

In the lobby at town hall is a video monitor that illustrates how the solar panels mounted on the roof are performing.

See the Town's Solar Panels in Action

Learn how you can save on energy

Larry Chase

Want to watch the new solar array on the Town Offices building roof in action? Then take a look at the new graphical display on the waiting room wall of the Town Offices building. And take home a pamphlet offering step-by-step recommendations for similarly improving the energy efficiency of your own home.

The display includes a screen, supplied by solar array installer ReVision Energy, that shows how the solar panels are performing on a second-to-second basis, as well as their performance over the previous six days, the current month, and the lifetime of the system. Plus, it calculates two measures of the system's environmental benefit: the carbon dioxide emissions avoided by not using fossil fuels, and the equivalent carbon dioxide absorption, or sequestration, created by planting trees.

Accompanying the screen is a poster board which provides information about the process by which the system converts solar energy into alternating

electrical current and how the installation was financed. It also gives two additional environmental measures of the array's advantage: every year the system avoids the environmental impact of burning 11,402 pounds of coal, or the driving of 25,543 miles in a sedan.

As noted in previous Beacon articles, the solar installation was the final step in last year's effort, guided by the Andover Energy Group and approved at Town Meeting, to minimize the Town Offices' energy consumption and costs. That overall effort provides the basis for a free, four-page handout accompanying the solar-panel display. The handout offers more detail about the Town Offices' energy improvements, and explains how homeowners can take similar steps to save significantly on their energy bills. In addition to describing solar systems, it contains sections on how to "Conduct an energy audit," "Weatherize: insulate and seal," "Save electricity through appliance replacement and lighting upgrades" and "Upgrading heating and cooling."

If you'd like an electronic copy of the handout, please send an email to Larry Chase at lbchase@aol.com.



A sign of the times—As a small group of local residents continued work to re-purpose Andover's old town hall (aka The Andover Hub) as a community center, they received this gift from former selectman Jim Danforth. Pat Cutter, a member of the group, serves as the temporary signholder.

Lakes Region Children's Auction is Best Ever Raising \$530,000

Press release

The Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction had its most successful year yet with \$539,153 raised to benefit the children and families of the greater Lakes Region area. Distribution of the funds to area charitable organizations began on December 15 at the Belknap Mill in Laconia.

The annual event has raised over

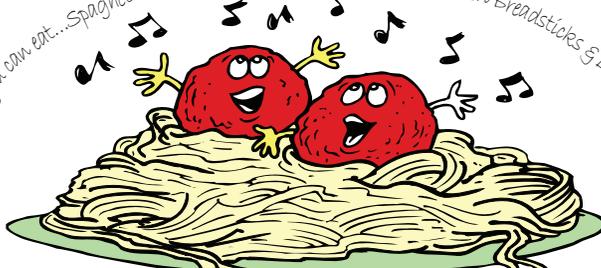
five million dollars since the first Auction took place in 1982! Organizations who provide basic needs to area children such as food, clothing, shelter, etc. receive funds right away. Other organizations will receive their portions later on.

For more information on the auction, visit: www.childrensauction.com.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

All you can eat... Spaghetti, Meatballs, Salad, Beverage, Olive Garden Breadsticks & Dessert!



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\$8 adults, \$3 children 6-12, under 6, free!

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