**Andover Lions Club Secretary Virginia Edwards and her husband Al (also a Lions Club member) attended their first Lions Club Mid-Winter Convention on January 29 at the Marriott Courtyard in Nashua. Virginia reports, "Wonderful time, good food, dancing, meetings, excellent music, and a lot of socializing, meeting 125 new Lions Club members from all over New Hampshire. Looking forward to next year, and many more."**

## School Board *from page 29*

MacLean, Christine Barry, Kathleen Boucher, Jane Slayton, and Judith Turk

**Public Present:** Tina Cotton

Board Chair's Report: Michelle said thank you to Mark H. and Dean for their participation in the Public Hearing. She stated that recently she and Judy Turk met with Representative Mario Ratzki per request of the Town Budget Committee. A general overview of Special Education financial responsibilities was discussed.

The Facility Study Task Force will be meeting on February 3. It was mentioned that there has been growing concern regarding a statement that was written in The Andover Beacon regarding the possibility that Andover middle school students could be attending Merrimack Valley Middle School. This has not been discussed at the Andover School Board level.

Both Michelle and Mark M. state that it is one of the options that is being examined by the Task Force, and that the public will be informed if there is to be a formal discussion.

**Old Business**

The 2016 warrant to be presented at the annual School District Meeting on March 1 was approved.

Facilities Task Force: Mark M. stated that the group met with Tibor Farkas, architect, with their list of priorities. Tibor will be presenting them with cost estimates at the February 3 meeting. The priority list will be presented to the School Board and an update/report will be ready for the annual School District Meeting.

**New Business**

**Draft Calendar:** Jane presented a proposed calendar for the upcoming school year. There will be six professional development days, three of which will be held on election days. February and April school vacations will coincide with Merrimack Valley School District. Martin Luther King Day will be a school holiday, changing from previous years. The calendar was approved.

**Policy IJOC:** Chris presented this policy that relates to school volunteers: designation, application and selection, and duties for School Board review. Questions were raised involving confidentiality responsibilities of substitutes, and whether this policy will apply to field trips, interns, student teachers, and chaperones.

**Annual Meeting Preparations:** A work session will be held on February 16 at 6 PM. Moderator Betsy Paine will be included.

**Superintendent's Report:** Mark M. stated that the public hearing went great; it was a testament to the collaboration and communication with the Budget Committee. He mentioned the Task Force meeting to be held on February 3. He discussed the concept of "blizzard bags," which could be utilized when school is closed during inclement weather.

Chris and Mark M. have been attending regional and state meetings, receiving information about the redesigned SATs and the state accountability measures. He will be attending the National Education Conference in Arizona.

He is looking forward to the annual School District Meeting. He is pleased that the transition process is progressing well, with more aggressive communication taking place within SAU 46 between Merrimack Valley and Andover School Districts.

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# *Through the Reading Glasses: April 2016*

**Janet Moore, Library Trustee**

Forests, migrants, parents, and pioneers could refer to the world news. Here, these terms stand for new books, ones sure to catch some part of your attention. Newbery Award winner Linda Sue Park shifts into fantasy with Forest of Wonders, Wing and Claw No. 1, a morality tale full of thoughtful and conscience-bedeviling human-animal communication. On a lighter note, Mylisa Larsen and Babette Cole have written and illustrated a picture book treatise on How to Put Your Parents to Bed. Take care, busy parents, the kids are aiming to take your cell phones, take charge and slip you under the covers-fast!

Tracy Chevalier's latest offering, At the Edge of the Orchard, returns us to the Midwestern pioneer life in pre-Civil War Ohio, a seemingly idyllic life that begins to fracture with changes occurring across the new country. The new country is the topic of two recent books about migration: Neel Mukherjee's A Life Apart, and Sunjeev Sahota's The Year of the Runaways. Both relate the stories of Indians transitioning to life in England, and an uneasy transition it is for them and theirs. We know from the current world news, that topic again, that migrants struggle from the moment they leave home and attempt the journey to a new land, a land once new for all of our ancestors. The topic is always worth exploring.

Ask your librarians to order these books so we may all enjoy their delights!

# Kearsarge Chorale Presents "Dear People" on April 24

**Press release**

The Kearsarge Chorale invites you to our 2016 spring concert : "Dear People," honoring the work of Robert Shaw and Alice Parker. Andover residents Margo Coolidge and Nancy Tripp, as well as Andover business owner Linda Barnes, are participating in the concert.

The concert, at 3 PM on Sunday, April 24, at the Sawyer Center Theater at Colby-Sawyer College, will feature arrangements by Shaw and Parker, including folk songs, shape note songs, hymns, and spirituals. Cantata Number 4 by Johann Sebastian Bach will also be performed.

No tickets are necessary; a $10 donation is requested.

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