

The **Andover Beacon**  
Our Hometown Newspaper

AndoverBeacon.com April 2015 735-6099

**BEACON FUNDRAISING UPDATE**

We need to raise \$2,060 from 27 local donors by April 30 just to match where we were last year at that time. If we don't, we could wind up 28% behind last year – a dangerous position for the Beacon to be in!

The Andover Beacon is published by Community Publishing of Andover, a 501(c)(3) charitable trust, so donations are tax deductible.

## Town Meetings Approve Proposed 2015 Budgets

2015 tax bills estimated to drop 4.1%

Ed Hiller, Budget Committee

For the record, the 2015 annual meetings of the Town of Andover, the Andover School District, and the two Andover Fire Department precincts voted to fund and appropriate the budgets recommended by the Andover

shire Education Grant to Andover for 2015 is up significantly from last year, it is estimated that the total amount to be raised by taxes for 2015 will decrease approximately 4.1% over the amount for 2014.

For a property evaluated at \$200,000, the 2015 tax bill will be approximately \$173 lower than last year's tax bill.



Road Agent John Thompson, Selectman Duncan Coolidge, Town Administrator Marj Roy, and Selectman Jim Delaney are grateful for the vote of confidence that Town Meeting gave our town government by approving the warrant article to lease a new dump truck for the Highway Department. It's a Ford 550 Superduty four-wheel drive, with a 6.7-liter turbo-diesel Powerstroke B20 engine with certified clean idle. It has a three- to four-yard dump body and will soon have a 9' Fisher MC Series plow and a 2.5-yard Polycaster electric sander. Photo: Charlie Darling

Budget Committee, as presented in *The Andover Beacon* for March 2015. The total appropriations (net of pass-throughs) are \$6,553,046, down by \$158,250 (down 2.4%) from last year.

Estimating the resulting tax bill requires estimating the revenues and surplus funds available to offset taxes. Assuming that these amounts are the same as last year, and recognizing that the New Hamp-

Appropriations (Net of Pass-Through Items)				
Department	2014	2015	Change	
School	\$4,754,533	\$4,774,465	\$19,912	0.4%
Town	\$1,830,331	\$1,650,169	\$180,162	-9.8%
Fire Depts	\$127,412	\$128,412	\$1,000	0.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,712,296</b>	<b>\$6,553,046</b>	<b>-\$159,250</b>	<b>-2.4%</b>
Tax Rates ('14 actual, '15 estimated)				
School	\$13.61	\$13.47	-\$0.14	-1.0%
Town	\$3.92	\$3.20	-\$0.72	-18.4%
Fire				
Andover	\$0.65	\$0.64	-\$0.01	-0.8%
E. Andover	\$0.38	\$0.38	\$0.00	0.0%
County	\$2.85	\$2.85	\$0.00	0.0%
Total Tax Rates				
Andover	\$21.03	\$20.16	-\$0.87	-4.1%
E. Andover	\$20.76	\$19.90	-\$0.86	-4.1%
Tax on a \$200,000 Property ('14 actual, '15 estimated)				
Andover	\$4,206	\$4,032	-\$174	-4.1%
E. Andover	\$4,152	\$3,980	-\$172	-4.1%

## AE/MS Facilities Study Task Force Looking for Members

How to implement consultants' report

Anne Swayze, Andover School Board

During the past six months, the Andover School Board has worked alongside Marinace Architects, a New Hampshire architectural firm, to create a preliminary Facilities Study document.

The School Board entered into the relationship with Marinace to evaluate the current servability of AE/MS for its administration, staff, students, and town. In addition, the Board was sensitive in examining how AE/MS would

meet future educational needs and do so in a manner that respected budgetary concerns, community needs, and, perhaps most importantly, the long-standing relationship between AE/MS and the town of Andover.

Our primary focus was to establish the future needs for AE/MS, recognizing that the original school building was raised in 1934 and updated in 1970 and 1990 (by adding the front foyer and middle school wing respectively) and was in need of a professional review. The outcome of the review would signify and recommend

See Task Force on page 3

## Town Meeting 2015 Results, Article by Article

Voters approve new approach to highway department

Charlie Darling, Beacon staff

The 2015 Andover Town Meeting convened on March 10 in the AE/MS gym at 7 PM. Duncan Coolidge, chair of the Board of Selectmen, took the floor to recognize many Andover citizens who have helped the Town. See page 6 for the text of his comments.

Because Article 1 (election of officers for the year) was on the ballot during voting from 11 AM to 7 PM, the meeting started by addressing Article 2.

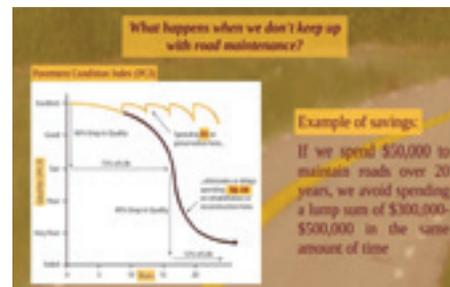
**Article 2:** Lease a one-ton truck for \$55,509.

Sophie Viandier, member of the Board of Selectmen, projected a presentation on the screen and talked the audience through the major points behind Article 2, leasing a truck, and Article 3, equipment to be used by two new part-time highway department employees.

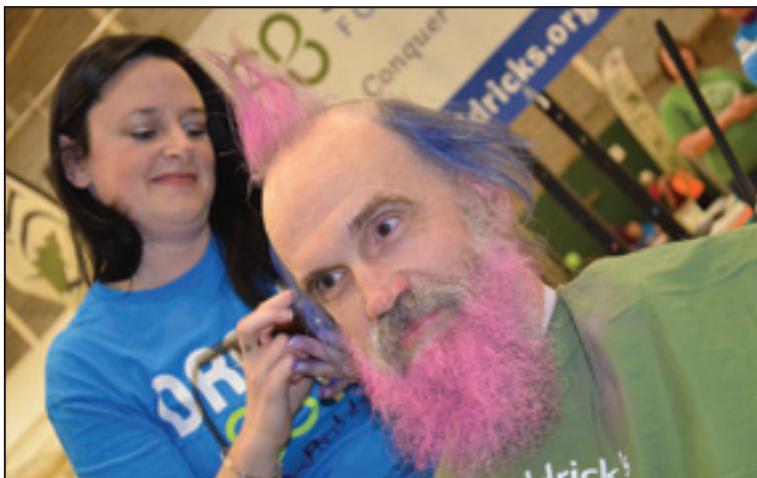
The budget presented in

Article 4 is based on Articles 2 and 3 being approved, Sophie said, allowing us to lease a one-ton truck and hire two part-time employees for the highway department to take on a lot of routine maintenance of roads and grounds around town. We're currently reacting to problems rather than doing preventative maintenance to avoid problems.

If the proposed 2015 budget were based on the same approach as last year, See Town Meeting on page 2



Spending \$50,000 per year in road maintenance over 20 years (total: \$1 million) lets us avoid raising and spending a lump sum of \$300,000 to \$500,000 in the same period of time ... and gives us better roads throughout the period.



The second annual St Baldrick's fundraiser to fight childhood cancer was a big success on March 28 in the Proctor Academy gym. The event reached its goal of \$20,000 raised, but you can still donate at StBaldricks.org through the end of the year in hopes of helping the event surpass last year's \$30,000 raised. In this photo, Holly Noyes of New Horizons Hairstylists prepares to shave Beacon editor Charlie Darling for the cause. You can see many more photos at AndoverBeacon.com/St-Baldricks-2015-photos. Photo: Meghan Barton

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**POSTAL CUSTOMER**

**Town Meeting from page 1**

it would be \$40,000 higher, and it still wouldn't include adequate preventative maintenance.

This new plan comes from Road Agent John Thompson, with help from Town Administrator Marj Roy, the Board of Selectmen, and the Budget Committee.

We currently pay \$35 per hour for labor for routine maintenance or for major projects.

Under the new plan, the Road Agent would supervise two new 32-hour-per-week Town employees making \$10 to \$15 per hour to handle routine maintenance of Town roads, grounds, and facilities.

Andy Guptill said that he'd analyzed the figures and that the truck pays for itself in just four hours of use per week. He said he'd vote in favor of this plan.

Toby Locke asked why we'd lease instead of buy. John Thompson explained that with an escape clause in the lease and a \$1 buyout at the end, it was a better deal for the Town to lease than to buy.

Jeff Newcomb asked why the increase in FICA and Workers Compensation insurance for the two new employees isn't reflected in the 2015 budget. Marj Roy explained that the rules for making the budget don't allow those expenses to appear this year, but

they will appear next year.

Jeff Newcomb stated that we need to factor in replacement costs for all the equipment we'd buy if Article 3 is approved, as well as the cost of fertilizer.

Duncan Coolidge replied that this plan is the start of an eight-year cycle,



**Highway Department expenditures have risen by \$125,000 (about 36%) over the past five years.**

which is the expected life of the truck. At the end of the cycle, it could start again with the lease of a new truck and purchase of new equipment to replace the old equipment.

Chuck Keyser asked: What if two people can't do all the work you've got planned for them? I don't think we should build toward a highway department of four or five part-time people. John Thompson replied that he agrees and that two people should be able to handle the scope of work that's planned. Chuck pointed out that \$10 or \$12 per hour doesn't buy you much in an employee any more.

Peter Zak asked the Budget Com-

mittee to speak to the new plan.

Arch Weathers, chair of the Budget Committee, spoke about designing a method to choose between contract labor and employee labor. "We've never had that choice before." It's up to the judgment of the Road Agent to run the highway department most efficiently, and we're putting our faith in him.

Brad Hardie: "I think this is a great idea." But paying the part-time employees a little more would be a good idea. And you might get more investment out of full-time employees. Duncan Coolidge said that the wages at this point are just suggestions.

David Powers said that if the truck were used for plowing, it might not last eight years.

Jeff Newcomb pointed out that purchasing this equipment is starting to grow our Town government bigger. "Really consider this, people, because this is where it's going to go. I'm going to vote no."

Bill Keyser pointed out that mowing the ball field at Blackwater Park is a specialized job and should therefore be omitted from this plan. "I think it would be cheaper to put it out to bid because you'd save on equipment, repairs, and labor. I can't see where the advantage is going to come from having employees mowing the cemeteries. Where are we going to store all the stuff?"

Duncan Coolidge said that the Board

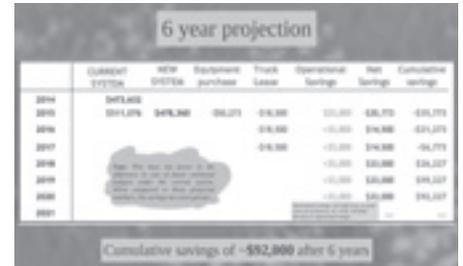
has no expectation of building a road department; it just is looking for some savings for the Town.

Janet Moore said that it would be too bad if we made the decision based on fear of big government.

Donna Duclos asked if contracting this work out at \$35 per hour includes insurance, mowers, trucks, etc. Contracting it out might be a good deal if it does; we didn't have good information about that in the presentation.

John Thompson clarified that \$35 per hour does include insurance but not equipment – trucks, mowers, etc. cost extra.

Bill Keyer pointed out that when we put the cemetery mowing out to bid, it



**The new system passed at Town Meeting is projected to save the Town approximately \$92,000 over the next six years.**

doesn't matter to us how much of the bid is labor and how much is equipment.

Jeff Dickinson pointed out that discussing labor really isn't relevant to Article 2. He also wished that more information about this plan had been

See Town Meeting on page 3



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## Public Open House Sunday, April 12th 1-3 9 Shirley Road, Andover



Lovely antique home abutting the Proctor Academy campus, offering 9 rooms including 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, hardwood floors, heated porch, oversized attached 3 car garage/barn, in move-in condition. Located on a lovely corner lot with large trees, this is a very sunny home located in the heart of the village within walking distance to all schools. Offered at \$239,000. Directions: Main St. Andover to Shirley Rd. Property is first house on left - corner lot.



Lynn Baker (standing) addresses Town Meeting while other voters (Vicky and Jonathan Mishcon in the foreground) study their copies of the Town Report. Photo: Larry Chase

### Town Meeting from page 2

available before Town Meeting.

With the discussion winding down, Moderator Dan Coolidge called the vote. It was too close to call the voice vote; Article 2 passed on a show of hands.

**Article 3:** \$50,273 for maintenance equipment.

Howard Wilson offered to sell the Town his 48" mower, as well as operate it and haul it on his trailer.

Tom Frantz asked if the part-time employees will mow Blackwater Park or if the Recreation Committee can still bid out that job. Duncan Coolidge replied that the employees would be trained to meet the standards the Recreation Department expects. We won't accept playing fields being turned into something less than desirable.

Article 3 passed on a voice vote.

**Article 4:** \$1,478,648 for general municipal operations.

Moderator Dan Coolidge talked the meeting through the Town budget section by section.

Toby Locke was critical of the fact that last year the Town "built a build-

ing that nobody knew about and bought a building nobody knew about." The moderator asked him to raise his concerns under Article 22, Other Business.

Wood Sutton questioned the sharp increase in health insurance costs. Marj Roy explained that the budget rules require health insurance to be budgeted on a worst-case scenario, and since the bookkeeper will be full-time in 2015, the budget has to reflect the most expensive plan they might choose, even though they might choose a less expensive plan or none at all.

Jeff Miller asked about \$600 savings in streetlights: How many were finally turned off? Did we spend about two hours debating the issue at last year's Town Meeting for nothing?

Duncan Coolidge didn't have the exact figures on hand but said that the savings are more than Jeff quoted and would continue year after year.

Toby Locke said that the streetlight at the Transfer Station should be on a motion sensor instead of leaving it on all the time. He also pointed out that the lights at the skateboard park are now on 24/7 because the kids have been mess-

See Town Meeting on page 5



Andover Village District had to deal with a frozen water main on the end of Poplar Street that left two homes without water service for over a week. RD Edmunds, Mr Steam and Sons, and Rowell Plumbing – all supervised by Toby Locke for the District – assisted. According to Mike Vercellotti, "We will not know the full financial impact of the repairs for a few weeks. We will likely need to hold a special meeting of the Village District to amend the budget later in the year." Photo: Charlie Darling



The Andover Fire Department was awarded the "Brave to Shave" team award (the white fire helmet that Chief Rene Lefebvre is holding) for the most money raised at last year's 2014 St. Baldrick's event, for which they raised \$10,874. This year they have teamed with Andover EMS to raise \$5,295 so far. The new team hopes to raise the most money for this year's event and be able to keep the trophy for another year. Please visit [StBaldricks.org](http://StBaldricks.org) if you can help. Back: Scott Kidder, William MacDuffie, Bill Demers, Steve Barton, Andrew Perkins, Jeff Miller, Glenn Haley, Carter Atwood, Fred Lance. Front: Jake Johnson, Rene Lefebvre, Andy Guptill, Erin Vien, Stu Randall, John Bridgmon. Photo: Meghan Barton

### Task Force from page 1

improvements and renovations to the internal and external structure.

The following five areas were referred to during the March 2 annual School District Meeting. These areas are aimed at giving direction and guidance as the process moves forward.

- Access and Security: a) access to and from the school building by com-

munity members, staff, and students; b) pick up and drop off for staff and students; c) vehicular traffic, including all buses; d) internal and external lighting, security systems, and pathways; e) layout of school classrooms, administrative offices, and extra-curricular areas.

- Space Needs: a) provide for the ebb and flow of student enrollment; b) appropriate classroom space and upgrade

See Task Force on page 6



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Quarter page	\$758	\$427	\$225	\$79
Half page	\$1,526	\$859	\$453	\$159
Full page	\$2,774	\$1,561	\$824	\$289
Pre-printed insert	\$1,526	\$859	\$453	\$159

The *Andover Beacon* is published 11 times a year by Community Publishing of Andover, Inc., a New Hampshire non-profit corporation and 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charity. Board of Directors: Steve Darling, Nan Kaplan, John Kinney, Scott Allenby, Lisa Clark.

The *Beacon* is mailed free to all Andover addresses. We depend on donations from the community for a large part of our operating budget. Out-of-town or seasonal subscriptions: \$30. Donations (not including \$30 for each out-of-town or gift subscription) are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

**Publisher:** Charlie Darling  
**Ad Sales:** Connie Powers, Suzy Brown  
**Member Drawings:** Margo Coolidge  
**Mark Your Calendar:** Shirley Currier  
**Writing, Editing, & Proofreading:** Nan Kaplan, Margo Coolidge, Robin Powell, Marilyn Gould, Nancy Tripp, Jeff Goodrich, Amanda Gross, Sue Winters  
**Production:** Jan Brennan, Dan Coolidge, Alex Estin, Steve Foley, Beth Frost  
**Photo Editor:** David Powers  
**Distribution:** Mary Demers, Paul Fenton, Don Gross, Judy Perreault, Scott Robart  
**Special Projects:** Mary Anne Broshek, Marilyn Gould

**Technology:** Tom Brown, Steve Colardeau  
**Accounting:** Brenda Brown, Pam Cooper, Sharon Darling, Wendy Pinkham

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The next issue should be in mailboxes on Friday, May 1. Please get all ads, articles, etc. to us by **Wednesday, April 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 Pizza Chef	Large 2-Topping Pizza	Karin Forsberg
Blackwater Junction Rest.	Gift Certificate	Bonnie Coombs
Jake's Market and Deli	Gift Certificate	Pat & Frank Baker
Kearsarge Magazine	1-Year Subscription	Barbara & Lewis Barton
LisAnn's	Gift Certificate	Keith Pfeifer
MacKenna's Restaurant	Gift Certificate	Ed & Madelyn Constant
Mary Kay - Laura Condon	Gift Certificate	Louise Taikovsky
New Horizons Hairstylists	Hair Care Products	Edna Peters

**WINNERS! Call volunteer Margo Coolidge at 735-5418 to collect your prize.**  
 Prizes not redeemable for cash. Prizes not claimed in 90 days go back into the prize pool.

## SUPPORT THE BEACON!

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		Your Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ Phone or E-mail _____
		Other Name _____ Other Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ Phone or E-mail _____
		Seasonal: which months are you at the "other" address? _____

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**Andover Beacon • PO Box 149 • Andover NH 03216 • Thank you!**

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## Volunteers Urgently Needed!

As a 501(c)(3) charitable trust, *The Andover Beacon* relies on volunteers from the community to accomplish many critical steps in getting the paper into everyone's mailbox every month. Right now we're *especially* in need of:

- Volunteers to help edit every article.  
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*Do this at home or in the Beacon office ... your choice!*
- A volunteer to help with the Beacon Web site & Facebook page.  
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- Many other volunteer opportunities available! Accounting ... mailing ... fundraising ...

**Town Meeting from page 3**

ing with the timer.

Toby also asked if the figure in the budget for Debt Service reflected us being forced to pay taxes twice a year. Marj Roy said that they'd left last year's amount in the budget just in case the Town was forced to borrow, though "I can't imagine why we'd have to borrow with twice-a-year tax bills." The meeting could reduce the amount; it's the meeting's prerogative.

Article 4 passed on an all-but-unanimous voice vote. A motion to restrict reconsideration of Articles 2, 3, and 4 also passed.

**Article 5:** To discontinue the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund and transfer its \$225,000 to the general fund.

Duncan Coolidge: The New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration required this change. The money for the Lawrence Street Bridge Project and the money for general bridge repair need to be in two separate funds, and that's what Articles 5, 6, and 7 accomplish.

Article 5 passed unanimously.

**Article 6:** To establish a Capital Reserve Fund for the Lawrence Street Bridge Project and put \$200,000 in this fund from the general fund.

Mary Hiller: Weren't we going to do a bond for the Lawrence Street bridge?

Duncan Coolidge: We're going to have to spend about \$60,000 for an engineering study, and that could come out of this fund. The rest of this fund could go toward getting a bond. Federal funds aren't expected to be available for this project until about 2022.

Article 6 passed unanimously.

**Article 7:** To establish a Capital Reserve Fund for general bridge rehabilitation and put \$50,000 in this fund, with \$25,000 to come from the general fund and \$25,000 to be raised through taxation. After a brief discussion, Article 7 passed unanimously.

**Article 8:** To add \$10,476 to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. With no discussion, Article 8 passed all but unanimously.

**Article 9:** To add \$25,000 to the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund. Toby Locke asked how much is currently in the fund. The answer was \$75,000.

Article 9 passed unanimously.

**Article 10:** To add \$3,000 to the Fire Emergency Labor Expendable Trust Fund. With no discussion, Article 10 passed unanimously.

**Article 11:** To add \$7,500 to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. With no discussion, Article 11 passed unanimously.

**Article 12:** To add \$10,000 to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. Toby Locke asked if this money would go toward purchasing the new truck. Answer: no, it's for the eventual replacement of the grader. Article 12 passed unanimously.

**Article 13:** To establish a Technology Expendable Trust Fund, add \$18,000 to it, and withdraw \$16,231 from it for a computer network upgrade.

Arch Weathers: Money for technology used to be in the regular operating budget. But the state requirements are driving needs for more and better Town computers because most transactions are now directly linked to the state's computers. We have to look at these expenses as capital expenses and save for them and establish a replacement schedule. This whole new area is here to stay, and we have to fund it, replace it, etc.

Greg Stetson: Isn't there still money for technology in the operating budget?

Marj Roy: That money is for software support and an annual service contract. The technology upgrade in Article 13 is totally new this year.

Article 13 passed unanimously.

**Article 14:** To add \$10,000 to the Town Buildings Expendable Trust Fund.

Toby Locke: Will this money be used to build any buildings we don't know about? Answer: no.

Duncan Coolidge: The foundation of the Town Hall is cracked, and its heating system is old and needs to be replaced. That's what this fund is for.

Article 14 passed unanimously.

**Article 15:** To add \$10,000 to the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund.

Toby Locke: What will this money be spent on?

Duncan Coolidge: There is no specific capital expenditure planned. There is a substantial plan being developed

See Town Meeting on page 7

**Election Results for March 10, 2015**

**Selectman** (vote for one)

James Delaney: 266

Leonard Caron: 75

**Budget Committee** (vote for two)

Wood Sutton: 145

Bob Ward: 116

Arch Weathers (write-in): 166

Vicky Mishcon (write-in): 191

**Library Trustee** (vote for two)

Alexis Southworth: 248

Caroline Moulton Ratzki: 283

**Trustee of Trust Funds** (vote for one)

Sarah Whitehead (write-in): 8

**Cemetery Trustees**, 3 years (vote for one)

Pat Cutter (write-in): 4

**Cemetery Trustees**, 2 years (vote for one)

Bill Keyser (write-in): 4

**Cemetery Trustees**, 1 year (vote for one)

Stacey Viandier (write-in): 3

**School Board**, 1 year (vote for one)

Dean Barker: 311

**School Board**, 2 years (vote for one)

Misty Sava: 309

**School Board**, 3 years (vote for two)

Michelle Dudek: 301

Mark Heller: 287

**School Moderator** (vote for one)

Elizabeth Paine: 307

**School Treasurer** (vote for one)

Shirley Currier: 337

**School Clerk** (vote for one)

Christie Coll (write-in): 22



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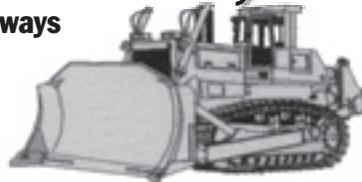
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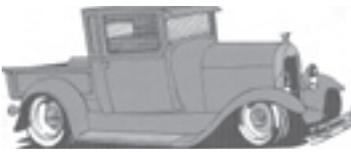
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**Selectmen Inaugurate Rusty Trusty Old Spike Awards**

Ed Hiller and Dennis Fenton honored

Duncan Coolidge  
 Board of Selectmen chair

*These are the words with which Duncan Coolidge opened Andover Town Meeting 2015 on March 10.*

First, I want to thank all of the various local government volunteers and elected officials for their selfless and generous effort over the last year serving the Town and our community. It is through their gift of time and dedication that we are able to function in the remarkable and continued way we do. We owe them our respect, trust, and gratitude for what they do out of a sense of responsibility to others.

Also, I am very enthusiastic about two busy young local businessmen and family men, Chuck Keyser and Chris Caron, for being willing to step forward and contribute their time and intelligence to help the town forge ahead by joining our newly-formed Capital Improvement Committee, chaired by Doug Phelps. Theirs is an enormously important task, developing a rational plan for our use of limited financial resources in a responsible way to maintain and improve the quality and infrastructure of our town.

My personal thanks go to our remarkable Town Office staff, who are the backbone of our local government; our Andover Libraries staff; our Road Agent, John Thompson, and his crew for their tireless effort in dealing with a difficult winter; our dedicated volunteer fire department guided by our intrepid Fire Chief, Renee Lefebvre; the life-saving efforts of our emergency services crew, directed by John Kinney; and our boys in blue, the Andover Police Department, who keep us safe and encourage us to behave ourselves.

My sincere personal regards to you all, and from the Select Board for the opportunity you have given us to serve the

town. We are dedicated to the community. We work hard, and we are admittedly far from perfect. We each bring different skills to the table. Many of our efforts go unseen but are nonetheless critical parts of our responsibilities.

My deep gratitude goes to Jim Danforth, whose tireless attention to straightening out things has been a challenging but very important process. While a little tough to accept at times, the gift of his insight into consistency and fairness has been a core feature of his tenure. I have great respect for his intelligence and what he has contributed. To acknowledge that, the Select Board wants to present him a heartfelt gift of some fine Pentax binoculars.

**Rusty Trusty Old Spike Awards**

The first of two yearly awards which I have titled the Rusty Trusty Old Spike Award are to be given to acknowledge the selfless contributions made by local citizens to our Town government. They are unadorned, mounted rail spikes, salvaged from the cold waters of the Blackwater River, that came from the rail bed of the Northern Railroad, later called the Boston and Maine. They did their job faithfully and without expectation of acknowledgement or reward, just as have the recipients.

These rusty, trusty old spikes are not pretty, and that is by intention. They are rusted and worn, but solid and worthy of respect, like these citizens. In sum, the spikes supported a railroad, and in their same way the recipients have supported our town.

I have chosen to award two rusty, trusty old spikes this year. The first goes to Ed Hiller, who diligently and intelligently serves on the Andover Budget Committee but shuns the limelight. The second goes to the humble and rock-solid Dennis Fenton, for his determined efforts as a Selectman for many years.

Both Ed and Dennis set examples for us of what true citizenship is and what it See Old Spike on page 6

**Task Force from page 3**

of core facilities: library, cafeteria, and gymnasium; c) special education areas; d) adequate storage space.

- Code Compliance: a) fire, electrical, mechanical, and environmental; b) ADA compliance; c) any new building, additions, or renovations will require current compliance or updating codes.

- Operations and Maintenance: a) day-to-day maintenance of the facility; b) safety of internal and external spaces.

- Environmental and Energy Conservation: a) upgrades to the current envelope to ensure greater energy efficiency; b) upgrades to internal systems for environmental conservation; c) conscious of environmental sustainability.

Recognizing that the scope and magnitude of this study is a major undertaking, not only for the administration and

staff of AE/MS but also for the town of Andover, the School Board will implement an AE/MS Facilities Study Task Force to convene in the spring of 2015.

The Board is excited to establish this task force, which will comprise eight to 10 townspeople, plus school officials. Over the course of a year the Task Force will provide recommendations on how to move forward to the Andover School Board, AE/MS, and the town of Andover.

We enter this "task force relationship" with excitement and anticipation. While the Task Force will focus on long-term updates and improvements to AE/MS, it is our expectation, as well, that the collective work among many will ensure excellence in education and a longstanding sense of belonging and pride to our town.

The Andover School Board is appreciative of the town's continued support and confidence.

**Old Spike from page 6**

demands of us. They should inspire each of us to become involved as active builders of our community. It is our community, and we will only have one, which we have earned by the sweat of our combined efforts. Everyone is busy, and everyone can find excuses. It is your town, and what it becomes will be no more than what you do to make it the town you want.

Finally, thank you all for being here and thereby expressing your sincere concern for the well-being of our town and our community. It is the finest example of true participatory democracy

that exists in the world. We come together to decide as a community, within a set of established laws, how our town will function for the common good.

It should not be a time squandered to promote personal agendas, self-interests, or just complain and find fault without being willing to actively contribute by shouldering responsibility. It is a unique opportunity to determine among ourselves how we want our town to be.

With that, I wish you all well and offer my hope that you will all have security, prosperity, and good health in the coming year.

**Town Meeting from page 5**

to make the Transfer Station more efficient and cost-effective, and that plan will be presented at a later time.

Article 15 passed unanimously.

**Article 16:** To delegate the duties of the Cemetery Trustees to the Board of Selectmen.

Duncan Coolidge: The Selectmen suggested this idea because we have increasing difficulty filling these positions with people who can fulfill the responsibilities of the position.

Wood Sutton: I see nothing here about a sexton you say we need. We've had trustees for over 20 years, ever since I've been here. Maybe after today's ballots are counted we'll have trustees again.

Joanna Sumner: Every time we give up the right to choose and to vote, we need to be really careful.

Toby Locke: I'd volunteer to help. I think we should share the responsibility.

Marj Roy: We do have a sexton, and it's in the budget for \$500. The sexton meets with the bereaved and picks out the plot.

Toby Locke: If this passes and later we don't like the way it's working, how do we change it?

Duncan Coolidge: You'd just need a warrant article to change it back.

Lynn Baker asked for an overview of the responsibilities and the difficulties fulfilling them.

Jim Danforth: We've been extremely fortunate to have had Pat Cutter as cemetery trustee for so long. [Applause] The job requires a lot of experience in matching markers to maps, finding the right site, taking measurements from the right marker. The biggest issue is learning all that from scratch.

Jim Delaney: My son died this past summer, and we found the burial plot we'd purchased had been changed to a cremation plot. We couldn't get anyone from the Cemetery Trustees to come help us when we needed it. Thank God for Pat Cutter, because she came out of retirement for a little while, did the paperwork and got everything ironed out, and my son was interred. But there was nobody on the Cemetery Trustees who would come forward to do their job.

Vicky Mishcon: Where's the usual \$4,000 warrant article for repairing

stones in the cemeteries?

Jim Danforth: The Cemetery Trustees usually prepare that, and without them this year, preparing it slipped through the cracks.

Dennis Fenton: I think that the smartest thing you could do tonight is nothing. You may be creating a bigger problem than the one you've got. Forget this article, and hire a sexton.

Arch Weathers made a motion to table Article 16. The motion passed and Article 16 was tabled.

**Article 17:** To extend Hoyt Road for construction of a turnaround and access to Lot 15-230-100.

Marie Nardino, a resident of Hoyt Road: I received a letter in August about the turnaround for Town vehicles. This article also mentions a new lot. What will the use of the new lot be?

Jim Danforth: This is to give the Selectmen the option if the owner of the buildable lot decides to get permission and spend the money to extend the road. It wouldn't be Town money. The lot is totally unrelated to the turnaround, which we hope to do this year within the existing roadway.

After much further discussion, Article 17 passed. [But wait! Half an hour later, it was brought up for reconsideration. See below.]

**Article 18:** To extend Emery Road to allow a home to be built on Lot 8-329-127. Article 18 passed with no discussion.

**Article 19:** To accept Johnson Lane as laid out between Cilleysville Road and Powers Lane for all traffic, and from Powers Lane to Routes 11 and 4 as a pedestrian way.

Jeff Miller asked if the road would be brought up to Town standards and the gates removed. Duncan Coolidge: The current owners will do both things before turning the road over to the Town.

Jim Danforth: Johnson Lane will connect again to Powers Lane, and we'll get better access to the dry hydrant. It will be a pedestrian-only walkway from where Johnson Lane turns into Powers Lane, through the covered bridge, and out to Route 11.

Leighton Terwilliger: What about the school buses that are parked there?

Jim Danforth: It will be a horseshoe-shaped road. The buses are off to the side of that horseshoe already. All we're

See Town Meeting on page 8

**Sophie Viandier Resigns from Board of Selectmen**

It is time that I announce my resignation from my position as Selectwoman.

Last summer I was offered a job in Kenya this June and July to teach 30+ students in reforestation and water conservation. I have decided to accept their offer and will most likely stay on with the organization after that.

I love Andover to bits, and I really love being on the Board and volunteering my time around town, but I'm completely beat from trying to scrape by financially. I've also just been accelerated two years in my University and will have to spend much more time doing my schoolwork than I have been. (It has already taken me two years to do my first year of college.)

It was – and is still – my dream to make Andover the paradisiacal community that it should be, but I need more experience and availability. I'm working so many odd-jobs that I feel I'm not fully effective but instead half-assing (or eighth-assing) everything just to fulfill basic duties.

Thank you all for the support and trust. I am honored to have served such an incredible community.

Apologies and thanks,

*Sophie Viandier*

**Vicky Mishcon to Serve until Next Election**

With Sophie Viandier's resignation from the Board of Selectmen, the Board needed a third selectman to serve until the vacancy can be filled at the next Town election in March of 2016. The Board has appointed Vicky Mishcon, who served on the Board for six years, from 2008 through 2014.

The Board wishes Sophie the best of luck in her new adventures!

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# Selectmen's Perspective on 2015 Town Meeting

## Some major advances, some lessons learned

### Duncan Coolidge, Board of Selectmen

Andover Town Meeting 2015, our Legislative Body made up of the citizens of Andover who attended the meeting, demonstrated its concern for and commitment to the town. That was reassuring, but I was disappointed that more people weren't there. Apathy and cynicism do not serve the community and do not help to guide its development. We need participation at all levels of our local government with an ongoing commitment of time and well-considered and productive thought.

The positive vote for a beginning Town Road Crew under the direct supervision of our Road Agent was a giant step forward, particularly in getting better control of our labor costs and equipment rental expenses. John Thompson, along with Jim Delaney, Marj Roy, Dennis Fenton, and the Selectboard worked diligently to present a well-considered and supportable plan.

Sophie Viandier's presentation in an up-to-date format made what would otherwise have been challenging to understand very straightforward. Undoubtedly there will be challenges in instituting the plan, but your vote of confidence was encouraging.

Road-related warrant articles presented a number of issues that need to be addressed. They were not vetted by the Planning Board, and that would have been a much simpler pathway for addressing the various road issues raised.

Two of the three warrants were probably unnecessary and could have been resolved at the Planning Board level. The third really required considerably

more understanding of the complex history involved before coming to Town Meeting for consideration. All three of the road warrant issues will be reviewed by the Planning Board.

The Town budget was passed with limited discussion, thanks to the hard work of our Budget Committee under the chairmanship of Arch Weathers. Again, it would be to the advantage of the community to participate more actively in the budget hearings, where fine points, details, and questions are better answered. Town Meeting is not the time for microscopic examination.

The balance of the meeting went quite well. I do think that how we communicate during the meeting is important. The formality of addressing the Moderator with questions or statements avoids arguments on the floor which can deteriorate into shouting matches.

However, it is important that everyone who wishes to speak be heard. That poses some difficulty for the Moderator in allowing dynamic communication about issues while giving everyone a chance to speak to their concerns about the warrant articles. One or two people cannot be allowed to dominate the floor, but at the same time open discussion cannot be unduly restricted.

It is a challenging process to manage, and I do not have an immediate answer to the problems. Admittedly, the meeting showed room for improvement.

In summary, we got some major things accomplished, learned some lessons, and are challenged to do better. Thank you everyone for your support of our local government, your personal contributions, and your expression of trust.

Please get involved! Help build our town.

## Town Meeting from page 7

going to do is to move the gates.

Mark Stetson: The Town already owns the right-of-way through the bridge.

Jim Danforth: Two or three years ago the state told us no, we don't own it; it's a private road. When we asked for a remedy to the problem, they said that this warrant article was it.

Steve Barton: What's the benefit of getting this as a Town road? All I see is more maintenance cost.

Jim Danforth: Since RP Johnson and Son has moved off the property, the private road makes no sense. In the long run it will benefit the town to have those buildings better utilized, and we've been told by the owner that the private road is a handicap. If we get those buildings better utilized and get some more jobs in town, we're all going to benefit.

Duncan Coolidge: The owners will pay for patching and culvert work and get it into shape.

Andy Guptill moved to amend the article by adding language about bringing the road up to Town standards, as approved by the Road Agent, at the cost of the landowner. Nancy Tripp moved to amend the amendment to use the word "expense" rather than "cost." The amendment to the amendment passed. The amendment passed.

Paul Currier: Is there a record of having made Johnson Lane private?

Jim Danforth: Yes. Paul Currier: Will there be a deed transferring the road to the Town? Jim Danforth: You'd have to ask legal counsel.

After much further discussion about boundaries, statutes, etc., Stacey Viandier moved to table Article 19 "until we're sure we're not getting into a legal hornets' nest." The motion passed, and Article 19 was tabled.

**Article 17 Reconsidered:** A motion to reconsider Article 17 (Hoyt Road) was discussed and passed, and discussion turned to Article 17 again.

Toby Locke: This reconsidering is the kind of underhanded stuff that happens after a third of the people leave. This was overwhelmingly passed earlier. The taxpayer should have access to his property. He still has to go through all the legal rules and permits before he uses it. Let's amend this article to remove mention of the turnaround, since that's going to be built in the Town right-of-way anyway; it doesn't need to be in here.

The amendment passed. The amended article was defeated on a show of hands, 14 to 19.

Hearing concern that the count was incorrect, Moderator Dan Coolidge called for another show of hands. Article 17 passed 24 to 20 on the second show of hands.

**Article 20:** To enter into a 10-year lease with the Andover Horseshoe Club for 45 Monticello Drive. With no discussion, Article 20 passed unanimously.

**Article 21:** To authorize the Con-

servation Commission to expend funds for contributions to "qualified organizations" where the Town will retain no interest in the property.

Mary Anne Broshek, chair of the Conservation Commission, explained that this article would remove the requirement that the Town have a financial interest (and therefore a potential liability) in an easement property before the Conservation Commission could help make that easement happen.

Toby Locke asked if the Selectmen would say whether this is beneficial for the town or not. Duncan Coolidge: It's in our best interest to vote for this. It keeps us out of financial obligations in the future.

Article 21 passed unanimously. A motion was made to take Article 19 (Johnson Lane) off the table. The motion failed.

**Article 22:** Any other business.

Leighton Terwilliger: I beg you to get the building at Blackwater Park finished. [Applause]

Duncan Coolidge: I'd like to embarrass Toby by publicly saying "Thank you!" for all the work that you obviously put into Town Meeting, having read everything and read everything well before-hand, and then asking a lot of good and solid questions. [Applause]

Toby Locke: Where did the money come from for the compactor, and for the building bought from RP Johnson for the Transfer Station, and for the sand shed at White Oak? I don't understand how all that happened without us voting on it at Town Meeting.

Jim Danforth: The Transfer Station stuff came out of the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund. The plan was discussed at Town Meeting after waiting to see what would happen with the trash co-op's plan to build a Single Stream Recycling (SSR) plant. When that fell through, we decided against going with Cassella and we went with our own SSR.

Toby Locke: Isn't it costing us \$90 per ton for SSR?

Jim Danforth: All the projections we were given were that it would be \$45 per ton and would therefore be our best option. The Selectmen have come up with a plan with new options that will be presented soon.

Sophie Viandier: The pole barn at White Oak was an EPA requirement. It will also house Town equipment and the new Town truck.

Toby Locke: The pole barn was inadequate before it was built. It's too small.

John Thompson: It was intended just to get us started and keep just the salt under cover. I know it's inadequate to our total needs, but it's what we could afford.

Wood Sutton: I'd like to commend the Road Agent and his crew on keeping the roads clear during a very difficult winter this year. [Applause]

With that, the meeting was adjourned.

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## Thoughts from Jim Danforth as He Steps Down

### Three years on the Board of Selectmen

Jim Danforth

After serving as part of the team of Selectpersons for the past three years, I want to thank those I served with and worked with. When I entered office, I was not prepared for the scope of work or the knowledgebase that the job of Selectperson requires.

My singular goal while running for office was to treat everyone the same. In presenting that goal, it became linked with fairness. In hindsight, this linkage, which seemed natural, was in fact a mistake I regret. The idea of what is and what is not fair is not easily defined across the width and breath of the duties of the Board of Selectmen; therefore,

treating everyone the same was unfair at times.

I want to also thank those in town who invested their time and attended our meetings and asked questions. Be assured that your attendance made a difference; your questions improved our answers and actions. Communicating clearly and providing the information known builds trust and confidence in town government as a whole. I hope that the improved Web site at Andover.NH.us will continue to improve trust, understanding, and the sharing of ideas.

Our town needs you, your perspective, your ideas, and your hopes. Please take on some active role in our town, by sharing; Andover will be a better place to live and work.

## Andover Takes On More Road Maintenance Responsibility

Jeremy Blackman

Concord Monitor staff

From the March 11 Concord Monitor

Andover voters last night agreed to take on road maintenance themselves, rather than contract it out as needed – a new approach that selectmen said will save taxpayers more than \$150,000 over eight years.

Under the proposal, the town will hire two part-time workers and purchase a dump truck and about \$50,000 in equipment. The work will include tree trimming, mowing, bridge and ditch cleaning, and other related tasks. First-year Selectwoman Sophie Viandier said the town has previously paid private companies for the work, which can cost around \$35 per hour. The new employees will each work 32 hours per week and be paid up to \$15 per hour. They will report to the town's road agent.

"These things are cheaper for us to pay for," Viandier said.

Road and bridge maintenance costs have been increasing steadily in recent years. Viandier said the plan will help the town keep up on small issues, which will in turn prevent larger, more costly problems from developing.

Several voters questioned parts of the plan, such as how it will affect insurance and worker compensation rates – minimally, officials said – but overall opposition was limited.

"I urge you to vote yes on this, because it's going to be very expensive for us if we don't," said former selectman

Andrew Guptill.

Voters defeated a different approach last year, in which the town would have taken out a \$1 million bond for both road and bridge repairs. Guptill opposed that then, saying it failed to put in place any real long-term maintenance plan.

[Jeff Newcomb], one of the few vocal opponents, warned voters against purchases like the dump truck, which will cost about \$60,000 over three years.

"This is the start of how government grows bigger," [Newcomb] said, noting a host of unforeseeable costs and wage increases.

But Selectman Duncan Coolidge responded that officials have "no expectation of building a town road department."

"Cost savings over time, that's our goal," Coolidge said.

Voters also passed a \$1.5 million operating budget, a \$92,300 increase over the 2014 budget. They further voted to sunset the current bridge capital reserve fund and create two new bridge accounts, one for general maintenance and one for repairs to the Lawrence Street bridge. The town will put \$200,000 in taxes to the latter fund, which will be used for the town's portion of Lawrence Street bridge repairs, a State Bridge Aid project.

Jeremy Blackman can be reached at 369-3319, JBlackman@cmonitor.com, or on Twitter @JBlackmanCM.

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# School District Meeting Passes Every Article Unanimously

## Facilities Task Force, bus study planned

**Charlie Darling, Beacon staff**

To begin the annual Andover School District Meeting on March 2, Moderator Betsy Paine introduced the Andover School Board members, Andover Budget Committee members, SAU #46 officials, and AE/MS administration in attendance. The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance, and the AE/MS Chorus sang *God Bless America*.

Betsy recognized Don Gould, who retired from the School Board last year, by reading the tribute to him that appeared in the Andover Town Report for 2014. The audience stood for a round of applause. (The tribute appears on page 11. Two weeks later, Don passed away at Peabody Home in Franklin. His obituary appears on page 37.)

**Article 1:** To accept the reports printed in the School District report. With no discussion, the article passed unanimously.

**Article 2:** To authorize the School

Board to use state and federal aid this year. With no discussion, the article passed unanimously.

**Article 3:** To authorize the School Board to use private donations this year. With no discussion, the article passed unanimously.



**Betsy Paine moderated the Andover School District Meeting again this year.**

**Photo: Tina Cotton**

**Article 4:** \$4,729,465 for the school budget, as recommended by the School Board and the Andover Budget Committee.

Budget Committee chairman Arch Weathers explained the two formats of the budget presented in both the hand-out and in the Town Report. One format is the way that state law requires the budget to be presented, which is very

detailed and is not organized for easy understanding. The other is the Budget Committee's format, which presents the same figures but divides them across fewer categories and organizes the categories for easy understanding.

Arch went on to explain the role of the Budget Committee and the School Board in recommending the budget.

Leighton Terwilliger: Why aren't we going through the budget section-by-section? And why is transportation up \$60,000?

Moderator: There's no legal requirement to go through the budget line-by-line. If the will of the meeting is to go through it line-by-line, I can accept a motion to do that.

School Board chair Michelle Dudek: This year was the last year of the old transportation contract, so we had to renegotiate a new contract, and those are the numbers you see in the budget. It includes special education transportation as well as regular transportation.

Vicky Mishcon: What reason is the company giving for the increase in cost?

SAU Superintendent Mark MacLean: We, too, were a little taken aback by the numbers. We put a bid out and had two different vendors return bids on the RFP. We were able to go back to the vendors and get the numbers down a little bit further.

Initially, we were requesting a fleet of brand-new buses, and when we saw those numbers... The reason they gave us for the increase is that busing is more expensive. They have union contracts that they're negotiating. They use long-term averages in their determination of fuel prices.

We went back and discussed the fleet with the vendors and got the price down about \$30,000. We had a lot of due diligence on this one and pushed back as much as we could.

In a smaller community like Andover, with only two vendors returning bids, there wasn't a whole lot of competition, but with that said, we

really did enter into a lot of negotiation with the two companies.

Wood Sutton: I have a question on special education, which is sort of the elephant in the room. By my figures, it's about \$750,000, roughly half of it spent in-house and the other half outside. I'm not questioning the need for special education, but is there any light at the end of the tunnel for bringing these expenses down, and are there opportunities for bringing more of it in-house instead of sending it out to wherever it goes?

Mark MacLean: We're required by law to provide a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment possible. Some of the services we're required to provide are so out-of-the-ordinary that to bring those in locally would be cost-prohibitive. A lot of times, transportation is a big part of that.

You're going to see that, even with an enrollment that's stable, doctors are getting better at identifying, there are more and more kids in the system, there are more and more identified needs, so...

That special education dollar was supposed to be 44% federally funded. At this point I think it's 17% federally funded, and the taxpayers do have to make up the difference.

Special Education Coordinator Judith Turk: Another point is that we are legally obligated to provide services for children starting at age three, up to age 21. We have studies that show that early intervention is key to lowering these numbers as the students go on. We also have students heavily involved after high school who need further services.

We have students with speech needs, occupational therapy needs, physical therapy needs, social and emotional needs. We have to do testing, we have to provide counseling services. It is a team process, and we have a team of specialists from whom we have to solicit services. It is a very complex system, and that is why it adds up, according to the needs of the student.

Richard Brewster: What percentage of the total student population is receiving special education services?

School Board member Misty Sava: 16% of our 289 students.

Leighton Terwilliger: What did we get out of the \$50,000 for building improvements that we spent last year?

Mark MacLean: We're going to present about the building study later on.

Seeing no further discussion, the moderator called for a vote and Article 4 passed unanimously. A motion to limit reconsideration of Article 4 passed unanimously.

**Article 5:** \$25,000 from surplus to be placed in the Regular Education High School Tuition Expendable Trust Fund.

Jim Danforth: Do we have a formulation for how we're going to fund this? This was originally proposed as a means to mitigate the cost of high school tuition as more kids went in. We

See School on page 11

## School Board's Perspective on 2015 School District Meeting

### Feedback welcome at regular monthly meetings

**Michelle Dudek, School Board chair**

The Andover School Board wishes to thank the community for their support and feedback during the annual School District Meeting. Although not well attended, the voters overwhelmingly voted to approve the operating budget as well as three warrant articles.

Two of these articles continue funding to the Special Education and High

School Trust Funds, and the other funds a transportation study. All three articles are contingent on money being available via the unreserved fund balance at the end of the fiscal year in June.

Additionally, there was a brief presentation on the facilities study approved by voters at the 2014 School District Meeting.

We value and welcome continued community feedback and participation at our regular monthly meetings, held the first Tuesday of each month in the AE/MS library at 6:30 PM.



## Community Wellness, Together.



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New London Hospital welcomes Dr. Amy Schneider to its Family Medicine team. Dr. Schneider earned her medical degree from the Harvard Medical School in Boston and completed her family practice residency at UMass Medical Center in Worcester (MA). She is certified by the American Board of Family Medicine. As part of New London Hospital's wellness team, Dr. Schneider is dedicated to helping families stay healthy.



A Dartmouth-Hitchcock Affiliate

**School from page 10**

were promised a formula several years ago.

SAU Business Administrator Robin Heins: The Budget Committee has set a goal of \$100,000 in this account so you won't see the ups and downs in the budget as the number of Andover students at MVHS goes up and down.

By [passing Article 5], that will bring it up to about \$76,000. Next year, we're expecting fewer kids to go to MVHS, so that's why you see that tuition line is down.

With no further discussion, Article 5 passed unanimously.

**Article 6:** \$10,000 from surplus to be added to the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund. With no discussion, the article passed unanimously.

**Article 7:** \$10,000 from surplus for the purpose of a Transportation Study.

Budget Committee chair Arch Weathers: When the School Board told us that the first year of the new transportation contract would be up 30% over the last year of the previous contract, we were taken aback. It was clear that if we didn't study some options, this would become one of those costs that we couldn't control. So this plan is hopefully going to give us some more choices and hopefully give us back some control.

Bus companies are becoming regionalized and have a lot of clout, so when you go to the negotiating table, they pretty much can call the shots. That is not going to translate well for Andover.

So this plan is to study some alternatives and come back next year with some options. One alternative being considered is that we may wind up operating our own fleet. We might lease the buses, buy them outright, form a co-operative with other districts.... There are a lot of creative alternatives that this committee is going to be looking at.

Richard Brewster: Who will do the study?

Mark MacLean: We've connected with PJ Abbott, who has about 40 years of experience in the transportation field, both on the private side with First Student and on the district-run side.

Leighton Terwilliger: We used to have a contract with a provider in our town who ran our buses.

With no further discussion, Article 7 passed unanimously.

**Article 8:** Any other business.

Leighton Terwilliger: Last year I asked Mark MacLean to bring our Andover school and Merrimack Valley High School together a little bit better,

**Don Gould Steps Down from Andover School Board**

The Andover school community and the Andover School Board extend a heartfelt "Thank you!" to long-time Andover School Board member and leader Don Gould.

Don's dedication to the school and community has been unrelenting. He brought a wealth of knowledge and an earnest desire to provide the students of Andover with the best education.

Under Don's sincere School Board leadership, AE/MS saw many changes and improvements. He began his School Board journey by successfully bringing to the voters the warrant article for a new gym floor. From there he saw through projects such as efficient, cost-saving gymnasium lighting, Life Safety Code updates, advances in educational technology, new flooring, and additions to the playground and amphitheater. In 2013 Don was a driving force behind the adoption of full-day kindergarten.

Most importantly, Don brought an unparalleled energy and commitment to the school and community. Don served as Andover School Board (ASB) chair and vice chair of the SAU 46



Board for many years. He also acted as the ASB liaison to the Proctor/Town Liaison Committee and played a significant role in the search and hiring process for the new superintendent of SAU 46. In each of these roles, Don served with pride and respect for everyone, working hard to make the Andover School District strong.

AE/MS Principal Jane Slayton says, "Don has incredible energy and doesn't let go of a problem or issue until it has been solved. Administration, teachers, and students have been fortunate to work collaboratively with Don."

With a great deal of gratitude and respect, we wish to say "Thank you, Don!"

so kids here could get more familiar with MVHS.

I want to applaud him on doing that; I've seen a lot of good improvements. I've seen kids go down there to watch football games, participate in sports, and music, and everything else. Please, please continue this. [Applause]

School Board vice-chair Anne Swayze spoke briefly about the facilities study that the School Board undertook last year and asked the public to join a task force that will study in the coming months how best to implement the study's recommendations. [See the article on page 1.]

Budget Committee member Mary Anne Levesque: This year working with the Budget Committee we went back and forth with the School Board many, many times by e-mail, phone, and in person trying to hammer out the best agreement that could help everybody in town. We had open meetings, expecting to have public input. Unfortunately, it was little at best.

I have been on the Budget Committee for three years, and I have learned an awful lot of what goes on, and the hard work and dedication that the School Board puts in, the Budget Committee puts in, the Town puts in. Everybody just works so hard, you just wouldn't believe what's involved.

Everyone should be very, very proud of them for the work everyone does for the town, all on a volunteer basis. They spend hours upon hours. [Applause]



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# Andover's Yankee Trader

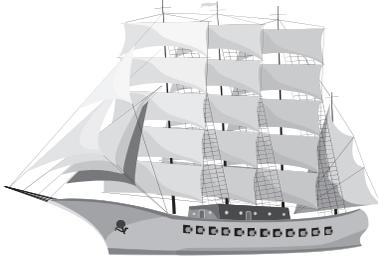
**WANTED:** The Andover Service Club needs a donation of a new, or gently used, vacuum cleaner for the Thrift Shop. ASC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, so your donation is tax deductible. Call 735-4101 after 10 AM.

**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.

**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. **Antique bean thrasher:** \$25 obo. **Hand hay rake:** like new, \$25. **Two pitch-forks:** one new, \$25 for both. 526-2262.

**LP records:** about 200 mostly classical 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. **Extension ladders:** 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

## Letters

### Thank You, Andover Voters

I would like to thank Andover voters for your support in our recent Town elections. I would like to thank those of you who voted for me and also those of you who voted for Mr. Caron. By your support, for either me or Lenny, it shows that democracy is alive and kicking in Andover.

Again, I thank you and will try to live up to your expectations.

*James Delaney, Sr*

**Your opinion matters! Please send a letter to the Beacon** expressing your thoughts on any local matters. Our readers want and need to hear your voice!

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.

### Thank You, Fire Department

To Stephen Barton, Jake Johnson, and Carter Atwood:

Thank you for a very quick response to my call for help last month at my house on Cilleville Road. Your actions helped avert what could have been a major plumbing disaster.

My gratitude goes out to the Fire Department members for doing exactly the right things, especially since I was so shocked by the scene in my basement, I perhaps overreacted. Who knew that steaming pipes could produce a rain forest in the basement?

Anyway, thanks again!

*Janet Moore*

## Andover Real Estate Transactions

### February 16 through March 15, 2015

On February 20, Eleanor Leblanc sold 107 West Shore Drive to Jerry and Shirley Bly for \$75,000. Wendy Griffith of BHG Masiello Tilton assisted the seller; Amanda Miller of Keller Williams Realty-Metropolitan assisted the buyer. The 640-square foot house was built in 1950; has 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom; and sits on 0.11 acres.

On February 23, Doyle Canning sold 211 Bridge Road to Cynthia Mitchell and Timothy Bentley for \$53,000. The property is 0.5 acres.

On February 26, Lessa and Royal Smith sold 108 Dyers Crossing to the Jacobson Family Revocable Trust for \$457,000. Jane Snow of Coldwell Banker Milestone Real Estate assisted the seller; Craig Jacobson of BHG Masiello Nashua assisted the buyer. The

2,609-square foot house was built in 1998; has 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms; and sits on 18.1 acres.

On February 27, John and Bonny Morris sold 39 Kearsarge Mountain Road to Adam and Lindsay Cate for \$230,000. Mary Lou Cummings of Country Houses Real Estate assisted both the seller and the buyer. The 2,275-square foot house was built in 1996; has 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms; and sits on 2.75 acres.

On March 2, Tilton Revocable Trust sold 99 Chase Hill Road to John and Bonny Morris for \$225,000. Margaret Weathers of Four Seasons Sotheby's Int'l Realty assisted the seller; Mary Lou Cummings of Country Houses Real Estate assisted the buyer. The 1,464-square foot house was built in 1977; has 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms; and sits on 35 acres.

Data from NNEREN.com/sold-properties and MerrimackCountyDeedsNH.com for 2/16/2015 through 3/15/2015.

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## Reconsider Semi-Annual Tax Bills

Precedent is to let Town Meeting decide

Ed Becker

Dear Members of the Board of Selectmen and Members of the Budget Committee and Town Administrator,

Thank you for serving Andover with your best efforts and your desire to do what is best for the community. It is sometimes a thankless job, and I am grateful that you have stepped up to the task.

In all the years that I have participated in Andover's Town Meetings, whether as a citizen, as the Town's administrative assistant to the Selectmen, or as Moderator, I have recognized a truism that I would like to share: The decisions collectively made by Town Meeting have always been the correct decisions for the town.

This is true whether I agreed with the decision or not. Over the years, this has become an important fundamental foundation for my understanding of the importance and value of Town Meeting.

Several times over the past year, I have read in *The Andover Beacon* statements from the Selectmen about the importance of following or setting precedents. I would like to submit to you that, even though the Board has the authority to decide to adopt semi-annual tax billing, twice before, previous Boards have established a precedent and taken the issue to Town Meeting, where it was chosen to stay with a single yearly tax bill.

Again last year, Town Meeting voted to keep a single yearly tax bill. The Board's adoption of semi-annual tax billing in direct contradiction of Town Meeting's decision to stay with annual billing tears at the core of the relationship between the Town Meeting and the Board of Selectmen. I respectfully request that the Board reconsider its implementation of semi-annual tax billing and follow the judgment of Town Meeting.

Let me explain why this issue is so important to me. I am using the *Beacon's* standard example of a property valued at \$200,000; a tax bill of \$4,000;

numbers from the 2014 Town Report; and \$7,000 in interest per year from the Selectmen's analysis of estimated savings.

Over the last several years, there has been around \$500,000 of unpaid taxes at the end of each year. The Town received interest at 12% per annum on those unpaid taxes in the amount of \$12,000 before the liens placed on the properties at tax sale. Dividing \$500,000 by \$4,000, there are approximately 125 property tax bills that do not get paid by the end of the year. It is likely that most of those 125 property tax bills will also not be able to pay promptly in June.

If semi-annual tax billing is implemented, 12% per annum interest will begin to accrue to those who are unable to pay on time beginning in July. Using one-half of the yearly amount, or \$250,000, those taxpayers will be charged \$15,000 in interest, or \$120 per property tax bill between July and December.

The \$7,000 the Town saves in tax anticipation interest will translate to a savings on everyone's tax bill of \$5.40. But the cost to those 125 taxpayers in \$120. This is a shifting of financial burden. For the opportunity to save \$5.40, I and those that voted against twice-a-year billing at Town Meeting are not willing to burden other taxpayers by imposing a speeded-up interest scheme. We, as a community, are not that greedy. This is why this issue is so important to me!

Town Meeting has three times chosen to not impose additional burdens on those that struggle already to meet their obligations.

When you reconsider keeping annual tax billing, please remember it will not cost the Town any additional burden in its tax rate because the budget that was passed included monies for tax anticipation interest, thereby negating any potential savings from twice-a-year billing in 2015 and only taking monies away from taxpayers without any benefit to them.

I would be pleased to come to a Board meeting to discuss this further with you. Thank you for your consideration.

Please! Get A Round Tuit Today!

## DON'T FORGET TO SUPPORT THE BEACON IN 2015!

To the 102 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 do-



nation yet, please use the form on page 4 or go to AndoverBeacon.com and "get a round tuit" right away. Thanks!



Don't wait for a call in the Fall! Please make your 2015 donation today.

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## Mario Ratzki Reports from Concord: March 2015

### House cuts must pass many hurdles

#### Mario Ratzki, NH Representative

Elections have consequences. We saw that in the last few weeks, when Republicans finally found their voice and set about to dismantle what our bipartisan legislature had worked hard to achieve over the past two years.

The Finance Committee voted to cut \$68 million from the Department of Transportation (DOT), mostly in personnel cuts which would result in about 700 jobs eliminated, about half of the workforce. The same committee also cut \$20 million for summer and winter maintenance from the DOT. Towns would have to pick up the slack, and that would mean a hefty increase in local property taxes.

On March 15, the Finance Committee, Division 3, voted to end Medicaid expansion by 2016 on a partisan vote. The Senate had previously decided to delay any decision until next year. Rumors have it that Senators Morse and Bradley are still considering renewing Medicaid expansion. As for Health and Human Services, the cuts would probably amount to a total of \$300 million, including federal matching funds.

Of course, these proposals have a long way to go before taking effect. Any bills, whether budget-related or not, must first pass the House, then go to the Senate, be reconciled in conference committees, and approved by the Governor signing them or not vetoing them. A long way to go.

I personally hope that wiser heads will prevail, but given the mood in the House, I won't hold my breath. I believe it is possible that the various parties – the House, the Senate, and the Governor – may not be able to agree on a budget and that a continuing resolution (ie, last biennium's budget) may have to be adopted.

Our March 4 House session went smoothly. HB 437 and HB 438 were both defeated. They would have exempted proprietorships from the business enterprise tax and would have resulted in the loss of \$17 million in revenues for 2016 and forward.

CACR 1 would have required a

three-fifths vote of the legislature to pass new taxes or fees. It was defeated by a 226 to 128 bipartisan vote.

HB 116 would have reduced the amount of time required to renominate teachers from five years to three. It failed on a 218 to 145 partisan vote.

HB 283 would allow parents or guardians to observe classes: defeated on a voice vote.

HB 136, prohibiting tanning facilities from tanning underage persons, passed 199 to 162.

HB 476 added some medical conditions for therapeutic marijuana.

HB 151, a committee to study end-of-life decisions, was approved 189 to 161.

HB 192 would not allow the DRA assessment of utility property to be the only valuation in case of conflict with a municipality. Passed by a voice vote.

Our March 11 session started calmly enough, with many bills on the consent calendar, including HB 139, which would have allowed part-time retired employees on the New Hampshire retirement system (police, firefighters, and first responders) to exceed the 32-hour weekly limit in case of emergencies. This is a bill I sponsored, but with a 14-to-0 recommendation from the Executive Departments Committee to kill the bill, it was too hard to overcome, and it failed on a voice vote.

HB 473, allowing residents at a veterans home to continue smoking, was adopted in the consent calendar. So was HB 423, establishing the bobcat as the state wildcat. HB 452 would have removed the governor's authority to declare an emergency, leaving this to the legislature. It failed in the consent calendar.

Public Works and Highways' HB 460 was approved in consent, establishing a commission to study revenue alternatives to the road toll.

HB 547 came out of Ways and Means with a recommendation to pass, and pass it did, on a 205 to 162 partisan vote. It called for the re-establishing of the exemption from property taxation for telecommunications poles and conduits. Considering that municipalities are fighting the utilities in court on this very subject, it was a low blow for the towns and a boon for the utilities.

HB 551, which would have prevented businesses from taking advantage of foreign tax havens to not pay any taxes, was tabled on a voice vote.

HB 681 increased marriage license fees by \$5, the extra revenue going to domestic abuse prevention and temporary shelters.

HB 220, establishing licensing requirements for condo property managers, failed 239 to 117. HB 570, establishing a condo dispute resolution board, also failed 219 to 132.

HB 150, a committee to study legalization of marijuana, passed on a voice vote. HB 560, having to do with fetal homicide, not unexpectedly passed on a very partisan 208 to 155 vote. While proponents argued that it did not affect a woman's right to choose, others saw this as a slippery slope toward banning abortion.

HB 650, requiring background checks for commercial firearms sales, predictably failed on a 236 and 124 vote.

HB 685, prohibiting state or local officials to assist federal officials in anything involving the use of firearms. Wiser heads prevailed, and the bill was voted down 234 to 119.

HB 276, providing that the school districts not be required to adopt Common Core Standards. While the bill passed 225 to 130, it is fair to note that each school district is already allowed to either accept or refuse Common Core Standards.

HB 373, establishing the red-tailed hawk as the state raptor, failed 160 to 133. HB 609, prohibiting hydraulic fracking in New Hampshire, failed 254 to 81.

CACR 10, changing the governor's term of office from two to four years, a bill I sponsored, failed miserably, 208 to 78.

HB 325, similar to a bill vetoed by the governor last year, allowing lottery winners to remain anonymous, failed on a voice vote.

HB 448, establishing February 6 as Ronald Reagan Day, failed 196 to 103. HB 563, which engendered many e-mails relative to charter school funding, passed 222 to 116.

HB 593, allowing qualifying patients and registered caregivers to grow their own marijuana for therapeutic purposes, passed 208 to 132.

HB 403, repealing the establishment of a buffer zone around reproductive health-

care facilities, passed by a close 170 to 159.

HB 446, allowing terminally ill patients access to experimental drugs, was tabled on a voice vote, as was HB 461, prohibiting the use of foreign laws in state court. (There could be many unintended consequences with such a law, especially in the area of commercial trade.)

HB 595, banning abortion after fetus viability, was tabled. So was HB 646, a controversial bill allowing state or local agencies to charge a fee to retrieve public documents. While some argued that people sometimes abuse their right to know request, others did not want to interfere with this fundamental right.

HB 267, asking employers to verify employees legal status, was defeated on a 271 to 64 vote. HB 658, a right to work bill, passed by a slender 149 to 144 vote.

HB 684, establishing a state minimum wage (one of three bills on the same subject), failed on a partisan vote of 198 to 145.

HB 391, applying the 911 surcharge to prepaid cellular telephones, passed 167 to 152.

HB 431, a bill to use public rights of way and bury transmission lines, failed on a partisan vote of 213 to 131.

And finally, HB 574, a bill to distribute Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) allowances to commercial entities instead of residential taxpayers, failed 179 to 129. It is worth noting that a similar bill, to redistribute RGGI funds to residential ratepayers, passed last month. It would take money away from residential winterizing and energy efficient projects and give us about \$2 back per year instead.

We have been extremely busy in the last weeks. The atmosphere in the House has taken a turn for the worse. It seems to me that the cuts contemplated by the Republican leadership, especially in Finance, which deals with the budget, mean that downshifting costs to the towns is again in the cards. The cuts in DOT, if implemented, will deal a near-fatal blow to the department, and state matching funds for municipal roads and bridges are bound to be severely and adversely impacted.

Elections do have consequences.

I am always available at 735-5440 or at [MarioRatzki@gmail.com](mailto:MarioRatzki@gmail.com). 



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# TOWN COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Board Of Selectmen

**February 3, 2015**

*Condensed from approved minutes*

**Present:** Chairman Coolidge, Selectman Danforth, and Selectwoman Viandier; Road Agent John Thompson; Jim Delaney, Pat Frost, Town Administrator (TA) Marj Roy.

Pat Frost spoke on behalf of the Andover Snowmobile Club, and they are looking to purchase land with easy access to the Rail Trail. The club has two large groomers, and they would like to build a building to store them and other equipment.

Pat was looking at land near White Oak Road that the Town owns. The building would be heated and have electricity. The club would like to use it for meetings, storage, and have a snack shack.

Chairman Coolidge said they could do a two-year lease, then at the end of the lease they would need to bring it to Town Meeting to vote on a 99-year lease agreement. Chairman Coolidge said he thinks it is too late to get everything in place for this year's Town Meeting, but if they start working out the details now, everything should be in place for next year's Town Meeting in 2016.

### Highway Department

Road Agent John Thompson reported that every road is being sanded due to the icy conditions.

Mountain Brook Bridge, which is accessed by Kearsarge Mountain Road, has been put on the states Red List. The bridge capacity has been reduced to six tons.

Selectman Danforth mentioned that a letter needs to go out to all residents on the road regarding the down-posting. John Thompson said he would be posting the bridge. John mentioned that replacing the deck might be a day's worth of work and solve the limit restriction.

### Town Administrator

Marj Roy said that Loren Martin from Avitar will be handling all of Andover's assessing. This will eliminate

any questions regarding a conflict of interest with Mark Stetson.

Selectwoman Sophie Viandier moved to accept the Selectmen's Operational Guideline Handbook. Selectman Coolidge seconded the motion, and the vote to accept was unanimous.

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

The Town Office heating system was out on Saturday, and the relay coil had to be replaced to get the system up and running again.

All financial reports need to be submitted to Marj.

**February 17, 2015**

*Condensed from approved minutes*

**Present:** Selectman Coolidge and Selectwoman Viandier; Jim Delaney, Wood Sutton, Police Chief Glenn Laramie, and Town Administrator (TA) Marj Roy.

### Town Administrator

Marj Roy presented the cost for a table microphone. A wired microphone would cost \$600 to \$1,000 and a wireless microphone would cost \$1,000 and \$2,000. Either option will require synchronization with the camera. The funds would come from the Cable TV account, but no decision was made.

The Town Report has gone to press, and the final report will be reviewed on February 18. This year's process has been hampered by the new state computer system for DRA.

Marj will be holding quarterly meetings with the department and committee heads. This would involve Police, Recreation, EMS, Highway, Fire Department, ZBA, Planning Board, and Conservation. The quarterly meetings will be a time for any questions regarding amounts that have hit their accounts and to review their budget.

The town warrant will be posted on See Selectmen on page 17

## 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  
**Bachelor 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 EDT, 7-5 EST  
Sat, 7-5  
**Swap Event (May-Oct):**  
2nd Sat (rain: 3rd Sat), 8-12  
Transfer Station

### MEETINGS

*At the Town Hall unless otherwise noted*  
**Board of Selectmen:**  
1st & 3rd Mon, 6  
**Planning Board:** 2nd & 4th Tue, 7  
**Capital Improvement Plan:**  
Last Thu, 7  
**Zoning Board of Adjustment:**  
3rd Tue, 7  
**Conservation:** 2nd Wed, 7:30  
**Recreation:** 2nd Tues, 7,  
AE/MS Science Room  
**Library Trustees:** 3rd Thu, 7  
(except Jul & Aug), Andover  
Library or Bachelor Library  
**Fourth of July:** 1st Wed (Feb-Jun  
& Aug), Andover Fire Station, 7  
**Andover Fire Department:** Mon, 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!

### APRIL

6: Board of Selectmen, 6  
6: Fire Department, 7  
7: Building Permits, 6-7  
7: School Board, AE/MS, 6:30  
8: Conservation Commission, 7:30  
13: Fire Department, 7  
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, 7  
21: Building Permits, 6-7  
21: Zoning Board, 7  
27: Fire Department, 7  
28: Building Permits, 6-7  
28: Planning Board, 7

30: Capital Improvement Comm, 7

### MAY

4: Board of Selectmen, 6  
4: Fire Department, 7  
5: Building Permits, 6-7  
5: School Board, AE/MS, 6:30  
6: 4th of July, Andover Fire Station, 7  
11: Fire Department, 7  
12: Building Permits, 6-7  
12: Planning Board, 7  
12: Recreation Comm, AE/MS, 7  
12: Andover EMS,  
East Andover Fire Station, 7  
13: Conservation Commission, 7:30  
18: Board of Selectmen, 6  
18: Fire Department Training, 7  
19: Building Permits, 6-7  
19: Zoning Board, 7  
21: Library Trustees, 7

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**Selectmen from page 16**

February 23.

Roy requested a vote to authorize an engineering study on the Lawrence Street Bridge. Three quotes will be required. Selectman Coolidge and Selectwoman Viandier voted to approve the study.

Wood Sutton approached the Select Board to see if they would consider leaving the street lights on Flaghole Road. It was explained that the town voted at the last Town Meeting not to raise the money to pay the expense to keep the lights on. Wood Sutton presented a check for payment for the six street lights that are being discontinued. The Board did not accept the payment.

Warrant Articles were reviewed and assigned to the people who would be presenting them at Town Meeting.

Intent to Cut and Veterans Tax Credit were signed by Chairman Coolidge and Selectwoman Viandier.

**March 2, 2015**

*Condensed from approved minutes*

**Present:** Selectman Danforth, Chairman Coolidge, and Selectwoman Viandier; Jim Delaney, Police Officer Joe Mahoney, and Town Administrator Marj Roy.

Selectmen discussed mailbox post replacement for Wood Sutton. Selectman Danforth suggested to send a letter requesting the post size and to let Mr. Sutton know that the policy states the Town will only replace up to \$30.

**Town Administrator**

The Andover Town Report 2014 is available in both post offices, the school, the Transfer Station, and the Town Office.

Town Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 10.

**Bridge Permit** for Lenny Caron: Selectman Danforth motioned, Selectwoman Viandier approved, and Chairman Coolidge signed.

All Select Board signed Intent to Excavate for John Ohler.

Selectmen Danforth spoke about a precast steel company that has been in business for 50 years building steel bridges. He mentioned that the company will send someone out to take

measurements; they have a turn-around time of three to four months; and the bridges are built at one-third the cost of other vendors. This company can beat local companies.

The previous name of the company was Bailey Bridges. Selectman Danforth thinks with the cost-saving potential, the Town might be able to replace more than one at a time.

An Intent to Cut and a Veterans Tax Credit were signed by Chairman Coolidge and Selectwoman Viandier.

Went into Non-public Session under RSA91-A:3III(e)

**Recreation Committee**

**January 13, 2015**

*Condensed from approved minutes*

**Members present:** Justin Carey, Ellie George, Howard George, Tom Frantz, Alan Hanscom, Jen Hauser, Heidi Murphy, Sue Norris, Tim Norris, and Brian Reynolds.

**Treasurer's Report:** Remaining funds: Blackwater Park Building Fund – \$11,653. Recreation Committee Revolving Fund (available for us to spend, with the approval of the Selectmen) – \$12,855.

**Programs**

**Basketball:** Seems to be going well; halfway through the season. The season ends in the middle of February.

**Skiing:** Updated Town of Andover Ski Program Missing Child Policy. This is the second draft of the Missing Child Policy for Recreation Committee feedback. Contact Jen Hauser or Sue Norris with any thoughts.

The Code Adam Program identifies a five-step process:

1. If a child is thought to be missing, a full and accurate description, including physical features and clothing worn by the child, should be given to Jen Hauser and/or Sue Norris, all persons associated with the Town of Andover Ski Program, and all Ragged Mountain staff (ski patrol, ski instructors, lift attendants, ticket agents, snack bar employees, etc.).

2. Once the Code Adam Alert has been initiated, a full sweep of the mountain will be done by ski patrol;

See Rec Comm on page 18

**Capital Improvement Committee will be Reviewing Projects**

**Initial plan should be done by November**

**Doug Phelps, Committee chair**

At the request of the Andover Budget Committee, a Capital Improvement Committee was formed to look at the Town's long-range capital improvement needs.

Although authorization to form the committee was approved at the 1991 Town Meeting, the last capital improvement plan documented was in 2001.

The intent of a capital improvement plan, under the provisions of RSA 674-5, is to provide to the Budget Committee and Select Board an advisory document which looks at least six years into the future and encompasses capital projects solicited from all of the department heads in town.

An important part of the concept of the capital improvement process is keeping capital improvements in alignment with the Town's Master Plan. That's why the Capital Improvement Committee is sanctioned by the Planning Board.

The recommended composition of a Capital Improvement Committee includes members of the Select Board, School Board, Budget Committee, and citizens of the town.

Currently, the committee meets on the last Thursday of the month at 7 PM

at the Town Hall.

Committee members include:

- Doug Phelps, Chair
- Chuck Keyser, Vice Chair
- Kent Armstrong
- Jeff Newcomb
- Dennis Fenton
- Bill Leber
- Duncan Coolidge, Select Board
- Michele Dudek, School Board
- Jessica Pine
- Lenny Caron
- Marj Roy, Town Administrator
- Chris Caron
- Arch Weathers, Budget Committee

The committee has held three meetings so far and has worked through some preliminary steps, such as establishing the criteria for what a capital improvement item is (any project with a gross cost of at least \$10,000 and an expected life of five years) and how the projects will be classified and prioritized.

Capital improvement planning also entails basic analysis of such items as the Town's tax rate history, capital expenditure history, as well as the school population and general population trends.

The mission of the committee is to complete project reviews along with prioritization, analysis of tax impacts and timing, and finally, general public and Planning Board review, by early November.

**TOWN of ANDOVER**



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**Part-Time Road/Maintenance Laborer**

The Town of Andover will hire two part-time permanent maintenance laborers to work under the supervision of the Road Agent. Responsibilities will include various semi-skilled tasks essential to road and property maintenance including sweeping, raking, shoveling, digging, mowing, locating and filling potholes, cutting and chipping brush and trees, removing roadside debris and other duties as assigned. Wages \$10-\$15/hour. The successful applicant will possess a valid NH drivers license and a clean driving record; knowledge and level of competency commonly associated with the completion of a high school diploma; good work references and the ability to pass a pre-employment physical. Applications and full job description available at the Town Office, 31 School Street, Andover, NH.

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At the Danbury Winter Market on Saturday, April 4, and every first Saturday of the month from November through May, the "Healthy Porcupine" has no quills; it is a soap and body balm business.

Created in Danbury in 2013 by Darlene Forshee and Jennifer Berman, the business started with three varieties of body balm. It has added laundry powder and now offers 17 varieties of soap. Their products are all handmade with grass-fed tallow sourced directly from New Hampshire farms. They use only essential oils and never use

artificial fragrance oils, dyes, or palm oil in their products.

The April market falls on the day before Easter, so plan to fill your baskets and find your holiday dinner fixings at the market, held from 9 AM to 1 PM at the Blazing Star Grange Hall in Danbury. For more information, call Donna at 768-5579.



Wilmot's Jim James played the blues at the second Andover Community Coffeehouse program, held on February 20 at the Highland Lake Grange Hall in East Andover. With 14 open-mic acts and featured singer-songwriter Kathy Lowe, the event drew an audience of nearly 90.

Photo and caption: Larry Chase

### Rec Comm from page 17

a full sweep of all Ragged Mountain buildings and parking lots will be done by Andover Ski Program chaperones and Ragged Mountain employees who work in that area. All entrances will be monitored while the search is being conducted.

3. If the child is not found within 15 minutes, Jen Hauser or Sue Norris will call law enforcement.

4. If the child is found and appears to have been merely lost, the child shall

be reunited with their parent/guardian/chaperone.

5. If the child is found accompanied by someone other than a parent/guardian, a person associated with the Andover Ski Program, or an employee of Ragged Mountain, then an attempt should be made to delay that person's departure without putting the child, yourself, or other patrons at risk. Law enforcement should be notified and provided with a detailed description of the person accompanying the child.

**Ice Rink:** Kurt Weber is work-

ing hard with his kids to maintain the rink. Recently, a group of Proctor students came out and worked on the rink. Lights need to be replaced. One small part needs to be replaced on the hydrant. 100' of hose was purchased in case we need to get water from the Hamp house.

**Recreation Building:** Basic electrical work is done. Discussion of a photosensitive light that would go on automatically in the bathroom. Some rough carpentry has been done to facilitate the rough plumbing.

**The Field:** We may need to have a

"major league" skin diamond. We did not have a team that needed that size infield last year. The Rec Committee is strongly in support of continuing to maintain the field under the Rec Committee.

### Conservation Commission

January 14, 2015

*Condensed from approved minutes*

**Members present:** Mary Anne Broshek, Jerry Hersey, Larry Chase, See Cons Comm on page 24

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# Andover Community Coffeehouse will Feature Tom Pirozzoli in April

Friday, April 17,  
in East Andover

**Press release**

The fourth in a continuing series of Andover Community Coffeehouse performances will feature singer-songwriter Tom Pirozzoli as the headliner beginning at 7 PM on Friday, April 17, in the Highland Lake Grange Hall in East Andover.



Click Horning and Jimmy Sferes perform together at the Andover Community Coffeehouse on March 20. Photo: Steve Colardeau

The program will also offer an open-microphone opportunity for other local talent. Performers wishing to appear during this segment should sign in at the Grange Hall between 6 and 7 PM. Times will be allotted on a first-come, first-served basis.

The event is open to the public at no charge, although donations will be accepted. Sponsor for the evening is Horizons Engineering in New London.

(Sponsors and donors help the Coffeehouse Committee defray costs associated with each performance.)

Soup, sandwiches, and (non-alcoholic) beverages will be available for purchase beginning at 6 PM, thanks to members of the Andover Congregational Church.

New London-based Pirozzoli is well-regarded throughout New England and on the national music scene. *Travels* – his fifth recording – spent 13 weeks on the Top 40 AAA charts and was the featured release at Tower Records in Los Angeles and Nashville. He also writes music for and performs with the Putnam-Pirozzoli instrumental guitar duo, which is rooted in a broad tradition that combines jazz, classical, and pop for an original sound.

In addition to his musical talents, Pirozzoli is an accomplished artist, whose oil paintings may be seen regularly at area galleries and exhibitions.

Coffeehouse performances are offered on the third Friday of each month, with some exceptions. For up-to-date information about dates and scheduled performers, go to [AndoverCoffeeHouse.org](http://AndoverCoffeeHouse.org) or the Facebook page “Andover Community Coffeehouse.”

The Web site also showcases photographs of past performers, both head-



Cindy Benson, Margo Coolidge, and Vicky Mishcon performed at the Andover Community Coffeehouse on March 20. Photo: Steve Colardeau

liners and open-mic participants. In February, for example, these included Brooks Bicknell, Serena Chua, Charles Collins, Roland “Joe” Dupuis, Doug Farrell and Jack Carlton, Jim James, Kathy Lowe (featured performer), the Living Stones, Doug Phelps, Sferes and White, and Marge Whedon.

In March, participants included the Click Horning Band, featured performers, Margo Coolidge, Cindy Benson, and

Vicky Mishcon; “Dr. Jack” Polidoro; Dave Coulter, Linda Ray; Don Bartenstein; Janet Moore; Alan Rogers and Liz Kantz; Chris O’Connor; and Percy Hill and Stymie Garretson. Vicky Mishcon served as master of ceremonies.

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Masonic Lodge #81 • 38 Cilleyville Rd. (Potter Place) • Andover, NH



On March 23, David GC Hildebrand defended his doctoral dissertation in neuroscience at Harvard University. His thesis was titled *Whole-brain functional and structural examination in larval zebrafish*. He survived the ordeal and is now Dr. David GC Hildebrand, PhD.

In his final stages of the thesis writing, he considered calling Mrs. Lemeris, his English teacher at AE/MS, to ask her whether he should apply a semi-colon at a certain spot, or not! Consider that, middle-schoolers: your learning is forever!

David lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He will continue to work in his current lab for another six months and travel for

work to Germany, Italy, and other parts of the USA.

Dr. Hildebrand is the son of Gretchen and Kathy Hildebrand from Andover and Ken and Jacqui Colburn of Meredith.

Photo and caption: Gretchen Hildebrand



Jared Frost and Steve Rosen get ready for a ride in Steve's impeccably restored 1924 Ford Model T snow machine. Dozens of vintage snow machines turned out for the Andover Snowmobile Club's 12th annual Highland Lake SnoFest on February 21. For more great photos, visit [AndoverBeacon.com/SnoFest-2015](http://AndoverBeacon.com/SnoFest-2015).

Photo: Beth Frost

## The Constant Quilter

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## Frank Baker Leads Hearty Souls on a Nature Hike

Zero-degree weather? Pah! Break out the s'mores.

Lee Carvalho, for the *Beacon*

Who wouldn't want to walk in the woods with Frank Baker? Here's a man with a deep understanding of the natural world, a vast familiarity with the local area, and a joy in sharing his world with others.

In late February, Frank was scheduled to lead a snowshoe hike sponsored by the Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition – the second annual East Andover Bushwhack. Trouble was ... the temperature was still below 0° at 9 AM when the hike was to begin. Would anybody show? That 14 hearty, smiling folks showed up proves that the word has spread. Clearly anybody with a sense of adventure wants to walk in the woods with Frank Baker!

The group headed south from Flaghole Road along a path Frank had tracked out a few days earlier, aiming for a marsh that he discovered years ago. Along the way, he pointed out tracks of coyotes, deer, moose, squirrels, and an otter slide along a brook.

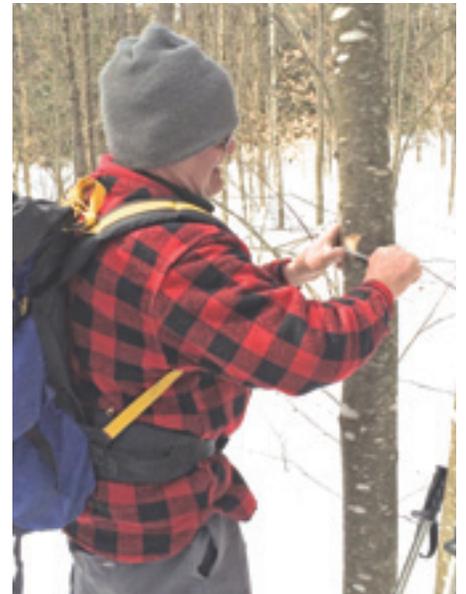
In the mixed forest of oaks, beech, birch, pine, and hemlocks we saw shallow depressions in the deep snow where deer had slept and stripped bark low on saplings where one had marked his territory. Emerging onto the marsh through a stand of common reeds, we could see a snag in the distance with a heron's nest balanced at the top.

A bonfire at the edge of the marsh provided warmth and an opportunity for more questions, conversations and, of course, s'mores. Andover hikers Linda McGrail and Susan Chase were pleased to learn about this new, nearby place to explore and expressed interest in finding ways for our community to plan more and communicate better about outdoor events. The SRKG appreciates Frank's willingness to lead this hike and hopes he will agree to do it again next year.

The Thaw

According to the calendar, a year begins in January, but for a naturalist in New Hampshire, it begins now with the thaw. Warner resident David Carroll describes "the breaking forth of spring" as "the morning of the year" in his book *Following the Water: A Hydromancer's Notebook*. In this delightful work, equal parts art and science, Carroll takes us along as he wanders daily through his favorite wetland from early spring to late fall.

In prose that dazzles with its rich vocabulary and verges on poetry, he traces the seasonal arc of hibernation, migration, egg-laying, hatching, and



Frank Baker samples a small sliver of black birch so hikers can experience its winter-green aroma. Photo: Claire James

the inevitable return of ice. His main interest is the spotted turtle, but along the way we meet snakes, sedges, frogs, deer, dragonflies, alders, otters, trout, mayflies, and fox.

Now – April – is the time to get outside, follow a stream, walk to a pond, look for a vernal pool, and begin noticing the natural world. As Carroll asks, "What is it to be alive on Earth and never come to know at least the place where one lives?"

Look up, and you might see returning  
 See Frank on page 22

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## How Arlyne French Had Her Portrait Painted

A gift for her husband during World War II

### Arlyne French

It was 1944. My husband Hal was on an island in the south Pacific helping Americans win the war against the Japanese. I lived in Edgewood, just outside of Providence, Rhode Island, with my mother, her twin sister, and her son, Dick.

We had moved there from Laconia. I had tired of my non-defense job with John Hancock Insurance. I was the only woman in the office and had too much quiet time by myself to think and worry about my husband in combat. My aunt also needed serious uprooting, as she had just experienced the sudden death of her husband. A new "change of address" was needed.

We chose Providence because an old family friend, from elementary school days in New Hampshire, lived there with her husband, and defense work was plentiful. There was a great need to feel that we were helping with the war effort, which we did by making nozzles for the American Navy planes.

During the time my husband was away, he was wonderful to find time, in the middle of a war, to write letters and send gifts. In one of the packages he sent was an 8" by 10" colored landscape of Rotorua, New Zealand, where he visited frequently for "R and R." I decided that it needed a frame, and I had heard of a frame shop located on the second floor of the old Colonade Building in Providence.

While in the shop, I noticed a beautiful painting of a young woman. I asked the frame shop owner if the artist was a local



Charlotte Clark and Arlyne French pose in Arlyne's cottage at Havenwood in front of the portrait of Arlyne as a young woman.

Photo: Charlie Darling

See Arlyne on page 22



Sharon and Charlie Darling and Charlotte Clark went to Concord last month to visit Grace Stetson and Arlyne French at their homes in Havenwood. In this photo, Sharon, Charlotte, and Grace pose with the Beacon in one of the common rooms near Grace's apartment. Photo: Charlie Darling



On March 18, Franklin Mayor Ken Merrifield helped at the TRIP Center packaging and delivering Meals on Wheels as part of the national Mayors for Meals day. Meals on Wheels delivers over 125 nutritious meals to elderly and disabled people in Franklin, Andover, and surrounding towns. Pictured are Meals on Wheels driver Fred Volker, Doris Corliss, Mayor Ken Merrifield, and driver Susan Sprague.



Damien Jenifer, Declan Bisson, and Liberty Spaulding are some of the children we've had on ski Fridays. They've enjoyed some advantages that come with a smaller group. (In back is Shawna Barton.)

Photo and caption: Diane Adams

## Andover After School Program, April 2015

Pizza packet party in May

### Diane Adams, AASP director

Attention, families who would like to enroll in the Andover After School Program (AASP) for 2015-2016 (or even if

you just want to check us out): We are having a pizza packet party on Monday, May 11, from 5 to 6:30 PM. Come and enjoy some pizza and dessert with the AASP staff and Board! This will be your opportunity to re-enroll your child or children in

See AASP on page 22

## You'll Love What You Get When You Give

Become a volunteer at Franklin Regional Hospital

"I live alone and volunteering gets me out of the house for a while. It also gives me a chance to meet people, sometimes just to chat. I've met some great people over the years thanks to volunteering at FRH."

Pat - FRH Volunteer

Many volunteer opportunities are available at various LRGHealthcare locations! Please contact Darcy Peary for more information at 737-6720.

LRGHealthcare

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lrg.org

**Frank from page 20**

robins, tree swallows, and yellow-rumped warblers as well as red maple flowers. Look down to spot marsh marigolds, early violets, polygala, and trailing arbutus. Spring cleaning in your yard means you will undoubtedly hear the first phoebes and, later in the day, a chorus of wood frogs and peepers calling from a nearby wetland. It's

time to bring in the bird feeders and hang the hummingbird feeders. When will the loons return to Highland and Bradley Lakes? Will great blue herons nest again at the Fenvale rookery? Find the answers to these and other questions as you participate in the arrival of spring.

Please share your nature sightings and interests with me at [AndoverNaturally@gmail.com](mailto:AndoverNaturally@gmail.com). 

**AASP from page 21**

AASP. Our space is limited, so the earlier we make this happen, the better.

Also, on display will be some crafts and artwork your children have made especially for this party. Come and spend some unrushed, quality time with all of us, and let your child guide you through our lovely display.

In like a lion, out like a lamb, was the AASP theme for the month of March. March always seems like such a long month. We spent some time sledding and making snow forts. We made windmills, leprechaun costumes, decorated

some clovers, had cookies as a treat, and necklaces to keep for St. Patrick's Day. Ending the month with Easter projects helped to welcome spring and warmer weather. We will also have ice cream cookie sandwiches and an Easter egg hunt the week before Easter.

When ski Fridays are in full swing at AE/MS, we have a small group coming over to the Annex. We often have hot cocoa, popcorn, and a movie. They all enjoy having some extra goodies. We also take children off the bus from the mountain. This is another advantage of having your child enrolled in the After School Program. 

**Arlyne from page 21**

person and was surprised to learn that the artist's studio was right next door. His name was Walter Sherwood, and he was from England. He had arrived 15 years ago to paint portraits in this country. His fee was ridiculously low, especially for the caliber of his work. I learned the reason for this later.

At that time, I had been searching my brain as to what I could send my husband for Christmas. The list of items that could be sent to servicemen was very limited, and during the past two years I had sent him all of the allowable items.

One night, I had a brilliant thought. I would give him an oil portrait of his wife. Being English, I remembered the old English tradition of families having their portraits painted to leave to their children, generation after generation. When Hal came home, he could sit for his portrait. It would be a start for our family. A great idea!

As it turned out, when Hal came home he was busy making decisions on other family matters. We moved back to Maine, and his portrait was never done. Currently, my portrait is shared, and visits a different family member each year.

To return to the making of my portrait, I knew that I could afford the low fee because Hal was receiving pay as a second lieutenant at the time. Of course, I could not send the portrait, only a photograph of it, until he came home.

Without Hal, my weekends were very lonely, so I made arrangements with Mr. Sherwood for my sittings to be on Sunday afternoons.

I will always remember meeting this remarkable man. He was not very tall, about 5 foot 7 inches. He had a crop of short white curls and a cheerful, round, ruddy complexion.

The sessions were two hours, and I was allowed to rest for 15 minutes each hour. During that time, he entertained me by playing his mandolin or a little antique organ he kept in his studio. He was a talented musician. To me, he was like an other-worldly, very chivalrous character out of a fairy tale book.

These sessions were not at all boring, but very interesting and informative. He positioned a large mirror that reflected the portrait painting from where I sat, and I could watch every brush stroke. Having dallied with the paint brush myself, this was a wonderful opportunity.

For the portrait, I wore a beautiful, pinpoint purple wool dress with a sweet-heart neckline and a sarong wrap style skirt bought especially for my husband when he came home. During the fourth sitting, Mr. Sherwood said, "For some reason, something is preventing me from getting the flesh tones that I want."

Could it be the background color, the position, the lighting? It was decided that the dress color was not suitable for my flesh tone, and I agreed to wear a different dress.

Luckily I had a friend who loaned me her beautiful white, brocade strapless evening gown. It had a four-inch wide, deep maroon velvet ruffle going around the full

six-foot hem. It had the same ruffle bordering the bodice. My friend was very tall, so I had yards bundled on my lap, which could not be seen in the portrait.

I wore a pendant with a stone the same deep maroon color. It was Hal's first gift to me, for no occasion, when we first started dating. It had much sentimental value for me.

Mr. Sherwood could now continue his painting. The scheduled eight sessions turned into nine. It is fun to know that there is a purple dress painted under the white one. Oil is a wonderful painting medium to cover up mistakes or changes.

During those nine sittings, Mr. Sherwood and I became friends. While painting in England, he lived among the wealthy, doing family portraits of the nobility: dukes, earls, lords, and their children. For his own reasons, he did not choose to accept the wealthy as his friends. No doubt his fee in England was several pounds. When he came to this country, he wanted his friends to be of the middle class, therefore charging a lower fee.

We shared many thoughts of past experiences. His life in England had not been happy, and he had never married. His only brother had committed suicide, so he had no family, which was the reason his friends were important to him.

He led a very frugal life in England and continued doing so after he moved to this country. Every Sunday, he treated himself to riding his bicycle along the shore of Narragansett Bay and to drinking one bottle of "stout," which is most English men's favorite beer (and is also recommended to pregnant women because of its nutritional value).

I was sorry to have the painting sessions end. Several of my art teachers have marveled at the flesh tones. His talent for painting was such that the mayor of Providence replaced his own portrait in City Hall with a portrait painted by Mr. Sherwood.

After the painting was finished, Mr. Sherwood would take the trolley car to Edgewood and walk the two blocks to my house for occasional visits. He wore a brown, wide-brimmed, floppy hat and a long, flowing coat. His walk was slow and unsteady, and he possibly suffered from gout. His dress and demeanor personified the typical English artist.

When my husband came home from the war in 1945, there was a big, white, wrapped gift hanging on the wall for him. It was tied with a wide red velvet ribbon and bow. My mission was completed.

Many years after leaving Providence, a friend sent me the obituary of Walter Sherwood. It was very brief, and I have often wondered what happened to the paintings left in his studio, especially the self-portrait of him playing his mandolin.

Recently, my daughter did a Web search on Walter Sherwood. There was little information other than that a portrait of a woman was auctioned in 2004 at Christie's in London for \$1,100.

This experience added much to my life. *Reprinted with Arlyne's permission from the Heritage Heights Residents Write literary journal.* 

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Winners of the 2015 Willis Nowell Memorial Kids Ice Fishing Derby.  
Photo: Amy Rankins



Ari Perry (front and center) and Ellie Welch (to the right of Ari) participated in Blue Storm Cheerleaders. The team had its first competition on March 5 and took first place in its division!  
Photo: Tonya Carpenter, Envision Photography

## A Perfect Day for Andover Fish and Game Club's Kids Ice Fishing Derby

Saturday, March 7, drew 44 kids to Eagle Pond

Amanda Gross, AF&G volunteer

It was a great day for fishing at the Andover Fish and Game Club's (AF&G) 31st annual Willis Nowell Memorial Kids Ice Fishing Derby on March 7. Not only was the weather agreeable on Eagle Pond in Wilmot, but the fish were biting. Forty-four kids, an above-average attendance, were kept active chasing those red tip-up flags, reeling in a total of 32 fish.

The kids and their families were



Billyjack Braley just couldn't wait for that flag to pop up during the Andover Fish and Game Club's annual Willis Nowell Memorial Kids Ice Fishing Derby on March 7.

Photo: Charlie Darling

treated to free hot dogs and drinks, lucky prizes, and trophies for the longest fish. Thirteen pickerel, 17 perch, and two dace were caught. Trophy winners for each type of fish were:

### Pickerel

1. Ave Valle, 19 1/2"
2. Sonny Braley, 18 3/4"
3. Ryanna Jelley, 18 1/2"
4. Eliza McDonald, 18"

### Perch

1. Carter Wheeler, 12"
2. Tanner Scarsilonni, 10 1/2"
3. Caleb Howe, 9 1/4"

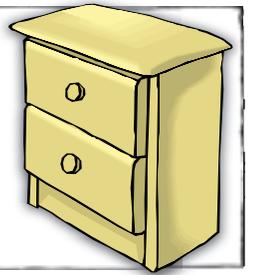
### Non-category

1. Walker Barton, 11 1/4" dace

The AF&G would like to thank this

derby's sponsors for providing supplies: Jake's Market of Andover, Smith River Trading Post of Danbury, the Park and Go Market of Wilmot, and Byron's  
See Fishing on page 24

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**Fishing from page 23**

Septic Service of Andover.

Thank you as well to Club members and their families and friends who put in their time and effort to make this derby such a success. We are also incredibly grateful to everyone who came to the derby and who attended our fundraising events throughout the year. Your help makes it possible for us to host the kids derbies and other community activities.

There are two upcoming events in the spring. The AF&G will be hosting a Rabies Clinic at the Clubhouse in East Andover on Channel Road on Saturday, April 18, from 1 to 2 PM. The cost is \$15 per pet. Rabies shots are provided and administered by the staff of Pleasant Lake Veterinary Hospital.

The Kids Spring Fishing Derby will be held sometime in May on the Highland Lake Channel. More information will be provided on this derby in the next issue of the *Beacon*.

**AndoverBeacon.com !**



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

**Cons Comm from page 18**

Nan Kaplan, Tina Cotton; guests Sandra Graves, Paul Currier

Due to other commitments, Larry declined further taking of minutes. The ACC report for the Andover Town Report was approved.

**Correspondence:** ASLPT packet of completed monitor forms for all Andover properties held by ASLPT; Mary Anne will file.

**ASLPT update** submitted by Nan Kaplan: Dues of \$100 to ASLPT for ACC membership have been submitted as a thank-you for all of their assistance to us.

A list of legislative bills affecting conservation commissions was shared with members.

Paul Currier presented an overview of changes in the zoning ordinance that the Planning Board intends to submit for ballot voting in March. Of particular concern to the Conservation Commission was the proposed business district on Route 11 between Routes 4A and 4. The group discussed the importance of protecting the prime wetlands and floodplain in the new district. Possible solutions could include conservation easements, a conservation overlay, and buffers. The ACC should submit comments for the hearing on January 20.

ing into our conservation fund to facilitate conservation easements and protect land, as stated in RSA 36:5a4. These taxes have not been added for 2012 through 2014. These funds will be added as required by law, and the ACC will be notified of these deposits in the future.

The ACC annual operating budget was non-lapsing from one year to the next when the commission was formed in 1971. When this arrangement was rescinded, the Department of Revenue determined that a warrant article was needed to continue the retention of funds. Unknown to the ACC, this was changed so that a warrant article must be approved annually to retain funds. This fund has been used many times when our annual operating budget was over-spent due to unanticipated expenses. All expenditures are approved at a regularly scheduled meeting and submitted to the Town Administrator or Selectmen.

A new expense payment system using green forms will be utilized for future expenses. Mary Anne will prepare a binder of ACC funding information for the Town Administrator.

**Camp Barry:** Larry has conferred with Gordy Ordway, Andover Fish and Game Club, about using ACC funds to send an Andover child to Camp Barry, a 4H/Cooperative Extension camp for outdoor experiences.

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**Updating of conserved land on GRANIT:** Tina will verify whether several small land parcels conserved with the Town are still on the GRANIT maps.

**Budget:** Mary Anne has researched several discrepancies with the conservation funds since our finances have been turned over to the Town. Fifty percent of the penalty tax for removing land from Current Use designation has been go-

**School Board**  
**February 3, 2015**  
*Condensed from approved minutes*

**Board present:** Michelle Dudek, Mark Heller, and Misty Sava

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

**Public present:** Tina Cotton, Andover Police Chief Glenn Laramie, and Dean Barker

**Public comment:** Chief Laramie spoke of the current assessment involving the utilization of Andover Elementary/Middle School as a voting site, given safety and security concerns. He is pursuing future options and is exploring other resources.

**Board Chairperson's report:** Michelle stated that the Board has completed the budget hearings for this year. She recently attended an Andover Capital Improvement Committee meeting, representing the school district.

**Old Business**  
**2015-2016 Budget:** The Andover See School Board on page 25

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## Fifty Years Ago in Andover: April 1965

Here's some old news from the Andover, East Andover, West Andover, Potter Place, and Cilleyville "gossip" columns of the Franklin Journal Transcript, selected by Heather Makechnie.

Andover Junior High School held its Sports Banquet on April 5, with some 140 parents and friends in attendance. The 1965 Andover Sportsmanship Award was given to Elwin Barton, son of Mr and Mrs Edward Barton, by School Principal Raymond Burton, Coach Richard Day, and Assistant Coach Martin Feuerstein.

Services for Charles Augustus Jones, 73, were held at the First Congregational Church on Saturday. Mr Jones was stricken at the annual meeting of the New Hampshire Fairs Association, held at the New Hampshire Highway Hotel, immediately following his election as its director. Mr Jones was a member of the US Trotting Association, New Hampshire Horse Trail Association, and the New Hampshire Harness Horse Association. In addition, he was past president and secretary of the Hopkinton Fair Association and had been an official starter at the Hopkinton and Plymouth Fairs.

Mr Jones was a member of the Olive Branch Lodge F&AM, Concord Shriners Club, Bektash Temple, New Hampshire Consistory, Rose Croix, Princes of Jerusalem, Alpha Lodge of Perfection, OES, Demolay, and Sir Galahad Commandery. Mr Jones retired as steward chef for Proctor Academy and for 20 years had been associated with Holderness School. He is survived by his wife Lolita M (Avery) Jones and son Gerald C Jones of Norfolk, Virginia.

Congratulations go to Mr and Mrs Paul Whitcomb on the birth of a son at the New London Hospital on Easter Sunday. The baby weighed 5 pounds, 3 ounces.

Lt Col Lloyd C Hall of Second Army Headquarters was awarded the Joint Service Commendation Medal for Achievement while assigned to the Army Section, Military Assistance Group, Germany, from November 1961 to August 1964. The citation accompanying the medal stated that Col. Hall's "outstanding professional competence

and diligent efforts were instrumental in obtaining essential training for German Army personnel on United States equipment." Col. Hall is the son of Mrs Florence Hall of Andover.

Andover Lions are celebrating their 10th anniversary this month. They met on Monday night with Raymond Burton, Principal of Andover Elementary School, as speaker. He spoke on the Andover school system. Andover's first public education started in 1781, and in 1782 the town voted \$70 for hiring its teachers for the year. By 1825 the town had grown to the point where it had 16 different school districts. In 1858, a young female teacher was paid \$14.58 per month of teaching, and the male teacher received \$25 a month in the Village School. Today, a teacher has 154 pupils in the Andover Elementary School. It costs the town \$287 per pupil. The average school teacher in town is paid \$4,400 a year. There are eight full-time and four part-time teachers. The total school budget is \$118,000. Next year, all current teachers will receive a minimum salary of \$5,000.

Shoulder lamb chops are 39¢ a pound this week at the Franklin Food Outlet.

Miss Cynthia Phelps has the German Measles.

Ronald Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Ralph Charles and a graduate of Andover High School and Tufts Engineering School, is leader of a group of electrical engineers working on the Gemini project for McDonnell Aircraft in St Louis and Cape Kennedy. Mr Charles was also a leader in the now successfully completed re-entry project.

Special matinee at the Regal Theatre on Saturday: Elvis Presley in *Blue Hawaii*. Free popcorn, free balloons, 25 free passes to be given away. Regular prices: 25 cents for children, 80 cents for adults.

Congratulations go to Mr and Mrs John Dukette on the birth of twin girls born at Franklin Hospital on April 20. Babies weighed 5 pounds, 3 ounces and 5 pounds, 4½ ounces. Names: Darlene Ann and Marlene Ann. Mother and babies returned home on Sunday.

Ice went out on Highland Lake on Saturday, April 24. 

### School Board from page 24

School Board and Andover Budget Committee are in sync regarding the proposed budget. A work session will be held on February 16 in preparation for the upcoming annual School District Meeting.

**Flaghole Road Bus Stop:** Letters were sent to impacted families. The bus stop is set and working. Recognition was given to John Thompson for his assistance.

### New Business

**Oil Bids:** Robin presented the oil bid results for 2015-2016. The board voted unanimously to accept the bid of Huckleberry Heating Oils for \$2.2620 for the 2015-2016 school year.

**Committee Assignments:** Michelle

spoke of the need for Andover School Board (ASB) representation on certain committees. Anne Swayze will serve as the liaison for Proctor Academy. Once an agenda is established for the Andover Capital Improvement Committee and information is detailed, an ASB member will be appointed.

**Superintendent's Report:** Mark M. spoke of his attendance at the School of the Year application presentation. He echoed Jane's sentiments of the strengths of AE/MS: Family; Community, and Caring. The next hurdle, regarding the budget process, will be the annual School District Meeting to be held on March 2. A work session will be scheduled for February 16 for planning purposes. 

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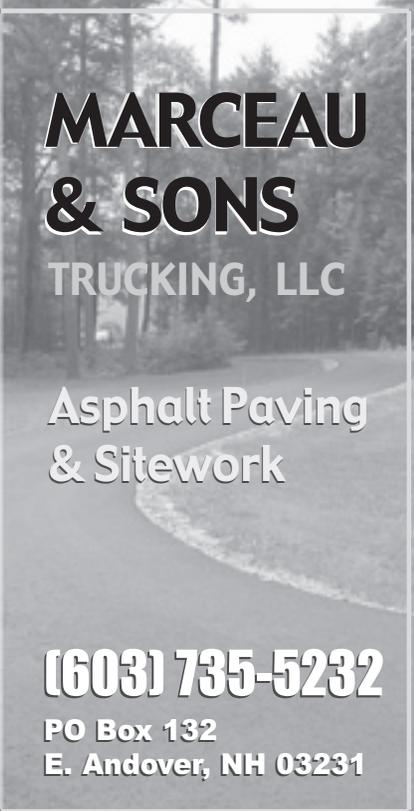
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## Route 11 Took Three Paths Around Hogback: The Second Path

The coming of the  
railroad moves the road

Rita Norander  
Andover Historical Society

My previous article told the story of the building of the Brook Road in 1824, which ran from the Franklin/Andover town line to Dyer's Crossing. For over 20 years, this new road served its purpose well. On December 28, 1846 the Northern Railroad arrived in Franklin as it continued its push north-westward. It reached Andover in July of 1847, and just four months later, on November 17, 1847, the first regular train made its way from Concord to Lebanon.

Unlike the Brook Road, the railroad tracks could not twist and turn and squeeze through the valley as it followed the brook. Instead, it was necessary for the rails to follow a relatively straight path on its east to west journey. Three things created rather significant problems for the railroad – the brook, the Brook Road, and the two hills on either side of them.

Because of the brook's twisting and turning in this area, and the railway's need to follow a somewhat straighter course, three bridges had to be built across the brook for the railroad bed. All of these bridges were within a short distance of our house and just beyond today's S-shaped highway bridge. John Brown, a talented stone cutter and contractor from Franklin, and "Boston John" Clark built the stone abutments for these bridges and others along the line.

The railroad's second problem was its need to cut across the Brook Road twice in an even shorter distance than above, and then again at Dyer's Crossing. Thus the slow-moving road travelers, who might be walking, on horseback, or in a horse or ox-drawn wagon, had to be on constant alert for approaching trains as they came barreling around the corner toward these crossings.

The third challenge encountered by the railroad was its need for a wider space in order to pass between Marston Hill and Hogback Hill. To accomplish this feat, it was necessary for the railroad building crews to remove huge amounts of earth from both of these hills. According to Ralph Chaffee, these workers were Irish immigrant laborers, with steam shovels and cranes.

When the various cuts were made, this excavated material was used as fill in low-lying areas as the men worked to keep the proper grade for the rail bed. Supposedly, a group of men with a one-horse dump cart took 5,000 cartloads of dirt from Hogback to fill in the hollow

between the town line and the underpass at the former Keniston farm. (If one stands on the rail trail in this area today, it is easy to see this probably was not an exaggeration! I would even guess 50,000 cartloads or more!)

Granite blocks, carved from nearby ledges, were used to shore up the steep embankments and are still in place to-



The bridge abutment on our side of the brook, which was used for the second path that Route 11 took. The abutment is still there today. This picture was taken in 1944; I'm the unhappy little one in the first row. Our backs are towards our house, and you can see the maple tree that is still there today.  
Caption by Rita Norander

day. In other locations, logs were used for retaining walls, but eventually they were replaced with the reinforced concrete bars that are still present today.

It did not take long after the completion of the Northern Railroad for everyone to realize the dangers the frequently-passing trains presented to road travelers. In 1849, Henry Emery, a resident of today's Hoyt Road, was killed by a locomotive at Dyer's Crossing. In 1897, James Sullivan of Beech Hill was killed at one of the crossings near our present house. Frank Tucker of Tucker Mountain was killed by a train at Dyer's Crossing in 1903. These three deaths were noted in John Eastman's and Ralph Chaffee's books, and most likely there were other similar incidents which went unrecorded.

Voters at Andover's 1903 town meeting passed a resolution asking the Boston & Maine Railroad – which had acquired the Northern Railroad in 1887 – to provide gates or flag men at these dangerous crossings. The B&M Railroad had a different idea. Its plan was to move the section of the road between our house and Hogback, so as to eliminate two of the most dangerous crossings.

See Route 11 on page 27

# Friends of the Northern Rail Trail Minutes, February and March 2015

## February 18, 2015

*Condensed from draft minutes*

The meeting was held in the Boscawen Town Hall, in the basement of the Congregational Church.

FNRT Board members present: Steve Darling, Joyce Morton, Ellsworth Morton, Steve Rayno, Peter Southworth, Bob Ward, and guest Jack Shields (Penacook).

### Old Business

Action items: Bob had plans to meet with the Boscawen Board of Selectmen in regard to signage, but the meeting was cancelled.

Technology report: Bob asked about posting our monthly meeting agenda on the FNRT Web site, but Steve noted that could present problems for Heather, as she isn't managing our site on such a regular basis. We discussed putting it on Facebook as well.

Kiosks at two Welcome Centers: We looked at Ellsworth's proposed one-sided kiosk. He offered to build the kiosk and donate his expertise and labor with FNRT buying the material (approximately \$180 for each).

We discussed how many kiosks we want to put up and the purpose of the kiosk – a welcome beacon, a large map, and information on FNRT.

Finding a volunteer to stock the membership cards and maintain the kiosk is a concern. We identified East Andover (by the EAFD barbecue pit) and Jamie Welch Park as the next two locations for installation. A motion to allocate \$400 for the two kiosks was passed.

### New Business

Jack Shields (an interested party, member of Rails to Trails) noted that because the Trail can't go any further south, he has done research on the crossing over the Pan Am Railroad tracks by the Hannah Dustin rest area. The Boscawen Historical Society researched the issue, and Jack showed a letter from the Boscawen Board of Selectmen recognizing that Boscawen still has access to the crossing.

Jack met again with them about signage and reported the Boscawen Board of Selectmen are in support of any signs we feel are appropriate. Jack asked the Boscawen board about creating a parking area off the side of the road, right where the trail ends. The landowner there has been blocked by parked cars and would support this.

Boyd Smith (Newfound Lake Environmental Coordinator) is working on signage to direct people parking at Hannah Dustin to the start of the trail and signs for the crossing and parking, and he'll meet with the Boscawen Road Agent about what signs to post. Funding hasn't been located.

In regard to sign design, materials, etc., FNRT and Boyd need to coordinate. Jack will attend our March meeting (perhaps with Boyd Smith) to

continue our signage discussion and planning.

There was discussion about future signs and asking towns and the state to waive fees for signs and to support the Rail Trail.

### Upcoming meetings and events.

April 23: Thursday's Child fundraising dinner at New London Inn.

## March 18, 2015

*Condensed from draft minutes*

**Present:** FNRT Board members Tom Frantz, Ellsworth Morton, Joyce Morton, Steve Rayno, Peter Southworth, and Bob Ward.

Discussion of maintenance with special guests Chris Gamache, Chief of New Hampshire Bureau of Trails and District 3 Supervisor Shawn Violette; Leon Nelson, Mike Henderson, and Greg Miller of the Andover Snowmobile Club (ASC); Jack Shields, Penacook Village Association; Boyd Smith, Newfound Lake Region Association; Steve Robinson, Danbury FNRT Trail Master; Ricker Miller, Andover FNRT Trail Master; Prescott Towle, ASC Insurance; Steve Proulx and Ken Lind, Lakes Region Snowmobile Club.

Maintenance Discussion. Bob began with the overview that with 35 miles of rail trail now complete, the FNRT shifts into clarifying maintenance agreements with the state and begins planning for annual budgeting.

Chris noted there are three-year cooperative agreements (just like with snowmobile clubs) that depend on volunteer groups. He highlighted the limitations of money and staff and the reality that Bureau of Trails (BoT) can help with major trail crises (blow-downs, wash-outs, etc.) but not much else. He asserted the state's dependence and appreciation for the volunteer groups such as FNRT and snowmobile clubs.

Chris noted the changing demographics of trail users and the shift away from interest in financial or volunteer support. Mike H. inquired about the Adopt-a-Trail model for trail management, and this was discussed. Ricker Miller and Steve Robinson had questions about when to notify BoT for projects and shared some specifics of Danbury work.

In regard to the issue of railroad bridges and safety (i.e. bridges lacking guardrails), Chris stated this is a cooperative issue that volunteer clubs and the BoT should communicate on. There are many bridges that don't have guardrails, and the BoT does not consider this a safety problem. The ASC had plans to rebuild the wooden guardrails on some Andover railroad bridges, but Chris noted that all the bridges should be consistent with no guardrails. The wooden guardrails are a liability concern because someone could be injured while climbing on the rails.

See FNRT on page 28

## Route 11 from page 26

Our old deeds show that in June of 1903, Joseph Cullen – the owner at that time – sold a small portion of his western land to the B&M Railroad. At some point, his neighbor Edgar Taylor sold a small part of his Hogback land to the B&M Railroad as well.

These two parcels of land, when joined together, would become the new path for the Brook Road. This road still passed in front of Archie's Store and Gas Station, but instead of turning south, it now continued straight west towards the brook (across our present field by the big pine tree). It then crossed the brook on a new bridge and eventually rejoined the original Brook

Road just beyond the Clay Bank. This new section of road, while much higher in elevation than the original road, was considerably lower than the highway of today. Thankfully, it was now much higher than, and farther away from, the troublesome railroad tracks.

A large amount of excavation was necessary on the western side of the new bridge in order for the road to make its way around Hogback. This would create new problems for the road travelers and would eventually lead to the building of the Brook Road's third path!

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*Assassin*, Clive Cussler  
*Belzhai*, Meg Wolitzer  
*Italian Wife*, Anne Hood  
*Knitting Circle*, Anne Hood  
*Girl with All the Gifts*, Mike Carey  
*Last One Home*, Debbie Macomber  
*Prodigal Son*, Daniel Steele  
*Finding Jake*, Bryan Reardon  
*Good Girl*, Mary Rubica  
*Gone Tomorrow*, Lee Child  
*Rain on the Dead*, Jack Hilligs  
*Welcome to Braggsville*,  
T. Geronimo Johnson  
*We Are Not Ourselves*, Matthew Toma  
*The Nightingale*, Kristen Hannah  
*The Long Way Home*, Louise Penny  
*Last One Home*, Debbie Macomber

**Adult Non-Fiction**

*The Everything Guide to Cognitive Behavioral Therapy*,  
Ellen Bowers, PhD  
*The Brain's Way of Healing*,  
Norman Doidge

*Being Mortal*, Atul Gawande  
*Convergence Quilts*, Ricky Tims  
*It's What I Do: A photographers life of love and war*, Lynsey Addario  
*Sustainable Happiness: Live simply, live well, make a difference*, Sarah Van Gelder  
*The Sound of Music Story*, Tom Santopietro  
*Angels on Our Shoulders*, Edward F. Heiberger

**Children**

*Dragons Love Tacos*, Adam Rubin  
*Bad Kitty Gets A Bath*, Nick Bruel  
*Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs*, Judi Barrett  
*Egg: Nature's perfect package*, Steve Jenkins  
*Acoustic Rooster and His Barnyard Band*, Kwame Alexander

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*Chef*  
*Big Hero 6*  
*Whiplash*

**Coach House Restaurant  
Holds Fundraiser for FNRT**

**Dine out on April 23  
and help the Rail Trail**

**Press release**

Don't miss the next Friends of the Northern Rail Trail-Merrimack County (FNRT) event coming up in April. The event is the ninth annual Thursday's Child fundraising dinner scheduled for one night only, Thursday, April 23, at the Coach House Restaurant at the New London Inn in New London.

The Coach House will offer the restaurant's regular menu, which is varied and outstanding, in both its tavern and dining room. There is no set time or set menu; you decide when you want to have dinner and with whom. Just make early reservations, sit back, and enjoy.

"The atmosphere promises to be festive, as the dinner crowd tends to be made up of exuberant trail supporters," observes Lindy Heim of Wilmot, a FNRT board member. "In addition, we'll have live entertainment for the first time, thanks to musicians Boyd Smith of Concord on bass and Charley Freiberg of Wilmot on guitar, playing folk and rock music from around 5:30 to 6:15 under the name 'The Old Guise.'" Both are long-

time trail users and FNRT volunteers.

Community-minded former New London Inn owner, Bridget Le Roy, founded the popular Thursday's Child program a few years back, and the Coach House has generously continued the tradition, allowing half of the night's profit to benefit local non-profits – in this case, FNRT, which will use this year's proceeds for trail maintenance and new signage.

Reservations can be made by calling the New London Inn at 526-2791. Dinner may be enjoyed as early as 5 PM in the Tavern (reservations not necessary) or 5:30 PM in the main dining room.

Besides participating in the April 23 dinner, which is the FNRT's sole annual fundraising event, another way to help the rail trail effort is to become a member, Heim points out. "In return for your membership dues, you'll get e-mail updates on the rail trail, FNRT meetings, and events." Membership categories start at \$15 and can be processed securely online.

For more information about past and future rail trail activities, printable trail maps, membership, and giving opportunities, go to [FNRT.org](http://FNRT.org).

**FNRT from page 27**

The ASC and FNRT agreed that we are going to focus on the quality and safety of trail and bridge surfaces. Other issues, such as pruning the sides of the trail, etc., will happen as possible.

The ASC asked about putting up year-round stop signs, and Chris had no objection. In regard to placement of benches, signs, kiosks, etc. on the trail, Chris identified that the distance from the center line is 10 feet. We need to check with

BoT for placement of bench and sign areas. From the center of the trail, most rights-of-way are 33', but this varies.

In regard to the washout between Dyer's Crossing and Sam Hill Road, Ricker Miller has not received an estimate from Edmunds to present or show BoT. When the details of the project are complete, the FNRT must notify BoT, which will come out and look at the job scope and plans, and to be sure the contractor has \$2 million of insurance.

## Andover Public Library New Acquisitions

### Adult Titles Fiction

*The Nightingale*, Kristin Hannah  
*Euphoria*, Lily King  
*The Assassin*, Clive Cussler  
*The Hope Chest*, Karen Schwabach  
*Strange Sweet Song*, Adi Rule  
*Welcome to Bragsville*,  
 T. Geronimo Johnson  
*Crash & Burn*, Lisa Gardner  
*The Arsonist*, Sue Miller  
*Motive*, Jonathan Kellerman

### Adult Non-Fiction

*Being Mortal*, Atul Gawande  
*Deep Down Dark*, Hector Tobar  
*Super Juice Me!*, Jason Vale

### Children's Titles

*Not in the Script*, Amy Finnegan  
*Emily Windsnap Books 4 & 5*,  
 Liz Kessler  
*The Assassin's Blade*, Sarah L. Maas  
*Peppa Pig: Day at Snowy Mt.*,  
 Mark Baker & Neville Astley  
*Pinkalicious: Aqualicious*,  
 Victoria & Elizabeth Kann  
*A Violin For Elva*, Mary Lynn Ray  
*Gabe: The Dog Who Sniffs Out  
 Danger*, Ther Feldman  
*Sofia the First: A Magical Match*, Disney  
*Big Nate Lives It Up*, Lincoln Peirce  
*Nancy Clancy, Star of Stage and  
 Screen*, Jane O'Connor  
*The House That's Your Home*,  
 Sally Lloyd-Jones  
*You are My Heart*, Marianne Richmond  
*Bunny's First Spring*, David McPhail

## Through the Reading Glasses, April 2015

### April is National Poetry Month

Janet Moore

Andover Libraries trustee

April is National Poetry Month, and in a tribute to Robert Frost, poet of both New Hampshire and Vermont, I offer this poem, which caught my eyes years ago when I was teaching grammar to middle schoolers.

Other poems of his and Maxine Kumin and of our neighbor, Donald Hall, have struck my spirit right in the heart/mind, but this one still tickles my syntactical fancy. And yours?

We welcome Alex Southworth and Caroline Moulton to the Andover Library Trustees, knowing that their creativity and energy will keep us moving forward. In doing so, we bid farewell to Shirley Currier, a voice of reason, and to Anne Hewitt, one of the most per-

**The Freedom of the Moon**

I've tried the new moon tilted in the air  
 Above a hazy tree-and-farmhouse cluster  
 As you might try a jewel in your hair.  
 I've tried it fine with little breadth of luster,  
 Alone, or in one ornament combining  
 With one first-water star almost as shining.  
 I put it shining anywhere I please.  
 By walking slowly on some evening later  
 I've pulled it from a crate of crooked trees,  
 And brought it over glossy water, greater,  
 And dropped it in, and seen the image wallow,  
 The color run, all sorts of wonder follow.

~ Robert Frost, 1928

sistent and indefatigable people I have known. Thanks to both for all you have shared. And many thanks to librarians Gail Fitzpatrick and Priscilla Poulin for arranging the wonderful, knee-slappin' and jaw-droppin' Blues Concert with Mike "Bullfrog" Rogers and "Poor Howard" Stith. The Grange was rockin' that night for sure!

## NH Fiddle Ensemble Comes to Franklin on April 19

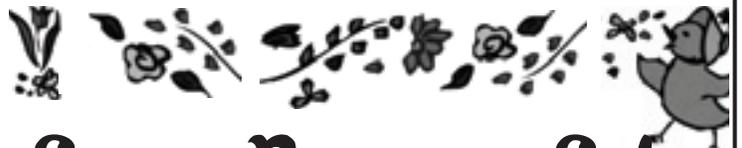
Matinee at the Franklin  
Opera House at 2 PM

### Press release

The Franklin Opera House is pleased to celebrate its sixth year as host of the New Hampshire Fiddle Ensemble, led by Ellen Carlson. The 2 PM matinee takes place on Sunday, April 19, at the Franklin Opera House inside City Hall in downtown Franklin.

The Ensemble has been delighting audiences for years and displays incredible fiddle talent. It also incorporates other instruments for a wonderful blend.

Get your tickets now for this high-energy entertainment: fun fiddle music in a variety of traditions. Visit FranklinOperaHouse.org for ticketing information. Tickets can also be purchased at the box office starting at 1 PM the day of the performance.



## Spring Rummage Sale

Sat., April 18

9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

**All Clothing is \$.10 - \$1.00**  
**Flea Market & Book Sale**

Immaculate Conception Church, Andover, NH  
 Church Lane, Potter Place

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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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## Kearsarge Chorale Presents its Spring Concert

Performance includes  
four Andover voices

**Press release**

The Kearsarge Chorale presents *Songs of Spring: This Have I Done for My True Love*, including *Magnificat* by Ralph Vaughan Williams featuring Paula Rockwell, mezzo-soprano, and Nicole Densmore, flute; excerpts from *The Seasons* by Franz Joseph Haydn; *Liebeslieder Waltzes* by Johannes Brahms; *Trois Chansons* by Maurice

Ravel; *This Have I Done for My True Love* by Gustav Holst; *Ave Maria Virgo Serena* by Josquin Des Prez; and *Easter Hymn* from *Cavalleria Rusticana* by Pietro Mascagni.

The program, which will include Andover's Linda Barnes, Margo Coolidge, Lee Carvalho, and Nancy Tripp, will be presented at Sawyer Center Theater at Colby-Sawyer College in New London on Sunday, April 26, at 3 PM. General admission, with no ticket necessary. A \$10 donation is requested. 

## Center for the Arts Presents Music, Poetry, and Photos

Includes a photo  
by Jay Fitzpatrick

**Press release**

The Literary Arts Guild of the Center for the Arts (CFA) Lake Sunapee Region invites the community to attend a collaboration of music, poetry, and photography on Friday, April 10, in celebration of National Poetry Month. The event will take place in Sunapee Harbor at the Lake Sunapee Protective Association's Knowlton House from 5 to 7 PM. Light refreshments will follow the evening's planned program.

CFA's state-wide poetry contest, just concluded, brought an excellent response from poets throughout New Hampshire. The challenge to poets was to select a piece of music and create a one-page poem expressing their thoughts and feeling in words and images evoked by the music. The winning poets will be introduced by New Hampshire's Poet Laureate Alice E. Fogel, who selected the two winning poems.

Charlotte Signor of Summer Music Associates will then introduce the Boston-based Trio Cleonice. This trio includes a pianist, violinist, and cellist

and has established itself as one of the most "creative, communicative, and exhilarating" ensembles. This evening they will play the first three movements of Robert Schumann's *Piano Trio No. 2 in F Major, Opus 80*.

CFA's Literary Art Guild members listened to the three movements and were challenged to respond by creating a poem or a photograph representing their thoughts and feelings evoked by the music. Each Schumann movement evokes different emotions: The first is very lively. The second is with intimate feeling, and the third is with more massive emotion. The following guild members responded to this challenge and will present their photos and read their poems:

First movement: Dianalee Velie, poem, and Bob Popp, photograph

Second movement: Natalie Davis, poem, and Maureen Rosen, photograph

Third movement: Joan Doran, poem, and Jay Fitzpatrick, photograph

All CFA-sponsored Friday events are free and open to the public. To volunteer, perform, or sponsor a program, call 526-4444. For more information, visit [CenterForTheArtsNH.org](http://CenterForTheArtsNH.org) 

## Volunteers Urgently Needed!

As a 501(c)(3) charitable trust, *The Andover Beacon* relies on volunteers from the community to accomplish many critical steps in getting the paper into everyone's mailbox every month. Right now we're *especially* in need of:

Volunteers to help edit every article.

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*Do this at home or in the Beacon office ... your choice!*

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## Buster Keaton Films at Blazing Star Grange Hall

April 4 in Danbury  
at 7:30 PM

**Press release**

He never smiled on camera, earning him the nickname of "the Great Stone Face." But Buster Keaton's comedies rocked Hollywood's silent era with laughter throughout the 1920s. Keaton's comic masterpiece, *The General* (1926), set during US Civil War, and his feature *Sherlock, Jr.* (1924), will be accompanied by live music performed by silent film composer Jeff Rapsis on Saturday, April 4, at 7:30 PM in the Blazing Star Grange Hall in Danbury.

Rapsis, a New Hampshire-based silent film musician, accompanies shows at venues across New England. He performs on a digital synthesizer to reproduce the texture of the full orchestra and create a traditional "movie score" sound.

Rapsis said Keaton's films were meant to be shown in theaters on a large screen. In reviving them, the Blazing Star Grange will give the public a chance to experience silent film as it was meant to be seen and enjoyed – in

high quality prints, with live music, and with an audience.

"All those elements are important parts of the silent film experience," said Rapsis, who improvises the score on the spot as the films screen. "Recreate those conditions, and the classics of early Hollywood leap back to life in ways that can still move audiences today."

For more information about Jeff Rapsis and the music, visit [JeffRapsis.com](http://JeffRapsis.com).

In the early decades of the 1900s, silent films were shown at the Blazing Star Grange when the hall was the hub of town activity. A reminder of that era can be seen on the back wall of the stage – a tattered broadside advertising George M. Bragg and "Moving Pictures." Bragg, a performer in the small time vaudeville circuit, worked throughout New England and showed films as part of his act. He left his distinctive signature wherever he played. The broadside in Danbury features his smiling face and a dated signature of May, 1917.

The show is open to the public with a suggested donation of \$5. For more information, see [DanburyGrange.org](http://DanburyGrange.org). 

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

☆☆ Blazing Star Grange ☆☆  
☆☆ No. 71 ☆☆

☆☆ FARMERS MARKET ☆☆  
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☆☆ SILENT FILM ☆☆  
☆☆ Double Feature ☆☆  
☆☆ April 4th at 7:30 P.M. ☆☆  
☆☆ Starring Buster Keaton ☆☆  
☆☆ Accompanied by Jeff Rapsis ☆☆  
☆☆ \$5 suggested donation ☆☆

☆☆ SUPPERS ☆☆  
☆☆ 5-6:30 P.M. ☆☆  
☆☆ April 18<sup>th</sup> ☆☆  
☆☆ Dean Martin Benefit ☆☆  
☆☆ Chicken Pie ☆☆  
☆☆ May 16th- Menu TBD ☆☆  
☆☆ June 13- Chicken BBQ ☆☆

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## Andover Congregational Church Makes Plans for Holy Week

Josh Wagner on five-month mission to Fiji

Sandy Miller

Andover Congregational Church

Approximately 20 Church Executive Board members and church leaders went on a retreat on March 6 and 7 at Singing Hills Christian Center in Plainfield. The purpose of the retreat was to determine how best we could fulfill the mission of the church, which is to be disciples and make disciples.

After much praying and discussion, we felt God was leading us in the direction of ministry work in the areas of Andover and Franklin. We now must determine how best to approach this goal.

Josh Wagner to Fiji

Pastor John and Amy Wagner's son Josh left at the end of March on a five-month mission trip to Fiji. They will have a lecture and an outreach phase with a medical focus and will also learn the aspects of practicing in the tropics and how to set up a clinic in remote areas.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Josh. Please keep him in your prayers as he embarks on this adventure.

This fall, Josh will attend NHTI,

where he has been accepted into the Nursing program.

**Holy Week Schedule**

**April 2, Maundy Thursday:** The church held a service at the Grange Hall, with a meal provided by Diaconate, followed by holy communion and optional foot washing (following Jesus' example at the Last Supper).

**April 3, Good Friday:** 7 PM Tenebrae service at the Church with prayer, music, and scripture readings from the Bible on the last days of Jesus' life, concluding with the crucifixion.

**April 5, Easter:** Sunrise service at 6:15 AM on Maple Street at the top of the hill near the Graves homestead. This will be followed by a breakfast at the Grange Hall at approximately 6:45 AM. You are welcome to the breakfast whether or not you attend the service. There is no charge; we just look forward to your presence.

Worship service at 9:30 AM at the church celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We welcome your attendance at any or all of these services. If you need further information, call the Church office at 735-5160.

First Fridays in March and April

Press release

The Wilmot Community Association (WCA) and the Wilmot Public Library will offer "Friday Night at the Movies" at 7 PM on March 6 and April 3 at the Red Barn, 64 Village Road in Wilmot. The doors will open at 6:30 PM and the family-friendly movies will start promptly at 7 PM. Admission is free, and refreshments, including popcorn of course, will be available for purchase.

"We are excited about this joint effort to show movies that appeal to children and their parents," said Susan Nye, administrator of the WCA. Showing the films is possible through a special licensing agreement obtained by the library. "We're selecting films popular with both children and adults," said Rosanna Dude, director of the Wilmot Public Library. "Due to our licensing agreement, we can't release the titles but can drop hints. The movie on March 6 features a lovable ogre and sassy donkey on an adventure-filled road trip. On April 3, an out-of-town visitor (make that way-

out-of-town) desperately needs to phone home. You can stop by the library or WCA, check our Web sites or give either of us a call for more information."

The WCA, established in 1963, is a membership-based, not-for-profit organization that brings neighbors together in Wilmot by providing the facilities for social, educational and recreational programs. It owns and operates the WCA Red Barn, a community center, and Timothy Patten Park, a beach and playground on Shindagan Road. The WCA's office, in the Red Barn, is open from 9 AM to noon Monday through Thursday and by appointment. More information about the WCA is available at 526-7934, on the organization's Web site at WilmotCommunityAssociation.org, or follow us on Facebook at Facebook.com/WilmotWCA.

The Wilmot Public Library, founded in 1911, is at 11 North Wilmot Road in Wilmot Center. It is open from 3 to 7 PM on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays; from 10 AM to 7 PM on Wednesdays; from 3 to 5:30 PM on Fridays; and from 11 AM to 1 PM on Saturdays. More information is available at 526-6804 or WilmotLibrary.org.

## Franklin to Celebrate Community Day on May 9

Crafters, vendors, organizations wanted by April 15

Press release

Plans are underway for the 11th annual Choose Franklin Community Day, sponsored by Franklin Regional Hospital (LRGHealthcare) and Franklin Savings Bank, which will be held on Saturday, May 9, at Odell Park in Franklin.

The event will begin with a parade at 10 AM, which will step off at Franklin High School and proceed easterly to downtown, turning on Smith Street, and ending at Odell Park. This year's theme is "Franklin for a Lifetime."

A fair will be held at the park from 10 AM to 2 PM and will include vendors, crafts, food, games, amusements,

and entertainment. There will be a performance by the Flying Frisbee Dogs at 12:30 PM and a 1:15 PM show by Marko the Magician, sponsored by the Franklin Public Library.

If you are a crafter, local businessperson, or member of an organization and would like to participate in the fair or march in the parade, please contact Marcia Rollins at 934-3108, ext. 4420 or download a Participation Form at SAU18.org/Community\_Day.cfm.

Sign up soon! After April 15, there's a \$10 late fee if space is available.

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Worship and Sunday School – 9:30 AM

Ongoing growth and discovery opportunities including Bible studies, men's and women's groups, and prayer. Please call for details.

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## Edible Landscaping Discussion on April 13

Affordable, resilient, local food sources

### Press release

Did you know that our grocery stores only stock a three-day supply of food? Or that the average meal travels 1,500 miles from farm to plate?

Whether you want to save money, be ready for that next ice storm, or just eat a better tasting tomato, then local food is the answer.

Whether you think you don't have enough room to grow food, already garden but want to do so more intensively (and even use your front yard!), or are interested in community gar-

dens, please join us on Monday, April 13, from 6:30 to 8 PM in the AE/MS library to explore resources for creating more edible landscaping in our yards and village streets.

This interactive discussion of perennial agriculture techniques that support affordable, attractive, delicious, and resilient sources of food will be led by Jennifer White, Andover resident and Director of Sustainability at Colby-Sawyer College. The event is free of charge and is sponsored by the Andover Community Association. For more information, contact Susan Chase at 735-5135 or at SRFChase@aol.com.



## Tai Chi Class Relocates to AE/MS

Saturdays from 10 to 11 AM

### Press release

Newcomers are welcome at any time in the ongoing Tai Chi class that will begin meeting in the AE/MS gym on Saturday, April 4, from 10 to 11 AM, under the auspices of the Andover Community Association.

This introductory-level class has been meeting since January at the library in East Andover but will now meet regularly in the larger gym space

through the spring. Newcomers are welcome to join or try it at any time.

The class, led by Marcia Wyman of Inner Peace Tai Chi in Concord, is organized in four-week series at a fee of \$30 for each series, or drop-ins pay \$8 per session. While Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese martial art, it is primarily practiced today for its health and exercise benefits through low-impact, slow movements that enhance strength and balance.

For more information, contact Caroline Moulton at 735-5440 or at CarolineMoulton@gmail.com.



Lorraine Roberts, Kathy Kelley, Sandy Miller, Edna Peters, Pat Baker, and Margo Coolidge enjoy refreshments at the March 11 Andover Service Club meeting. Photo: Mary Ofenloch

## Andover Service Club, March 2015

### Scholarship applications due by May 1

#### Mary Ofenloch, ASC president

It was a beautiful sunny and warm day last March 11 when the Andover Service Club (ASC) met at the Highland Lake Grange Hall for its monthly meeting. Reports from the Treasurer, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, as well as committee chairladies were read and accepted.

The Fundraising chairlady reported on the success of the Bake Sale on Town Meeting Day. New ideas for raising funds were suggested, as income needed to continue the mission of ASC has been less than previous years when the economy was doing well and people could afford to donate time and money for good causes.

Applications for the ASC Merit Scholarship are now available at the ASC Thrift Shop, at Proctor Academy, and at MVHS. Any child or grandchild of an ASC member or resident of Andover who will be attending college continuing their college education may apply. The application form is available at [AndoverBeacon.com/ASC-Scholarship](http://AndoverBeacon.com/ASC-Scholarship).

If you are looking to enhance your wardrobe, why not shop at the ASC

Thrift Shop, where almost new and/or gently used articles are very reasonably priced? Proceeds from sales are used to fund the Merit Scholarship program and to support local community organizations.

On Wednesday, April 8, ASC will meet again at the Highland Lake Grange Hall at 10 AM. At the conclusion of the business reports, refreshments will be served and a special program will be presented. The April program is the annual in-house auction of "treasures" donated by the members.

The ladies of ASC wish to express our gratitude to everyone who supported the events and sales which were sponsored by ASC. We could not fulfill our mission without your help. ASC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which means donations are tax deductible.

The ladies of ASC invite all women – young, old, or in-between – who may be willing to serve the people of our community while meeting new friends, to attend the meeting in April. For more information, speak with any member you may know, or e-mail Mary Ofenloch, President of ASC, at [MaryO.ASCLive@live.com](mailto:MaryO.ASCLive@live.com). We will welcome you with open arms.

## Andover Service Club Scholarship Applications Available

### Completed applications due May 1

#### Diane Rice, Andover Service Club

The Andover Service Club is pleased to announce that the application process for the 2015 Scholarship awards has begun. 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 may apply. Students who have

received a scholarship in the past may apply once again if they still meet all eligibility requirements.

Scholarship applications are available at AE/MS, Proctor, MVHS, and the Andover Service Club Thrift Shop. They may also be downloaded at [AndoverBeacon.com/ASC-Scholarship](http://AndoverBeacon.com/ASC-Scholarship).

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



## Born to run (or walk) the WCA Black Fly Blitz!

Memorial Day - Monday - May 25  
Check-in starts at 7 am - Race starts at 9 am

The region's favorite 5K run/walk loops through scenic Wilmot!



Enter by May 1 for a free T-shirt  
preregister by May 22 or on race day

More information:  
[www.wilmotcommunityassociation.org](http://www.wilmotcommunityassociation.org)

## New Hampshire Circle of Home and Family, March 2015

### Store your brooms bristles-up to ward off evil

Judy Perreault, NHCHF

The Halcyon Seekers chapter of the New Hampshire Circle of Home and Family swept into March with a program about brooms.

Brooms are a very old cleaning tool, used for centuries to sweep caves, cabins, castles, and homes. Early models were a bunch of twigs, straw, hay, or corn husks tied to a stick. These didn't last long, as the broom parts either broke or fell off the stick.

In 1810, a broom making machine was invented that used a sorghum grain tassel and produced a round broom attached with a peg system. The Shakers in the mid-1800s improved the design and made a machine that produced a flat broom attached with wire to the handle. The broom part was then sewn in place.

When plastic was invented, brooms were also made with plastic bristles. Brooms came in all shapes and sizes for different purposes. As with anything else, new devices for cleaning have replaced the broom. Few broom makers are left.

Some interesting folklore concerning brooms:

- During World War II, American submarines would hoist a broomstick when pulling into port to indicate that they had swept the seas of enemy vessels.
- Storing a broom with bristles up will ward off evil spirits and negative energy and protect the home.
- A broom placed in a doorway is a symbol of matrimony.
- To have luck in a marriage, a couple should jump over a broom on entering their home also indicating you were jumping into a new life.

Witches have long been associated with brooms and were supposed to be able to fly on them after they had been treated with a magic ointment. People actually claimed to see witches in flight. Some attribute these sightings to folks under the influence of hallucinogens.

On Saturday, April 25, our group will be attending the Spring Fling to be held at AE/MS. Our featured speaker will be Peter James from The Concord Coach Society. There is a \$5 registration fee, and the deadline for attending is April 15. For more information, call 735-5493. 



Karen Niemyer of Andover, left, won the Strawberry Festival Logo Contest. Jean Cronin Connolly, chair of the Center for the Arts, presented Karen with a check for \$100. Out of 50 entries, the logo by Karen, an assistant teacher at Kearsarge Regional Middle School in Sutton, was the winning design. The Strawberry Festival will take place on June 27 in New London; plans are underway to create a day-long event for all ages.

## Wilmot Senior Luncheon Set for April 16

Reserve your place at the last one until fall

skit, *How Hot was It?* Fresh flower table arrangements and door prizes will be given away to attendees.

### Press release

The next Senior Luncheon, and the last one of the spring season, is scheduled to take place at the Wilmot Community Association's (WCA) Red Barn at noon on Thursday, April 16.

The Wilmot Ladies Aid Society sponsors these popular social events in conjunction with the WCA and CAP in Concord, which provides food and support services for seniors in Merrimack County.

Wilmot residents Bill Doody and Bill Burris will entertain after lunch by performing their famous vaudeville

Don't miss this chance to enjoy a hot midday lunch with friends at the lovely WCA Red Barn in Wilmot Flat. A \$2 donation is suggested for the meal and a \$3 donation for the WCA, for a total of \$5. For those attending who are under 60 years of age, the suggested donation for CAP is \$6 and \$3 for the WCA.

After a summer break, luncheons will resume in September, at a new time and on a new day: at 11:30 AM on the third Wednesday of the month.

Please call Margaret at 768-3805 at least a week before the luncheon to reserve your place. See you there! 

## "Better Choices, Better Health" Workshops Come to Franklin

### Living well with a chronic condition

#### Press release

If you or someone you live with has an ongoing health concern such as chronic pain, diabetes, or arthritis and would like to learn how to better manage this health concern so that you can do the things you want to do, you can benefit from "Living Well."

Learn how to manage your symptoms with the Better Choices, Better Health workshop presented by LRGHealthcare. Join us for an upcoming free session in the Twin Rivers community. The workshop will be offered on Wednesdays from April 8 through May 13, from 9 to 11 AM at the Bessie Rowell Community Center in Franklin.

Those attending the workshops will apply skills for living a full, healthy life with a chronic condition; learn to set weekly goals; and develop a practical, step-by-step plan for improving health and quality of life. Weekly topics include healthy eating, physical activity, relieving stress, pain and fatigue management, and more.

Workshop leaders will guide participants through this proven program developed by the Stanford University School of Medicine. These sessions are ideal for anyone living with a chronic health condition or a caregiver of someone with a chronic health condition.

For more information or to register for these upcoming workshops, please call LRGHealthcare Education Services at 527-7120. 

## TIME TO APPLY for Andover Service Club SCHOLARSHIPS

Available to:  
**Andover's Graduating Seniors and Adults** entering or continuing **College or Professional/Technical School**

**DEADLINE: FRI, MAY 1**

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

### Exhibit Opening May 1, 2015

*Dragons and Oracles and Apples!*  
*Oh My!*  
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Follow the progression of the computer as we explore the transformation of technology from machines to computers to devices.

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## 16th Annual Women Who Make A Difference LUNCHEON

**Wednesday, May 13**  
**Colby-Sawyer College**

**SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION...**

April 17: Deadline to nominate an extraordinary woman you know!

Questions? Contact Cathy Raymond  
craymond@lakesunapeevna.org

107 Newport Road • New London, NH 03257  
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www.lakesunapeevna.org

## Britta Johnson Advances to New Hampshire Semi-Finals

Geography Bee at Keene State on March 27

### Press release

Britta Johnson, an Andover Elementary/Middle School eighth grade student, was named National Geographic State Bee Semifinalist by the National Geographic Society. Britta was one of the semifinalists competing in the 2015 New Hampshire National Geographic Bee at Keene State College on March 27.

School Bees were held in schools with fourth- through eighth-grade students to determine each school champion. School champions then took a qualifying test. The National Geographic Society invited the top-scoring students in each state to compete in the state Bees.

Each state champion will receive a trip to Washington DC, to represent their state in the National Geographic Bee Championship to be held on May 11 through 13. The national champion will receive a \$50,000 college scholarship.

The national champion will also travel to the Galápagos Islands, where he or she will experience geography firsthand through up-close encounters with the islands' unique wildlife and landscapes. Visit NationalGeographic.com/geobee for more information on the National Geographic Bee.

How would you fare as a Bee contestant? At the school Bees this year, students had to answer such questions as:

- Six-time Super Bowl champions, the Pittsburgh Steelers, play football near the source of the Ohio River in which state—Alabama or Pennsylvania? (Pennsylvania)

nia? (Pennsylvania)

- Balboa Park, with more than ten museums, performing arts centers, and gardens, is located in which southern California city? (San Diego)
- Taylor Swift performed songs



Britta Johnson was one of 104 middle school students from around the state who qualified to participate in the New Hampshire National Geographic Bee at Keene State College on March 27. Britta didn't quite become a finalist, much to her relief! Beside Britta is her father, Eric.

Photo: Heide Johnson

from her album *Red* last summer in Kuala Lumpur, the capital of which Asian country that borders the South China Sea? (Malaysia)

- Disney's blockbuster movie *Frozen* is set in the fictional land of Arendelle, which was largely inspired by the country of Norway. Norway is located on which European peninsula? (Scandinavian Peninsula)

## Frank Haley Raising Funds for the Blind

Could be biggest fundraiser for 11th year

Lauretta Phillips, for the *Beacon*

For 91-year-old Frank Haley, the 12th annual 3K walk hosted by the New Hampshire Association for the Blind (NHAB) begins in a car. Anne, Frank's wife of almost 50 years, drives him from place to place visiting old friends, making new ones, and collecting donations for the annual 3K walk for sight. They begin their trek daily around the 1st of April and continue right up until the day of the walk.

The donations Frank and the other walkers bring in provide much needed services for people like Frank who are blind or visually impaired.

Frank, who has a brace boot on his left ankle from an old injury, is often accompanied on his walk by his wife Anne, daughters-in-law Vickie Haley and Norma Haley, and granddaughters Katie, Mariah, and Shannon.

This year, Frank hopes to retain the title of the highest individual fundraiser,

making this his 11th consecutive year. Frank thanks everyone who has donated in the past years for their support and hopes their generosity will continue to support this fine organization and its services to the blind.

Some of the services NHAB provides are Rehabilitation Therapy, which helps an individual maintain his/her independence; Orientation and Mobility Instruction; to help an individual develop safe, independent travel skills and learn new routes and environments; and Low Vision Services, which assist people who are partially sighted to use their remaining vision more effectively. They also provide educational services, adaptive technology services, volunteer services, and public education.

For more information about the New Hampshire Association for the Blind or to make a donation, contact them at 224-4039 or SightCenter.org. Don't forget to tell them Frank Haley sent you! Or better yet, say hello to Frank, wish him well on his walk, and give him your donation in person.

## East Andover Village Preschool, April 2015

### Scholarship fund receives generous boost

Elizabeth Janvrin, EAVP director

At East Andover Village Preschool, our philosophy considers each child unique and special. As a child-centered program, we strive to allow children to act and think as children do.

Our program focuses on each child's individuality while assisting them to grow in all areas of their development. Activities and routines are designed to give the children opportunities to work with others with the structure of a preschool setting.

We are fortunate at EAVP to be able to offer assistance to families through our Marie Rising Scholarship Fund. Recently, we received a very generous donation towards this scholarship fund. Thank you to Don and Marilyn Gould! With your generosity we can help more families to be able to enjoy our preschool.

We have continued our conversations about healthy eating and nutrition, along with introducing the children to the phrase "Eat Your Sunshine." As we explore items that we have eaten for snack or breakfast, we have broken them down into smaller components to show that the sun helped the fruit or vegetables grow or the grass grow to feed the animals.

Cooking is one of our favorite activities each week; the group has made butternut squash pancakes, butternut squash fries, and an African dish with butternut squash and peanut sauce.

With all of our discussions, we have booked a field trip on March 19 to the Concord Co-op and Live Juice. At both locations, we will see a business in operation along with putting together one

of their healthy recipes.

Our focus on grasslands has continued, especially with all of us wanting to be lions and creating lion dens. We have been introduced to facts about lions, such as they move in prides and pounce on butterflies to practice hunting.

Once a fact was learned, the group brought it into their play, where we had many lions pouncing or using their noses to find food.

Lions have not been the only exciting animal for role play; elephants have also been quite popular. We worked with "trunks" as we painted group pictures and flapped our ears to keep away the bugs.

We've also had conversations about those who live in this region of Africa. Some of us have attempted to carry baskets on our heads as we "gather" food, and others have noticed the various patterns and designs on their clothes.

The end of March brings our annual Hop-a-thon. Children are given the opportunity to raise money for our preschool curriculum as they receive flat rates or per-hop donations. With *The Bunny Hop* song playing, the number of hops each child does in one minute will be counted. After the event, we will have some carrot-type snacks.

Join us for a night out on Thursday, April 23. EAVP is hosting a paint night at the Muse Paintbar in Manchester. Tickets are \$45, and the event begins at 6:30 PM. For more information, please see our Facebook page, call the school, or visit [MusePaintbar.com](http://MusePaintbar.com). We hope to see you there!

Are you looking for a summer camp or preschool? We are registering for both programs. Please contact us at 735-5105 or [EAVP@tds.net](mailto:EAVP@tds.net) for more information.



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### DID YOU KNOW?

Of Franklin Middle School Students who reported ever having a drink of alcohol, **47.8%** say they obtained it by **someone giving it to them.**

\*2013 YRBS

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# OBITUARIES

**SHELLI SHAW**, 51, died on Sunday, February 22, 2015 at the Concord Regional VNA Hospice House surrounded by her family.

She was born in Tacoma, Washington, daughter of the late Jesse and Carol (Coleman) Payne. She received her bachelor's degree from Southern New Hampshire University. Shelli was a sixth grade teacher at Merrimack Valley Middle School.

She enjoyed crafting and snowmobiling and loved spending time with her family and friends.

She is survived by her husband Daniel Shaw of Andover; a son, Nicholas R. Shaw of Andover; a brother, Kevin Payne of Concord; two nieces, Mariah and Carolyn Payne; a nephew, Jesse Payne; her mother-in-law, Francis Shaw of Center Barnstead, with whom she was very close; and several sister- and brother-in-laws.

Visiting hours were held on February 27 and funeral services were held on February 28, both at the Waters Funeral Home in Concord. Burial will take place in the spring in her home town of Andover.

Donations may be made in Shelli's memory to the CRVNA Hospice House, 30 Pillsbury Street, Concord NH 03301.

**MARGARET E. (SIMPSON) RUSSELL**, 73, of Main Street, died on February 25, 2015 at her home. She was born in New London on October 13, 1941.

Margaret graduated from Simonds Free High School in Warner in 1960 and worked in the New London/Concord area for many years as a housekeeper.

She is survived by two sons, Donald Russell of Epsom and Joseph Russell of Andover; three grandchildren, Don, Ka-

tie, and Bret; two great-grandchildren, Molli and Tyler; and siblings Marilyn Trapp and Robert Simpson of Massachusetts and Leon Simpson of Montana.

Services will be held at the convenience of the family.

**LESLIE W. SHAW**, 89, of New London, died on February 26, 2015 at the New London Hospital. He was born in East Andover on April 21, 1925, the son of Irving W. and Vivian (Fish) Shaw, Jr.

Les graduated from Andover High School in 1943.

He joined the Navy upon graduation and served during World War II and received honorable discharge in 1946.

He lived in Manchester before moving to New London in 1946. From 1982 to 1986 he lived in Wilmot and then moved back to New London.

He was a builder and carpenter and worked for Lull and Prescott and Clarence Granger before owning and operating Leslie W. Shaw Builder in 1953.

He was a member of the Elkins Chapel Society and the Wilmot Baptist Church. Les was a member of King Solomon's Lodge #14 F&AM and received the 1999 Mason of the Year award. He was also member and past President of Mount Kearsarge Shrine Club. He was a member of American Legion Post #40 and was very active, marching in many parades and participating in funeral honors. Les enjoyed golf, gardening, and fishing.



He was predeceased by a granddaughter, Jennifer Shaw White in 1997, and a brother, Richard Shaw. Members of his family surviving include his wife of 69 years, Lois (Stuart) Shaw of New London; two sons and their wives, Roger and Agnes Shaw of Concord and David and Frankie Shaw of Greenville, South Carolina; five grandchildren, Jeffrey and Jill Shaw of Concord, Anne Shaw of Greenville, South Carolina, Kathryn and Brian Sanders of Easley, South Carolina, Nancy and Jeremy West of Travelers Rest, South Carolina, and Emily and Jeremy Hickey of Clermont, Florida; 15 great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Gertrude Bellerose of Tampa, Florida and Patricia St. Cyr of Manchester.

A funeral service as held on March 1 at the Wilmot Baptist Church with the Reverend Dr. Allen Koop, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Pine Hill Cemetery in Wilmot in the spring with military honors. Memorial contributions may be made to American Legion Post #40, 45 Greeley Road, Springfield NH 03284.

**ROBIN V. CHASE**, 75, of Boscawen passed away on March 4, 2015 in the company of her loving family.

Robin was born in Concord on August 24, 1939 to John McKenzie and Laurene (Montgomery) Zukowski.

She grew up in Concord and was educated in local schools. A loving and hardworking mother, Robin

raised three sons and spent 35 years working at the Merrimack County House of Corrections. She was also an Avon Sales Representative for many years.

She deeply enjoyed spending time with her family, gardening, watching birds, hummingbirds especially, and spending as much time as possible by her pool in the sunshine.

Robin is survived by her sons, Kyle Demers and his wife April of Salisbury, Lance Demers and his wife Trish of Andover, and Lee Noyes and his wife Amy of Waterford, Connecticut; her brother, James McKenzie of Concord; her sister, Candace Whiteman and her husband Mike of Littleton, Colorado; her brother, Jan Zukowski of Boscawen; seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and her constant companion, her dog Gizmo.

Family and friends were invited to a memorial service on March 7 in the Phaneuf Funeral Home chapel in Boscawen. Burial will take place at Calvary Cemetery in Concord during a private family service.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Robin's memory may be made to the Hospice House of Concord Regional VNA, at Concord Regional VNA, The Slusser Center, 30 Pillsbury Street, Concord NH 03301 or online at CRVNA.org.

**ELINOR (HEATH) PLANT**, 84, passed away on March 5, 2015, in her home in Hopkinton. There will be a graveside service later this year in her longtime home of Belchertown, Massachusetts.

Elinor (Lin) was born in Westfield, Massachusetts to Lloyd and Lila (Atwood) Heath on November 27, 1930 and graduated from Belchertown High School.

See Obituaries on page 37

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**It Matters**

Do you wonder if it makes any difference if a service or celebration is held at the time of a death? Isn't it just easier not to have anything at all? It certainly shows respect for the deceased to hold some kind of gathering and it also gives a "formal" chance to honor a life lived.

Studies show that it definitely helps the family and community to have some sort of a tribute. Even if the gathering is small at least the opportunity has been given. Death is not easy and the healing process can take time and leave you feeling down and discouraged some days.

Give yourself the chance to start the journey by honoring your loved one and let others help you on the road. Give yourself every chance possible to move forward in a positive manner. Having a service can be so uplifting and healing. It really does matter.

*Charles and Marion (Chadwick) Hafner*  
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**Obituaries from page 36**

Lin married Earl L. Plant on February 11, 1950. They were happily married for over 65 years.

Lin worked as a bookkeeper throughout her life, working for several companies in both Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and she still worked part-time keeping books for her daughter and granddaughter's family business until her passing. She enjoyed cooking, sewing, gardening, Scrabble, poker, visiting the ocean, her cats, and spending time with her family.

Lin is survived by her husband Earl Plant; daughters Doreen (Edward J.) Barkowski and Hollis (Philip) Nepus; grandchildren Edward E. Barkowski, Christine (Barkowski) Hartman, Erin (Morneau) Corey, and Grant Morneau; great-grandchildren Kyle and Connor Corey; and countless nieces and nephews.

She is preceded by her son Steven Plant (age 22), her sister Alice Bodzinski, and her parents Lloyd and Lila Heath.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Humane Society, one of Lin's favorite causes and charities, or the American Cancer Society.

**DONALD E. GOULD**, 82, of Lawrence Street died on March 16 at the Peabody Home in Franklin.

He was born in Concord on May 19, 1932, the son of Everett and Gladys (Wilcox) Gould. He graduated from Concord High School in 1951. He earned a BS from the University of New Hampshire and an MS from Rutgers University.



Don was a chemical engineer, specializing in packaging, at Union Carbide Corporation and retired as a Consulting Engineer in 1994. He also holds patents for plastics technologies.

He moved to Andover in 1999 and attended the Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Don served tirelessly in the community with the Andover Planning Board, the Andover School Board, the East Andover Vil-

lage Preschool, and the Andover Historical Society.

Don's dedication to the school and to the community was unrelenting. He brought a wealth of knowledge and an earnest desire to provide the students of Andover with the best education.

Under Don's leadership, Andover Elementary/Middle School saw many changes and improvements, beginning with successfully bringing to the voters the warrant article for a new gym floor and on to projects such as efficient, cost-saving gymnasium lighting, life safety code updates, advances in educational technologies, and additions to the playground and amphitheater.

In 2013, Don was the driving force behind the adoption of full-day kindergarten. His involvement with the East Andover Village Preschool yielded a new playground and many improvements to the playground and facilities. He brought an unparalleled energy and commitment to all his projects.

In all of his roles, Don served with pride and respect for all involved. Don and his wife were honored in 2014 as Citizens of the Year by the Andover School Board.

Members of his family surviving include his wife of 62 years, Marilyn (Bachelder) Gould of Franklin and Andover; a daughter, Barbara Couturier and her husband Paul of Newton Centre, Massachusetts; two sons, Allen Gould and his wife Joy of Conway and Douglas Gould and his wife Hilari of Wayne, New Jersey; four grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, and four step-great-grandchildren; a brother, Ken Gould of North Groton; and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Don's life was held on March 28 at Chadwick Funeral Home in New London, with visiting hours on Friday, March 27.

Memorial contributions may be made to Andover Elementary/Middle School, 20 School Street, Andover NH 03216; or East Andover Village Preschool, 7 Chase Hill Road, Andover NH 03216; or Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, PO Box 1578, New London NH 03257.

To sign an online guestbook, please visit [ChadwickFuneralService.com](http://ChadwickFuneralService.com).

**PIO (PETE) SHAMNEY**, of Barefoot Bay, Florida, died on March 16, 2015 at age 68 after a prolonged illness. He was born in Franklin but grew up and lived most of his life in Andover.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Chester and Linda Shampney; his nephew, Daniel Hallman; and his niece, Jenifer Allen. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Linda C. Shampney; son William of Olds, Iowa; daughter Denise Schuster, of Washington, Iowa; two sisters, Betty Adams and Mary Shampney; four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews and in-laws.



A memorial service will be held later this year in Andover. Memorial contributions may be made to Dartmouth Hitchcock, CCU Dept, One Medical Center Dr, HB7070, Lebanon NH 03756 or online.

**MARIE A. (POALETTA) BOURDON**, 84, wife of the late John F. Bourdon, died on March 24, 2015 at the Merrimack Hospice in Concord. She was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts on December 16, 1930, a daughter of the late Frank and Rose (Mello) Poaletta and lived in Tewksbury and Billerica before

moving to Dacula, Georgia, and most recently to Concord.

Mrs. Bourdon was an Executive Secretary for the Mitre Corporation in Bedford, Massachusetts for many years.

She is survived by three sons: John Bourdon and his wife Joyce of East Andover; Steve Bourdon and his wife Barbara of Billerica, Massachusetts; and Dennis Bourdon and his wife Cecilia of Orlando, Florida; one brother, Robert Poaletta of Tewksbury, Massachusetts; and four grandchildren: Greg, Marc, Jackie, and Natalie. She was the sister of the late Louise Forsythe and Dorothy Hardy.

It being her request, there will be no visiting hours. A Funeral Mass was held on March 27 at St. Theresa Church in Billerica, with burial in Fox Hill Cemetery, Billerica. Please omit flowers. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 480 Pleasant St, Watertown MA 02472.

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The Andover Players' production of Annie on March 26 and 27 at AE/MS had a huge cast, plus many students, staff, parents, and friends working behind the scenes. Photos: Charlie Darling (left) and Lindsey Allenby



AE/MS students and teachers are trying to enjoy the never-ending snow and cold weather. In this photo, first and second graders get some help building a fort by the bleachers. Pictured are Emma Chadbourne, Vanessa Guptill, Olivia James Bentzler, Hannah Churchill, Mr. Wiley, and Al and Zach Dudek. Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand



AE/MS second graders each researched and presented biographical information about a famous person. In this photo, Wyatt Carleton, disguised as Barnum Brown, explains to Cody Provost and Jeremiah Dashnaw how Barnum discovered the Tyrannosaurus Rex fossils that made him famous. Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

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The AE/MS kindergarten did an author study for Dr. Seuss in March in honor of his birthday. We read lots of favorite Dr. Seuss books including Green Eggs and Ham. Mr. Kidder scrambled up some eggs with green food coloring, added ham, and most of the kids loved it and wanted a second helping. Pictured are Alyssa Wheeler, Jayden Dashnaw, John Pourby, and Mr. Kidder. Photo: Laura Witt

**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)

## Proctor Academy Launches New Endowment Fund

Offers donors a socially-responsible investment option

### Press release

Proctor Academy has long been aware of its impact on the environment and the role it plays in being a responsible member of society. From building environmentally friendly power-generating facilities, to campus-wide recycling programs, to support of diversity and equality, these initiatives, many of which were novel at the time of implementation, are more than good ideas – they reflect practices that are consistent with Proctor’s ethos and Environmental Mission Statement. These guiding principles help make Proctor Academy a special place as it teaches students to support their beliefs with action.

It is in this context that Proctor proudly announces the launch of a second endowment fund to support the school’s mission. The fund offers donors an investment option that adheres

to sustainable, responsible, and impact investing (SRI) principles. Though there is no single commonly-agreed-to definition, SRI investing broadly falls into three categories – environmental, social, and corporate governance.

The goal of Proctor’s SRI endowment fund is to generate attractive long-term financial returns, subject to a moderate level of risk, while striving for a positive impact on society. The fund will seek to achieve its objective by carefully vetting, selecting, and investing with managers offering investment strategies specifically designed to pursue SRI principles.

To demonstrate its commitment to this exciting initiative, Proctor will transfer \$2 million from its existing endowment fund to the SRI endowment fund on April 1. Thereafter, Proctor plans to raise additional SRI endowment funds through the school’s current capital campaign.



Andover Outing Club members enjoyed competing at the Lake Placid Lions Club ski jumping meet in Lake Placid, New York on March 14. Back: Alex Burt, David Reynolds, Matt Reynolds, Henry Johnstone. Front: Aaron Bennett, Kaylee Cooper, Sophia Reynolds, Eli Baers, Lili Baers, Michelle Wiemar, Mychal Reynolds, and Nathaniel Wiemar. Photo: Brian Reynolds

## MVHS Honor Roll, 2014-2015 Semester 1

### Class of 2015 High Honors

- Shannon Haley
- Alyson Mullett
- Fiona White

### Class of 2015 Honors

- Taylor Duquette
- Austin Hawks
- Hannah Munson
- Shelby Perreault
- Meghan Richardson
- Nicholas Terwilliger
- Hannah Veinotte
- Amy Wittel

### Class of 2016 High Honors

- Adrian Bolte

### Class of 2016 Honors

- Alyssa Smith
- Benjamin Yusko

### Class of 2017 Honors

- Brandon Wood

### Class of 2018 High Honors

- Scout Armstrong
- Collin O’Donnell

### Class of 2018 Honors

- Emily Bates
- Aarionne McMahon



### Pi from page 40

they could during their lunch period. Everyone received a Pi pencil!

AE/MS had 61 participants who gave it a shot to try to recite as many digits of Pi as they could. All participants were given a “Pi-e” treat at the end of the school day. The winners received a bag of Pi goodies (Pi tattoos, pencils, and a measuring tape with the digits of Pi. The grand prize winners (Jesse and Wesley) won Pizza Pi from Pizza Chef and a Pi Day T-shirt!

There was a tie among the kinder-

garten through second grade contestants, with Ollie Grotnes and Ben Kelly each memorizing 18 digits of Pi.

The winner for third and fourth grade was Oliver Andrews, who recited 55 digits of Pi.

There was a tie in fifth and sixth grade, with Jesse Niemyer and Wesley Koziol each reciting 68 digits of Pi.

The winner for seventh and eighth grade was Aidan Kellogg, who recited 39 digits of Pi. The grand prize winners, tied at 68 digits, were Jesse Niemyer and Wesley Koziol!

Congratulations to everyone!



## PUBLIC NOTICE

### ANDOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

There will be kindergarten registration for the 2015-2016 School Year on Wednesday, May 13, 2015.

To enter Kindergarten, your child must be five (5) years of age by September 30, 2015. You must bring a birth certificate for your child to verify his/her date of birth AND a current utility bill as proof of residency (driver’s licenses will not be accepted as valid proof). Parents who are not custodial parents need to provide proof of guardianship, or at the very least, a court ordered docket number indicating guardianship is in process.

For your convenience, registration packets and appointment details will be mailed prior to registration day. If you do not receive a packet by April 24, 2015, please call Gail Parenteau, Administrative Assistant at 735-5494.

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Ollie Grotnes, Ben Kelly, Jesse Niemyer, Oliver Andrews, Aidan Kellogg, and Wesley Koziol celebrated Pi Day at AE/MS. Wesley and Jesse are wearing their new "Pi 03.14.15-9:26:53 Once in a Lifetime" shirts.

## AE/MS Celebrates Pi Day of the Century

Did you miss 3/14/15 9:26:53?

Michelle Keezer  
AE/MS math teacher

On Saturday, March 14, 2015 at 9:26 and 53 seconds, both AM and PM, Pi was represented to 10 digits: 3.141592653. This will be the one and

only Pi Day in the next 100 years that will actually reflect the first five numbers (ten if you count the time) in everyone's favorite irrational number, Pi.

Pi Day was celebrated at AE/MS on Monday, March 16, 2015. Students were given the challenge to memorize and then recite as many digits of Pi as possible. See Pi on page 39



The Andover Players' production of *Annie* on March 26 and 27, starring Riley Keezer and Hannah Asbury (above) was a huge hit. Dozens of AE/MS students, staff, parents, and friends worked for months to create a magical evening's entertainment for the community. Photo: Lindsey Allenby



Second grade students Emma Chadbourne, Eric Bates, Harlie Ordway, Sam Upton, Carsyn Perkins, and Mychal Reynolds show the gift that was made for Andover School Board member Don Gould, who retired last year. Signatures from all the students in first through eighth grades surround the photo and make for a nice gift. Among the signatures are get-well wishes and words of appreciation. Don enjoyed the gift in the weeks before he passed away, on March 16. Photo: Charlie Darling

The **Andover Beacon**  
*Our Hometown Newspaper*

AndoverBeacon.com
April 2015
735-6099



The Dance Team from Proctor Academy traveled to Disney World in Florida to attend workshops and to perform. Erin Hanscom of Andover (back row, left) is a member of the team. Photo: Kyle Tremblay

## Proctor Dance Team Performs at Disney Resort

Andover's Erin Hanscom is part of the team.

### Press release

Members of the Proctor Academy Dance Team became stars of their own Disney show on March 12 when they entertained resort guests at Waterside Stage at Downtown Disney. The group traveled over 1,300 miles from Andover to the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida to take part in the Disney Performing Arts Program.

The dance ensemble, under the direction of Kyle Tremblay, put on a stunning show that entertained guests. This was the group's first visit to the resort with the Disney Performing Arts Program.

In addition to their performance, the group participated in the Disney Performing Arts "Disney Dancin'" and "Dance Technique: Jazz" workshops.

Students learned techniques to help maximize their rehearsal time, a Disney production number, found out the tricks of the trade that make for show-stopping performances and deliver a focused performance from a professional Disney dancer.

Vocal, instrumental, and dance ensembles from all around the world apply to perform each year as a part of Disney Performing Arts at both the Disneyland Resort and the Walt Disney World Resort. Once selected, they are given the opportunity to perform at the resort for an international audience of theme park guests. Millions of performers have graced the stages of the Disney Parks in the more than 25-year history of the program.

For more information, visit [DisneyPerformingArts.com](http://DisneyPerformingArts.com) or call 800-603-0552.

