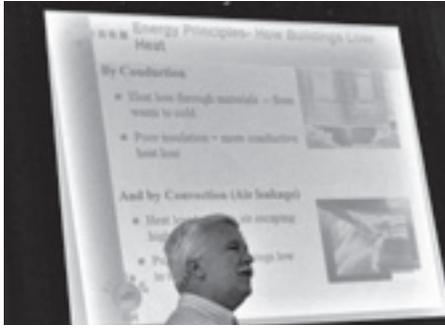


## Andover, Neighboring Towns Partner in Home Energy Efficiency Project

### Press release

Volunteers in six New Hampshire towns will launch a third round of “Weatherize Upper Valley” in 2019 to encourage more homeowners to invest



**Bob Eldredge of ABC Energy Savings of Concord, one of three Weatherize Kearsarge approved contractors, delivering a “Button-Up” talk in Andover in 2015. The other two participating contractors are Bob Castner of Quality Insulation of Meredith, and Ted Stiles of Yankee Thermal Imaging of Rochester.**

in energy-efficiency projects. Andover, Newbury, New London, Sutton, Warner, and Wilmot are participating in the three-month program which begins in March. The volunteers will be guided in their efforts by Vital Communities, a nonprofit organization based in White River Junction, Vt., that in two previous rounds has helped more than 200 Upper Valley homeowners markedly improve the energy efficiency and comfort of their living quarters.

Andover’s participation in the project will be coordinated by members of the Andover Energy Group (AEG), a voluntary organization focusing on alternative energy sources and energy efficiency. In 2014, the AEG worked with Vital Communities to bring a “Solarize Kearsarge” campaign to Andover, a project that resulted in over two dozen installations of solar-electric (or photovoltaic) systems on local residences.

Under the “Weatherize Kearsarge” banner, the six towns will host a public kick-off event on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2019 (snow date Saturday, Feb. 2), to introduce the project to the six-town community. Open to the public at no charge, the event will begin at 2 PM in a New London location yet to be determined as the Beacon went to press. Check the Beacon website at [andoverbeacon.com](http://andoverbeacon.com) for updated information.

Interested residents are encouraged to attend the kickoff to learn more about home energy efficiency and the Weatherize process, meet their community’s

certified weatherization contractors, and talk with neighbors who have already completed home energy efficiency projects.

What is weatherization? Put simply, it’s the process of modifying a building to reduce energy consumption and cost, optimize energy efficiency, and increase the comfort of its occupants.

Weatherize teams up community volunteers with certified weatherization contractors to provide professional home energy audits, proposals, and quotes. Kearsarge-area residents can request their \$100 energy audit from Weatherize partner contractors any time before March 31. Homeowners who sign weatherization contracts by May 31 will be entered into drawings for cash prizes up to \$500 toward the cost of their energy improvements. Details about the program will be offered in a number of public events, newspaper articles and mailings now being developed. Watch future issues of the Beacon for details.

“It can typically cost homeowners \$400 or more just to get a project proposal and quote from a qualified contractor. Providing reduced-cost energy audits is a significant way to help more homeowners explore the idea of energy improvements,” said Sarah Brock, energy program manager at Vital Communities, who worked with a variety of stakeholders to develop the Weatherize Upper Valley concept.

“Energy efficiency projects—focused on air sealing and insulation—are the best-kept secret in home improvement,” Brock added. “The average cost for these projects in our region ranges between \$6,000 and \$8,000, resulting in average energy savings upwards of 20 percent each year. The benefit of increased comfort, combined with generous rebates for eligible homes, makes energy upgrades an easy decision for many homeowners. We just need to help them take the first step. Weatherize does just that, with a goal of doubling the number of home energy projects completed in the participating towns each year.”

This round of Weatherize builds upon successful campaigns in 2017 and 2018. More information can be found at [VitalCommunities.org/Weatherize](http://VitalCommunities.org/Weatherize).

### Planning from page 1

6. All of us have a vested interest in properly and thoughtfully moving the town forward.

Public hearings will be held on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 and Tuesday, January 8, 2019.

Open discussions and idea exchanges will begin at 8 PM.

The Planning Board will guide the meetings with maps.

The Planning Board welcomes your participation and attendance. We anticipate good ideas coming forward from residents, business owners, the Proctor community, town boards, committees and commissions. Thank you for your thoughts and ideas.

## December Health Clinics Offered by Franklin VNA/Hospice

### Press release

Franklin VNA and Hospice will be holding health clinics as follows:

Foot Care Clinics will be offered at the Franklin Office on Wednesday December 5, 19, and 26. Call for appointment.

A Blood Pressure Clinic will be held on December 6 at the Salisbury Senior Center from 11:15 AM to Noon.

For more information or to make an appointment call (603) 934-3454. Franklin VNA and Hospice is located at 75 Chestnut Street in Franklin.

## Andover Community Church News for December

### Sandra Miller Andover Community Church

On Saturday, December 15, the Church will hold its annual Christmas Fair and Bake Sale from 9 AM to 2 PM at the Grange Hall in E. Andover. We hope to see many of you there.

The next “Second Saturdays for Guys” (men’s breakfast) will be on Saturday, December 8. It begins at 8 AM in the Grange Hall and is open to all men at no charge for the delicious meal. It is followed by an inspiring guest speaker. We would love to have new men join us.

The Church filled almost 70 shoe boxes for “Operation Christmas Child.” They will be sent to needy children all over the world through the “Samaritan’s Purse” ministry.

The Church will again be Christmas caroling on Sunday afternoon, either on December 16 or 23. There will be a

Christmas Eve service on December 24 at 7 PM at the Church. Please join us at this Candlelight Service filled with Christmas carols and worship as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

You are always welcome at the Andover Community Church. Feel free to call the Church office (603) 735-5160 to speak with Pastor John Wagner for more information on what’s going on at the Church or if you need help in any way. Our Church service and Sunday School begin at 9:30 AM every Sunday.

May you truly be blessed this Christmas season and may the New Year be filled with joy and happiness!

Thought for the day: Decisions can take you out of God’s will, but never out of His reach. (Read 2Timothy 2:13)

The Andover Historical Society invites you to...

### A Holiday Gathering at the Museum

4:00-6:30pm - Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

At our Store/Post Office building opposite the Potter Place Rail Station.



- Free refreshments and cookies!
- Enjoy music and good company!
- Shop in a cosy historical setting!
- Books, calendars, toys and other gifts available!

[www.andoverhistory.org](http://www.andoverhistory.org)

May the holiday season bring you peace and joy.

Happy Holidays

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