards and at intersections.

These people are doing the best they can with what they have, and those resources are naturally depleted as the winter goes on, and on, and on. Remember to give them a smile and a thank-you for keeping us as safe as possible when we go to our cars and head out to wherever it is we need to go.



ACA from page 1

people involved. For starters, the Institute is hosting a regular Saturday Tai Chi class and a six-week permaculture discussion group.

Andover Community Coffee-house, which had an overwhelmingly successful kickoff event in January. Programs at the Highland Lake Grange Hall in East Andover will continue on the third Friday of each month, under the ACA umbrella. Programs begin at 7 PM and include a featured performance as well as an hour of open-mic performances. The coming schedule:

- March 20: Click Horning Band
- April 17: Tom Pirozzoli
- May 15: Sferes and White

Performers wishing to appear during the open-mic segment should sign

in at the Grange Hall between 6:30 and 7 PM. The event is open to the public at no charge, although donations will be accepted. Soup, sandwiches, and (non-alcoholic) beverages will be available for purchase beginning at 6 PM, thanks to members of the Andover Congregational Church.

Get Involved!

Want to get involved? Have some good ideas to share that would fit in with the Andover Community Association? ACA is just getting started, and anybody with interest, time, and energy is welcome.

The next meeting is on Friday, March 6, at 6:30 PM (potluck followed by meeting) at the Highland Lake Grange Hall in East Andover. Contact Larry Chase at 735-5135 or LBChase@aol.com for more information.



Zoning from page 1

town by special exception.

Although some provisions have been added through the years – floodplain ordinance, personal wireless facilities, small wind energy systems, and equitable waivers of dimensional requirements – it's time to update the ordinance to reflect almost half a century of changes in Andover and advances in land use planning law and practice.

Briefly, the proposed amendments would substantially revise the list of permitted and special exception uses in all zoning districts; create a new Business District along Route 11 between Route 4A and Route 4 in the vicinity of Belletetes and the Transfer Station; revise the procedures for granting special

exceptions; and add provisions for an "accessory apartment" at a residence.

Andover has an updated Master Plan as of 2014. Our current Zoning Ordinance, which has served Andover well for 40 years, needs to be updated to reflect two generations of change, including changes in the town itself, changes in state law, and advances in land use planning.

Stay tuned during 2015 for further information on proposed zoning amendments. As we continue to work on zoning amendments, the Board expects to be posting information on the Town Web site, as well as holding public forums. If you are an Andover voter, a property owner in Andover, or just an interested citizen, the Planning Board wants your input.





Andover Crosby-Gilbert Post 101 of the American Legion held its first official meeting in well over 20 years. Post Chaplain Don Clendenen, American Legion Department of New Hampshire Commander Bob Dionne, Andover Post 101 Commander Henry "Skip" Powers Jr., and Post Adjutant Richard "Dick" Powers Jr. are pictured here. The gentleman with his back to the camera, Howard Proctor, is a transfer from Post 200 to Post 101. As seen at the lower left, the POW/MIA chair is placed at all official functions of the American Legion.

Dignitaries on Hand for Andover's Crosby-Gilbert Post 101 Meeting

Support for the post continues to grow

Press release

For the Andover Crosby-Gilbert American Legion Post 101, it has been many years since the last official meeting of the Post. When the membership

National Executive Committeeman Bill Roy, Department Vice Commander Tom Wiley, District 6 and Claremont Post Commander Sam Zannini, Newport Post Commander Leo Paquin, and New London Post 40 Adjutant and Past Department Commander Frank Anderson.

It will take some effort and time, but the present members are willing to show their support to the local communities, youth programs, and veterans. The Post continues to build, as potential members were present at the meeting also.

If you are a veteran or know of one, let them know about the Andover Post that meets the second Tuesday of each month (except March, which is Town Meeting) at the Masonic Hall at 38 Cilleyville Road in Andover.

Post contacts are Post Commander Skip Powers Jr. at 735-6563; or Post Adjutant Dick Powers Jr. at rapjrn@outlook.com or PO Box 264, Andover 03216; or Bill Leber at 735-5144. The Post hopes to be more of a presence at school assemblies, parades, veteran funerals, civic events, and other events.



District 6 Commander Sam Zannini and Department Commander Bob Dionne presented the Department of New Hampshire 100% Membership Award to Andover Post 101 Commander Skip Powers. Post 101 was the fifth in the state to achieve this level through its latest membership drive.



Bill Leber was presented a Certificate of Appreciation by Department Commander Bob Dionne and Post 101 Commander Skip Powers. Bill was responsible for leading the charge to increase the Post's membership.

dwindled down to eight this past few years, those members decided to call a meeting and discuss making an effort to revitalize the Post.

After the efforts of the members, with Bill Leber leading the charge, Andover Post 101 is now at the 100% membership level and fifth in the State for attaining that level. Although there are some vacancies in the officer ranks, more local veterans are joining to carry on the mission and objectives of the American Legion.

The American Legion and its programs are dedicated to the principles of assisting veterans, youth, and community locally, throughout the state, and nationwide.

This meeting was attended by dignitaries such as Department of New Hampshire Commander Bob Dionne, Alternate



You know it's a tough winter when you arrive at work to find a bucket loader in your parking space. The Road Agent's crew had used it to clear away all the snow that Dan "Mr. Steam" Labonte and his crew shoveled off the roof at AE/MS, making room for the next storm. Just in time, too: the piles of snow pushed off the roof reached all the way back up to the eaves.

Photo: Charlie Darling

Budgets from page 1

savings associated with providing highway maintenance functions with Town employees rather than contracted services showed that the start-up costs were recovered through operational savings within three years. The accumulated savings after eight years amounted to \$158,000. The Budget Committee and the Selectmen recommend this operational improvement.

To reduce the initial impact of the Highway Department change and to offset some of the increases in operating

costs, the usual budgeting of \$150,000 for special road projects will be omitted thus year.

Combining the reductions in the School budget and the Town budget results in a total reduction of \$217,260 in the amount to be raised by taxes, resulting in an estimated tax rate reduction of about \$0.80 (down 4%).

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Full page	\$2,774	\$1,561	\$824	\$289
Pre-printed insert	\$1,526	\$859	\$453	\$159

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The next issue should be in mailboxes on Friday, April 3. Please get all ads, articles, etc. to us by **Sunday, March 15**, at the latest. And **earlier is always better!**

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LOCAL BEACON SUPPORTERS WIN!

Each month the Beacon holds a random drawing among Andover residents who have donated to the Beacon in the past calendar year. **Andover residents:** support the Beacon every year and join the fun! This month's winners are:

Andover Artist Lisa Jelleme	Matted Print	Susan and Larry Chase
Andover Pizza Chef	Large 2-Topping Pizza	Donna McCabe
Blackwater Junction Rest.	Gift Certificate	Susan Schnare & Andy Prokosch
Jake's Market and Deli	Gift Certificate	Betsy Paine & Mike Henriques
Kearsarge Magazine	1-Year Subscription	Jane Walker
LisAnn's	Gift Certificate	Mindy Bicknell
MacKenna's Restaurant	Gift Certificate	Shannon & Chris Bentzler
Mary Kay - Laura Condon	Gift Certificate	Cindy Benson
New Horizons Hairstylists	Hair Care Products	Gay Ellen and Bob Rayno

WINNERS! Call volunteer Margo Coolidge at **735-5418** to collect your prize.
Prizes not redeemable for cash.

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For the latest news from Andover and area events, visit the Beacon's Web site all month long.

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**Don't wait for a call in the Fall!
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To the 56 Andover residents who have sent checks this year to support the *Beacon* in 2015: *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 or go to AndoverBeacon.com and "get a round tuit" right away. Thanks!



Mario Ratzki Reports from Concord: February 2015

Legislature hard at work, despite snow cancellations

Mario Ratzki, NH Representative

The House has settled after the dramatic upheaval of a few weeks ago when Shawn Jasper became Speaker instead of Bill O'Brien.

While there are still some lingering bad feelings among the two Republican factions, committee chairs and vice chairs appointed by Speaker Jasper have been busy scheduling hearings, and a sense of normality seems to have been restored.

The continuous snowstorms have delayed our work, with almost weekly cancellations. Deadlines to vote on House bills are fast approaching, and two-day sessions might be the norm until March 19 to make up for lost time. Budget bills have until March 26 to be acted on.

Some highlights of our work so far:

HB 102: A Town Meeting cannot be adjourned without all warrant articles having been voted on. Passed by a voice vote.

HB 134: Establish a committee to study the use of motorized scooter chairs on roadways and sidewalks. Passed by a voice vote.

HB 115: Require the State to abide by the 26% cap that the Department of Safety gets from the Highway Fund. The amount had grown to almost 32%. Our constitution requires that the Department of Safety receive a portion of the Highway Fund for "the supervision of traffic." Passed by a voice vote.

HB 164: Requiring Health and Human Services to begin processing applications for the therapeutic use of marijuana by July 25. Killed by a voice vote.

HB 219: The use (or misuse) of electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards. A bill to enhance rule compliance for EBT card holders, such as no alcohol or tobacco purchases. Passed by a voice vote.

HB 338: Have the state legislature nominate candidates for the US Senate. Killed by a voice vote.

HB 657: Authorize up to 300 slot

machines at each location where charitable gaming takes place. Killed on a voice vote.

HB 176: A bill proposed by yours truly to reimburse 18 towns for flood control payments for 2013. Defeated by a vote of 221 to 127. But my co-sponsors and I were able to extract a very public promise from Finance vice chair Lynn Ober that the towns would be made whole when a new settlement check from Massachusetts for \$658,000 had been received.

HB 194: Providing that life begins at conception. Defeated by a bi-partisan vote of 246 to 104.

HB 371: Assessing the consequences of the Citizens United decision in which the Supreme Court decided that corporations have the same free speech rights as people do when it comes to political campaigns and campaign financing. Defeated on a partisan vote of 194 to 157.

HB 147: Increasing the homestead exemption from \$100,000 to \$120,000. Approved by voice vote.

The Governor's Budget

Governor Hassan unveiled her budget in front of a joint session of the House and the Senate. While it has been well covered by the news media, a couple of items should be mentioned.

It includes a 21¢ increase in the cigarette tax, which I will support because it increases money for education, but I fear it has no chance of passing either in the House or the Senate. The governor's budget also includes a proposal to allow video slots in restaurants and bars, which I will oppose; I believe it will also be hard to pass.

On a local note, I was told by Gracia Snyder of Salisbury and formerly of Andover that the Green Crow Bridge should in fact be called the White Bridge, after a nearby farm. My apologies.

I encourage anyone who would like to attend House sessions to do so. The sessions are open to the public and are a perfect example of our democracy in action.

I am always available at 735-5440 or

at MarioRatzki@gmail.com.

Letters

Thanks to Andover Fire Department

We would like to thank the Andover Fire Department for assistance on the night of January 31. Responding quickly to our needs were Peter Smith, Jacob Johnson, Chief Rene Lefebvre, Ben Seaver, and Scott Davis.

Most sincerely,

Ed and Doreen Barkowski

The mission of *The Andover Beacon* is to serve and strengthen the Andover community. To that end, we welcome civil, reasoned letters addressing specifically local issues, events, and developments. Submissions must not be critical of another's religion; blasphemous; obscene; hateful; legally objectionable; or commercial in nature. The *Beacon* reserves the right to edit or not publish submissions it deems inappropriate for any reason.

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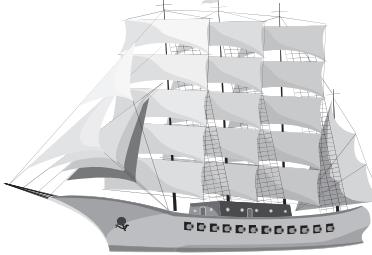
Desk: reproduction colonial lift-top with shelves, \$50. **File cabinet:** metal 3-drawer, \$10. **Nesting side tables:** reproduction, \$20. 731-6319 or JMPcille@tds.net.

Rockwell 10" Unisaw: model 34-761. **Viking sewing machine:** about 12 years old, used very little, still in box, \$350. **Patio set:** round cedar table with four director's chairs, umbrella with stand, \$100. 526-4236.

2003 AWD Mitsubishi Outlander SUV: Good condition, 180,000 miles, asking \$1,500 and is priced below trade-in value to sell quickly. For more info and photos, see nh.craigslist.org/cto/4807619327.html or contact JohnRKinney@tds.net.

Lift chair: 250 lb. capacity, \$200. **Leaf blower:** gas, \$45. **Generator lead wire:** 40'-\$35. **Welding wire:** 40'-+\$35. **Transfer pump:** Black Hawk, \$35. **78 RPM records:** good condition, 100+, \$3 each, take all. **Antique Singer sewing machine:** \$65 obo. **Gould water pump:** \$35. **Antique bean thrasher:** \$25 obo. **Hand hay rake:** like new, \$25. **Two pitchforks:** one new, \$25 for both. 526-2262.

LP records: about 200 mostly classi-



cal contemporary from 1965 to 1985, \$1 each. **45 RPM records:** about 100 mostly rock and roll, 50¢ each. **Treadle sewing machines:** White, circa 1925, in excellent condition, \$200; Singer, circa 1918, excellent condition, \$250. **Folding tables:** aluminum top surface, \$15 each. **Syrup collection tank:** 250 gallons, plastic, skid mountable, \$100. **20,000 books:** mostly science-fiction, hard and soft cover, plus comic books; random pick, by the case, \$25 each. **Snow rake:** 25' aluminum, \$30. **Extension ladders:** 30' for \$75; 20' for \$65; 16' for \$40. **Step ladders:** 8' for \$15; 6' for \$10. **John Deere HD-45:** self-propelled walk-behind mower, 48" cut, \$2,000. **Troy-Bilt rototiller:** 6 HP, \$400. 735-5427 or stoneanarch@tds.net.

If you have stuff that's "too good to throw away," let Andover's Yankee Trader (AYT) help you find it a new home. AYT is for individuals or businesses to give away (or sell) stuff they no longer need (not stuff they bought to re-sell). Up to 30 words is free for Andover residents and Beacon subscribers; \$5 for others. Add a photo for \$5. If you'd like to show your appreciation when AYT works for you, an extra (tax deductible) donation would be appreciated!

To be included in next month's AYT, get your 30 words and optional photo to the Beacon by the 15th. Ads@AndoverBeacon.com • PO Box 149, Andover 03216 • 735-6099

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New Approach Provided an Improved Budget Process

Keen sense of ownership and commitment

**Arch Weathers
Budget Committee chair**

Town Administrator Marj Roy and I met in late August to design a strategic plan to improve the process of developing the school and municipal budgets. Our approach focused on devising a meaningful exchange of information among all parties involved (Board of Selectmen, department heads, Town Administrator, School Board, Budget Committee, and the public) and developing a realistic schedule of required public hearings and Budget Committee sessions.

Statutory (elected) Budget Committees differ from Budget Advisory Committees in one important respect – members in the latter are appointed and serve at the pleasure of the governing authority. Their role, as the name implies, is strictly advisory.

The municipality's legislative body, however, elects members of a statutory Budget Committee like Andover's. It is the committee's duty to prepare and recommend the final draft of the school and municipal warrant to the voters at the respective town meetings.

The Board of Selectmen presents its initial recommendations to the Budget Committee, which in turn drafts the final proposed recommendation to the voters. At Town Meeting the voters decide whether to accept their recommendation ... or not. Voters can also determine Board of Selectmen concur-

rence by the "recommended" or "not recommended" notation included in each monetary warrant article.

In order to pull this off, we worked backward from the publishing deadlines in assigning dates for required public hearings and Budget Committee sessions. We then devised a system that would provide a means of meaningful exchange of information among the various entities that would enhance the learning process, thereby leading to judicious decision-making by the Committee members.

As the plan evolved, it was readily apparent that everyone involved felt a keen sense of ownership and commitment as we worked with others towards the common goal. We listened ... and we learned. If there were areas of conflict, we met in the middle. We formed a bond of trust, and by so doing were able to advance our knowledge. The public hearings produced comments and suggestions that changed our thinking and led to some creative solutions to some of the more complex funding issues.

The complexities of municipal budgeting are daunting and deserve the best efforts by those involved. At the close of our final deliberations, we looked at one another with a sense of confidence knowing we had done just that.

I am seeking re-election as a write-in candidate for a second term on the Budget Committee and would be most appreciative of your confidence in me by writing me in as Arch (Niel) Weathers.

Thanks for your consideration! 

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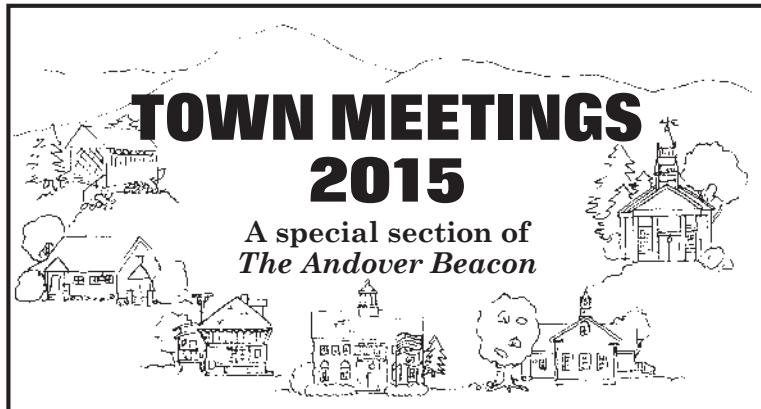
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TOWN MEETINGS 2015

A special section of
The Andover Beacon

TOWN MEETINGS SPECIAL EDITION

Charlie Darling, Beacon staff

This month, voters in Andover are called upon to make important decisions that will influence our taxes and guide our Town government for the coming year. We'll elect a dozen of our neighbors to positions in Town and School District governing bodies, and we'll close the books on 2014 with the annual Town Report.

This month's *Beacon* coverage of this very important season includes:

- Sample ballots (page 8)
- Profiles of local candidates (page 9)
- The Town Warrant (page 12)
- The School District Warrant (page 12)

Important Dates

Here are the dates you need to keep in mind in order to participate fully in this important time of year:

Saturday, February 28: Supervi-

sor of the Checklist available to correct the checklist and register new voters, Town Hall, 11 to 11:30 AM.

Monday, March 2: Andover School District Meeting, AE/MS Gym, 7 PM.

Monday, March 2: Andover Village District Meeting, Andover Town Hall, 7 PM.

Tuesday, March 10: Voting, AE/MS Gym, 11 AM to 7 PM. Register to vote with valid ID.

Tuesday, March 10: Andover Town Meeting, AE/MS Gym, 7 PM.

Tuesday, March 17: East Andover Fire Precinct Meeting, East Andover Fire Station, 7:30 PM.

Wednesday, March 18: Andover Fire District Meeting, Andover Fire Station, 7:30 PM.

For more info, contact 735-5332 or TAdmin@TownOfAndover.org.

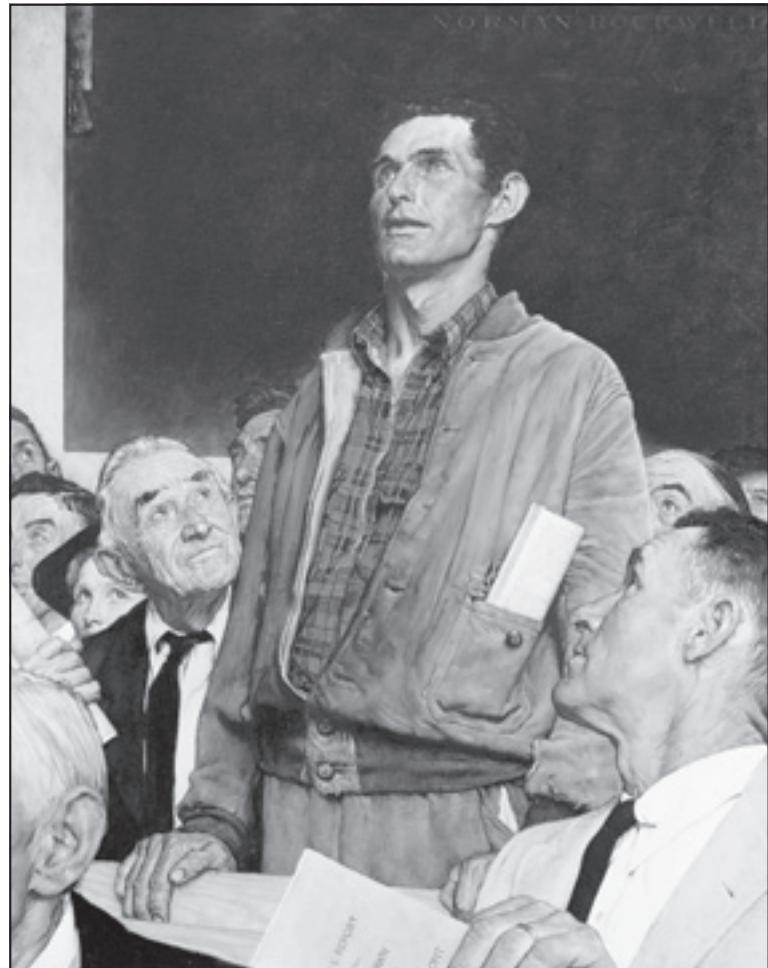
Remember the Check-In Policy for Town Meeting!

Registered Andover voters will need to check in at Town Meeting to get an Andover Voter Card and a set of color-coded yes/no ballots. Check-in for Town Meeting will start at 6 PM.

During the meeting, if a show-of-hands vote becomes necessary, card-holders will vote by raising their voter card in the air. Only hands holding a current voter card will be counted.

For a ballot vote, a voter simply shows their Andover Voter Card to the ballot clerk and casts the appropriate colored yes/no ballot they were given at check-in. Each ballot vote will have a different colored ballot card. This procedure should speed things along!

"Remember," Moderator Dan Coolidge cautions, "you only get one Andover Voter Card and one set of yes/no ballots. If you lose them, they can't be replaced."



Norman Rockwell's famous *Freedom of Speech* painting, reproduced in the *Picturing America* collection at AE/MS, reminds us of the importance of participating in our annual meetings this month.

Norman Rockwell (1894-1978), *Freedom of Speech*, The Saturday Evening Post, February 20, 1943. Oil on canvas, 45 3/4" x 35 1/2". The Norman Rockwell Art Collection Trust, from the permanent collection of the Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, Massachusetts NRM.org © 1943 SEPS: Licensed by Curtis Publishing, Indianapolis, Ind. All rights reserved. CurtisPublishing.com.



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These are the Town and School District officers on the ballot for Tuesday, March 10, 11 AM to 7 PM, at AE/MS.

Town and School Officers Ballots

SELECTMAN

for Three Years

Vote for ONE

James Delaney

Leonard Caron

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS

for Three Years

Vote for ONE

BUDGET COMMITTEE

for Three Years

Vote for TWO

Wood Sutton

Bob Ward

CEMETERY TRUSTEE

for Three Years

Vote for ONE

CEMETERY TRUSTEE

for Two Years

Vote for ONE

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

for Three Years

Vote for TWO

Alexis Southworth

Caroline Moulton Ratzki

CEMETERY TRUSTEE

for One Year

Vote for ONE

SCHOOL BOARD

for One Year

Vote for ONE

Dean Barker

SCHOOL MODERATOR

for One Year

Vote for ONE

Elizabeth Paine

SCHOOL BOARD

for Two Years

Vote for ONE

Misty Sava

SCHOOL TREASURER

for One Year

Vote for ONE

SCHOOL BOARD

for Three Years

Vote for TWO

Michelle Dudek

Mark Heller

SCHOOL CLERK

for One Year

Vote for ONE

Write-In Candidates

At press time, the Beacon was aware of the following write-in candidates:

- Arch Weathers, Budget Committee
- Vicki Mishcon, Budget Committee
- Barbara Freeman, Library Trustee

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AT THE POLLS - MARCH 10, 2015

The Beacon asked every candidate running for a town office to submit 250 words and a picture.

Selectman

Vote for one

James Delaney

My name is James Delaney, Sr., and I have lived in Andover almost all of my life. I left for a while to join the United States Marine Corps and do my tour of duty. After nine years, I came home and started my family. All of my sons have been brought up in Andover, and they still live here, except my middle son, Bryan, who passed away in August.

Some of the things I have done over the years for the town include three years as Recreation Director, three years as a School Board member, and six years as a Zoning Board member. Also, I was on the Budget Committee for three years.

What do I have to offer you as a Selectman? Someone who will listen to you and take your problems to the forefront; someone who has common sense to see things from all approaches, not just one; someone who will work on the problems and try to find a reasonable solution to them and get them fixed.

I am sorry about my performance on the Selectmen interview video, but I was really sick and probably shouldn't even have been there. I also think that the forum should be changed to a round-robin because, to be honest, some of the questions just don't make sense or can't receive an honest answer.

Thank you for your support. Please give me your vote, and good luck to my opponent, Mr. Caron.

Leonard Caron

I'm Leonard "Lenny" Caron. I've lived in Andover for almost 30 years.

I've been in the logging and construction business all of my life.

I once was your friendly road agent, and I am currently a member of the Planning Board and the Capital Improvement Committee.

I know the fiscal part of the town – roads, bridges, Transfer Station – and I feel that it would be a big help to the town if we had someone on the board with that knowledge.

To learn more, I attended a lot of the Selectmen meetings as well as some of their workshops this past year. I have more to learn and will, like every new member has to.

I'd like to put the brakes on changing things so we can catch up, fix, or finish the things that we've already started.

To keep strength in the tax dollar, I'd put our up-coming projects out for bid with hopes that our own capable people get the job.

I'd like to get the town back to running smoothly again, run the town in the best interest of the town and its people, keep things as simple as can be, do away with the wasteful spending, and make sure the town gets its money's worth. Progress is important.

With that, I'll thank you for your votes.

Budget Committee

Vote for two

Wood Sutton

There is only one reason to run for Budget Committee or volunteer for any other town groups. That is because you feel an obligation to Andover and believe you can be of help. I have had a home in Andover for 23 years and have

that obligation.

Until retirement, my profession was

that of a management consultant. My clients ranged from planes and motorcycles to frozen peas and aspirin. No, I did not arrive like a knight in shining armor with all the answers. Sure, we did have answers, but the focus was to bring out the talent that already existed within the client organization. We worked with individuals and teams from the CEO to factory workers. The thrust of the work was to develop a climate of continuous improvement that would last well after we left.

In regard to the Budget Committee, I have no "agenda." Everyone in town works hard to keep taxes down. My job would be to help ensure that every dollar we spend adds value to the Town of Andover and to its families. If it does not add value, we should not be doing it. If it does not add value but is a state/federal mandate, what is the least ex-

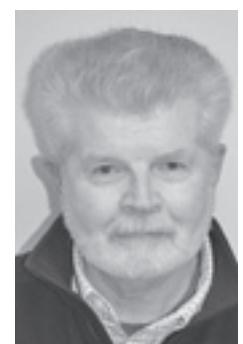
pensive course of action?

Let me be clear about one thing. I am not running against anyone. The Town is fortunate to have more volunteers than there are positions. Given the opportunity, I will bring value to the community.

Bob Ward

Since first moving to Andover in 1968, I have been appointed by the Selectmen to serve on various boards or committees, including the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission and also was appointed by the Selectmen as Andover's representative to the Lakes Region Planning Commission.

I also served as Chairman of Andover's Bicentennial Committee in 1979. I was elected by Town Meeting to several terms on the Budget Committee during the 1970s and early 1980s.



See Polls on page 10

ANDOVER FOOD PANTRY

Food and Necessities for People in Need

sponsored by

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We need your donations of non-perishable, staple foods and other necessities. (Please check those expiration dates!)

The food pantry is located downstairs at the Andover Town Hall and is open whenever the Town Hall is open.

It's self-service, no questions asked. Take what you need or drop off what you can.

If you know someone in need, tell them about the pantry. If they are not comfortable going to the pantry themselves, for whatever reason, let a Lion or Beacon volunteer know – WE DELIVER!



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Polls from page 9

In 1982 I was presented the Community Service Award by Andover's Blackwater Grange for outstanding service to our town. I have served as Chairman of the Fourth of July Committee from 1974 to 1982 and again from 2004 to present. I am President of the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail, the group which built the rail trail running through Andover. The Fourth of July celebration and the rail trail are two things which benefit Andover greatly but which are done without costing Town tax dollars. I support this approach to improving our town without adding to the cost of town government.

I am a fiscal conservative and want to maintain the distinction which Andover has had for many years as having the lowest tax rate of any town in the area. I will work hard to keep Andover's taxes under control while providing those town services which make Andover a great place to live.

I would welcome the opportunity to serve once again on Andover's Budget Committee and would greatly appreciate your support.

Arch Weathers (write-in)

I am seeking re-election to the Budget Committee as a write-in candidate.

My roots to this area trace the arrival by my grandparents in 1924 to spend summers on Lake Sunapee. At the age of 14 I started working summers at

Kidder Garage in New London. When I graduated from college, Bill Kidder hired me full-time as a mechanic. It was there that I developed life skills and knowledge in areas one would never find in a college course.

I formed a connection to traditions that cherish and build upon the "New England intimacy" found nowhere else in the world. This feeling in turn nurtures a strong sense of place that, for me, forms the basis for investing in the quality of one's community.



As the current chair of the Budget Committee, I recognize that only through a process of coordinating the gathering and dissemination of departmental requests, soliciting meaningful public input, and designing a concise, understandable reporting format can a desired outcome be achieved. I also recognize that, in most cases, doing the math is not enough. There is no single solution, no simple decision regarding the complexities of managing our infrastructure. Conversations and incremental action addressing issues that determine the long-term financial health of our community must occur on a regular basis.



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Order of Candidates on the Ballot

New Hampshire RSA 656:5-a defines the order in which candidates' names will appear on the ballots. For the sake of consistency with the ballot, the Beacon's On the Ballot section follows the same scheme.

The essence of the RSA 656:5-a scheme is that as an election draws near, the Secretary of State's office picks a random number for each possible number of candidates in a race. The candidate whose position in a specific race's alphabetical list of candidates matches the random number chosen for races with that number of candidates becomes the candidate who is listed first on the ballot. The ballot for that race continues from that point in the alphabetical list, wrapping back to the beginning of the list to include all the candidates.

In other words, if candidates A, B, and C are running against each other and the Secretary of State randomly selects the number 2 for races with three candidates, then the candidates will appear on the ballot in this order: B, C, A.

I am proud to work with an incredible group of dedicated volunteers having a common goal of seeking what is in the best interest of our town. I look forward to continuing this very worthy effort.

forward-looking team for the next three years.

If you would like me to represent you on our town's Budget Committee, please be sure to write me in on Tuesday, March 10. Thank you.

Vicky Mishcon (write-in)

Upon receiving a few nudges over the past several months, I have, admittedly somewhat late, decided to run for Budget Committee. After nine years on the School Board and six years on the Select Board, I remain very interested in town affairs and would like to continue to serve Andover's citizens.

Reduced state funding, increased state and federal requirements, and outdated systems require us to look well into the future to make decisions on how to invest in our infrastructure and the way we do business. I would like to be part of that



Library Trustee

Vote for two

Caroline Moulton Ratzki

"There is no frigate like a book
To take us lands away"

I am running for Library Trustee because Emily Dickinson's words are still true today. Books are great!

I think Emily Dickinson would be happy to see how our public libraries have evolved in the 125 years since she wrote that poem.

Today, our two beautiful libraries offer so much more than just books.

See Polls on page 11

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Polls from page 10

You'll find computers and magazines, cozy nooks with WiFi access, eBooks and Audio books, children's books and Large Print.

Come for Story Hour and creative events for young and old. There is truly something for everyone.

The challenge is for our libraries to stay updated and continue to be an essential component of our town.

As a trustee, I would work hard to support our libraries in their mission to evolve with the times and serve everyone in our community.

Barbara Freeman (write-in)

My name is Barbara Freeman and I am a write-in candidate for Library Trustee. My husband and I have lived in East Andover for 40 years and raised our two sons, Justin and Kris, here.

I love to read and love our libraries. I'm fortunate to live within walking distance of the library in East Andover and have always enjoyed my visits there.

I would be honored to serve and ask that you write in my name for Library Trustee.

School Board

For one year; vote for one

Dean Barker

I am running for School Board because I believe Andover Elementary/Middle School is one of the best schools in New Hampshire, and that compels me to want to serve.

My experience may lend me perspective on the various strands of what makes up a school community. I've lived in Andover and been a property taxpayer here for eight years. I have a child at AE/MS. I am a public school teacher in a neighboring district, where at various times I have been responsible for balancing department budgets.



Additionally, I spent seven previous years on the faculty at Kimball Union, a school not unlike Proctor Academy; having lived as both a boarding school faculty member and, currently, as a homeowner in town, I've seen "town-gown" relations with the local public school from both sides.

The greatest investment a town can make in its future is its school. As the saying goes, it costs less to guide a child to success than to repair an adult. I've witnessed parents make decisions on where to live based on the quality of a school for their children. I've also seen how the excellence of a school is often associated with local control of its stakeholders, the tireless dedication of an experienced staff, and selfless community volunteers.

Conversely, I am keenly aware as a property taxpayer that striving for excellence must be balanced by doing so within our means.

Thank you for reading and for considering my candidacy.

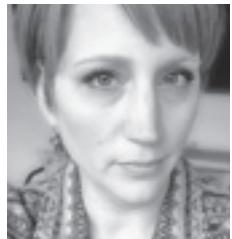
School Board

For two years; vote for one

Misty Sava

I am running for one of the open positions on the Andover School Board. I have always been dedicated to community service, and I have been very involved in the Andover community since moving to Andover in 2012.

I have completely fallen in love with Andover, and AE/MS, and its sense of community and family. I believe in the value of the education our children receive and the return that will give back to our community. Our school truly is the heart of our little community.



I am a former small business owner and retired photographer who now is a homemaker with six children between the ages of four and 19. I have no particular agenda to promote; I would just like the opportunity to continue to serve on the School Board and will continue to

take the responsibility seriously. Thank you for your support.

the budget manageable and our school great.

I am excited for the opportunity to continue serving on the Andover School Board. I look forward to working for our town and our kids and to make their future great.

School Board

For three years; vote for two

Michelle Dudek

Our town has a lot to be proud of, and Andover Elementary/Middle School is a huge part of what makes Andover great. As a mother of two school-age children, an educator, and a resident of East Andover, I have enjoyed serving on the Andover School Board for the last three years. In this capacity I have served as a member of the Budget Committee, as vice-chair and chair of the School Board, and as vice-chair of the SAU board.

In the last few years, the Andover School District has seen great changes such as full-day kindergarten and technology upgrades. We have also been faced with financial challenges



such as increases in retirement, health insurance, and transportation costs. Each year the Andover School Board strives to balance the needs of our school with the town's ability to raise taxes. We have a responsibility to keep

School Moderator

Vote for one

Elizabeth Paine

My name is Elizabeth (Betsy) Paine. I have served as the School District Moderator for the last three years, and I am seeking another one-year term at this year's town election.

I have lived in Andover for 10 years, and both of my children graduated from Andover Elementary/Middle School. Our family had a very positive experience at AE/MS, and I would like to give back to the community by helping moderate the annual School District Meeting.

In the past two years, I have attended two workshops for town and school moderators sponsored by the New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA). I will be seeking legal updates from NHMA prior to this year's meeting on Tuesday, March 2. I would ask that you vote for me. Thank you.



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WARRANT ARTICLES - TOWN MEETING 2015

The polls will be open
in the AE/MS gym
from 11 AM to 7 PM
on Tuesday, March 10, 2015.

Article 1, below, will be
voted on during polling hours.

Town Meeting begins
after the polls close at 7 PM.

ARTICLE 1: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year. (By ballot vote during polling hours.)

Once the polls close at 7 PM,
Town Meeting will begin
by considering Article 2.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen to enter into a three-year lease for a one-ton truck in the amount of \$55,509 and further to raise and appropriate \$18,503 for the first year's payment. No lease will be entered into without an escape clause. This article is contingent on Article 3. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$50,273 for the purchase of town maintenance equipment to be used for work on town properties. This article is contingent on Article 2. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,478,648 for general municipal operations. This appropriation does not include appropriations that are voted for in other articles. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund. Said funds (estimated to be \$225,000) with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, to be transferred to the general fund. Articles 6 and 7 are contingent upon this article. The Select-

men and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1, naming the selectmen as agents to expend, for the purpose of funding the town's portion of the Lawrence Street Bridge Project which will be a State Bridge Aid project and further to raise and appropriate \$200,000 to be placed in this fund. Said funds will come from the general fund. This article is contingent upon Article 5. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of funding general bridge rehabilitation naming the selectmen as agent to expend and further to raise and appropriate \$50,000 to be placed in this fund; \$25,000 to come from the general fund and \$25,000 to be raised through taxation. This article is contingent upon Article 5. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,476 to add to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$25,000 to add to the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund, previously established. The Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,000 to add to the previously established Fire Emergency Labor Expendable Trust Fund. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$7,500 to add to the previously established Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to add to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to add to the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

ARTICLE 16: Shall we delegate the duties and responsibilities of the Cemetery Trustees to the Board of Selectmen?

ARTICLE 17: To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to extend Hoyt Road as a Class V road to allow for construction of a turnaround and access to Lot 15-230-100.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to extend Emery Road Class V rating, east no farther than required by zoning to allow a home to be built on Lot 8-329-127. All improvements would be to town standards, but all costs would be paid without use of any town funds.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the town will vote to accept Johnson Lane as laid out between Cilleyville Road and Powers Lane for all traffic and from Powers Lane to Routes 11 & 4 as a pedestrian way.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the town will vote to enter into a ten (10) year lease with the Andover Horseshoe Club for the lease of the 45 Monticello Drive property known as Map 18-526-032. (Any lease of more than one year requires a Town Meeting vote.)

ARTICLE 21: Shall the town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 36-A:4-a, I(b) to authorize the conservation commission to expend funds for contributions to "qualified organizations" for the purchase of property interests, or facilitating transactions related thereto, where the property interest is to be held by the qualified organization and the town will retain no interest in the property?

ARTICLE 22: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

WARRANT ARTICLES - SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

School District Meeting starts
at 7 PM on Monday, March 2, 2015
in the AE/MS gym.

ARTICLE 1: To see if the District will vote to accept the reports of Officials, Agents, Auditors, and/or Committees as printed in the School District report.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the District will vote to authorize the School Board to make application for, to accept and expend on behalf of the District, any and all advances, grants, or other funds for educational purposes which may now or hereinafter be forthcoming from the United States of America and its agencies or from the State of New Hampshire and its agencies.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the District will authorize the School Board to accept and ex-

pend on behalf of the District private gifts and contributions for educational purposes.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Regular Education High School Tuition Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum is to come from the June 30, 2015 fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1, with no amount to be raised from taxation. (The School Board and Budget Committee recommend passing this appropriation.)

ARTICLE 6: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum is to come

recommend passing this Article.)

ARTICLE 5: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Four Million, Seven Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand, Four Hundred Sixty-Five Dollars (\$4,729,465) for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries of School District officers and agents, and for the payment of statutory obligations of said District and to authorize the application against said appropriation of such sums that are estimated

to be raised from the state's equalization payment, together with other income. The School Board shall certify to the selectmen of Andover the amount to be raised by taxation of said town. (The School Board and Budget Committee recommend passing this appropriation.)

ARTICLE 7: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for the purpose of a Transportation Study. This sum is to come from the June 30, 2015 fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1, with no amount to be raised from taxation. (The School Board and Budget Committee recommend passing this appropriation.)

from the June 30, 2015 fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1, with no amount to be raised from taxation. (The School Board and Budget Committee recommend passing this appropriation.)

ARTICLE 8: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Fourth of July Committee May Change the Fireworks Venue

Join the discussion at March 4 meeting

Andrew Perkins Fourth of July Committee

Think summer and the Fourth of July! Even though we are being buried alive with all of the snow that has been falling, it will end soon. The Fourth of July will certainly not have any snow ... well, except for the sno-cones from the Andover Fire Department.

The Fourth of July Committee will soon be sending out registration forms for the parade. Some notable participants will be the New Hampshire Pipes and Drums, Leapin' Lena, and Captain Morrill's Company, to name just a few.

Anyone can participate in the parade! Remember, the theme this year is Summertime. Make a float, organize a band ... anything you can imagine.

Fireworks

There has been talk of possibly moving the fireworks display to a different location. A few ideas are being tossed around as to where, but it will still be centrally located. The idea of changing the location will allow better visibility and make it safer for everyone. Stay tuned for more information.

If you would like to participate in the parade, have a booth in the flea market on the Village Green, or help out with the Fourth of July Committee, please contact committee president Bob Ward at 735-5061 or Irene Haley at 455-5656.

The next meeting of the Fourth of July Committee will be on Wednesday, March 4, at 7 PM. Volunteers are still needed, and anyone can help. Having more people participate in the preparation of this great holiday will benefit everyone.



Andover Police Department, January 2015

The Andover Police Department handled 295 calls from January 1 through January 31, including:

- Assist Citizen: 3
- Assist Motorist: 3
- Assist Police: 4
- Assist Ambulance/Rescue: 4
- Burglary: 3
- Business Check: 5
- House Check: 150
- OHVR Complaint: 2
- Road Hazard: 3
- Theft: 1

Arrests

- Mickey Michael, 42, Salisbury: Operating after Suspension
- Padriac Stratton, 23, Bradford: Operating after Suspension
- Trevor Lee, 22, Andover: Warrant
- Tanya Ingram, 24, Franklin: Operating after Suspension
- Mary Barselle, 48, Sunapee: Operating without a Valid License

TOWN MATTERS!

The Beacon needs volunteers to help with reporting about town news. If you can help, call Charlie at 735-6099.

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Trustees of Trust Funds Plan to Increase Earnings

Pooling funds in two new CDs

Trustees of Trust Funds

Many Andover residents have expressed concern over the Town trust funds' lack of earnings in the past several years. There are lots of rules about how and when Town funds can be invested, and thus our earnings potential over the past several years has been severely limited, as treasury rates have remained near zero.

While the frustration is understandable, the financial situation has not been one where many gains could be made, especially with municipal funds. The rates for municipal funds are generally different than what you see published when you enter a bank.

In the past year, the Trustees of Trust Funds have been researching and meeting with bankers and financial advisors to find different ways to make a little more money. Recently, interest rates have begun to creep up on treasury funds, which in turn has increased rates on CDs and other money funds.

We have found a couple of CD rates that would give the Town back more money than the funds currently make in the account at Citizens Bank. Additionally, Citizens Bank, which holds the bulk of our funds, has increased our earnings rate as of December 1, 2014 to .15%.

Our plan for 2015 is to pool about

35% of all Town trust account balances in two CDs at different banks, earning greater than .15% for each of them. We plan to open one six-month CD at Lake Sunapee Bank, earning about .35%, and one with Service Credit Union for a 15-month term, earning 1%.

These CDs will be under \$250,000 total, keeping just below the FDIC cap. The earnings will be evenly allocated back to each contributing fund as it's earned.

Our goal as market rates for treasury funds continue to rise will be to pool funds and invest in CDs on a rotating basis. This will allow for greater earnings now that CD rates have improved and access to the funds as needed by the Town or its committees.

If any Town committee would like their funds to be excluded from the CD investments (if, for example, you expect to spend more than 35% of your balance in the next six months), please let us know as soon as possible, and we will accommodate your wishes.

We hope that this action will allow many to be a little happier with the rate of return of Town funds. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact us at any time: Joanne Edgar, Chair, at Joanne@JEdgarCFO.com or 393-8033; Alex Estin at EstinAI@ProctorAcademy.org; or Sarah Whitehead at WhiteheadSa@ProctorAcademy.org.

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TOWN COMMITTEE MINUTES

Board Of Selectmen

December 15, 2014

Condensed from approved minutes

Members present: Chairman Coolidge, Selectwoman Viandier, Selectman Danforth, John Thompson, Jim Delaney, Town Administrator (TA) Marj Roy.

Road Agent

Road Agent John Thompson reported that the pole barn would be starting on December 12.

John just found out the equipment rates for Salisbury. They pay \$75 per hour for six-wheelers, \$58 per hour for one-ton and pickup. They are planning on increasing to \$10 more per hour for next season. The Town of Salisbury supplies cutting edges.

Mark Stetson

Mark was here as a town taxpayer and asked how the Selectmen came up with a \$40,000 savings by going with another assessing firm. Chairman Coolidge offered an explanation. Jim Danforth ran the numbers, and he will look at his spreadsheet to verify the difference.

Mark believes the difference is with the Data Verification, and that is contracted out with other assessing businesses. The Selectmen will discuss this at Friday's work session, and Mark will review Cross Country's shared-services bid and put it in a spreadsheet format.

Mark also discussed the tipping fees from Waste Management. Complete closure of the Franklin ash pit will take place during the warmer months in 2015. Jim Presher will continue to monitor the closure process. Operating cost will come out of the existing funds. They are looking to sell the Canterbury lot and the Penacook City lot, which are projected to sell for \$2 million, and the Town should see a credit when the lots sell.

Bob Ward, Chairman of Fourth of July Committee

The Fourth of July Committee has requested that a representative be present at all regular meetings for the Fourth of July Committee.

Bob mentioned that the financial procedure seems to be working well

with the Trustees of the Trust Funds.

Due to last year's washout, the committee has put in place a protocol for a rain event, which will include a rain date.

The parade would be cancelled due to being unable to re-book bands on such short notice.

Atlas Fireworks will not be doing the display for 2015. The committee looked at two companies, and RS Fireworks will be the company they contract with for 2015. The new company will not have low fireworks, and they include cleanup on the following day.

Bob said the Fourth of July Committee meets on the first Wednesday of every month at the Andover Fire Station, and they are looking for new members to join.

Petition

Carlos Ayala presented a petition citing RSA 39:3 with four pages of signatures on it.

Carlos said Town officials need to be very aware of confidential issues. Chairman Coolidge explained that tax information isn't confidential. Anyone has access to the information.

Carlos would like the Town to pass a law to keep everything confidential. Chairman Coolidge said he will look at RSA 91-A.

Carlos said he is only asking to see if we can be professional with confidential information.

Old Business

GE Capital Lease buy-out: Voted to buy out lease and take from Capital Reserve Fund. Chairman Coolidge motioned, Selectman Danforth seconded the motion, and Selectwoman Viandier approved.

Vote to use highway project money to pay for the pole barn in the amount of \$18,600. Chairman Coolidge motioned, and Selectwoman Viandier approved.

Set up of 365 Software and the need to carry forward the money set aside to carry forward into 2015. Chair-

See Selectmen on page 15

Office Hours & Meetings

OFFICE HOURS

Town Office: Mon-Thu 9-2
Fridays by appointment only

Town Clerk & Tax Collector:

Mon, Wed, Thu, 9-2

Tue, 1:30-6:30

Last Saturday of month, 9-11

Building Inspector: Tues, 6-7

Andover Library:

Mon, 6:30-8:30

Wed, 9-12 & 6:30-8:30

Thu, 12:30-4:30 • Sat, 10-12

Bachelder Library:

Tues, 9-12:30 & 6:30-8:30

Thu, 2:45-5; 6:30-8:30

Fri, 1:30-5

Transfer Station:

Wed, 7-6 (7-5 during Standard Time)

Sat, 7-5

Swap Event (May-Oct):

2nd Sat (rain date: 3rd Sat)

Transfer Station, 8-12

MEETINGS

At the Town Hall unless otherwise noted

Board of Selectmen:

1st & 3rd Mon, 6

Planning Board: 2nd & 4th Tue, 7

Zoning Board of Adjustment:

3rd Tue, 7

Conservation: 2nd Wed, 7:30

Recreation Comm: 2nd Tues, 7,

AE/MS Science Room

Library Trustees: 3rd Thu, 7

(except Jul & Aug), Andover

Library or Bachelder Library

Fourth of July: 1st Wed (Feb-Jun

& Aug), Andover Fire Station, 7

Andover Fire Department:

1st Monday, business, 7

Other Mondays, training, 7

Andover EMS: 2nd Tue, 7

East Andover Fire Station

School Board: 1st Tue (except July and August), 6:30, AE/MS

For more information, call the Town Office at 735-5332.

Mark Your Calendar!

MARCH

2: Board of Selectmen, 6

2: SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING,
AE/MS, 7

2: Fire Department Training, 7

3: Building Permits, 6-7

3: School Board, AE/MS, 6:30

4: 4th of July, Andover Fire Station, 7

10: Town Clerk's Office CLOSED

10: VOTING, AE/MS, 11-7

10: TOWN MEETING, AE/MS, 7

11: Conservation Commission, 7:30

16: Board of Selectmen, 6

16: Fire Department Training, 7

17: Building Permits, 6-7

17: Zoning Board, 7

19: Library Trustees, 7

24: Building Permits, 6-7

24: Planning Board, 7

31: Building Permits, 6-7

APRIL

1: 4th of July, Andover Fire Station, 7

6: Board of Selectmen, 6

6: Fire Department Training, 7

7: Building Permits, 6-7

7: School Board, AE/MS, 6:30

8: Conservation Commission, 7:30

14: Building Permits, 6-7

14: Planning Board, 7

14: Recreation Comm, AE/MS, 7

14: Andover EMS,

East Andover Fire Station, 7

16: Library Trustees, 7

20: Board of Selectmen, 6

20: Fire Department Training, 7

21: Building Permits, 6-7

21: Zoning Board, 7

28: Building Permits, 6-7

28: Planning Board, 7

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Selectmen from page 14

man Coolidge moved, Selectwoman Viandier approved.

Flaghole Road streetlights: PSNH would like to meet in a Selectmen's work session to discuss the cost of removing the streetlights.

Seals need to be replaced on elevator, Chairman Coolidge and Selectwoman Viandier signed contract.

Town Administrator

Marj Roy presented a list of events accomplished in the office by Lois and Elita.

Mainstay negotiated better terms for no increase in 2015, but with a three-year contract and with 4% increase in 2016 and 2017.

Trustees of Trust Funds and Selectmen need to work together to put new state RSA in effect.

Warrant Article for Horseshoe Club: Marj will work with Norm Green to get the warrant article done.

Transfer Station will be closed on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

Letter to Dan Labonte: Chairman Coolidge signed and Selectwoman Viandier signed.

Written quote for taking down trees by Guillemette, East Andover \$450, and Andover \$550.

Intent to Cut from Proctor for Elbow Pond area. Chairman Coolidge and Selectwoman Viandier signed.

Intent to Cut from Elwin and Mary Barton. Chairman Coolidge and Selectwoman Viandier signed.

Charlie Darling asked to have the Selectmen sign a contract for video storage.

Accounts Payable Manifest: Chairman Coolidge & Selectman Danforth signed two manifests.

Recreation Committee

Alan Hanscom said he is concerned that he wasn't notified about the possible mowing change for next year. It was explained that if the new highway budget is accepted, and they hire part-time people, the new people would be doing all the mowing, which includes the cemeteries, Town Office, town beach, and sport fields.

Alan said the Blackwater Field is mowed every four to five days from May to October.

January 5, 2015

Condensed from approved minutes

Members Present: Selectmen Coolidge and Viandier; John Thompson, Jim Delaney, Town Administrator (TA) Marj Roy.

Road Agent

Road Agent John Thompson reported the pole barn is completed. The building from the Transfer Station has been moved to White Oak.

John mentioned that the Town needs to send a letter to Block House Lane residents in regards to the dumpster that is in the right-of-way. This has been an issue since November 2014.

Town Administrator

Marj Roy said that Loren Martin from Avitar will be handling all of An-

dover's assessing. This will eliminate any questions regarding a conflict of interest with Mark Stetson.

The Town adopted the Selectmen's Operational Guideline Handbook. Selectwoman Sophie Viandier accepted and Chairmen Duncan Coolidge approved.

Transfer Station electronics need to be placed in the Recycling Building, not the metal pile.

The Town Office heating system was out on Saturday. The coil was replaced in order for the system to work.

Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held on January 21 at 7 PM. This is the time when the public can come to ask questions.

Chairman Coolidge asked William Bates to be the liaison with Proctor. Marj will have the papers ready to sign on Friday. Duncan nominated and Sophie approved.

Medical rates from School Care, signed by Chairman Coolidge.

Septage agreement, required by Department of Environmental Services so Andover can dump in Franklin, signed by Chairman Coolidge.

Letters to assessing firms thanking them for their bid were signed by Chairman Coolidge and Selectwoman Viandier.

January 19
Condensed from approved minutes

Members present: Selectmen Coolidge and Danforth, Selectwoman Sophie Viandier, TA Roy, and member of the public Jim Delaney.

Community Sign

There was discussion about the community sign located in front of the Town Office. Coolidge has talked with Andover Lions Club president Bill Kennedy, and they feel that requests for use of the sign should be taken at the Town Office.

Originally, the sign was purchased by the Lions Club and given to the Town as a gift. Historically, a member of the Lions Club has taken requests and put up the signs. The Town has provided some very minor funding for repair of one of the letter rails. The newly-forming Andover Community Association recently inquired of TA Roy as to the rules for use of the sign: No commercial, political, or religious uses, and organizations using the sign must be non-profit.

Road Agent

Road Agent Thompson joined the meeting and gave a short report that he summed up as, "Even with the storm, things are going well." He asked TA Roy to send a letter to a resident on Blockhouse Lane telling him to remove a dumpster that is in the Town's right-of-way and is hampering plowing of that road. He also stated that Plains Road will be re-posted now that the Route 4 bridge has reopened and the New Hampshire DOT has no need for the Plains Road detour. He asked whether or not an official letter is required in order to re-post. TA Roy will investigate.

Thompson reported that the pole barn was used for salt storage during

yesterday's ice storm.

TA Roy reported a phone conversation with the homeowner at 109 Maple Street concerning run-off from the street through their yard that is causing a lot of damage. The homeowner was present and expressed his concern about the damage being caused. He lives in Massachusetts and will meet with Thompson as soon as he is in Andover again.

Other Business

The Selectmen asked Roy to call the insurance company and find out whether coverage is affected by lease of a vehicle rather than purchase.

Roy presented a notice regarding a public hearing in Danbury for expansion of Ragged Mountain Pacific LLC.

The Board discussed whether or not collection of commercial construction and demolition debris is appropriate for Andover.

Viandier presented impressive drawings for the Transfer Station.

School Board

January 6

Condensed from approved minutes

Board present: Michelle Dudek, Anne Swayze, Mark Heller, and Misty Sava.

Administration present: Mark MacLean, Christine Barry, Robin Heins, Jane Slayton, Kathleen Boucher, and Judith Turk

Public present: Tina Cotton

Board Chairperson's Report: Michelle stated that she thought that the recent meeting with the Andover Budget Committee went well. It was helpful for them to have the information in advance of the discussion.

Old Business

Policies – Second Reading: IGE – Parental Objections to Specific Course Material: All were in favor and the pol-

icy was approved. JKAA – Use of Restraints and Seclusion: All were in favor and the policy was approved. JLCJ – Concussions and Head Injuries: All were in favor and the policy was approved.

Transportation Contract: Robin presented the final bids for both of the transportation proposals. Mark H. moved to accept the First Student contract bid for \$1,720,145 and Anne made the second. All were in favor and the budget was passed.

New Business

2015-2016 Budget: Robin presented an updated warrant article regarding a proposed transportation study. Mark M. spoke of the consultative process. The study can be funded out of this year's budget, taking the money from the fund balance, since the facility study was less than the proposed figure.

Mark H. moved to recommend a proposed budget of \$4,729,464 to the Andover Budget Committee for the 2015-2016 school year. Anne made the second. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

2015-2016 Draft Calendar: Jane presented a draft calendar for the upcoming school year. Several factors and options were considered. Further discussion is warranted regarding utilizing the AE/MS building for Town elections while school is in session due to security concerns.

Anne moved to recommend the proposed calendar for the 2015-2016 school year. Misty made the second. All were in favor and the calendar was approved.

Superintendent's Report: Mark M. stated that the meeting with the Budget Committee was very positive and agreed that having the information in advance was helpful. He spoke of the efforts involved with the transportation contract and of the beneficial results. He commended those around the table for all of their hard work.

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AE/MS Long Range Plan: How Have We Done?

A look back
at the 2010-2015 plan

Jane Slayton, AE/MS principal
Gretchen Hildebrand,
AE/MS second grade teacher

The arrival of 2015 signals the final weeks of AE/MS' five-year Long Range Plan (LRP). We want to give our community a sense of how things went. After all ... it's your school!

Below are the goals as stated in the LRP and as rewritten by this year's eighth graders. Following each is a brief commentary about the progress that has been made toward each goal.

Goal #1: AE/MS students will demonstrate progress in academic achievement and personal development required for a successful future in the 21st century.

"We will work to be better students and learn skills for when we are older. We will get good grades and prove that

we are learning what we have been taught. We will learn writing, public speaking, other languages, music, art, literature, math, and science and become familiar with commonly used and advanced technologies. We will improve ourselves." —AE/MS Class of 2015

At Andover Elementary/Middle School, we have linked learning to our 7 Cs, which are Caring, Collaboration, Communication and Connection, Community, Creativity, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, and Curiosity. All lessons, activities, and learning experiences correlate to at least one of the 7 Cs, and most include several Cs.

Academic achievement was strengthened by the addition of full-day kindergarten. Already first grade teachers have noticed an acceleration of academic skills as the first full-day kindergarten class moves up through the primary grades. The addition of full-day kindergarten has benefited and will continue to

See Plan on page 17



Amid the bustle of the second grade's annual Healthy Heart Valentine Restaurant, Madison Hersey takes Mrs. Fadden's order for take-out while Cody Provost scoots behind her.

On February 12, AE/MS second graders held their annual Healthy Heart Valentine Restaurant for the faculty and third graders. This event marks the culmination of a lot of learning! The children had many lessons about healthy eating; what keeps our hearts healthy (good food, exercise, sleep, water); making a balanced meal; choosing foods for a menu; pricing everything fairly; practicing how to add money and make change; voting as a class of 27 where to donate the money they earned; and physically working together to transform the classrooms into a restaurant.

While the restaurant was happening, each child had to figure out how to be polite, efficient, and tidy, all at the same time, without getting overwhelmed. This one event provided science research, reading, writing, math, social studies, and community service learning plus personal growth skills. It is but one of dozens of opportunities each month that the children of AE/MS have with learning. Photo and caption: Gretchen Hildebrand

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Mark - Laconia, NH

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Plan from page 16

benefit our school community for years to come. Thank you, Andover!

We continue to explore world language options and have at times offered world language instruction for our students, but not as consistently or as comprehensively as we would like.

Gisela Darling has continued to offer German instruction after school to a dedicated group of learners. During the 2013-2014 school year we were fortunate to have a member of the Proctor community teach Spanish in kindergarten through fourth grade. We were also fortunate to employ a Spanish teacher for one year in grades seven and eight.

Most recently, AE/MS has partnered with Virtual Learning Academy Charter School, and eighth grade students have started online coursework with teachers of French, Spanish, Latin, and Mandarin Chinese. Kindergarten through eighth-grade world language instruction is a goal we will continue to work toward.

Technology use as a learning tool in all the classrooms has increased immensely within the last five years. Technology tools (iPads, Chromebooks, SMART boards, etc.) are commonplace in classrooms and used effectively to bolster instruction and learning.

Goal #2: AE/MS will provide a learning environment that supports academic achievement and personal growth.

"The school will be a place to learn, and it will help us complete personal goals. The school will be friendly, flexible, and open-minded. The teachers will be very awesome and will adjust their teaching styles to each kid." – AE/MS '15

Response to Instruction: We are now using STAR and AIMsweb assessments to screen, progress-monitor, and diagnose individual student needs and progress to inform our instruction. This protocol provides early intervention, individual support, and challenge beyond the core curriculum. Visit AEMSeagles.org and click on "RTI & FLEX" for more information.

In the last five years, we have increased the ways in which we use data to inform instruction, assist at-risk students,

and determine next steps in curriculum. These changes are highlighted by positive trends: our retention rate is extremely low, the number of students discharged from special education services has increased, and behavior problems resulting from frustration during classroom instruction have become less frequent.

Although our #1 priority is daily instruction and enrichment, AE/MS students in third through eighth grade usually score at or above the state average in standardized testing situations. Positive feedback from both Merrimack Valley High School and Proctor Academy about strong high school preparation helps us to know we are on the right track.

"We don't teach to tests ... we teach kids."

AE/MS, like other schools in the state and country, will be administered the Smarter Balanced Assessment for the first time this spring for grades three through eight. Smarter Balanced is a state-led consortium working collaboratively to develop assessments aligned to the Common Core State Standards that measure student progress toward college and career readiness.

Goal #3 AE/MS will attract and retain a highly-qualified faculty and staff.

"The school will hire and keep good teachers. The workplace will be friendly, respectful, inspiring, and organized. The teachers and staff will have good pay." – AE/MS '15

Research has shown that one of the most important factors contributing to a child's success in school is the teacher. We are fortunate to have excellent and effective teachers who take the time and energy to know their students.

Our teachers know the whole child and, due to the high retention of these teachers, they often even know and have worked with siblings. This fact leads to strong community connections and the sense of a "school family" that we cherish.

The teachers know the passions, interests, strengths, struggles, and families of their students. Teachers at

Andover Elementary/Middle School meet the educational needs of the whole child by knowing the whole child.

Opportunities for professional development for teachers has increased within the past few years. New England College now brings graduate coursework on-site. Many of our teachers take advantage of this opportunity to learn together.

In addition, AE/MS has increased formative assessment practices within classrooms and with individual students. Web-based and collegial training and support is ongoing.

GOAL #4 AE/MS will maintain and expand community partnerships.

"AE/MS will work with the community to benefit the people in the town and the school. The school will build strong relationships with the town by working together." – AE/MS '15



The past five years have only reinforced that it is the "people" factor that provides AE/MS students with a rigorous, relevant, and relationship-based education. It is the students, past and present, the faculty and staff members,

the Andover School Board and administration, the families, and the local community of Andover. It is a true collaboration of strengths and talents, all directed toward our learners.

Everyone feels a connection to our community school. The school is at the heart of our town, and it is reassuring and pleasing to hear community members talk with pride and ownership about Andover Elementary/Middle School. We are most fortunate.

GOAL #5 AE/MS will develop a facility and grounds to meet the needs of our children and community.

"The school will keep the building and property safe so that it is a fun environment for everyone. The school will grow when it is needed to provide more opportunities. It will be a happy place for learning and growing." – AE/MS '15

At the annual School District Meeting in March 2014, a warrant article was approved to have the Andover School Board begin a sustainability study to determine appropriate options for facilities maintenance and other district needs of AE/MS. The Andover School Board will be prepared to share the results of the study at the annual School District Meeting on March 2, 2015. Goal #5 will be a focus of committee work which will begin after the results of the study have been shared. (Please consider being part of this committee.)

We diligently maintain our facility and make improvements mindfully and when feasible. Within the last five years, most of the carpet in the building has been replaced by tile. This past fall, much-needed repairs were made to the playground structure by school and community volunteers. A new game structure and small equipment items were also added to the playground.

We plan to continue with playground repairs and additions. Improvements in the gym this past summer and fall included installation of a new sound system and the replacement of one basketball backboard. Much work continues to be done within the infrastructure of our building to support our expanding technology needs.

The Goals Ahead

We would love your input and participation as we define school goals for the next five years. AE/MS is truly a community school, and your ideas are important to us. Committee meetings will begin this spring. Please contact Principal Jane Slayton at 735-5494 or JSlayton@AEMSeagles.org before the end of March for more information or to be included.

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He Who Must Not Be Named can often be seen swimming around the perimeter of Highland Lake in the summer.

Looking Forward to Summer ...

... and swimming around Highland Lake

Liz Wolf, for the Beacon

Opening my e-mail before the holidays, I saw a request from Charlie Darling and announced to the man having a beer next to me, "Hey, this is funny. The Andover Beacon wants to write a story about you."

"Why?"

"Apparently, someone asked him to find out who the guy is that swims around Highland Lake."

"Yeah, not interested."

"Well, what if I write it?"

"Not happening."

"Maybe?"

"Maybe not."

Not one to be deterred, here's some information on the man some of you

may have noticed in Highland Lake from May to October swimming the circumference of the lake. He is a very reluctant participant in this article and does not want his name used, so I will refer to him as HWMNBN (He Who Must Not Be Named).

The swim usually takes him a little under two hours, and we figure it is around three miles to swim his perimeter route. He swims it every day he can, but he works in the Boston area, so that means usually weekends only. He's been known to wake up early, though, on workdays and get a "little" swim in before he goes to work.

He's been swimming since he was young. He took the course to become a life guard to help pay for school and swam competitively in high school and

See Swimmer on page 19

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Eric Johnson (right) was recognized by the Society of American Foresters' Granite State Division for his contributions to the forest products industry. He was presented with its 2015 Outstanding Contribution to the Forest Community award at the organization's recent annual meeting.

Eric is the New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association's program director. He develops landowner, logger, and forester training programs that foster better forest management and cooperation within the entire industry. These training and educational programs are recognized as some of the best in the region.

Swimmer from page 18

college. He exclusively uses the crawl stroke on his open water swims, but he can do a mean butterfly and back stroke as well.

HWMNBN does use goggles and occasionally sees fish, but not as often as we'd like. He said it is not unusual for loons to come close and check him out, but most other wildlife stays away.

He doesn't stop when he swims and prefers not to be interrupted, not even by someone checking up on him. On especially busy boat days, I will accompany him by boat when he crosses by the Channel.

The best water temperatures for his swim are mid to high 70s. There are

times when the lake gets too warm for comfort, but not often. If the water temp is very cool, in the 60s, he will cut the North Cove corner a little bit.

He doesn't mind swimming in the rain but will call off the swim if there are white caps from the wind. When he gets back, he likes a nice hot shower and a cold beer. It takes an hour or so to get his body temperature back to where it should be.

When I asked him what the most interesting part of the swim was and told him that he couldn't say "Dead bodies," he responded, "All the dead bodies." Upon further prodding, he thinks the most interesting thing is the change in underwater flora. Where the stream enters the

See Swimmer on page 20



Bob Palmer of Santa's Summer Farm helps a customer at the February Winter Market in Danbury. Bob was selling apples and his wife's glassware with beautiful hand-painted flowers.

Photo: Phyllis Rockwell

Danbury Winter Market Reaches Halfway Mark

March 7 from 9 AM to 1 PM in Danbury

Press release

The March 7 Danbury Winter Market marks the halfway point of the Blazing Star Grange's six-market winter season. If winter is half over, then Spring is surely coming — dare we hope?

The Newfound Farm Clothing Company is counting on it, as they are busy

sewing and designing petticoats which promise to be all the rage this spring. Phyllis, owner of Newfound Farm Clothing Company, has designed a line of more traditional petticoats and overskirt pairs, some with coordinating blouses, all of which can be worn separately. Be ready for spring with one of these charming outfits. As with all of the company's creations, each one is crafted of recycled

See Market on page 25



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Swimmer from page 19

lake in the northern corner, there was always a lot of weeds and fish until a couple of years ago. Now he says it is like a desert – nothing but dirt and sand, a complete change.

I find the most interesting thing about the swim is his playlist, which changes every time. That's right, he listens to music while he swims.

He has an MP3 player that doesn't use headphones but technology called bone-conduction. Two pieces similar to headphones sit just over his jawbones (not over the ear). When music plays through them, they vibrate the bone so he can hear them in any condition.

They work best when totally underwater, and even though he swims mostly on the surface, HWMNBN said being able to listen to music has made swimming much more enjoyable.

Today HWMNBN and I took the dog for a walk across the snow and ice out to the island on Highland Lake. Hard to believe, but before you know it, the ice will melt, and the trees will bud out. The docks will go in, and you will probably see those feet kicking through the water once again.

On our walk back to the cabin, I asked him why he swims. His answer: "If you don't swim, you sink."

Route 11 Took Three Paths Around Hogback

Some old sections are still walkable today

Rita Norander, for the Beacon
Introduction

Over a year ago, after reading still another plea from Charlie Darling for volunteers to help with the Beacon, I decided it was time to step up to the plate and see if there was anything I could do to help.

Chatting with Charlie about what I might do, I told him of my interest in local history and genealogy. He suggested I write a series of articles about the roads in Andover, how they got their names, and the people who used to live on them – especially the family whose name the road might bear.

Previous to the building of the Brook Road, there were two other roads fairly close by – one to the north and one to the south – which connected East Andover with the Pemigewasset River area. These roads were already in use in the 1760s, and I was surprised to learn the Brook Road was built so much later.

As might be expected by its name, this new road closely followed the brook, as it twisted and turned and squeezed through the little valley between Marston Hill to the south and Hogback Hill to the north, each of which came down steeply to the edge of the brook.

Let's begin following the old Brook Road at the Franklin town line and head west, in the direction of Andover. At the town line, Brook Road was more to the right (north) and so was closer to the brook and the Last Street bridge than the road of today.

It then went straight (like today's road) until coming to the area of our lower or eastern driveway, where it went to the right, and again was closer to the brook. This was necessary, because in 1824, there were no railroad tracks on the left (south), so Marston Hill was still intact and came down steeply and close to the brook on this side. Also at that time, of course, the present road and our current house were not there, and possibly neither was the little house with its outbuildings close to the brook (see the photos).



The old camp and gas station on Route 11 near Hogback. It was just to the west of Archie's store, shown in the photo to the right. The gentleman in the photo is probably Archie Morrill, from whom Rita's parents bought the property.

I decided to write only about the roads in East Andover, since this is the area of town with which I am most familiar, having grown up here, a little west of the Franklin town line. When my husband retired in 2012, we moved into the house where I grew up, which has been in my family (LaPlante) since 1929.

I'll have a good reference in Ralph Chaffee's book, East Andover and Its People, Fifty Years Ago and Today, which he wrote in 1974. This is a wonderful book which I have turned to often over the years, and much of the information I will use in my articles will have been gleaned from these pages. John Eastman's History of Andover, 1751-1906 is another great reference I will use.

The Old Brook Road

I will begin these articles close to home by writing about the section of Route 11 which runs from the Franklin town line, around Hogback Hill (today's Clay Bank, which is before the S-curve bridge), and on to Dyer's Crossing. This road goes by my house and used to be called the Andover Road, but with the advent of 911, its name was changed to the Franklin Highway.

When initially laid out in 1824, it was called "the Brook Road." The waterway itself was originally known as Mill Brook, but at some point in time its name was changed to Sucker Brook.



This is how the little house down in back of the Norander's present house looked when Rita's parents bought it in 1929, when the main road went right by it.

We have deeds for this older house which go back to the 1860s, but we are not sure when it was actually built, although I'm guessing not until after the coming of the Brook Road. The original road's path was pretty much the same as the current dirt road which circles around the back of our present house. Thus it headed south briefly, coming out about where our western driveway is, and crossed where today's road and rail trail are – which again were not there at that time.

Brook Road next turned to the west and crossed the brook. The stone work which supported this bridge is still in place today and can easily be seen from the rail trail. It is a true testament to the workmanship of its time – built without mortar, and still See Route 11 on page 25

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Celebrating in their 100th School Day crowns are (back) Xavier Gebo, Talia Hardy, Brennan Dunklee, Lily Luicha, Colin Murphy, Isaac Norris, Camden Allenby, Wyatt Barton, Linden Morgan, John Pourby; (front row) Parker Sweeney, Chance Thibault, Jayden Dashnaw, Addison Bickford, Aly Wheeler, Anya Chadbourne, Jacob Hersey, Paige Orcutt, Victoria Koron. Photo: Laura Witt

AE/MS Kindergarten Celebrates 100th Day of School

It's not time for first grade ... yet!

Laura Witt
AE/MS kindergarten teacher

The kindergarten students celebrated the 100th day of school on February 11. They were very excited for the day to arrive! Some were confused and thought they would then be going to first grade, so it was explained that there are actually 180 days of school.

We started our day by making crowns with 100 finger prints on them. Kindergartners led the Pledge of Allegiance for the whole school and shared 100 items from home.

Students brought in 100 pennies, Q-tips, stamps, 100 wheels on a car, and many other items. Students stacked 100 cups and drew a picture of what they thought they would look like in 100 years.

Many students came to school dressed as though they were 100 years old. We did 100 exercises and 100 seconds of jumping, 100 seconds of silliness, 100 seconds of silence.

It was a fun day, filled with smiles and excitement while learning about the number 100. Kindergarten students are now 100 days smarter! It is truly an accomplishment when you look at how much each student has grown.



Damien Jenifer and Lydia Thisell painted a picture inspired by singer, songwriter, author, and humanitarian Michael Franti, the person the first graders chose to represent "The Power of One." Photo: Jen Bent

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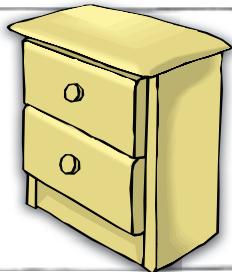
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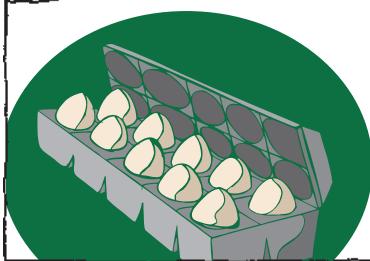
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Pat - FRH Volunteer

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Time Bank Could Help Andover's Neighborly Helpfulness

Exchange helps connect needs with resources

Sophie Viandier, for the Beacon

I was told recently that our rural town is lacking in the good ol' neighborly helpers of yesteryear. I don't believe this is true. I see helping hands everywhere – carpooling, food donations, renovation help, and childcare, to name a few. However, I don't doubt that we could do better. Perhaps a grassroots service exchange system could help.

The Kearsarge Time Bank is an exchange of services between people in a community without money, using only time. Time banks strengthen a community by forging connections based on the needs and skills of community members. Everyone has something to contribute, and it is possible to develop and sustain our economy by connecting existing needs with unacknowledged resources.

In the Kearsarge Time Bank, all time is equal, meaning that for every hour of time you donate, you earn an hour to spend on another person's service. All skills can be traded, and all ages can participate. Members can teach or learn

each other's skills.

The Kearsarge Time Bank can work alongside non-profit organizations, senior care facilities, or through individuals. It's entirely focused on service exchange within the community.

Time banks strengthen communities by creating new connections between people who live in the same area. Let's help Andover, and the rest of the Kearsarge area, to develop a new sense of spirit through connectivity!

How can you get involved? Sign up, so you can offer your skills and look for services in return that you need. Some of the many services include:

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Donna Baker-Hartwell sent this "History Mystery" to the Beacon last month. She writes, "Rita Norander did a great job writing about Tucker Mountain Road in the last issue of the Beacon. On a related note, my aunt, Carolyn Thompson Currier, gave me this photo of an unidentified couple on Tucker Mountain Road, just below what is today Benjamin and Cindy Seaver's house. I would love to know who these people are." If you can shed any light on this mystery, please contact the Beacon at Mail@AndoverBeacon.com or 735-6099.

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Friends of the Northern Rail Trail Minutes, January 19, 2015

Condensed from draft minutes

FNRT board members present:

Steve Darling, Myra Mayman, Ellsworth Morton, Joyce Morton, Steve Rayno, Peter Southworth, Nita Tomaszewski, Bob Ward, and guest Karolyn Carpenter from Tilton.

Correspondence: Nita received letters from DOT with assurances that they will repair any damage to the Trail, including culverts, that may occur in its project to widen Franklin's Route 3 (by the industrial park). She also has a letter from UMRLAC stating that any related work (in regard to Wetlands Permit Application) will also not impact the trail. Steve reported that the Brown Foundation has donated \$10,000 toward the Dyer's Crossing water damage.

Old Business

Maintenance Agreement: Bob contacted Chris Gamache (New Hampshire Trails Bureau) who stated he will attend our March 18 meeting along with colleague Shawn Violette. In regard to maintenance, we hope to clarify FNRT and state responsibilities.

Chris reported that the #1 use of RTP funds is for maintenance. Grant in Aid funding is only for snowmobile clubs. The Trails Bureau does not have the funds or staff to do much trail maintenance, only emergency problems.

It is routine for the Trails Bureau to have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that spells out expectations for groups like FNRT. Chris is developing a MOU for FNRT, but Bob has not received that yet (we should see it before March). Chris observed that the future of the RTP funding is uncertain.

The significant water problem behind Jerry Hersey's farm near Dyer's Crossing in East Andover remains an issue that Ricker Miller is looking into. This project, to restore the railroad's intercept ditch to carry water away from the Trail, will require significant funding.

Annual Budget (Peter and Steve D): We discussed the specific points of the proposed budget and added another \$100 for half the cost of a rental toilet at Highland Lake (split with the Highland Lake Protection Association)

as well as \$100 for graffiti treatment. We felt the budget reserve should be increased to \$1,000, put aside annually. We discussed inviting the Andover, Boscawen, and Franklin snowmobile clubs to our April 15 meeting to explore partnering over maintenance.

Volunteers: Myra reported that Lindy has been successful in finding volunteers for managing the sponsorship page on the Web site (Pecco Beaufays); coordinating the materials and appearances of our booth/table items at events; and the Thursday's Child dinner on April 23 (Larry Chase, with help from Charley Freiberg).

Kiosks at Two Welcome Centers:

We discussed the size of future kiosks, locations, costs, etc. Ellsworth is going to draft a sketch and costs for a smaller kiosk.

New Business

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

April 23: Thursday's Child fundraising dinner at New London Inn. The next meeting is Wednesday, February 18, possibly in Boscawen.

2015 FNRT calendar: Myra will send the calendar via e-mail. June was agreed upon for the Annual Meeting.

Enfield Bridge: Last fall, DOT told the Town of Enfield they would not remove the bridge. DOT gave the Town two alternatives: do nothing, or improve the existing route that by-passes the bridge. Alex and Myra will participate in a charette this week when the Town of Enfield hopes to decide how to proceed.

Signage and Rail-Crossing Problems:

Boyd Smith of Concord, with help from Jack Shields of Boscawen, is involved in connecting the FNRT trail with the Hannah Dustin Park and Ride and the Concord village of Penacook. Alex noted that we need the right to cross the Pan Am tracks. (We have since been informed that the Town of Boscawen has the necessary crossing rights.) We will need directional signs to help trail users get from the end of the Trail in Boscawen to these two locations.

Andover Town Report: Bob noted that the FNRT will be featured in the 2014 Andover Town Report.

**Saturday, March 7,
at Eagle Pond**

Amanda Gross, AF&G volunteer

What a winter we are having! It hit us so hard and so fast that the Andover Fish and Game Club (AF&G), for the first time in a long time, had to cancel the Al Chadwick Memorial Ice Fishing Derby. February 7 would have been a perfect day for fishing, but the thick, fluffy snow already on the ice prevented even a plow truck from clearing a path. The layer of slippery slush under the snow would have hindered even the most determined angler.

Hopefully, winter will cooperate for the AF&G's next event, the 31st annual Willis Nowell Memorial Kids Ice Fishing Derby. The Derby, for kids 15 and under, is scheduled for Saturday, March 7, with a bad weather date of Sunday, March 8.

The Derby is being held on Eagle Pond in Wilmot, off of Route 4, from 9:30 AM to 12 PM. Kids may register as early as 9 AM. All tackle and bait will be provided, as well as complimentary refreshments. Lucky prizes, participation ribbons, and trophies for each category of fish will be awarded. Come join us for a fun, family-friendly time on the ice.

Thank you to everyone who has attended our fundraising events, which make it possible for the AF&G to sponsor fun, family-friendly experiences like these derbies. An important mission of the AF&G is to educate the public, particularly children, about the outdoors, wildlife, and outdoor sports such as hunting and fishing. We always appreciate your support.

Thank you, as well, to Club members and their families and supporters of the AF&G who donate time, money, and supplies to our events.

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Bachelder Library New Acquisitions

Adult Fiction

Accused, Lisa Scottoline
Auschwitz Escape, Joel Rosenberg
Betrayed, Lisa Scottoline
Mr. Mercedes, Stephen King
Landline, Rainbow Rowell
Sisters, Raina Telgemeier
Stone Mattress, Margaret Atwood
Will Starling, Ian Weir
Revival, Stephen King
Mercy Snow, Tiffany Baker
Everything I Never Told You,
Celeste Ng
Save Me, Kristyn Kusek Lewis
Girl On the Train, Paula Hawkins
Station Eleven,
Emily St. John Mandel
Spool of Blue Thread, Anne Tyler,

Adult Non-Fiction

Gaia's Garden: A Guide to Home-Scale Permaculture,
Toby Hemenway

The Wild Truth, Carine McCandless
It was Me All Along, Adie Mitchell

Children and Young Adult Titles

Bad Kitty, Nick Bruel
Bad Kitty Drawn to Trouble,
Nick Bruel
Stella By Starlight, Sharon Draper
Julia's House for Lost Creatures,
Ben Hatke
Long Haul, Jeff Kinney
*Lego Ideas Book: Unlock Your
Imagination*, Daniel Lipkowitz
*Lego Neighborhood: Build Your
Own Town*, Brian Lyles
*Rangers Apprentice: Books 3, 4, and
5*, John Flanagan,
Stolen, Melissa de LaCruz
Flight, Alexie Sherman

DVDs

Fault In Our Stars
Roosevelts: An Intimate History
Downton Abby: Season 5
House of Cards: Season 2
Gone Girl
Hundred-Foot Journey

THE REST OF THE TOWN REPORT

To save on printing costs, we decided not to run **THE REST OF THE TOWN REPORT** in the paper this year. That section was a place where many important local organizations that serve our community but aren't covered in the annual Town Report reported to the community on their activities in the prior year.

We still think **THE REST OF THE TOWN REPORT** is very important, but the Beacon's financial and volunteer resources are too strained to continue doing it in print.

However, if one or more volunteers will come forward to help, we'd be happy to create a new section on AndoverBeacon.com that could be a permanent "home" for all of our important community organizations.

Through the Reading Glasses, March 2015

March is Women's History Month

Janet Moore, Library trustee

As special events go, March is Women's History Month, following upon Black History Month in February and preceding National Poetry Month in April. Taking the view that all history makers and writers should be studied and celebrated every month of the year, I enjoy the special notice given to the above three groups.

This March, Kate DiCamillo is the writer I choose to represent women and girls, one with a lighthearted and humorous touch who speaks to the strength and spirit of females, as demonstrated in the wonderful book about Louise.

Louise, The Adventures of a Chicken, is a children's picture book that would resonate with any of us. Seeking more excitement than the humdrum business of laying eggs on the farm, Louise runs away to sea, where her ship is soon attacked by pirates who view her only as

their next meal.

Fortunately, the pirates drown in a storm when their ship goes down, and Louise paddles her makeshift raft to safety and returns to the farm to sleep "the deep and dreamless sleep of the true adventurer."

Then it's off to a circus and ultimately to the bazaar in a far-off land, where she is captured once again but taken prisoner. Resourceful Louise picks the lock, frees all the caged chickens, who seem bewildered in their free range, and returns home.

As she shares her adventures with her coop-mates, they find their hearts beating wildly in their breasts, for not only does Louise experience that dreamless adventurer's sleep, she awakens a desire in the others to see the outside world.

For a more serious take on this month's honorees, check out the Web site of the National Women's History Project at NWHP.org. Discover what makes your heart flutter so you can sleep the adventurer's sleep.

Andover Public Library New Acquisitions

Adult Titles Fiction

Preparation for the Next Life,
Atticus Lish
Robert Parker's Blind Spot,
Reed Farrel Colman
The World of Ice & Fire,
George R.R. Martin
Private Down Under,
James Patterson & Michael White
Private Vegas,
James Patterson & Maxine Paetro
Winter at the Door, Sarah Graves
Die Again, Tess Geritsen
The Other Side of Loss,
Tom Vaughan
The Rosie Affect, Graeme Simsion
The Girl on the Train,
Paula Hawkins
Rain on the Dead, Jack Higgins
Saint Odd, Dean Koontz

Insatiable Appetites, Stuart Woods

Rent Collector, Camron Wright

Adult Non-Fiction

A Gunner in Lee's Army,
Graham T. Dozier
Bunker Hill, Nathaniel Philbrick
Children's Titles
The Tale of Emily Windsnap,
Liz Kessler
*Emily Windsnap and the Monster
from the Deep*, Liz Kessler
*Emily Windsnap and the Castle of
Mist*, Liz Kessler
Magic Tree House #41,
Mary Pope Osborne
The Midnight Library Voices,
Damien Graves
Crown of Midnight, Sarah Maas
Throne of Glass, Sarah Maas
Waiting is Not Easy, Mo Willems
There's No One I Love Like You,
Jutta Langreuter
Underground, Denise Fleming

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Andover Institute Offers Courses and Discussion Groups

Two events scheduled already

Press release

Although the Andover Community Association has been in existence just since early February, one of its focus areas, the Andover Institute, is already hosting two events:

A Tai Chi class meets every Saturday from 10 to 11 AM in the Bachelder Library in East Andover. The one-hour introductory session is taught by Marcia Wyman of Inner Peace Tai Chi in Concord. Cost is \$20 for a series of four classes; drop-ins pay \$7 per session.

For more information, contact Caroline Moulton at 735-5440.

A book discussion for both beginning and experienced gardeners, focused on the concept of permaculture – the hot new topic in gardening, landscape design, and sustainability – will begin on Friday, March 13, from 3 to

5 PM, at East Andover's Bachelder Library. The basis for discussion will be *Gaia's Garden: A Guide to Home-scale Permaculture*, the best-selling book by Toby Hemenway on developing a garden (or a community) that functions as a sustainable ecological system.

The six-week series of discussions is free of charge, but participants will need a copy of the book, available at local bookstores or online. (Morgan Hill Bookstore in New London is offering a 15% discount and next-day availability.) Participants are asked to read Chapters 1 and 2 for the first session. For more information, contact leader Pam Cooper at 380-1070 or PamC102@aol.com.

If one of these events interests you, come on out! Are you interested in participating in – or offering – a future course, discussion group, or presentation on some topic? Get involved! Contact Paul Currier at 735-5280 or PCurrier@tds.net for more information.

New edition, new features for 2016

Press release

The newly-formed Andover Community Association (ACA) is planning to update the *Our Town* directory of Andover resources and services, to be ready with a new edition for 2016. A handy reference for those needing to find a local piano teacher or plumber, to learn the hours of the Andover Public Library or the Town Clerk, to know when the Andover Horseshoe Club or the town Planning Board meets, the directory was most recently published in 2009 by the Andover Service Club to commemorate its 50th anniversary.

ACA's vision for the updated *Our Town* is that it will be available both in print and online and will be distributed to all residents as well as available around town. In addition to the types of local businesses now listed, it

will include an expanded listing of local farms, locally produced foods, and other "cottage" industries. It will also feature any special skills and expertise of residents, as well as expanded "helping" resources in Andover and the surrounding area for those with various short-term needs.

The first opportunities to sign up for a listing and/or an ad will be at School District Meeting on Monday, March 2, and at Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 10. In addition, anyone who would like to list their business can contact Vicky Mishcon at 735-6402 or VMishcon@comcast.net.

Volunteers will be calling those who have been listed in the past for updated information. Listings will be limited to one line and are free of charge. Businesses and organizations who would also like to place an ad in the directory in order to offer expanded information are welcome to do so.



Andover Congregational Church, February 2015

Join a group that sings at nursing homes

Sandy Miller

Andover Congregational Church

The Andover Community Coffeehouse appears to be quite an attraction. Local talent gets the opportunity to perform before the group of people attending. It certainly has proven to be highly entertaining.

This new venture is free for all, with donations gratefully accepted. It is held at the Highland Lake Grange Hall on the third Friday of each month from 7 to 9 PM. Come early for refreshments (soups, sandwiches, and baked goods) which will be on sale beginning around 6 PM.

The ever-popular Alpha course will be starting up on Tuesday, March 17.

Singing at Nursing Homes

We have a faithful group that goes singing at the Peabody Home and Mountain Ridge nursing homes on the first Sunday of each month. More voices are welcome. Call Sandy Miller at 934-3198 for further information.

Pastor John Wagner recently returned from a 10-day trip to the Holy Land with several other clergy and church leaders. We look forward to seeing the slide pictures he took. It's good to have him back safe and sound.

Again, we invite one and all to attend our church on any Sunday. Communion Sunday is held on the first Sunday of each month. Sunday School is held the same time as church, which begins at 9:30 AM. Feel free to call the church office at any time.



area on the right of today's highway just beyond the Clay Bank. Each year, in either early spring or late fall, I like to walk along the Brook Road which, although overgrown, is still discernible by its flatness and by the stonewalls which line it in some places and shore it up in others.

The section of road closest to Dyer's Crossing had a fairly long section of wooden fence which ran between the road and the tracks. Part of this fence is still standing and is even visible from today's highway, especially at this time of year.



variety of farm, food, and craft items, all locally grown and produced, are available.

A hot breakfast and lunch is served downstairs in the Blazing Star Bistro. For information, contact Donna at 768-5579 or DonnaArdena@gmail.com.



Route 11 from page 20

in place today after almost 200 years, despite spring freshets, the flood of 1936, and the hurricane of 1938!

The road then followed the brook (to the left or south of today's rail trail) until a short distance before where today's highway S-curve and bridge passes over the rail trail. At this point it turned right and continued west on the right side of the brook and on to Dyer's Crossing.

This section of the road can be accessed today, either from the rail trail or by following the road at the turn-off

Market from page 19

materials and clothing.

The Winter Market is held in the Danbury Grange Hall at 15 North Road in Danbury from 9 AM to 1 PM on the first Saturday of every month. A wide

ACA to Update Our Town Resource Directory

New edition, new features for 2016

Press release

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Alpha Course Returns to Andover Congregational Church

11-week course starts on March 17

Linda Wickstrom

Andover Congregational Church

Once again the Andover Congregational Church will be offering the world-acclaimed Alpha course. For anyone who has asked themselves or another person questions such as "Is there more to life than this? ... What is the purpose of life? ... Why is there so much suffering? ... Does God care about me? ... Who is Jesus? ... Does God still heal today?" the Alpha course may be right for you.

The course consists of 11 consecutive sessions starting with a meal followed by a DVD presentation and a small group discussion where you are free to ask any question. No question is unacceptable, ridiculed, or discouraged.

The introductory evening, Christianity: Boring, Untrue or Irrelevant?, will be held at the Highland Lake Grange

Hall on Tuesday, March 17, at 6:15 PM. The meal is free (donations for food gratefully accepted) and will be served at 6:30 PM.

The first night is an opportunity to explore and see if Alpha is right for you, and there is no discussion group the first night. If you decide to take the course, it will run for the next 11 weeks on Tuesday nights starting at 6:15 PM and ending promptly at 9 PM. There is no cost for this course.

Over 13 million people in over 163 countries have taken Alpha over the last 30 years. It has been running for 15 consecutive years at Andover Congregational, with over 230 people from the Andover area participating.

This spring we are happy to announce our Alpha course is also being offered as a course of interest through the newly formed Andover Institutes. Please feel invited, and we hope to see you there!

For more information or to register, call 286-8695.



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Farmers Market 9-1

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Grange Hall, 15 North Road, Danbury

Donna @ 768-5579 danburygrange.org

Wilmot Farmers Market Makes Plans for Summer

Vendors need to apply by March 1

Press release

The bandstand on the Wilmot Village Green may be buried with snow, but the board of directors of the Wilmot Farmers Market is planning that the snow will eventually melt and be replaced with green grass by opening day. Opening day is Saturday, June 27, and the market will run every Saturday through September.

The board has sent out applications and has asked for returning vendors to apply by Sunday, March 1.

The musicians are almost all booked, with music sponsors still needed. The donation is \$50 per market, with sponsors being included in the Kearsarge

Shopper ad and on the market's Web site.

The board hopes to have the market's annual Children's Day continue and is asking for someone to come forward to help organize the Saturday, July 18 event. Throughout the season, events are planned at the education tent. If you have a talent, hobby, or business that you would like to share or teach to others, please let us know.

There are openings for full-time vendors at the market for the 2015 season. Another option is that of being a part-time vendor, which requires a commitment to at least three markets. Interested applicants may get the application at WilmotFarmersMarket.com.

Direct questions to board chair Michelle Riordan at Michelle@GraftonGlass.com or 475-9416.

Andover Helps Solarize Upper Valley to Successful Wrap-Up

New solar installations to exceed 180

Press release

Through the successful Solarize Upper Valley program, at least 181 more homeowners across the Upper Valley have signed contracts to go solar this year. The initiative, led by the nonprofit Vital Communities and local volunteers to increase the rate of solar adoption in the region, encouraged New Hampshire homeowners in Hanover, Orford, New London, Andover, and Wilmot, and Vermont homeowners in Woodstock, Pomfret, Randolph, Brookfield, and Braintree to commit to solar by the January 31 deadline.

"We're thrilled that every Solarize community met or exceeded the goal of doubling the amount of solar in their towns," said Vital Communities Energy Program Manager Sarah Simonds. "The dedicated volunteers who helped educate and encourage their neighbors should be very proud of their success in getting more renewable energy onto the grid and into residents' homes. We hope the results of the first two rounds of Solarize – with more than 300 households signing contracts to go solar – will inspire residents across our region to consider solar as a viable option."

In all, more than 800 homeowners – 7% of households – requested site visits from their community's partner installer. The more than 180 households that committed to going solar in Round Two will add over a megawatt of renewable energy capacity to the region. Most installations will be completed this spring and summer.

Solarize Kearsarge

Andover, while not in the geographic area normally served by Vital Communities, was encouraged to join in the Solarize project by teaming up with the towns of New London and Wilmot, which are within the coverage area. Known locally

as Solarize Kearsarge, the project was spearheaded in town by members of the Andover Energy Group, a voluntary organization formed in 2011.

As reported in the February Beacon, participation by Andover residents exceeded that of their New London and Wilmot neighbors, with 20 residents committing to solar-electric systems to be installed by ReVision Energy, the designated installer on the project. Another two to five residential systems may be installed by contractors other than ReVision, according to the Energy Group.

Members of the Andover Energy Group expressed broad satisfaction with the project outcome, according to Larry Chase, the group's chair – "not only with the solid commitments made during the campaign, but also to the high level of interest shown, which may lead to more installations of solar and other alternative energy sources down the road." Group members also cited Vital Communities' project leadership and coordination, and the support of the project's designated installer, ReVision Energy.

Solarize Upper Valley teamed up community volunteers with competitively selected solar photovoltaic (PV) installers for 15 weeks of outreach around small-scale solar energy, offering competitive prices, accessible resources, and a simplified process for solar PV installations. "At the launch event I found that even at the highest price level cost was much lower than when I looked at solar three years ago, and the utility payback is better than we expected," reflected one new solar homeowner. According to another, "The incentive of a group doing it and lowering the cost was great."

Vital Communities is currently recruiting volunteers for its third round of the Solarize Upper Valley program, which will launch in June. Interested community members can learn more at VitalCommunities.org/Solarize. The deadline for communities to apply is March 16. Solarize programs have been successful in Massachusetts and Connecticut and are now taking root in other parts of the region and country.

TIME TO APPLY for Andover Service Club SCHOLARSHIPS

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DEADLINE: FRI, MAY 1

Application forms at
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ASC Thrift Shop,
Andover Elementary - Middle School,
Proctor Academy, and MVHS
Diane Rice - diane.rice226@gmail.com



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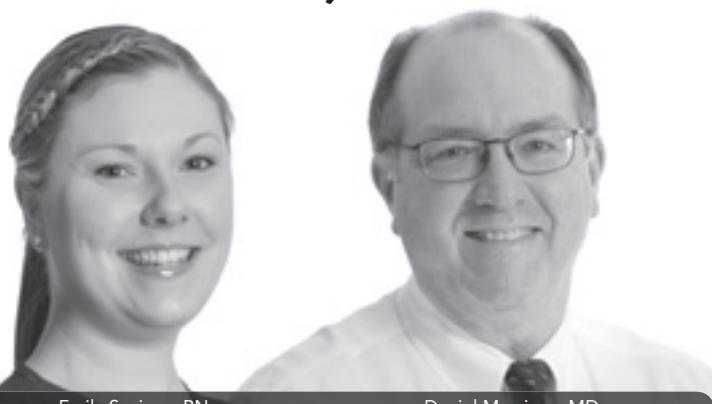
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Andover Service Club Plans Bake Sale for Voting Day

Proceeds benefit scholarship fund

Mary Ofenloch, ASC president

The Andover Service Club (ASC) met on February 11 in the Highland Lake Grange Hall. The meeting included committee reports, discussions on ways to better serve the community, refreshments, and the special program for February – Game Day – which included bingo and card or board games.

Town Meeting day is Tuesday, March 10, and ASC will again be selling homemade baked goods, such as cakes, cookies, pies, bread, and rolls, as well as coffee and tea. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the ASC Merit Scholarship Fund and community organizations. The hours of the sale are 11 AM until 7 PM, or until all baked goods are sold.

The next meeting of ASC is Wednesday, March 11 at 10 AM in the Highland Lake Grange Hall. After business reports and refreshments, the program will be a discussion and review of the books members have recently read. This is always informative and fun for all who enjoy reading.

It's Time to Apply for Andover Service Club Scholarships

Applications are due by May 2

Diane Rice, Andover Service Club

The Andover Service Club is pleased to announce that the application process for the 2015 Scholarship awards has begun.

Scholarship applications are available at AE/MS, Proctor Academy, Merrimack Valley High School, and the Andover Service Club Thrift Shop. They may also be downloaded from The Andover Beacon's Web site at AndoverBeacon.com/ASC-Scholarship.

The ASC Scholarship Committee has begun the annual preparation for the awarding of merit scholarships to high school or continuing education students who are applying to college. Students must be Andover residents, or the child or grandchild of an ASC member. Applications may be obtained at the Thrift Shop on School Street; at MVHS; or at Proctor Academy.

The ASC Thrift Shop is the major source of income for our fundraising activities. During the month of March, all donated clothing will be on sale at 50% off. There is an excellent selection of men's clothes, boots, and shoes, as well as a large selection of women's and children's clothes, accessories, and beautiful jewelry. Come and browse – you may find something lovely to wear or to give as a gift. Clothes are almost new or gently used, and prices are very affordable. Store hours are 10 AM to 4 PM on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and 10 AM to 2 PM on Saturday.

Ladies – why not come to a meeting to see what ASC is all about? We need new faces with new ideas. E-mail Mary Ofenloch at MaryO.ASClub@live.com for more information.



Awards are based on academic performance, character attributes, and community involvement, and not on financial need. Graduating seniors and adults entering or continuing their education at a college or a professional or technical school are eligible to apply.

To be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must have a close tie to the town of Andover. Details of the residential requirements are available in the application packet. All applications and supporting material must be postmarked by May 1 to be considered.



Andover Lions Club Offers Three Scholarships

Deadline to apply is Saturday, April 11

Press release

The Andover Lions have three \$500 scholarships to award to high school seniors from Andover and Danbury who plan to attend college. Scholarship applications may be obtained from the Guidance Departments of the local high

schools or by calling Lions Scholarship Chairman Dick O'Connell at 934-0245. The deadline for submission of applications is Saturday, April 11.

The scholarships to be awarded are the John Thompson Memorial Scholarship, the Stephen Jewett Memorial Scholarship, and the Andover Lions Scholarship.



Andover Service Club Thrift Shop

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March ½ Price Sale

(Does not include current consignments)

Sorry, no new consignments can be taken during the March Sale.

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New Hampshire Circle of Home and Family, February 2015

Local group explores the history of lighthouses

Judy Perreault, NHCHF

Our program in February was "You Light Up My Life," which traced the history of lighthouses.

In early days, sailing and fishing was a vital part of man's life. Getting to port safely with goods and passengers was the boat captain's responsibility.

There were charts and maps and simple tools to guide him, but they were often unreliable. On foggy nights, guidance from the stars was useless. Lighthouses were built to mark a safe path past rocks and shallows to the harbor.

In early times, these lights were just a wooden tower with a pitch fire on top. These gave way to wood towers with a light in the top.

The first recorded lighthouse was built in 280 BC at the head of the Nile River. The first lighthouse on the east coast of America was the Boston Light, built in 1716 on Brewster Island. By 1818, there were 297 lighthouses in America.

At first, lighthouses were built of

wood with attached living quarters. This turned out to be a poor choice due to the constant damp weather. There were some brick towers, and later versions were constructed of iron, with living quarters inside.

Early lights were whale oil lamps, which gave off lots of smoke and soot. Lamps and lenses were improved over the years but gave way to the electric light.

Lighthouse keeping was a hard, dangerous, and lonely life. Many lights were far offshore on rocky islands. The field was dominated by men, but there were several famous women lighthouse keepers.

Lighthouses became obsolete with the development of modern navigation aids such as sonar, radar, and satellite tracking. The few that are left are automated. Some even have closed circuit TV that patrols the waters.

Little by little, the Coast Guard has sold or given away old lighthouses. They have become homes, hotels, and restaurants.

These great sentinels of the sea live on in poetry, paintings, and literature. Our group is planning a trip to the sea-coast to visit some local lighthouse.

We meet on the third Monday of the month. If you would like more information, call 735-5493.

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UNH Names Andover Students to Dean's List

The following Andover students have been named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire for the fall semester of the 2014-2015 academic year. Earning High Honors are:

- Meredith Cline
- Caleb Frantz
- Madalyn Pfeifer

On the Honors list are:

- Nicole Donovan
- Emily Young

Students named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire have earned recognition through their superior scholastic performance. Highest Honors are awarded to students who earn a semester grade point average of 3.85 or better out of a possible 4.0. Students with a 3.65 to 3.84 average are awarded High Honors, and students whose grade point average is 3.5 through 3.64 are awarded Honors.

East Andover Village Preschool, February 2015

Registration for 2015-2016 has begun

Elizabeth Janvrin, Director

Our Vacation Station opened for reservations and business on February 2. Many of us enjoyed all of the roles that a hotel has to offer, from front desk receptionist or guest to housekeeper and wait staff.

Through the process of opening, the group shared their thoughts and ideas about what they needed to perform their jobs. In these conversations, the group made a menu for the hotel, working on pre-writing and pre-reading skills, as well as all of the signs to represent vacancies, the name of our hotel, and exit signs.

We also got to work on our one-to-one correspondence and counting, as we made sure our restaurant guests each had a plate and a cup. We also began to identify numbers on the money as we paid for our hotel room and meals.

Along with our Vacation Station, we continued to focus on exploring animal habitats and what animals need to live such as shelter, food, and water. As our habitats continued to grow and our questions continued, the group began to

Volunteers Power the Beacon!

Please join the team!

Register for 2015-2016

Our registration process for the 2015-2016 school year has begun! If you are looking for more information about our preschool program, please contact Elizabeth at 735-5105 or EAVP@tds.net.

Are you looking for summer camp? We are beginning our registration for our Summer Camp program. Camp is based on weekly themes such as Under the Sea, Into the Jungle, and Journey to Space. Our group goes on weekly trips to local points of interest such as the New London Barn Playhouse and Pizza Chef.

The ages for our summer camp program are three to 10 years old. Again, contact Elizabeth at 735-5105 or EAVP@tds.net.

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Before you go elsewhere, please contact us to see if we could help meet your needs. Steve, Charlie and Marion are available at 863-2113 or 526-6442 and newtonbartlett@myfairpoint.net or hafner@tds.net.

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OBITUARIES

WILLIAM "BILL" G. CONVERSE JR., 90, of Northfield died on January 27 following a period of failing health. Bill was born in Holden, Massachusetts, on January 27, 1925, son of William G. Converse Sr. and Grace (David) Converse.

Bill spent his youth in Massachusetts, graduating from Jefferson Grammar School, later attending Holden High School in the ninth grade. After moving to New Hampshire, Bill graduated from the Tilton-Northfield High School in Tilton.

Bill went on to serve his country and joined the Navy. He served as an anti-aircraft gunner on the decorated warship, the USS Cabot during World War II in the South Pacific. The ship received the Presidential Unit Citation.

Bill retired after 35 years from the Arwood Corporation in Northfield. He was a lifetime active member of the White-man-Davidson American Legion Post #49 in Northfield, serving twice as Commander. He was also a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans and the USS Cabot CVL-28 Association.

He was instrumental in organizing the Tilton 49ers Drum and Bugle Corps and the Post Scholarship Program. Bill served as a volunteer with the Tilton-Northfield Fire Department and Rescue. While with the department, Bill was the first member to experience and use the underwater rescue equipment. He was a parishioner of St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Tilton.

Bill was predeceased by his first wife, Jeanne (Buckley) Converse; his daughter, Diane Converse; his brother, Jack; his second wife, Barbara M. (Seren) Converse, who died in 2008; and his grandson, Billy Jordan, who died in 2011. Among family he leaves are granddaughter Christine Frost of Andover and great-grandchildren Jacob, Erin, and Jared Frost of Andover.

Calling hours were held on February 1 at the William F. Smart Sr. Memorial Home in Tilton. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on February 2 at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Tilton. Burial with military honors was held on February 3 in the family lot in St. Joseph Cemetery in Medway, Massachusetts.

Those wishing may make memorial contributions in Bill's name to the Wounded Warrior Project, 370 7th Avenue Room 320, New York City, New York 10001.

ROBERT BECK, 80, of Pittsfield passed away on January 28, 2015, at Concord Hospital. He leaves behind his wife of 10 years, Shirley Beck. He also is

survived by four children: daughter Jane Whitney of Suncook, son and daughter-in-law Jerry and Lynn Beck of Salisbury, son and daughter-in-law James and Betsy Beck of Pittsfield, and daughter and son-in-law Judy and Brian DeRoy of Andover. Bob leaves behind 12 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his ex-wife, Jackie Beck of Andover.

Bob worked for many years at Universal Packaging in Bow before retiring in 1997. Bob was well known as a "jack of all trades," and it seemed there was nothing he couldn't fix. He will be greatly missed.

Per Bob's request, there will be no services.

ERIC J. ANDERSON, 57, of Salisbury died on February 10 at his home following a period of failing health. Eric was born in Massachusetts, son of Roland and Betty (Flanders) Anderson. He had resided in Salisbury for a year and a half with his son Taylor and grandson Brantley.

He spent most of his youth in Contoocook and Wolfeboro. Prior to moving to Salisbury, he lived for several years in Sunapee and Springfield. He worked for most of his life as a self-employed contractor and builder. An animal-lover, Eric enjoyed the outdoors, bonfires, and bird watching.

He was predeceased by his parents and leaves behind his children, Kyle Anderson of Concord, Kaitlin Anderson of Andover, Taylor Anderson of Salisbury, and Riley Anderson of Andover; a grandson, Brantley Anderson; and sisters Judith Donahoe of Tallahassee, Florida, and Kathryn Davis of Moultonborough; and numerous nieces and nephews.

According to Eric's wishes, there were no calling hours. A graveside ser-

vice will be held later in the spring at Proctor Cemetery in Andover.

Those wishing may make memorial contributions in Eric's name to the New Hampshire Humane Society, PO Box 572, Laconia 03247-0572.

in October of 2005.

He was a member of the State and National Grange, the Rising Virtue Lodge #10 F&AM of Bangor, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Del will be remembered for his ability to fix anything and doing things his way. He was a train enthusiast who was especially fond of steam locomotives, loved Christmas lighting and decorations, and was a devoted grandfather.

Among surviving family members are his daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Alan Hanscom of Andover and their children, Megan Nicole and Erin Rachel Hanscom.

A funeral service was held on February 16 at the Brewer Chapel of Brookings-Smith in Brewer, Maine. The family invited relatives and friends to share conversation and refreshments in the Brookings-Smith reception rooms immediately following the service. Interment with military honors will be held in the spring at Mount Hope Cemetery, Bangor.

Those who wish to remember Del in a special way may make gifts in his memory to New England Steam Corporation, PO Box 302, Winterport, Maine 04496. Condolences to the family may be expressed at BrookingsSmith.com.

HENRY WELCH, 83, passed away on February 20, 2015 at his home in Alabama. Henry retired from the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind. Among surviving family members is his stepson David Powers and David's wife Aundrea of Andover.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested contributions to the Scholarship Fund at Alpine Baptist Church, PO Box 77, Alpine AL 35014.

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Proctor students will be interning at AE/MS once again during Proctor's Project Period in March.

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Six Proctor Students Head to AE/MS for Project Period

First-hand look at
elementary education

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

Each year, Proctor Academy runs a five-day, experiential learning intensive program called Project Period. Over 30 faculty-sponsored groups of students will spend four days living and learning together from March 25 through 29. Projects range from dog-sledding in northern Maine to learning about acting and dance in New York City. Other groups are learning about entrepreneurship and writing business plans, while yet others are volunteering in the local community.

One group that will be directly engaged with the Andover community is

planning and organizing Proctor's second annual St. Baldrick's event; another, a group of six students led by Brenda Godwin, will intern in the Andover Elementary/Middle School.

Each year, Brenda's Project Period group dives head first into learning about elementary education first hand during this week. Students will help teach classes, supervise recess, complete administrative tasks for teachers, and without a doubt develop close relationships with some of the students.

Proctor is thankful for AE/MS's willingness to open their doors and provide mutually beneficial learning opportunities for both Proctor and AE/MS students.

Proctor Hosts Special Olympics Play Days

Connects with special-needs kids age two to eight

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

Beginning this spring, a group of Proctor students led by Burke Hildner '16 will be hosting Special Olympics play days for local families with children aged two through eight who have

special needs. More than a dozen Proctor students have received training by Special Olympics and are eager to use Proctor's facilities to connect with the local families.

When asked why he wanted to lead this program, Burke replied, "I chose to get involved with the program when members from the Young Athletes Program and Special Olympics of New Hampshire came and spoke to our school last year. I have a passion for community service, and when my advisor spoke to me about possibly building a connection with the program here on campus, I immediately knew that I wanted to be involved."

He added, "I hope that this program will inspire Proctor and its students to stay involved with the Young Athletes Program as well as get involved with other organizations just like it for many more years to come. The impact on our lives, and their lives, will be significant!"

For any questions about this program, please contact Gregor Makechnie at Proctor Academy at 735-7257 or Gregor@ProctorAcademy.org.



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The Andover and Proctor communities turned out for free skiing at the annual Proctor Ski Area celebration.

Annual Celebration at Proctor Ski Area Draws a Crowd

Free skiing and a torchlight parade

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

On Saturday February 7, Proctor Academy hosted the annual Proctor Ski Area Celebration. Hundreds of local skiers joined Proctor students, faculty, and staff at the Proctor Ski Area for an evening of free skiing, food, and fun capped off by the annual torchlight parade.

Prior to the evening's festivities, Proctor dedicated the Bill Paine '51

Nordic Center with a formal ribbon cutting ceremony. Proctor Academy Head of School Mike Henriques shared, "Bill Paine was one of the most community-minded people I have ever met and desired always to give back to the community. This facility honors everything Bill wanted to do in his life, as this facility will allow us to continually give back to the local community."

Thank you to all in the local community who came out to celebrate the Proctor Ski Area.



St. Baldrick Event Shaves Heads, Fights Cancer

Donations fund childhood cancer research

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

On Saturday, March 28, from 3 to 5 PM in Proctor's Farrell Field House, Proctor will host its second annual St. Baldrick's Day event.

Like last year's event that raised over \$30,000 for the St. Baldrick's Foundation, this year's event is being organized by a group of Proctor students during emy2015.

Proctor's four-day Project Period. Faculty leaders Chris Young and Alan McLintre will help the students through logistical challenges, marketing efforts, and problem solving around the event.

Proctor encourages everyone in the Andover community to participate in the event, either by becoming a "shavee" or by donating to the cause. To learn more about how to get involved, visit StBaldricks.org/events/ProctorAcademy2015.



Community Enjoys Hundreds of Hours on Proctor's Ice Rink

Kearsarge Youth Hockey, AE/MS, and Sunday skating

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

In addition to housing Proctor Academy's four hockey teams and their practices and games, the Teddy Maloney '88 Hockey Rink is a hive of activity for local skaters as well.

With more than hundreds of hours of ice time rented out this winter, many members of the local community have been able to spend time on the ice. Public skating periods have been very well

attended every Sunday afternoon, and young skaters from Kearsarge Youth Hockey have benefited greatly from so much time on the ice.

The Andover Elementary/Middle School provides another group of youngsters who are learning to skate at Proctor's rink. Approximately 64 AE/MS students participate in the Learn to Skate program on Friday afternoons throughout the winter months, and Proctor is thankful to be able to share our facility with the AE/MS Eagles.



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Andover Recreation's third and fourth grade basketball team. Back: Andrew Croteau, Zealen Therrien, Dylan Heller, Miles Hurlbutt. Front: Jason Koziol, Aiden Heller, Caden Budgett, Wyatt King.

Photo and caption: Kristine Lane

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Andover Girls Softball: Sign Up by March 10!

Ages four to U16: sign up on March 2, 7, or 10

Melissa Thompson
Andover Girls Softball

Any girl from four to under-16 who would like to play softball, please get your forms turned in sooner rather than later! In order to be sure these girls have enough players to make up teams or to get these girls elsewhere to play, we need all forms turned in by the deadline of Tuesday, March 10.

For any forms turned in after this, there will be a late fee of \$10.

We are also looking for a T-ball coach. Our board also still needs someone who has time to help.

Sign-ups will be in the AE/MS lobby during School District Meeting on Monday, March 2, from 5 to 7 PM; on Saturday, March 7, from 10 AM to 12 PM; and on Tuesday, March 10, during Town Meeting Day voting, from 5 to 7 PM.

See our posts or like us on Facebook under Andover Girls Softball. For more information, contact Melissa Thompson at 455-4622 or AGSoftballNH08@gmail.com.

Get signed up fast!



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For the latest news from Andover and area events, visit the Beacon's Web site all month long.

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DJ Rankins, Chase Keyser, Camden Donovan, and William Furtkamp watch as their teammates move the scoreboard closer to victory with each basket.
Photo and caption: Jen Bent



Julia Royal reaches for the ball against a Franklin player. Julia's teammates from Andover (in white) are Ryelle Jenifer, Lexi Emeny, Kathryn Thompson, and Savannah Drewry.
Photo and caption: Jen Bent

AE/MS Wraps Up a Great Basketball Season

Great sportsmanship and lots of hustle

AE/MS Athletic Department

The AE/MS middle school basketball teams completed the 2014-2015 season with a great deal of excitement and fun.

The girls and the boys White team traveled to Kearsarge. The boys started the night off with great passing. The boys quickly realized they needed to pick up their defense. Solid efforts by Matt Bent and Devin Barton helped the team spark their lead. Once again, the boys found another gear and turned up the heat on Kearsarge. The boys soared to another victory for AE/MS.

The game of the week was the Lady Eagles, which was filled with excitement. The girls jumped out to an early lead. Each team traded baskets in the second and third quarter to keep the game close. At the buzzer, Kearsarge rallied to tie the game. The Lady Eagles showed no quitting and played solid from there on out. In the overtime, Katherine Thompson made a three-pointer to give Andover the win.

Ashland came to town on February 4. The girls took the floor first that night. With leadership roles by Lexi Emeny and Julia Royal, the girls pulled ahead of Ashland by eight points. The game

was end-to-end action. With a few key rebounds in the fourth quarter, the team rallied to pull ahead for a win.

The eighth grade boys came ready to play. The first quarter, the boys ran a full-court press on Ashland to gain a lead. With hustle on both ends of the court, the boys were able to pull off a very dominating win over Ashland.

On February 5, the girls and the seventh grade boys played home games against local rivals from Franklin. The girls were full of a lot of excitement from players such as Jordyn Southworth and Ryelle Jenifer working hard on the boards to help the team keep a lead over Franklin. Franklin stormed back in the second half. The Lady Eagles were not done; they played with a lot of heart and held off Franklin for the win.

The boys set the pace of the game with tough defense and fast breaks. The seventh grade boys showed a lot of growth as a team. They put together a complete game of defense to mark the game as a win.

Merrimack Valley came to town on February 10. With them came a lot of excitement to the AE/MS gym. The girls began the night strong, with the first quarter ending with the Lady Eagles down by only one point. In the third quarter, Merrimack Valley pulled

away from the Eagles, making a large deficit for the Lady Eagles to climb back out of. In the end, the Eagles did not quit but could not defeat the mighty girl's team from Merrimack Valley.

The boys' game was set with an atmosphere you would feel in a championship game. Both teams traded baskets in the first half, neither team wanting to give in to the other. After swapping the lead for most of the game, it came down to the wire. The team played a double overtime set with Merrimack Valley with 23 seconds left on the clock moving ahead by three and not willing to give up the lead. It was a great game played by both sides.

The season ended on very high notes for both boys teams. The boys' coaches noticed the improvement in the teams' defense and solid offense that pushed them forward to show growth in the teams' abilities on the court. The

coaches were very impressed with their teams' work ethic in practice to improve their basketball skills.

The girls had a very successful season. They did this with a true team effort. Each member on the team contributed to the team's season to make it filled with great basketball and fun. With great sportsmanship and hustle, the girl's team had an enjoyable season to watch.

Both teams finished the season with their traditional challenge game against the parents. This was followed by a pot-luck dinner and awards ceremony. The games were filled with smiles and fun. The celebration was capped off with awards presented to the teams for completing a season full of growth and success. Way to go, Eagles!

The Andover basketball coaches would like to thank the fabulous parents for all their help in making this another great season for the students.

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On January 23, 29 AE/MS students in grades four through eight participated in the school spelling bee. This year's bee was full of challenging words such as "omniscient" and "cajolery." A previous champion, eighth grader Nelson Makechnie, was the AE/MS 2015 Spelling Bee Champion. His winning championship round word was "tempura." Nelson will now participate in the state spelling bee in Concord on February 28. There was a heated battle between four contestants for second place. This year's runner up was eighth grader Alexis Cate.

Photo and caption: Amanda Lauster



Mrs. Witt's kindergarten class did an author study of Jan Brett in January. Many of Jan Brett's books feature a hedgehog as a main character. We invited Hannah the Hedgehog from Mrs. Hildebrand's classroom to come visit. The second graders taught the kindergarten students all about hedgehogs and about Hannah. The kindergartners loved watching her sniff and snort around the rug! Pictured here are Wyatt Barton, Ben Kelly, Garrett Barton, Jacob Demers, Lily Luicha, Victoria Koron, Paige Orcutt, Xavier Gebo, and Al Dudek.

Photo and caption: Laura Witt

Weather from page 36

around the world, weather on different planets, and how he and his team predict the weather for Channel 9 News. He also read the kids a cute book titled Clourette about a little cloud who felt small until she learned how she can do big things to help others.

The students were especially excited to learn that they would be on television.

On the air, Mr. Skarupa talked about his visit to Andover and how our kids really wanted snow. They were in luck, with the approaching blizzard. Mr. Skarupa showed the audience the thank-you card we made him with our favorite types of weather on it. The children were thrilled!

We watched the clip on the news the following Monday. You can see it at AndoverBeacon.com/Skarupa.

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AE/MS fourth graders display the dragon puppets they made for the school's annual Chinese New Year parade. (Above) Elias Davis and Elliott Norris. (Below) Back: Ms. Fournier, Jacob Dashnaw, Caleb Warzocha, Bruce Clough, Gus Kiedaisch, Kalee Keyser, Zealen Therrien, Camryn Perkins, Ryan Carey, Brandon Dukette, Ethen Fecteau, Mary Clough, Mrs. Fadden, Mrs. LaRoche, Mrs. Deminico, Ms. Lane. Front: Morgan Quinn, Andrew Croteau, Helen Armstrong, Elias Davis, Elliott Norris, Lagan Salathe, Aiden Heller, Brittny Thoroughgood, Ani McIntyre, Liberty Spaulding.

Photos: Jen Bent



AE/MS News

**Graduation dates?
Too soon to call.**

Jane Slayton, AE/MS principal

The 39th Army Band will be performing at AE/MS on Monday, March 9, at 1:15 PM. Community members are welcome to attend.

Our eighth grade students toured Merrimack Valley High School before February vacation. Our families were invited to an Open House the same evening. Principal David Miller and Counselor Lauren Mercier came to AE/MS earlier in the month and talked with students about freshman course offerings, scheduling, and extracurricular activities and sports.

AE/MS loves to celebrate Chinese New Year. This is the Year of the Sheep, and that can be seen in artwork throughout our building. Keeping with tradition, the fourth grade students paraded their way through the building with their elaborate, handmade, festive dragons. They were accompanied by our talented beginner band and teachers in ornamental garb for the annual Chinese New Year Dragon Parade. We also enjoyed an incredible Asian-themed lunch in the school cafeteria.

The second grade classes opened up their always-popular Healthy Heart Valentine Restaurant before vacation. Third graders and staff members were very happy customers. All diners reported their hearts felt healthy and happy after eating the nutritious breakfast. Second graders learned organization skills, math skills, and how to serve the public. Diners made donations, and the second grade students thoughtfully discussed how to spend their profits and then voted to donate \$266.82 to the Franklin Animal Shelter.

The AE/MS Chorus sang God Bless America at the Manchester Monarchs game on February 20. Twenty-three chorus members and their families attended the game.

Please know that the decision to cancel or delay school is not taken lightly and is made by Superintendent Mark MacLean after consulting with road agents, bus companies, weather fore-

casters, and others, often beginning the day before an event. The decision is based entirely on the safety of the students in Andover and the Merrimack Valley School District.

As of today, we have had six delayed openings and three snow days. We want to finalize dates for kindergarten and eighth grade graduations, but are hesitant to do so too soon. I remember the 2007-2008 school year when we had 10 snow days and nine delayed openings!

History has shown that we pick up a few snow days in February and at least one or two in March. Right now, the last day of school is scheduled to be Thursday, June 18.

The annual School District Meeting is Monday, March 2, at 7 PM in the school gym. It is at this meeting that the budget is voted upon for the 2015-2016 school year. You must be present to vote. Entertainment and activities for students will be provided in the middle school classrooms. There will be age-appropriate board games and movies. School staff members and eighth grade students are helping to entertain so that families may attend the meeting.

Keep those Box Tops coming in! We collect Box Tops year round – we never stop! All money raised will go toward playground equipment and further development of the park area.

A spirited and successful basketball season has ended for our middle school students. As always, good sportsmanship ruled the courts wherever our Andover Eagles played. While we hate to see basketball season end, we do look forward to spring track practices.

The gym has seen a lot of basketball action the last few months. Now it is time for the Andover Players Drama Club to move into the gym. Set production started after the last basketball event in February.

We are appreciative to the Town of Andover, Proctor Academy, and many volunteers for making skiing, snowboarding, and skating available to our students. Another great winter activity season is nearing the end. There will be one more ski day on Friday, March 6.

National Pi Day will be recognized



The proud owners of the second grade's annual Healthy Heart Valentine Restaurant pose with Ms. Young and the "My Plate" wall painting in the AE/MS cafeteria. Front: Emma Chadbourne, Olivia James Bentzler, Paige Makechne, Shelby Barton, Madison Hersey, Dannicka Dlubac. Second row: Wyatt Carleton, Harlie Ordway, Abby James Bentzler, Al Dudek, Mychal Reynolds, Cody Provost, Liam Murphy. Third row: Church Salathe, Grayson Noyes, Sam Upton, Garrett Barton, Jedidiah Duquette, Evan Hill, Eric Bates, Logan Welch, Jacob Demers. Back: Ms. Young.

Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

at AE/MS on Friday, March 13. There are math activities planned throughout the day for all the students. Older students will be teaching younger students, and there will be many different pi contests. How many digits of pi can you recite? There will be a pi-themed lunch that day.

We are looking for members of the 2015-2016 kindergarten class. If you know of Andover children who will be five years old on or before September 30, 2015, please send them our way. We are excited to welcome what looks like a large kindergarten class! Parents should call AE/MS for registration information. Registration will be held by appointment on Wednesday, May 13.

SHARE Day will be held on Friday, May 15. SHARE Day is a wonderful

community day at AE/MS. If you have an art, craft, or sport that you would like to share, please contact me. If you would like to volunteer that day, we would love your help. Contact me if interested in helping or for more information.

You won't want to miss this! Mark your calendar for Annie. Evening performances are Thursday and Friday, March 26 and 27. Tickets are available at the door. We anticipate a full house on both evenings. Mrs. Edmunds, our drama director, and many middle school students have been rehearsing since fall.

School Matters!

The Beacon needs volunteers to help reporting school news. 735-6099

PARENTS: HOW ARE THE KIDS?

Parents, please help the Beacon keep alive the connection between your grown kids and the community they grew up in!

Send news of how they're doing in college, in their careers, engagements, marriages, babies, promotions, etc. Everyone in town takes great pride in seeing how "our" kids turn out – please help us keep them up to date.

Send news and pictures to [Articles@AndoverBeacon.com!](mailto:Articles@AndoverBeacon.com)

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Tilton Medical Associates are proud to support The Andover Beacon.





Kevin Skarupa of Channel 9 talked to the AE/MS kindergarten about weather and read them a book about a little cloud. Pictured are Addison Bickford, Wyatt Barton, Parker Sweeney, Chance Thibault, Channel 9's Kevin Skarupa, Camden Allenby, John Pourby, Sam Gilman, Talia Hardy; (back) Aly Wheeler, Lily Luicha, Isaac Norris.
Photo: Putnam Kidder

Channel 9 Weatherman Visits AE/MS Kindergarten

Kevin Skarupa features his visit on Channel 9 news

Laura Witt
AE/MS kindergarten teacher

In January, our kindergarten students learned all about weather. We talked about different types of weather that we experience in New Hampshire and less common weather such as tornadoes and hurricanes.

The students learned about the at-

mosphere and the water cycle. They learned about the different ways that weather is predicted and the instruments used. During the month the kids recorded the daily weather in a journal.

At the end of January, we were fortunate to have a professional weatherman come visit us at AE/MS! Kevin Skarupa from Channel 9 News came to kindergarten. He talked all about local weather, cool weather facts from

See Weather on page 34



Getting ready to skate at the Proctor Academy rink are AE/MS first graders Lydia Thisell, Makayla French, Hayden Moriarty, Lilly Strahan-Hamel, Hannah Churchill, and Vanessa Guptill. In the back are Jon Grodin, Declan Bisson, and Domi Delaney.
Photo: Jen Bent

Planning Under Way for AE/MS SHARE Day

Gisela Darling
SHARE Day Co-ordinator

SHARE (See How the Arts Reach Everyone) Day will take place at AE/MS on Friday, May 15.

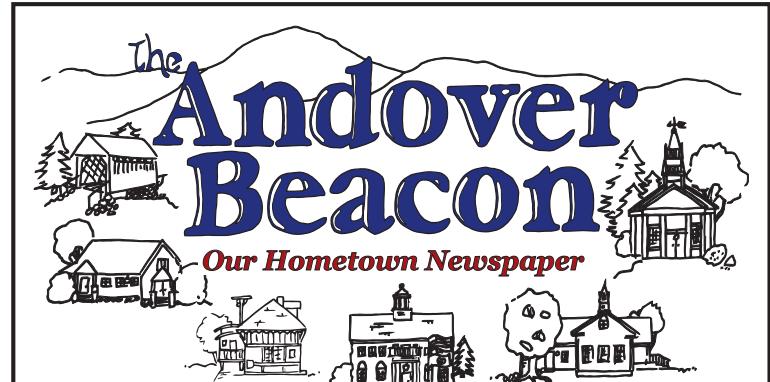
SHARE Day has been a fun day for AE/MS students ever since 1989. This special day brings artists, craftspeople, and musicians from Andover and surrounding communities into the classroom.

It has been a long tradition to invite community members to come into the school and share their talents by offering a workshop in crafts or arts-related

hobbies. Workshops in the past have ranged from basketmaking to weaving. Different sports workshops also have been offered to the students.

Volunteers are also needed to assist the workshop leaders or help the lower grades with their activities.

Please call Gisela Darling at 735-5681 or Principal Jane Slayton at 735-5494 if you would like to help. All workshops need to be in place by the beginning of April to allow time for the information to be sent home to families and for students to make their choices.



AndoverBeacon.com

March 2015

735-6099



Keith Davis '16 (right) earned the boys junior varsity hockey Leadership Award.

Andover Students Earn Sports Honors at Proctor

Kevin Barry, Keith Davis, and Kelsey Allen honored

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

Proctor's winter athletic season has come to a close after four months of fierce competition on the courts, in the ice rink, and on the ski trails. Three Andover students were honored by their teams for their outstanding contributions to Proctor athletics this term.

Kevin Barry '17 was voted "Mr. Hustle" by the JV boys basketball team for his consistent hard work in practices

and willingness to exhaust himself during games.

Keith Davis '16 earned the Leadership Award for the boys junior varsity hockey team and was central to that team's success this season.

Kelsey Allen '15 earned the Coaches Award for the junior varsity girls basketball team and helped her squad to a winning record this season while leading young players with humility.

Congratulations to all of Proctor's athletic award winners this winter!



Participants in the 2015 AE/MS Spelling Bee: front: Cedar Kiedaisch, Sophia Reynolds, Brynne Makechnie, Helen Armstrong, Garrett Munson, Jack Newton, Dave Reynolds. Second row: Garrett Niemyer (standing), Britta Johnson, Jesse Wagner, Myles Powers, Matt Bent, Keygan Sweeney. Third row: Aidan O'Donnell, Hunter Hawks, Alexis Cate, Alexis Geyer, Tori Braley, Lexi Emeny, Nelson Makechnie, Devin Barton. Back: River Turnbull, Zach Shipley, Savannah Drewry, Sofia Weber, Hannah Asbury, Teigan Friedrich, Ronan Walsh. Missing: Riley Keezer.
Photo: Amanda Lauster