

The **Andover Beacon**
Our Hometown Newspaper

AndoverBeacon.com February 2022 603 735-6099

Online Raffle Supports the Hub, Helps Liven Up the Dead of Winter

Three prizes include a seasoned cord, delivered

Larry Chase
Andover Community Hub

The Andover Community Hub is launching three internet-based raffles to bring some life to the dead of New Hampshire winter for the participants,



Chris Caron of Andover donated a cord of seasoned firewood for the Hub's online raffle. Photo: Larry Chase

bring some support to the Hub itself, and acknowledge the generosity of the raffle-item donors.

Raffle tickets are \$10 each or three for \$20. They can be purchased via your cell phone or home computer using the simple instructions below.

But first, here are the items:

- One cord of seasoned firewood, valued at \$350, delivered within the local area, and contributed by Andover's Chris Caron
- Two heavy-duty snow tubes, large enough for adults as well as children, perfect for easy downhill coasting, valued at around \$100, contributed by a

Hub committee member

- A collection of locally-produced gift items, valued at about \$350, contributed by a variety of local businesses and individuals.

Here's how you can participate:

1. Use your cell phone to scan the QR code shown here or visit Andover-CommunityHub.BetterWorld.org.

2. Click on the raffle item(s) for which you would like to purchase tickets.

3. Select how many tickets you would like to purchase, and enter your payment and contact information. A receipt of the transaction will be sent to your email address.

Enter to win one or all three raffles if you choose! Ticket sales will close on Friday, February 11, at 8 AM.

The winners will be randomly drawn on Friday, February 11, and emailed to arrange for delivery or pickup.

The raffle will be overseen by the Development Committee and Programming and Events Committee of the Hub using software supplied by BetterWorld, a non-profit supplier of fundraising tools to other nonprofits.



Scan this QR code before Friday, February 11 to enter the Hub's raffle.

Planning Board Holds Hearings on Conservation Subdivision Rules

Full wording will be available soon

Ken Wells, Andover Planning Board

The Andover Planning Board has continued its work on drafting a new Conservation Subdivision ordinance. A Conservation Subdivision is an alter-

native form of residential development where, instead of subdividing a parent tract into lots of conventional size (i.e. two acres), a similar number of dwelling units are arranged on lots or home-stand sites of reduced dimensions, with the remaining area of the parent tract

See Subdivision on page 2



The American Legion Crosby/Gilbert Post 101 of Andover provided annual Christmas Food Boxes for veterans in need within the area. Each box contained food items for a complete dinner. Legion members are: Lloyd Perreault, Ron Evans, and Don Clendenen. Thanks to Judy Perreault, who assisted in shopping and decorating the boxes. Also, thanks to Christine Frost of AE/MS, who arranged for delivery of the boxes.

Caption: Lloyd Perreault. Photo: Christine Frost

Proposed School Budget Increase Considers Impact on Taxpayers

Reduced state funding presents challenges

Aimee Menard
Chair, Andover School Board

The Andover School Board and the administration at SAU 46 have been collaborating to craft a budget to bring forward that effectively meets the needs of Andover students while being mindful of the impact on the taxpayer's wallet.

The 2022-2023 proposed budget is \$6,333,987. This is an increase of \$121,580, or 1.96% from the 2021-2022 total approved budget of \$6,212,407. Determining this proposed number did not come without challenges. This ar-

ticle will help to overview those challenges.

Challenging cost drivers in personnel expenses, tuition, and transportation headlined much of the conversation.

Each year in the fall, the district receives the annual "not to exceed" percentage from our health care provider. This percentage is based on the previous year's program usage. We have seen percentages anywhere from 3.7% to 10% in previous years; however, this year we were provided our highest increase at 12.2%.

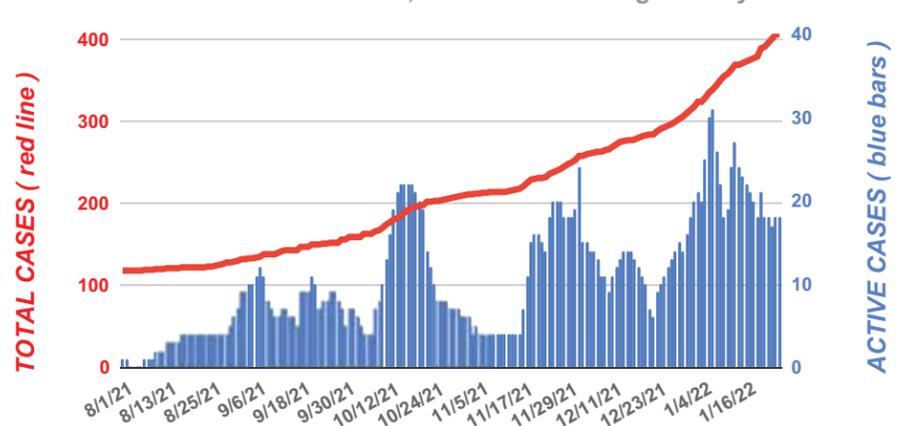
Throughout the budget, you will see this percentage budgeted in each of the function's health and dental benefits

See School Budget on page 2

COVID-19 Cases in Andover

August 1 through January 25

Total cases since 2020 in red; active cases on a given day in blue.



A post-holiday surge has driven total Andover COVID cases over 400 (about 17% of our population) as of late January, with a new record high of 31 daily cases on January 7. Recent state figures say about 62% of Andover residents have received at least one dose of vaccine. See article on page 2 for information about free COVID tests available locally.

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Free COVID PCR Test Kits Available to Public at AE/MS

Free antigen tests available at COVIDtests.gov

Beacon staff

Free at-home PCR test kits to detect COVID-19 infections are now available to the community. AE/MS is a community distribution point for these test kits, offered by Vault Medical Services (VMS). Tests are available while supplies last. Samples must be sent back to VMS; results will be returned via email or phone within 48 hours.

Call AE/MS School Nurse Christine

Frost at 603 735-5500, Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM, to arrange to pick up tests for your household.

Self-Tests for COVID

In addition, each US household can now receive by mail four free COVID-19 at-home tests. These tests are rapid antigen or "self" tests, which can be taken anywhere and give results within 30 minutes.

Visit COVIDtests.gov to order four free antigen tests to be mailed to your household.

School Budget from page 1

lines. Overall, this is an increase of \$51,082.

Also included in this proposed budget are the voter-approved Collective Bargaining Agreements with the AE/MS unions. Year Two of the Andover Education Association contract is \$45,231, and Year Three of the Andover Education Support Staff contract is \$10,815.

AE/MS has another large eighth grade class that will be moving on to the Merrimack Valley High School. We do expect some of the students will attend high school elsewhere, but this budget plans for 87 students at \$14,000 each to attend high school in Penacook.

The Transportation section of the budget will see an increase in both regular and special transportation costs. In 2022-2023, the district will be in year three of the five-year contract for student transportation with First Student. This contract increases annually. The increase in special education transportation costs is based on the need as we know it now.

As we move (hopefully!) toward the end of this pandemic, the district is seeing increased need to provide critical instruction in regard to health education. Good nutritional, physical, emotional, and mental health are crucial to our student body. This budget proposes

bringing the Physical Education teacher from 80% (four days a week) to 100%. This extra day will allow this teacher to work at each grade level to talk about and to reach new, exciting, and motivating healthy goals.

Understanding and appreciating our responsibility to the taxpayers, I'd like to point out these increases combined are greater than the actual increase to the proposed budget. Through thoughtful conversations, this budget takes advantage of incoming grant funds, the interest payment for debt service lowering annually, and savings that we expect to see from snow removal now being handled by our AE/MS facilities crew.

We continue to see less and less school funding aid from the State, but we remain committed to bringing forward a lean, reasonable, and fair budget to the taxpayers of Andover.

The Andover School Board is proposing a separate warrant article for \$40,000 to be drawn from the 2021-2022 unassigned fund balance to be transferred to the Building Maintenance Expendable Trust. Andover voters have approved two previous transfers of \$30,000 each to be set aside in the trust for eventual replacement of the AE/MS boiler. These additional funds in the trust will position the district to be proactive instead of reactive should the need for replacement of the boiler be imminent.



WHAT'S UP @ THE HUB!?

157 Main St. Andover, NH

FEBRUARY PROGRAMS

Bone Builders: Strength & balance for seniors, Mondays & Thursdays, 9-10 am

Coffee, Conversation and Card-playing: Mondays & Thursdays, 10-11 am

AARP Tax-Preparation Help: Wednesdays by appointment. Call 802-332-5065

Sound Meditation: Drop in, alternate Mondays (Feb. 7 & 11), 6:30-7:30 pm \$15

Yoga: Fridays, 8:30-9:30 am. Drop-in, \$10/session. Taught by Maris Wofsy.

Ballroom Dance: 10 weeks beginning Fri. Feb. 11, 7-8 pm. Drop-in, \$10/class.

Quilting 101: Sat., Feb 12, 9 am-1 pm. Call 603-491-0826 to register & for details.

Senior Health Clinic: Tues. Feb. 15. Call the VNA, 224-4093, ext. 5815, for appt.

Andover Garden Club: "Seed Starting." Thur. Feb. 17, 6-8 pm. RSVP required.

German Conversation: Feb. 28, 5-6 pm. For more info: Gisela Darling, 735-5681.

For more information, contact
TheAndoverHub@gmail.com or 603-735-5509

THE HUB'S WINTER RAFFLES!

Thank you
to our local donors!

Chris Caron,
Hub Committee Members,
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Visit the raffle website by scanning the QR code or by going to:
<https://andovercommunityhub.betterworld.org>

RAFFLES END FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11 @ 8AM | FUNDS BENEFIT THE ANDOVER COMMUNITY HUB

Subdivision from page 1

permanently protected as designated open space.

Two public hearings were scheduled, on January 4 and January 18. Copies of the current draft ordinance were distributed to attendees. Public input and ideas were encouraged.

The first meeting was especially well attended, with a variety of stakeholders and professionals present, as well as a nearby town's Planning Board and Conservation Commission representative who wanted to learn more about Andover's innovative approach to Conservation Subdivisions.

Andover citizens shared their hopes and concerns with the Planning Board, asked questions, and got more informa-

tion about how this proposed new option for subdivision might help shape Andover's future in positive ways.

A lively discussion of the proposed pros and cons ensued, and some suggestions were made to further improve the details within the ordinance. By the end of the first meeting, all agreed that the concept of Conservation Subdivision is on target to help Andover achieve the vision of the 2011 Master Plan: to control the town's infrastructure costs while protecting Andover's natural beauty, charm, and character as a small New England town.

At the January 18 meeting the Planning Board collected even more valuable feedback from citizens, further sharpening the new ordinance's details to better protect what we all cherish in Andover, yet allow for sensible development in the future. The new ordinance will not replace the current subdivision ordinance, but create an aesthetically and economically attractive alternative to the existing ordinance.

The proposed Conservation Subdivision ordinance will be available at the Town Hall, on the Town of Andover website, and on *The Andover Beacon* website. Andover citizens will have an opportunity to vote on accepting the new ordinance at the polls on Town Meeting Day, Tuesday, March 8.



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Thank You, Volunteers!



The Andover Community Hub has received grant funding to help with roof repairs on its home, the former 1879 Town Hall. Photo: Ty Morris



Dave Murray of the Murray Farm Greenhouse in Penacook will give a seed starting workshop at the Andover Community Hub in February.

One Foundation Supports Two Andover Nonprofit Roofs

Grants given to repair Hub and AHS roofs

Larry Chase
Andover Community Hub

Two of Andover's iconic historical structures are among the 40 recent recipients of historic-preservation and land-conservation matching grants from the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP), according to an announcement made in December 2021.

The Andover Community Hub will

legislative mandate is to ensure the perpetual contribution of natural, cultural, and historic resources to the economy, environment, and quality of life in New Hampshire. LCHIP does this by providing matching grants to New Hampshire municipalities and non-profits to conserve and preserve the state's most important natural, cultural, and historic resources.

From the Hub's Grant Application

Andover's wood-framed 1879 town hall has significance for its association with local government and for its vernacular Italianate architecture which is relatively rare in New Hampshire. As the town's first singular-use town hall, the building played an important role between 1879 and 1963 when it housed town offices, town meetings, and, after 1934, a gymnasium for the nearby high school.

Its location and setting in Andover Village remain unchanged, the building's design is intact, and the granite capstones, gable window (with its distinctive pedimented hood),

and original 1879 date board with the upside-down "2" remain. It is now a community center known as The Andover Community Hub.

Work to be done: The current asphalt shingle roof on Andover's old town hall is in poor shape, has had one significant leak since its purchase in 2016, and pieces of shingle are routinely found in the parking lot by board members working at the building.

Replacing the roof soon is essential to maintaining the structural integrity of the entire building, and particularly to avoid initial damage to the second floor which is currently unfinished and unused but newly insulated and has great potential for future use.

The existing layer of damaged shingles will be removed, the roof deck

See Roofs on page 4



The Andover Historical Society has also received grant funding to help repair the slate roof on the Potter Place Railroad Station.

Photo: Larry Chase

receive a grant of \$16,395, contingent on raising a similar amount from other sources, to fund a replacement of the roof of the former town hall in Andover Village, now owned by the Hub. The Andover Historical Society will receive a grant of \$15,000, contingent on raising \$16,000 from other sources, to replace the roof of the Potter Place Railroad Station, now in the Historical Society's possession.

Andover is one of only two towns in the state to receive two LCHIP grants in 2021. The other is neighboring Wilmot to support restoration of the Wilmot Town Hall and the North Wilmot Union Meetinghouse.

The New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program is an independent state authority created by the legislature in 2000. LCHIP's

Andover Garden Club Hosts a Seed Starting Program

Press release

A seed starting presentation, given by Dave Murray of Murray Farm Greenhouse in Penacook, will be offered at the Andover Community Hub on Thursday, February 17, from 6 to 8 PM.

Dave Murray has been gardening for more than 50 years at his greenhouse in Penacook, working with family including his parents, grandfather, aunts, brothers, sisters, cousins, nieces, children and grandchildren, neighbors, friends, and an armload of employees that substitute for family! Join Dave for an evening of laughs, entertainment, and information and discover that the world of gardening never stops growing.

In addition to his professional exper-

tise, Dave brings his wit, charm, and humor to the conversation. He will also be offering \$20 gift coupons to Murray's to all who attend, so bring a friend.

Seating is limited to 30, so be sure to reserve early. COVID prevention protocols will be in place with masks and social distancing. Presentation is free; however, please help us to defray costs by making a donation and by purchasing a raffle ticket at the door. Winner must be present to win.

Email AndoverNHGardenClub@gmail.com for reservations. The Andover NH Garden Club is a program of the Andover Community Hub and membership is free and open to all.

The Andover Community Hub is located at 157 Main Street.



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Andover Real Estate Transactions for January 2022

Buyer demand is pushing the market

Ty Morris, Coldwell Banker Lifestyles

Two December home sales closed out the 2021 selling season:

Geraldine Hutson sold her home at 126 Main Street to Anthony and Theresa Murphy for \$279,000. This three bedroom and two bathroom cape with a detached garage sits on .81 acres and has 1,682 square feet of living space. Ty Morris of Coldwell Banker Lifestyles represented both sides of the transaction.

Christopher Young sold 18 Gale Road to Kathryn Kraysler and Donald Roine for \$353,500. This three bedroom and two bathroom cape circa 1850 sits on 3.47 acres and has 1,750 square feet of living space. John Kinney of Coldwell Banker Lifestyles represented the seller and Aaron Harman of BHHS Verani represented the buyers.

After a holiday lull, buyers are back on the hunt amidst rising COVID concerns.

Our market crystal ball has become a little clearer as we enter familiar territory. A year ago marked a milestone in buyer demand as cars filled with eager buyers lined our country roads waiting for their turn to visit an open house.

Multiple-offer scenarios had agents scratching their heads over how they could make their clients' offer the most

competitive. A big factor for this activity, as I reported before, was the concerning climate of the pandemic combined with inventory in short supply.

Well, here we are again. Amidst rising numbers of active COVID cases, hospitals being overrun, and cities beginning the discussion of more shutdowns, buyer demand is, again, pushing the market. There are some differences we hope will curb the pendulum: interest rates and rising supply.

Talk of the federal interest rates beginning a systematic hike implies there will be an effect on mortgage rates (although the two are not directly related). This is generating an immediate sense of urgency, further fueling buyer demand.

However, it should taper in the future as the numbers shift. Furthermore, with the public continuing to be free of mandates and many being vaccinated, some homeowners are feeling more comfortable with folks in their home.

For sellers, there is no need to wait until the spring market. It is already here! For buyers, it may be hard to believe, but with interest rates forecasted to rise and demand continuing to be high, the best time to buy continues to be "Now!"

Andover Home Sales in 2021

Total Home Sales: 38 (down 2% from 2020)

Average Sale Price: \$378,630 (up 36%

from 2020)

Median Days on Market: 6 (down from 11 in 2020)

List Price to Sale Price Ratio: 104.4% (up from 98% in 2020)

These statistics for single family homes sold in Andover in 2021 come from NEREN.com. For more local real estate information, call Ty Morris at 603 237-2060.



Roofs from page 3

inspected and replaced as needed, underlayment installed, new similar asphalt shingles, drip edges, and roof vent installed, all flashing inspected and replaced as needed, rake trees repaired, and damaged gable trim wrapped for protection. The roof of the attached historic outhouse will also be replaced, as will the roof of the more recent small addition on the building's east side.

From the AHS Grant Application

The Potter Place Railroad Station may be unique in having survived almost unchanged since its construction in 1874. It is cited in Bryant and Carolyn Tolles' *New Hampshire Architecture* as "perhaps the state's finest nineteenth century wooden railroad station."

The exterior and main level rooms appear virtually as they did in the late nineteenth century with minor changes. The station has been owned by the Andover Historical Society and operated as a museum since 1983. The station is in its original location and is the dominant struc-

ture of the small railroad community.

Although no longer a bustling center, Potter Place has escaped modern infill and intrusions, and retains a charming nineteenth century atmosphere.

Work to be done: Broken and loose roof slates will be fixed or replaced with Vermont slate and any underlying problems will be repaired. Copper will be used as flashing on dormers and the hips, which is supported by existing copper flashing on the dormers, and copper gutters will be replaced on the two sides where support rods still exist.

Shoulder-high drain pipes still stand at three corners, but their condition and destination are unknown. Most of the drainage work will be done by volunteers.

This work is an important component in an ongoing program of restoration. In 2020, an in-house crew removed the rotting semaphore, which is being repaired and will be re-erected in 2022. Repairing the roof and replacing the gutters precedes repairing or replacing the platform that has been damaged by water.



LOCAL BEACON SUPPORTERS WIN!

Each month the Beacon holds a random drawing for Andover residents who have donated to the Beacon in the past calendar year. This month's winners are:

Andover Pizza Chef	Large 2-Topping Pizza	Laurie Zimmerman
Naughty Nellie's Ice Cream	Gift Certificate	Ann and Rudolph Schultz
JJ's Market & Deli	Gift Certificate	Katherine and Joe Stearns
Keyser's Garage	Gift Certificate	Barbara Freeman
Mary Kay - Laura Condon	Gift Certificate	Bill and Linda Hoffman
The Refinery Restaurant	Gift Certificate	Susan and Leon Nelson
Drake's Place Eatery and Market	Gift Certificate	Nan Davis
Blackwater Junction Restaurant	Gift Certificate	Richard Mandrey

WINNERS! Call volunteer Margo Coolidge at 603 735-5418 to collect your prize.
Prizes not redeemable for cash. Prizes not claimed in 90 days go back into the prize pool.

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The next issue should be in mailboxes on Friday, February 25. Please get all ads, articles, and letters to us by Tuesday, February 15 at the latest. And earlier is always better!

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The mission of *The Andover Beacon* is to serve and strengthen the Andover community. To that end, we welcome (by the 15th!) 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.

You'll find a much longer discussion of what we consider civil and reasoned, and why, at AndoverBeacon.com/Letters. Please read it carefully before you write!



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LETTERS

AE/MS is an Excellent School

How is AE/MS doing? Objective data says quite well.

Niche ranks AE/MS 64th among the state's 545 elementary/middle schools. The school and the town can proudly point to the ratio of one teacher to every 10 students. The NEA ranks New Hampshire second in the nation in teacher-student ratio and last in funding.

The school has a professional staff – 11 teachers, all certified and professionally educated, holding appropriate degrees, and many with extensive post baccalaureate education and multiple certificates.

Supporting classroom teachers are:

- seven classroom assistants,
- two special education specialists,
- two special education case managers,
- two academic intervention specialists,
- two curriculum leaders, and
- a school nurse and school counselor.

The school's motto, "Soaring to be the BEST we can be!" captures the school's dedication to excellence. That is also found in its mission statement and the Eagle Pledge (Always be re-

Annex extend the school day, and basketball teams compete into the evening.

AE/MS today is the historic successor of a public education tradition in America, going back to Horace Mann, the first great American advocate of public education. He believed that, in a democratic society, education should be free.

Andover took part in that tradition from its earliest days. The Tucker Mountain School (1837 to 1893) attests to the town's support for public education.

I am proud to support AE/MS for the excellent education it provides for all of the town's students.

Kent Hackmann
Andover

Avoiding Unnecessary Tragedy

In the Holidays 2021 issue of *The Andover Beacon*, State Representative Louise Andrus expressed her opinions about masks being a matter of choice. About vaccines she wrote "it's sad and disgusting what we are doing to people in that they are losing their jobs," and ends her article by hoping that 2022 will be a better year for all of us.

What I believe is sad is that treating masks as a matter of choice is acting like it's a fashion item rather than something that protects you and those around you.

What I also feel is sad is that 2021, health wise, could have been a better year if more people had been vaccinated.

But what I truly believe is sad is that the opinions of Representative Andrus, which I feel are misguided, could lead to, inadvertently, more unnecessary tragedy in 2022.

Ron Charles
St. Louis, Missouri
a *Beacon* subscriber



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!

spectful, Everyone respected, Make good choices, and Safety first, last, and always). The Eagle Pledge follows the daily Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

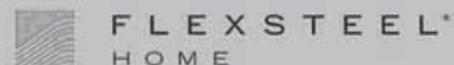
And there is more. The students hold poetry readings, concerts, commemorations (Veterans Day has been one of my favorites), grandparent Thanksgiving dinners, and dramatic productions. After-school clubs and enrichment in the

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OPINION

Louise Andrus' View from Concord, January 2022

Louise Andrus, State Representative
Happy February! Maple Syrup season is just a few weeks away, and then comes spring!

The House had the first sessions of 2022 on January 5 and 6 at the Double-tree in Manchester. There was much debating and voting on bills. I am going to dedicate most of this article to several bills and the reasons for my votes.

Redistricting: I know many people on both sides spent weeks and weeks working on redistricting and held meetings all over the State. I thank each and every one of them for all the hard work spent on these issues, but that does not mean I had to agree with their end results.

I voted against the redistricting bills presented by both the "majority" and "minority". The bills passed and headed for the Senate without my voting "yea." There were, in my opinion, too many changes all over the State of New Hampshire. Please remember there is a saying something like when two people always agree one of them is not necessary. This pertains to politics also.

HB 607: As originally introduced, "Establishing local education savings accounts for students." I voted "yea" to table the bill. Let me be clear that I am 100% for School Choice, but not at the expense of the taxpayers. HB 607 would cost the taxpayers additional monies, and I would not agree to that.

Second, I live in a cooperative school district of five towns, and if one of the larger towns decided they wanted to vote in establishing local education savings accounts in our school district, the small town of Salisbury could not stop it. I believe each individual town should have to vote whether to implement something of this nature.

Lastly, according to the bill, the school district would still receive monies for the student even though that student is going to school elsewhere. If this bill is revised and would cost absolutely

nothing to the taxpayers, and each individual town would vote on the implementation or not, I could then consider supporting the bill.

HB 549: Relative to the energy efficiency resource standard and the system benefits charge. Passed unanimously 343-0. We want to protect the rate payers of the State.

HB 103: Establishing a dental benefit under the state Medicaid program. I voted "nay." There were no financial figures given as to estimated cost to the taxpayers of New Hampshire, plus I believe it would be another increased tax on the people of New Hampshire.

How many people in New Hampshire do not have dental insurance and cannot really afford to go to the dentist? I believe taxpayers would be forced to pay for something they cannot afford for their families.

HB 275: Voted "yea" on TOP/A, relative to the governor's power to initiate a state of emergency and various emergency powers.

These are only a handful of the bills that were debated and voted on in the two-day session.

Our committees returned to work in January. I encourage everyone from District 1 – Andover, Danbury, and Salisbury – to all across the State of New Hampshire, to go to the New Hampshire General Court and read the calendar each week and become involved in your government, from signing in to testifying bills in committees, and speak out. It is important for each of you to stand up for issues that matter, as this is your State.

Annual school meetings and town meetings will be coming up. Get involved and become a candidate for an office. I will be running for school board from the town of Salisbury in the Merrimack Valley School District.

I can be contacted at: 603 648-2510 or l.a.andrus21@gmail.com.



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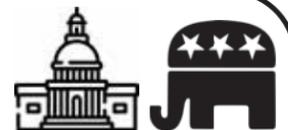
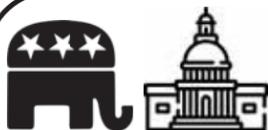
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NH REPUBLICAN HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE for Andover, Danbury, Salisbury

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Andover Police Department November 2021

The Andover Police Department handled 133 calls for service during November 2021, including:

- Abandoned Vehicle: 3
- Animal Wild: 1
- Assist Citizen: 4
- Assist Social Service Agencies: 3
- Disorderly Conduct: 2
- Dog Loose: 2
- Domestic Dispute: 1
- Driving While Intoxicated: 1
- Drunk: 1
- Stalking: 1

- Suspicious Circumstances: 3
- Theft: 1
- Traffic Offense, Citation: 3
- Traffic Offense, Warning: 9
- Warrant: 1

Arrests

- Nicholas Brown, 25, Manchester: Harassment; Criminal Threatening
- Donna Heafey, 56, Wilmot: Driving Under the Influence of Drugs or Alcohol
- Jessica Gaudette, 38, Franklin: Civil Capias

Andover Police Department December 2021

The Andover Police Department handled 185 calls for service during December 2021.

- 911 Hang Up: 1
- Assist Ambulance/Rescue: 4
- Assist Citizen: 8
- Assist Fire: 5
- Assist Motorist: 5
- Dog Loose: 3
- Road Hazard/Obstruction: 7
- Selective Enforcement Request: 1
- Sexual Assault: 1
- Suspicious Circumstances: 4

- Traffic Accident: 4
- Traffic Offense, Warning: 18
- Traffic Offense, Citation: 1
- Vehicle Off the Road: 1
- Warrant: 4
- Welfare Check: 1

Arrests

- Maria-Elena Cecere, 48, Andover: Simple Assault
- Mary Charles, 41, Andover: Criminal Mischief, Simple Assault
- Brian Neuberger, 34, Andover: Warrants

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OPINION

Natalie Wells'

View from Concord, January 2022

Natalie Wells, State Representative

It is a wonderful feeling when 400 state representatives can come together and for the most part agree on bills. Of course, most of the time, the number is usually around 375.

One of these bills was HB579 (Y-254, N-85). "Requiring Notice to the Public Before Immigration checkpoints are conducted". I voted yes, as this bill requires "the chief law enforcement officer to inform local media when he or she is informed by Border Patrol of an immigration checkpoint." It will require notice of immigration checkpoints in New Hampshire, under Constitution: Part I, Article 19.

Many bills were "tabled" which means they can be taken off the "table" and may be brought back during the remainder of this Session with Amendments. One such bill is HB153 "establishing a committee to study universal internet access for New Hampshire". As we are all for internet access in New Hampshire, as Representative Vose pointed out, broadband has been studied for the last 15 years. It is a well understood issue, and the Federal Government is putting large dollars into this program. Therefore, I voted with the majority to table this unnecessary bill.

A controversial bill HB607: "Establishing a Local Education Freedom Account". This also was laid on the table. For those who want to argue against it, here are some facts:

1) Voters of a school district (60% required) would get to decide. At the same time if the town down the line decides they no longer want this program, the town can remove it with a 60% vote.

2) All it did was enable towns to put this on the Ballot with 25 signatures, no other requirements.

3) It was not touching Federal, State, or local special education funds or IEP's and services within a District.

Most families like their public schools and believe that their school does a good job educating their children. Most families want their children to attend school with their neighbors. To be clear from the sponsor of the

Town Matters!

The Beacon needs help with reporting about town news. 603 735-6099

bill, Rep Verville, had actual statistics: 91.3% of students in New Hampshire attend public school. Non-public, charter, and public academies make up the other percentage.

But Education Freedom Accounts (EFAs) make up less than 1%, (1,600 students to be clear). In my opinion, all the fear and fluff that goes to stop EFAs, which help parents choose for their child what is the best fit, is surely exaggerated. I also want to be clear that I am talking about the state of New Hampshire education, not a particular district.

HB50 Redistricting: This Committee unanimously agreed to make districts for 400 state representatives to maintain the New Hampshire constitutional requirements. The plan meets both the Federal and State constitutional requirements. In CD2 District (our district), there was only a discrepancy of 88 to 89 people out of 1.4 million people. Whether direct or indirect, it is always the legislators who are assigned to a district, not the voter.

This bill now moves on to the Senate and then the Governor for further scrutiny. It does mean that my present district (Andover, Danbury, Salisbury, Warner, and Webster) will now become Warner, Bradford, and Henniker.

To end on a positive note: As a supporter of small business and businesses in New Hampshire, statistics just released show that lowering the Business Profit Tax (BPT) under the Republican legislation, yielded higher than expected revenues. This result helps keep employment in New Hampshire going. It proves it is not only affordable, but justified.

Just as important, it did not reduce tax revenues as some predicted since 2012. During these inflationary times, the Republican legislation realized that by reducing BPT and BET (Business Enterprise Tax), the whole state of New Hampshire will continue to grow.

I know it's easier to just click and buy an item on the computer, but supporting local businesses is what keeps our communities afloat. I know for Christmas, I had fun going to local merchants and finding unique gifts for my family, not just the same run of the mill. Let's all do our share and support local businesses.

You can contact me at NatalieWells4NH@gmail.com or 603 456-2873.



Pat Frost

Andover, NH
Phone: 603 455.8870
frostbuilding@comcast.net

TOWN COMMITTEE MINUTES

RSA 91-A:2 states that minutes from each meeting of each Town body must “be promptly recorded and open to public inspection not more than five business days after the meeting.”

Minutes are often not in publishable form at that point. Considering the time it takes to make them publishable, and the long lag between issues of the *Beacon*, it may be a month or more before they appear in the *Beacon*.

Select Board

October 4, 2021

Condensed from approved minutes

Members Present: Todd Goings, Chair; Michelle Dudek

Also present for duration of appropriate items: Marj Roy, Town Administrator; Jon Champagne, Road Agent; Chris Aiken, Field Works of New Hampshire; Donna Duclos, Andover Planning Board; Charity Robinson, Interim Town Clerk / Tax Collector; and Lisa Meier, Secretary

Road Agent Report

Champagne stated he had previously been asked by the Select Board where the purchase of the new truck is at, and he responded that he has not received any response from Reed's to his inquiries.

Belmore is to be in either the 6th or 7th; Nicon crack sealing the 7th or 8th;

en, explaining that he has 110 hp boom mowers and does canopy work. His equipment can cut up to 2½” softwood and a little bigger for hardwood.

Goings asked if he contracts by hour and the response was yes. Goings asked Aiken how many towns he services now, and the response was six to eight. Goings asked what the average town price is, and Aiken responded he will work with what a town has for a budget.

Aiken forewarned the board that not everyone will be satisfied with the narrative at hand. Champagne stated that opening the roads up improved the integrity of the roads.

Town Administrator Report

Times for closing the polls was discussed, and Robinson recommended speaking with the Supervisors of the Checklist, as they have more experience, as she herself is just learning. Roy stated the polls can be opened earlier.

Dudek asked what the law is on the amount of time that the polls can be open, and Roy responded eight hours.

Goings asked if there were any new plow contracts, and Roy replied no, still just the two.

Finance is working with DRA for tax rate setting. The budgets and town reports are being worked on. Roy stated she has discussed the budget format with Elita Reed, Finance Manager, and will have it formalized on October 13,

Office Hours & Meetings

OFFICE HOURS

Town Office: Mon-Thu 9-2

Town Clerk & Tax Collector:

Mon, Wed, Thu 9-2

Tue 1:30-6:30

Last Saturday of month, 9-11

Zoning Administrator: Mon 9-12,

Tues & Thur 9-4, Wed 1-4

Transfer Station: Wed 7-5, Sat, 7-5

Swap Shop: second Saturday 8-12

Andover Library

Mon 6-8

Wed 9-12 & 6-8

Thu 1-5 • Sat 9-12

Bachelder Library

Tues 9-12 & 6-8

Thu, Fri 1-5

MEETINGS

At the Town Hall unless otherwise noted

Cemetery Trustees: 2nd Tues, 10

Last Thu, 7

Conservation: 2nd Wed, 7

Emergency Medical Service:

2nd Wed, Andover Fire Station, 7

Fire Department: Mon, 7

Fourth of July: 1st Wed

Andover Community Hub, 7

Library Trustees: 3rd Thu, 7 Andover or

Bachelder Library (except July & Aug)

Planning Board: 2nd & 4th Tue, 7

Recreation: 2nd Wed, 7,

AE/MS Science Room (except July)

School Board: 1st Tue

(except July), 6:30, AE/MS

Select Board: 1st & 3rd Mon, 6:30

Zoning Board of Adjustment: 3rd Tue, 7

For more information, call the Town Office at 603 735-5332.

2021.

Information has been received from American Rescue Plan Act for 2021.

The auditors will be here on October 8, 2021.

The Interim Town Clerk and Deputy have done training through DMV.

Roy indicated to the Board that the file cabinets in her office are filled.

Goings asked for a response to the misinformation at the prior two meetings, and Roy responded that at the September 7, 2021 meeting regarding the sign application for Drake's Place being signed twice by the Select Board, she did not realize the board originally signed it. Robinson stated that in and out boxes should be utilized.

In regards to the September 20, 2021

meeting regarding the email Kinney received from Jane Hubbard, Marj and Jane have come up with a system to work on items from Homeland Security.

Correspondence and Signatures

An email was received from Homeland Security and Dudek and Goings signed electronically and Kinney can also sign electronically. Roy indicated she would like the hard-copy signed.

Roy indicated that the contract with Jane Saunders pertaining to deed searches for the Tax Collectors office would cost \$15 per parcel, and the approximate number of searches needed to be done is 50.

The new process for letters regard-
See Minutes on page 10

Minutes Online

Minutes and agendas for Town boards and committees are posted, when available, on the Town website at Andover-NH.gov.

and R&D Paving will be here the middle of the month.

An underdrain has been installed on Last Street and a pipe installed under Overlook Avenue. The arrows need to be printed to delineate the catch basins.

Lakeview and Proctor cemeteries will be mowed once more this year. The winterizing and closing of the Town Beach are being worked on.

Caterpillar will be here at the end of October for the 500-hour service on the backhoe. The F250 and F550 pickups have been scheduled for fluid filming at S&P Auto, and the new truck will be done once it has been received.

The paint issue at White Oak Pit has been wrapped up.

Goings asked if the drain on Overlook Avenue has been finalized at the end yet, and the response was that they will not be moving nor restructuring the road, and he suggests paving to the area of the duplex home.

Champagne asked if there will be a time to meet regarding the snowplow contracts, and the response was yes.

Champagne introduced Chris Aik-

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Minutes from page 9

ing liens is having Jane Saunders process the letters.

The non-public minutes from the September 20, 2021 meeting were signed. Goings made a motion to seal the minutes. Dudek seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor of sealing the minutes of the September 20, 2021 meeting.

Robinson discussed a possible abatement for a taxpayer and explained the situation. The Board voted unanimously in favor of granting the abatement..

Select Board

October 18, 2021

Condensed from approved minutes

Members Present: Todd Goings, Chair; John Kinney

Also present for duration of appropriate items: Marj Roy, Town Administrator; Jon Champagne, Road Agent; Shawn Upton, Andover Conservation Commission; Wendy Pinkham; and Lisa Meier, Secretary

Conservation Commission

Upton stated he had emailed the Conservation Commission asking them to contact Ben Nugent regarding what to do and what to look for pertaining to

the Beaver Deceivers (BD). He advised holding off on pulling them until he could contact DES so as to not violate any rules.

Upton spoke with Jason Dudek regarding lowering the level of Highland Lake as there is a beaver dam upstream and Upton would like to measure the silt and water temperature. Upton will monitor the beaver dams so they do not clog the culverts.

Kinney asked who the property owner is of the upstream dam and Upton stated he was unsure.

Goings requested Upton ask Ben to ask the homeowners to remove the dam, and Champagne stated they can dismantle it stick-by-stick if they are not using equipment.

Kinney asked if the best storage location is the Transfer Station or White Oak Pit, and Champagne responded at the Transfer Station.

Wendy Pinkham

Pinkham requested that the Select Board draw up a Warrant Article to pave Currier Road with a cost of \$100,000. Champagne stated it is cheaper to maintain a gravel road and that paving would just be a quick solution. Champagne also stated there is not enough money in the budget to maintain the existing paved roads and that

there is a plan to top coat Currier Road this fall.

Road Agent Report

Catch basins have all been cleaned, and he has a detailed list of all catch basins in town.

The cut in the asphalt on Flaghole Road has been paved in and compacted.

The pipe on Sam Hill took four hours to clean.

The wash-out on the side of Hoyt Road has been fixed.

There is a plan to add gravel to the gravel roads, and the plan will be presented to the Select Board.

Another grader operator is needed. The culvert pipe order was received with a price of \$3,900.

Three loads of salt have been received, and one more will be coming in.

The F250 has been undercoated, and the F550 will be going out for undercoating.

Road patching was being done today.

The Select Board will meet with Champagne to specifically discuss paving jobs. The meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2021.

Fairfield was called regarding the new truck; however, they were closed.

A local plumber has stated he would close up the beach house, and it will cost the Town \$375.

The cone plow was welded onto the grader by Brendan Newton.

The new steps for the pit were put in.

Met with Doug Miner regarding White Oak Pit, and he indicated a straw waddle should be installed rather than a silt fence.

Town Administrator Report

No quit claim deed is needed for White Oak Pit per Attorney Matt Serge.

Roy will collect the job descriptions and provide them to the Select Board.

Finance software has been installed except for one module, and Elita and Jessica are trained and are utilizing it.

Roy spoke with MTL, the Town software company, regarding training.

Correspondence / Signatures

A note was received from Avitar re-

garding updates to utility properties being billed additionally.

The Board signed the agreement with Nobis for testing in 2022 at the closed landfill.

Three renewal appointments for the Conservation Commission were signed by the Board.

Select Board

November 1, 2021

Condensed from approved minutes

Members Present: Todd Goings, Chair; Michelle Dudek, John Kinney

Also present for duration of appropriate items: Marj Roy, Town Administrator; Jon Champagne, Road Agent; Elita Reed, Finance Manager; Donna Duclos, Andover Planning Board; Nancy Teach, Planning Board Chair; and Lisa Meier, Secretary

Road Agent Report

Champagne stated he spoke with Mike Kaulbach regarding the new truck and was advised they are waiting for the dump body, which is half complete. Once complete, someone from Town will go and look at the truck to make sure everything is satisfactory.

The roadside mowing is done, and before and after photos were provided. Dudek recommended an article be submitted to the *Beacon* regarding the mowing.

The road crew will install underdrain to repair Dyers Crossing, and a ditch and underdrain was done on Last Street due to a small washout. Ditching was done on Sam Hill Road near the Class VI portion.

The F550 truck was winterized and is back, and the edges for the plows have been ordered.

Kinney asked Champagne if there is anything left in the budget for anything that he wished he had been able to complete, and Champagne replied yes.

Dudek stated Champagne was going to get some numbers together for the Board to review regarding the roadside maintenance to be completed in the
See Minutes on page 11



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LIFESTYLES

Minutes from page 10

spring. Dudek asked if Champagne has heard from Jeff at R&D Paving, and Champagne replied yes, they will be here during the second or third week in November.

Kinney asked at what temperature does it become ill-advised to pave, and Champagne replied that Andover has always paved in the fall as the ground is still on the warm side and the pavement has to be 240 degrees when paving, which Champagne checks during the process.

The backhoe has been serviced. The water and puddles on the dirt roads have dried, so grading will start.

Planning Board

Teach thought she was supposed to meet with the Select Board to review the Planning Board budget; however, was advised she needs to go before the Budget Committee on November 10, 2021.

Teach stated she would like to see a temporary replacement for the Planning and Zoning Administrator while she is out on medical leave. Kinney asked how many hours would this encompass, and Teach replied she would have to check with Moyer.

Town Administrator Report

Job descriptions previously requested by the Select Board were received from Marj Roy, Town Administrator, and Lisa Meier, Deputy Town Clerk / Tax Collector.

Goings asked why only one job posting was indicated in *The Andover Beacon*, and Roy replied that the Highway Department Supervisor job is advertised in the Kearsarge Shopper. Reed replied that she puts them on the Town website when she receives the request. Dudek suggested adding "Employment Opportunities" on the Town website.

Goings asked if the Select Board will have access to the software for budget season, and the reply was that the office is waiting on MainStay at this point; however, it will not be compatible with

Apple right away.

Roy indicated that the State is behind in setting the tax rate.

Attorney Serge is sending draft letters. Two people have been served regarding the Cease and Desist, and the mortgage is now involved.

A Certificate of Insurance was received from the person doing the roadside mowing in a very timely manner. Roy will compile a formal vendor list at Dudek's request.

Correspondence and Signatures

Plow contracts were received and signed by the Select Board.

School Board

December 7, 2021

Condensed from approved minutes

Board present: Adam Jones, Dan Newton, Lisa Burbach, Aimee Menard

Administration present: Mark MacLean, Randy Wormald, Dennis Dobe, Dennis Audet, Kathleen Boucher, Hilary Denoncourt, Beth Page

Public present: Donna Crisp Duclos, Caden Heath, Kent Hackmann

Finance Report: Overages within the current budget are due to contracted service needs.

Public Comment: Mr. Heath reported a recent situation where he was recently quarantined from school, and he advocated for changes to the quarantine model.

Mrs. Duclos asked about active cases at AE/MS and the high school. At this time, there have been 15 cases at the high school over the past two weeks. This number includes both students and staff. There have been a small number of COVID-positive students/staff at AE/MS, but no clusters. AE/MS held a vaccination clinic as well last week for the school and general community. There will be a follow up clinic in January.

Chairperson's Report: Next Tuesday, we are meeting at 5 PM for another budget work session. The presentation will be on Wednesday, December 15 at 6 PM in the Town Office meeting room.

Menard discussed goal setting and reviewing goals in April.

Principal's Report: There are a lot of good things happening right now for AE/MS students: the basketball team is underway, recreation leagues, the drama department is preparing for their production on December 17.

Dobe spoke of clubs being offered during middle school recess. Dobe spoke of challenges for students and staff returning from COVID with some challenges which appear to be smoothing out.

The staff/schedule model to support RTI services is moving forward well. Page reported that the IDEA grant has been substantially approved. The budget is in progress. Trimester I grades and progress notes have been sent home. The annual Title I meeting has been scheduled for January 19, which will be a remote meeting.

Audet has completed the shed for the skid steer; the old shed will be removed soon. The heating system is doing its job; no more leaks have happened since it's been up and running. The DOE came in to review AE/MS's school safety in regards to facility features; we passed the inspection with minor adjustments needed.

Old Business: Budget timeline was

reviewed. Tuition agreement updates are expected in January.

New Business: JLCH is a Do Not Resuscitate policy. GADA is a policy prohibiting aiding and abetting sexual abuse. It's requested that the second read is waived on these policies. Menard would entertain a motion to approve the JLCH and GADA policies, and waive the second reading. Dan moved, Lisa seconded. All agreed, the motion passed.

2022-2023 AE/MS School Calendar was presented. This calendar is in line with both the Merrimack Valley and Concord school calendars. Lisa moved to approve the School Calendar for the 2022-2023 school year, Dan seconded. All were in favor and the motion was passed.

It was discussed when to re-evaluate the stay-open plan in light of changes with the COVID virus/transmission rate/vaccination rates. MacLean has reached out to other districts; 1 out of 17 districts are coming back to the table to re-evaluate their COVID response plans. This may be useful for ASD to do at some point in the future.

MacLean also discussed home tests being acquired, which may be more useful than rapid tests. Adams advocated for home tests. See Minutes on page 12



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Minutes from page 11

cated for having this discussion on the schedule regularly. Numbers for COVID new contracted cases for Andover and the surrounding towns over the past 14 days per DHHS data is 1,328 new cases, which is about 13 times the marker (100 new cases) of when we go into substantial risk per the stay-open plan.

School Board

December 14, 2021

Condensed from approved Budget Work Session minutes.

Board Present: Adam Jones, Dan Newton, Lisa Burbach, Aimee Menard

Administration Present: Mark MacLean, Randy Wormald, Dennis Dobe, Hilary Denoncourt, Beth Page

Public Present: None

Hilary opened the meeting by discussing that the only change to the budget (from the previously shared version) was an increase in the Physical Education teacher's position increasing from a 4-day to a 5-day contract. This change was based on suggestions from the Board at the previous meeting.

The team went through the budget and reviewed +/- DIFF:

Item line for 1100 obj 112 for \$17500 increased due to supporting PE full time.

Item line for Total HS Tuition is up \$56,000, estimating five students will attend a private school.

1210; 124 increased due to special education tutoring needs

Salaries of special education reviewed. Special education tuition both reviewed.

1210; 731 this increase is to represent typical spending on this line.

Salaries for school counselor, school nurse reviewed.

2140-2190 include contracted services. These numbers are reduced because the IDEA grant is supporting some needs in these lines.

Item line 2210; 112 to be removed for Salary Mentors.

2321; 311 Assessment to SAU 46, ADM and Equalized Valuation discussed.

12.2% health insurance increase discussed. This increase is based on previous year's usage; during COVID, not many folks attended their doctor's appointments, but we're seeing a rise in usage recently. The SAU did shop around for other providers, but other options were comparable. This impact is spread throughout the budget.

2620; 119 this budget line supports the salary of the plant manager and 1.5 custodians.

2630; 422 impacted by snow removal being handled in-house. The Gasoline line will be renamed to Fuel. Shoveling the roof on average costs \$3,500 per year.

5120; 830 decrease in debt service, Bond to be paid until 2031-2032 school year.

5222; 930 it was discussed if food service had ever been contracted. The Board may study potential situations for this area.

Revenue reviewed.

Maintenance Reserve fund discussed, which is at a balance of approximately \$63,000.

Needs for the boiler discussed.

The Board transitioned to reviewing a letter presented by Burbach, emailed to the finance committee by Elita Reed, with concerns regarding the budget.

Hilary noted that we have a moderator.

Conservation Commission

November 10, 2021

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Nancy Robart, Tina Cotton, Sooze Hodgson, Jerry Hersey, Jesse Schust, Lee Wells

News: John Cotton is the recipient of the Kimball Ayers Award. In the future, the award will be known as the Kimball Ayers - John Cotton Environmental Service Award. A plaque will be on display at Town Hall.

The Award is given for "Outstanding Contributions to the Lakes Region Environment" in memory of B. Kimball Ayers, Jr. of Moultonborough, "who faithfully and persistently worked to maintain and improve the environmental quality of the Lakes Region." (Taken from Lakes Region Planning Commission website.)

The only other person from Andover to receive this prize was Betty Bardsley in 1990.

Andover currently does not have a representative on the Lakes Region Planning Commission. Someone needs to be appointed.

Conservation Monitoring: Derek was here and completed his monitoring, Lee is in process of setting up a time to do Broshek Easement. Sooze has completed hers.

Correspondence: Nancy received no response from Marj re: DES communication on White Oak. We can ask to be cc'd on Town communication with DES. Not being cc'd is a missed opportunity for us to learn or to be helpful.

Received forwarded email from Marj that there will be further upgrades to the land under the power lines. We also received a voice message from The Refinery about a snowmobile trail.

Town Office/Select Board: Second email sent regarding adding Lee Wells to ACC member roster, now officially on roster.

ACC members: Jesse Schust, Alan McIntyre, Jerry Hersey – approved by Select Board: sworn in status. Jesse has been sworn in. Jerry needs to take care of it.

Select Board meeting attendance schedule: Third Monday. Jesse will cover November 15 at 6:30 PM. Jesse will raise being cc'd on logging permits.

Budget 2021 Meeting 11/17: \$1,300. Jesse has expenses to submit for Derek as his monitoring expenses. Nancy and Jesse will attend that meeting at 6 PM.

Elita recommends that we send an email next Monday ahead of the meeting time. We need to advocate for a budget line-item to be in the Highway Department budget. We need a commitment that the funds will be used for Beaver Deceiver maintenance and not used by the Highway Department for other expenses.

We have been informed that the Highway Department has no funds left in this year's budget for Beaver Deceiver maintenance. We will have some funds left in this year's budget. Jesse will talk to Marj next week about:

See Minutes on page 13



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Jenna Sievers

★★★★★ Jenna Sievers is a great real estate agent! She helped us start to finish on looking at our home remotely and in person, then saw us through a complicated escrow and closing. Wish we could give her six stars!! *J.T., Bowman Road, Springfield (Buyer)*



Donna Forest

The sale of our vacation home on Maple Street is our third experience with Donna Forest. The first two were on the buy side and this transaction was on the sell side. Once again, Donna was terrific in how she handled the process from the early stages of guiding us on how to prepare for the sale and then during the showings and final contract negotiations. Donna is very knowledgeable and experienced which is helpful when difficult decisions need to be made. I like working with Donna because she is a good communicator, seeks input, provides guidance and she cares about her clients. *Rob Werge, Maple Street, Sunapee (Buyer & Seller)*

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Minutes from page 12

1. Making sure Michelle is covered by the Town's insurance, and

2. Using our remaining funds from 2021 to hire Michelle to do some deferred maintenance work in November and December on Beaver Deceivers as a one-time offer.

White Oak: Nancy has taken pictures. Gravel has been put in place to prevent erosion, road has been compacted, dirt road on other side of sand pile put in. Has sand been dumped? Follow up at the next meeting with the Select Board.

ASLPT Update (Jesse): CC reps talked about different issues.

Wilmot (Liz Harper chair of CC) is trying to put together a warrant article to protect wetlands. Trying to designate prime wetlands as well. Trying to figure out what ordinance will work. Perhaps we can work together on developing warrant articles and getting them passed.

Several towns talked about conflicts involving town lands.

Shawn is working with DES on removal of Valley Road Beaver Deceiver.

Post the Signs at White Oak: Do we wait until Heaton's work is done? Should have someone from reorganized Highway Department management joining us so it is a cooperative project.

Michelle Lambert's assessment (Nancy): Michelle has submitted the number of hours to do deferred maintenance and to do regular maintenance. The Town does not have any funds in the budget for this year. We have requested Beaver Deceiver maintenance funds in the past, and they have not been included.

Thanks to Sooze for the article about Wolf Trees.

New Hampshire Conservation Commission (Nancy): Merrimack River Council has culvert inventory. There have been culverts that have had streams developing under them and eventually the culverts are removed and a "natural" flat-bedded stream is put in place. Might this work for Valley Road?

Conservation Commission

December 8, 2021

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Shawn Upton, Tina Cotton, Jesse Schust, Lee Wells, Nancy Robart, Jerry Hersey, Sooze Hodgson

Email from Marj

Intent to cut forms are not permission forms, they are tax forms. Intent to cut forms are available digitally. We can look them up on the DES site. We can check regularly. There are also wetlands permits on their site.

Insurance is available for volunteers. Contractors need to maintain insurance. For Beaver Deceiver maintenance, need to wear a life jacket and have another person observing. Michelle Lambert should check with Marj.

Going forward, we need to consider DES concerns in regards to maintenance of Beaver Deceivers.

Heaton job is done. Road is suitable for a fire truck to get through.

Town will post on the website that we can have reps on the Lakes Region Planning Commission.

ACC Membership: Alan stepping off ACC. Might be willing to be an alternate in the summer, he will consider it. We should let the Select Board know that we need another full time member.

We will need to have the website and Google account managed. Jesse feels he can do some of the website management; he will discuss what he and Jenny might be able to do. Alan will continue to manage the website until January.

Select Board Meeting: Jesse submitted concerns in writing. Shawn will attend the next meeting. We need to let them know of the vacancy. We should come up with recommendations. Email suggestions to the group.

Budget Committee Meeting: Nancy went. Our budget is easy. We added \$2,500 for Beaver Deceiver maintenance. It will be in our budget. Suggestion made that we try it for one year and see how it goes.

See Minutes on page 14



Beaver deceivers on Elbow Pond Road, expertly maintained by neighbor Michelle Lambert, do their job and keep the water flowing.
Caption and photo: Janet Moore

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Peabody Place Gets Help from Newly Formed Auxiliary

Group formerly helped Franklin Hospital

Press release

Peabody Place, Franklin, announces the formation of the Peabody Auxiliary, comprising a well-connected professional group of women interested in promoting and supporting the mission of this senior living community in the Lakes Region.

Peabody Place represents the transition of the older Peabody Home; a beloved post-war mansion on Central Street, where seniors from the area could live well, contemplating their later years with grace and dignity.

This former mill town is currently undergoing revitalization and major capital investment with the refurbishments of manufacturing buildings, a steady downtown infusion of new businesses, upgraded facades, and real estate renovations that retain the light industrial vibe of interior brick, high tin ceilings, and exposed ductwork.

East on Central, the new whitewater park enjoys construction, while west on Central the new Peabody will be open

in late February. Meanwhile, the newly formed charitable arm of Peabody Place will continue what has always been a deeply embedded community resource.

Auxiliary Co-Chair Christine Dzujna has successfully grown the group from humble beginnings in 2009, starting with a dozen people from her church, the Bessie Rowell School, Business and Professional Women's Franklin chapter, and her own neighborhood. The group separated from Franklin Regional Hospital when LRGHealthcare merged with Concord Hospital.

The Auxiliary historically has a strong track record of fundraising and has supported many programs in its prior iteration, including Lights of Memory, Senior Safety Day, Tanger Outlets' Annual Fit for a Cure 5K, in addition to hosting the Mom Prom and running a wildly successful gift shop which also hosted the Christmas In July sale.

Christine Dzujna says "Our Auxiliary worked hard over the years to support the hospital and enjoyed every minute. I personally look forward to being a part of the Peabody Place Auxiliary. They say, when one door closes, another one



The new Peabody Place Auxiliary group consists of: Front Row: Pam Hannan, Co-Chair, Peabody Place Auxiliary and Member Peabody Board of Managers; Wanda Belyea, Treasurer, Peabody Board of Managers and Philanthropy Committee Member; Kathy Fuller, Secretary, Peabody Board of Managers and Philanthropy Committee Member; Christine Dzujna, Co-Chair, Peabody Place Auxiliary and Peabody Home Corporate Member; Leanne Hamilton, Peabody Place Auxiliary Treasurer; Beverly Brewer, Peabody Place Auxiliary Director; Linda Finnie, Peabody Place Auxiliary Secretary; Back Row: Chris Seufert, President, Peabody Home Board of Managers; Robert "Bob" Lucas, Vice President Peabody Home Board of Managers and Member Philanthropy Committee; Howie Chandler, Peabody Home Executive Director; not shown Maggie Lohmann, Peabody Place Auxiliary Director.

Photo and caption: Marylee Gorham

opens. We're thrilled to lend our skills, enthusiasm, and goodwill to Peabody Place and look forward to many wonderful projects!"

Howard Chandler, Executive Director, said, "The Peabody Place Auxiliary will quickly prove itself to be important not just to our members, but to the greater Franklin community. Peabody, as a charitable not-for-profit organization, is comprised of many parts: our residents, their families, staff, volunteers, corporate members, our board of managers, and now we extend a warm welcome to

the Peabody Place Auxiliary.

"They're a terrific group of dedicated, energetic, community-minded folk who will not only help our residents, but will promote our charitable mission and support various initiatives throughout the Three Rivers region."

Peabody Place is a private not-for-profit 501(c)3 senior living community offering assisted living, hospice and respite care, in addition to memory support and, in 2023, independent living. To learn more about Peabody Place, visit Peabody.place or call 603 934-3718.

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Minutes from page 13

Beaver Deceiver Update: Valley Road: Shawn submitted a report. He contacted Ben Nugent at Fish and Game, who recommended that he contact DES, which Shawn did. Things have ground to a halt since then. They have recommended that we allow it to drain slowly. Risk from too much debris and silt washing through all at once.

Michelle Dudek is the Select Board member involved. Clearing was done after the floods on December 26, 2020, April 16, 2021, and August 2, 2021.

Lakes Region Planning Commis-

sion: Recommendations for reps from Andover?

Wetland Buffer Signage: Shawn can ask at Select Board meeting to have someone from the Highway Department do it with us as a team effort. We may need to re-measure the buffer. Jesse has metal sign-posts – will leave with Lee to get the signs drilled.

ACC 2022 Goals: Nancy has a copy of Mary Anne's timetable for ACC. Need to make sure that 50% of funds from coming out of Current Use comes to us. Jesse will check on this with Elita.

Year End Report: Tina will use our past minutes to write the report.

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Highland Lake Grange Hall Built to Provide Secondary Education

Formerly known as the “Highland Lake Institute”

Susan Norris
Andover Historical Society

NB: Most of the quotations in this article come from Ralph Chaffee’s monograph about this building; some are from the school catalog.

Anyone who drives through East Andover notes the white church on the hill and may even know that the quaint, white building next door was the Highland Lake Grange. What one may not know is the history of the Grange building.

It was built in 1850 as Highland Lake Institute – the dream of The Mountain Club, an East Andover literary group who “felt the need to somehow provide secondary education for those scholars who wished to continue their studies beyond the district school.”

Fifty residents signed on, buying shares at \$5 apiece, each shareholder “entitled to vote according to the number of shares, in all matters in relation to the building and locating of said house.”

One hundred shares were sold, and one of the subscribers, Joseph Osgood, who lived where Kathy and Wyman Ordway now live, “volunteered to give a plot of land for the new Academy.” Building commenced immediately, and Highland Lake Institute opened on August 21, 1850 with an enrollment of 86 pupils: “45 Gentlemen and 41 Ladies.”

The school catalog from 1850 reads: “This institution ... is located on the line of the Northern Railroad near the Ragged Mountains and Loon Pond [present-day Highland Lake] in a pleasant and healthy village, free from all inducements to vice and idleness.”

Each of the four terms was 11 weeks long. The standard curriculum was Latin, French, and English (both “common” and “higher”). Chirography [penmanship— I had to look that one up!], anatomy, physiology, drawing, painting, and music were offered at an extra price. The standard rate per course was \$3 to \$4.

Students could board out with “good” families in the area for “seven shillings and sixpence to nine shillings per week” or procure “convenient rooms, suitably furnished at a reasonable price.”

In that first year, quite a few students came from East Andover, but there were many from other New Hampshire towns, including Salisbury, Danbury, Nashua, Rochester, and Danville, and from towns in other states, including Fletcher, Vermont and Lawrence, Massachusetts. The school lasted five years, and in its heyday enrolled 143 students from 30 New Hampshire towns and four New England states.

In 1855 “lack of funds and “declining interest” forced the closing of the school, “never to go again.” One can only guess, but one wonders if perhaps with the shareholders’ children having completed their high school educations, support and zeal for The Institute petered out.

It’s interesting that around the same time Highland Lake Institute was established (1850), over in Andover, Proctor Academy was also being established (1848).

The interest and support of the local citizenry in both East Andover and Andover to encourage and provide secondary education for their children is impressive.

After its closing, the history of Highland Lake Institute was long and interesting. For 40 years various teaching activities continued on a piecemeal, private basis, providing a place for various entertainments and exhibits in what was now called Academy Hall.

In 1893 it became The Union Hall, “a meeting place for the community” and was leased to the Grange for its meetings. In 1939 the Grange purchased the Hall. In 1991 the Congregational Church bought the building, now

known as the Highland Lake Grange Hall.

A decade ago, several East Andover citizens (Irene Jewett, Ginny Newton, and the late David Jewett, Don Gould, and Wanda Walker) were key in raising funds and locating resources and volunteers to begin restoration and maintenance of this historic building, now listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the East Andover Village Center Historic District. They managed to add a new basement, improved plumbing, a nifty kitchen, and heat.

More recently, Donna Thompson, treasurer at the East Andover church, is spearheading fundraisers (coffeehouse catering, yard sales, bake sales) to further restore the Grange Hall, an enterprise a structural engineer has estimated will cost \$250,000. It will involve new walls, floors, roof, and foundation.

Donna plans to apply for grants as well. This summer she is hoping to pull off a Scrape and Paint the Grange project, a volunteer community endeavor. Anyone interested in donating time or dollars should contact Donna at 603 744-6858.

The Highland Lake Grange Hall is a building worth saving – a fabulous

place for functions ranging from meetings, bridal and baby showers, receptions, speakers, suppers, reunions, and birthday parties.

If you’ve never stood on the Grange porch, looked out over Highland Lake and up at Kearsarge, you owe yourself the pleasure. And it’s charming inside as well.

One hundred seventy-two years ago, citizens of East Andover supported the promotion of secondary education by building Highland Lake Institute; we are grateful that the roots of this ambitious, unique, but short-lived enterprise have been preserved.

Postscript

Without Ralph Chaffee’s tireless research and writing, the history of the Highland Lake Grange Hall might well be lost. He also wrote *East Andover and Its People; A History of Andover 1900-1965*; many articles for the *Franklin Journal Transcript*; as well as his monograph about the Grange building and other facets of Andover life.

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Andover Cooks Share Favorites: Valentine's Day Cookie Ideas

There are quick, easy ways to be creative

Shelley Geoghegan, *Beacon* staff

Decorating cakes and cookies for special holidays has always been a favorite part of my busy schedule, but sometimes I simply don't have the time to go to all that trouble. Over the years, I have picked up many ideas to easily bake and decorate goodies that look like they took lots of time.

During my six years of working for *The Andover Beacon*, and finding little time for time-consuming and artistic baking projects, I have put these ideas to good use. The following is one way you can bake up some Valentine's Day treats that look gorgeous, with minimal effort. They taste great, too!

Heart-Shaped Linzer Cookies

For the Cookies: Make a batch of your favorite rolled sugar cookie recipe. Divide the dough into two pieces, place each piece between two sheets of waxed paper, and roll out to 1/8 inch thick.

(If you haven't already discovered this, you can buy bands of varying thicknesses that are placed on the ends of the roller. They take the guesswork out of rolling dough to an even thick-

ness of your choosing.)

Refrigerate the rolled dough on a cookie sheet for at least an hour, more if possible (or according to your recipe).

Baking and Cutting: Preheat the oven



This "Linzer" type Valentine's Day cookie is very easy to make using shortcuts.

Photo: Shelley Geoghegan

according to your recipe. Meanwhile, remove the rolled-out cookie dough from the fridge and start cutting out heart shapes. For the pictured clone of a Linzer Cookie, you will need to cut out an even number of hearts for the top and for the bottom.

From the batch of top cookies, use a smaller heart-shaped cutter to cut out the middle section. Save the small hearts to bake later in their own batch.

Bake the bottom cookies in a separate batch from the top cookies with the heart cut-out. This will ensure they bake evenly. Follow your recipe's baking instructions for timing.

Decorating: When the cookies are done, and cooled, thoroughly cover the top heart cookies, with the cutout, with a liberal sprinkling of confectioner's sugar using a shaker or a small fine-mesh strainer. Set aside.

For the bottom heart cookies, spread a thin layer of seedless raspberry or strawberry jam almost to the edge. Then, place the top sugared hearts carefully onto the bottom hearts.

That's it. You now have a very pretty tray of cookies. Place them on a red doily on a special dish to show them off.

Other Ideas: These cookies can be made using other shapes for the top cut-out. Also, you can use your same cookie recipe to cut out heart shapes that can then be coated with colored sugar or sprinkles before baking for a very easy but pretty cookie, or you can dip them halfway into melted chocolate and then sprinkle on some colored sugar or nonpareils.

Pair them with some strawberries dipped in chocolate, and you have an easy dessert ready to be gobbled up.

Note to Our Readers: Please share your favorite recipes and food photos with us. Each month we will publish at least one. Start it off by telling us something about the recipe and why it's a favorite.

How about sending us something related to St. Patrick's Day for the March issue, or a favorite spring or Easter recipe for April?

The monthly deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the next issue. Send your recipes and/or questions to Articles@AndoverBeacon.com. Thank you for your contributions. This is your community newspaper!

Andover Cooks Share Favorites: Drake's Place Breakfast Casserole

Quick, yet delicious and hearty!

Nate and Shelby Nagy
Drake's Place

During the busy holiday season, we may have many people to feed and little time to do so. This recipe came together for Christmas morning breakfast. It was quick and easy to put together, yet delicious and hearty! Top it with sour cream, salsa, sauce.

Drake's Place

Breakfast Casserole

- 1 lb Maple Breakfast Sausage
- 1 Onion, chopped
- 3 large or 6 small shredded potatoes



Drake's Place's breakfast casserole is a quick and easy, yet hearty, breakfast dish for a crowd.

Photo: Nate Nagy

- 1 cup cheese, shredded
- 1 dozen eggs
(Try Emily's Eggs!)
- ¼ cup milk or water

1) Pre-heat oven to 350°.
2) Cook sausage with chopped onions ahead of time and cool.

3) Beat eggs with milk or water. Combine shredded potatoes, cheese, sausage, and onion.

4) Bake for 45 minutes to 1 hour. Test if done by poking knife into the center. If it comes out clean, then it's done. If not, cook 10 to 15 minutes more.

Serves 8 to 10 people. You can even portion it out and freeze and reheat for an easy breakfast.

If you are looking for ingredients locally, they are available at Drake's Place, located next to Bear Hollow Trading Post and Naughty Nellie's Ice cream, open Thursday through Sunday, 11 AM to 7 PM.



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A sampling of the many Artisan gifts available during February at the Andover Thrift and Gift Shop. Photos: Nancie Jacobson

Thrift and Gift Shop Offers Valentine's Day Treasures

New gifts from local artisans

Nancie Jacobson
Andover Thrift and Gift Shop

Valentine's Day is right around the corner, so don't forget that special someone! The Andover Thrift and Gift Shop is featuring a fabulous array of new gifts for sweethearts, best friends, or a special teacher, health professional, or service person who made this past year a little easier for you.

Along with a brand-new assortment of Cardigan Mountain Soaps and lotions, we are now carrying 100% soy, hand poured candles from Iridescence of Kim. "Springtime Glory," "Date Night," and "Choco Haze" are just a few of the candle selections on display. Wildly aromatic and made with natural ingredients, both the soaps and candles will make a heartfelt gift.

Both Re-Use Designs and The Crafty Fox have a variety of items on display for kids, adults, and even the family cat, with most priced between \$1 and \$12, including "bottle socks" at just \$1 that brighten up a water bottle and keep your hands warm!

For those who missed out in November, the handmade, silk-lined merino wool socks are back by popular demand. These warm and toasty ankle and boot socks come in an assortment of great colors for men and women ... but they are going fast!

And you can bundle up for savings, because during February, shop sweaters are two for \$5.

Whether you need a new outfit, a gift, or a card, visit the Andover Thrift and Gift Shop first and support the non-profit Andover Service Club with your purchase. The shop is located beside the Andover Elementary/Middle School at

26 School Street in Andover.

The shop is now accepting donations of new or gently used children's clothing. Interested in being a featured Artisan with our shop? Stop by or contact



Along with many other locally made winterwear items being sold at the Andover Thrift and Gift Shop, you can find unique Bottle Socks, designed to cover a beverage bottle to keep your hands warm.

us for more information at ASCThriftAndGift@gmail.com. We are booking now for spring and summer spaces!



Hub board member Ken Wells unfurls a banner at the Hub's entrance inviting members of the community to "come on in" and help support the campaign to raise \$100,000 for building improvements. Photo: Susan Chase

Hub Capital Campaign Reaches 60% of \$100,000 Goal

Four grants from local foundations

Larry Chase
Andover Community Hub

As of January 15, the Andover Community Hub's "Come On In" fundraising campaign, announced in November with a goal of \$100,000, has received four grants from local foundations totaling \$42,395, according to the organization's board of directors.

In addition to these foundation grants, the campaign has also received an additional \$19,871 in contributions or pledges from local residents, businesses, and organizations.

Aimed at making Andover's old town hall – now the Hub headquarters – more user-friendly, more able to withstand the elements, and more flexible in

its accommodations, the campaign has these goals:

- Construction of an access ramp from the parking lot to the first floor
- Construction of an accessible first-floor bathroom
- Replacement of the badly-leaking roof
- Construction of a community kitchen

Contributing foundations to date, and the amounts donated, are:

From the New Hampshire Electric Co-op (NHEC) Foundation, based in Plymouth, \$5,000 for construction of an access ramp. The NHEC Foundation supports charitable organizations that are designed to promote health and social well-being programs, enrichment programs and/or educational programs. See \$100,000 on page 19

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Andover Historical Society 2022 Calendar



East Andover Halcyon Hills Farm Display in Franklin, NH.

Cover sponsored by Ragged Mountain Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy

You can still get your copy of the Andover Historical Society's 2022 fundraiser calendar for \$10 at Mane Street Salon, Morgan Hill Bookstore, the Andover Service Club Thrift and Gift Shop, and both Andover libraries; or online at AndoverHistory.org/General-Store.

Historical Society's Successful 2022 Calendar is Still Available

Very supportive
sponsors made it easier

Pam Cooper
Andover Historical Society

The Andover Historical Society was pleased to have the 12th annual fundraising calendars available in time for Christmas. It was quite a learning experience to pick up where Pat Cutter and Ken Reid left off in previous years. Fortunately, our sponsors were very supportive, which made the job easier.

It was a community effort and thanks go to everyone who sold, delivered, and mailed them out. There are still calendars available for \$10 at our regular spots: Mane Street Salon, Morgan Hill Bookstore, the Andover Service Club Thrift and Gift Shop, and both Andover

libraries. Or feel free to place an order in the General Store on our website: visit AndoverHistory.org/General-Store.

And a special thank you goes to our sponsors: Ragged Mountain Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy, J. Mac's Service and Repair, *The Andover Beacon*, Mane Street Salon, Lake Farm Realty, Pizza Chef, Belletete's Building Products Specialists, J.P. Paquette Construction, Andover Community Hub, C.A. Miller Plumbing, Bar Harbor Bank and Trust, Jay and Robin Boynton, Proctor Academy, and the Andover Barn and Highland Lake Inn.

If you patronize any of these organizations or see these people, please thank them for supporting this fundraising effort that helps keep history alive in Andover!

Digital Recording Project Preserves Andover's Past

Forty years of conversations digitized for web

Susan Norris
Andover Historical Society

The Andover Historical Society is currently organizing our substantial collection of well over 100 oral histories and video recordings. Bob Norander has completed the challenging job of digitizing the entire audio collection, which will gradually be uploaded to the web.

The recordings, which took place over the past 40 years, consist of conversations with longtime Andover residents. Here are a few examples:

- Alan Thompson relives working as a kid for the Winter Hill Ice Company.
- Ted Hall describes farm life growing up on Beech Hill.
- John Graves Sr. talks about growing up on Taunton Hill and roofing the chicken house for the Bachelder farm.
- Katherine Fidler recounts memories of her grandmother's Ragged Mountain Camp for girls on the northern end of Elbow Pond and her father's Ragged Lake Camp for boys on the east side of Elbow Pond.
- Dorothy Fenton, the paternal aunt of Paul and Dennis Fenton, looks back on what it was like to be Andover's first high school teacher.
- Jim Hersey remembers growing up on the family farm in East Andover, the farmhouse with the now-famous red door.

The Andover Historical Society will continue with this long-term project to preserve all of these treasures, both audio and video, and make them available

for the benefit of Andover residents, history buffs, and researchers from around the world.

At this time, you can watch a number of our videos on our YouTube channel at AndoverHistory.org/YTvideos. We'll be adding to that collection throughout the year as we process and upload video and audio recordings from our "vault."

We also plan to create a new section of AndoverHistory.org devoted to our audio and video assets. Here's hoping you will take the time to taste our collection of stories and videos and savor the past.

History of the Historical Society

The Andover Historical Society (AHS) itself came about in 1981-82, conceived and organized by Barbara Upton and Dorothy Dunn. Barbara was a newcomer to town and Dorothy Dunn a life-long resident. She and Barbara soon become friends, and Barbara recalled, "In one of our conversations, she (Dorothy) mentioned she would like a historical society, and I said, 'Let's do it!'"

Dorothy volunteered her husband, Jim, who was a lawyer, to do the legal work. Barbara confessed, "I didn't even know there was legal work involved." And so the AHS came into being, delivered by Barbara and George Upton, Dorothy and Jim Dunn, and Kimball Elkins. Barbara served as the first AHS president.

Within a year, Barbara also started the Oral History Project. She attended workshops to educate herself in the art of interviewing in order to catch stories and voices before they were gone. She built a library which continued to grow, an archive of conversations with town residents. She did it, as Barbara put it, "so even people who think they don't like history can find out they do."



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Feb 20, 2022: **Betsy Woodman – Dear Robot, Will You Marry Me?**

Love, Logic, and Ethics in the Age of Algorithms

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Summer Season '22 Lineup at the New London Barn Playhouse

Press release

The New London Barn Playhouse is thrilled to announce the season lineup of performances for its 90th summer season beginning in early June 2022!

In keeping with tradition, the Barn Playhouse starts off the season with the 64th annual *Straw Hat Revue*.

Beginning Thursday, June 9, through Sunday, June 12, the *Straw Hat Revue* is a chance for you to meet the newly minted 2022 Acting Intern Company.

Our first MainStage production of the 90th season is *A Chorus Line* – a stunning concept musical capturing the spirit and tension of a Broadway chorus audition. Memorable musical numbers include *What I Did For Love*, *One, I Can Do That*, and *I Hope I Get It*.

A Chorus Line will be on the intimate Barn Playhouse stage from June 15 through June 26. Don't miss our first full production back on the Barn Playhouse's historical stage in two years!

Next up ... *She Loves Me*. Amalia and Georg are two parfumerie clerks who aren't quite the best of friends, but little do they know they are anonymous pen pals that have been falling for each other! The captivating classic is based on the play *Parfumerie* which also inspired the well-known movies *The Shop Around the Corner* and *You've Got Mail*. The beautiful and charming musical *She Loves Me* runs June 29 through July 10.

Running for just one week, our next production this season is *Boeing Boeing!* This 1960s French farce adapted for the stage features self-styled Parisian lothario Bernard, who has Italian, German, and American fiancées, each an airline hostess with whom he has frequent "layovers." *Boeing Boeing* is a hilarious show that will run July 13 through July 17 with a bonus matinee on Friday, July 15.

Prepare to escape to the Greek Isles

with our three-week run of *Mamma Mia!* This production on the Barn Playhouse Stage is certain to keep you dancing in your seat! The mega-hit Broadway show about a daughter's dream ... a mother's secret ... and a trip down the aisle you will not soon forget. This musical is packed with ABBA hits including *Dancing Queen*, *Super Trouper*, *Take A Chance On Me*, and *The Winner Takes It All*. Be sure to catch *Mamma Mia!* July 20 through August 7.

Next ... everybody cut, everybody cut ... *Footloose!* The explosive movie musical bursts onto the stage with dynamic new songs augmenting the powerhouse hits from its bestselling Oscar-nominated score. *Footloose* celebrates the exhilaration of youth, the wisdom of listening to one another, and the power of forgiveness.

Footloose performs August 10 through August 21 with a bonus matinee on Friday, August 19.

And closing out our summer season of MainStage productions is *Almost, Maine*. A series of amiable vignettes about love and loss, with a touch of good-natured magic realism ... it's witty, romantic, unsentimental. "Jezeum Crow," you won't want to miss *Almost, Maine* that completes our 90th season and runs August 24 through September 4.

Season subscriptions are now on sale and can be purchased at NLBarn.org/subscriptions. Subscribers receive many benefits, including same seat, same night, free exchanges, and 10% off other ticket purchases.

FlexPasses, groups of six tickets to be used throughout the season, are also available now. Single tickets for the 2022 summer season will be on sale in March.

For more information or to buy tickets, visit NLBarn.org.

\$100,000 from page 17

grams, hunger programs, cultural art programs, and academic achievement programs. It was founded in 2006. For improved access for all.

From the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund in Newmarket, \$1,000 toward construction of an access ramp.

From the Samuel P. Hunt Foundation, based in Manchester, \$20,000 for replacement of the building's roof. The foundation was created in 1951 for general charitable purposes.

From the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) in Concord, \$16,395, also to support construction of a new

roof. LCHIP is an independent state authority created by the legislature in 2000. See the article on page 3 for details about this and one other recent LCHIP grant to another Andover-based non-profit.

Commenting on these new income streams, Hub board member and treasurer (and chief grant writer) Susan Chase said: "We are of course delighted to have recognition and funding from these well-known New Hampshire sources of community support. Our board is committed to making the best possible uses of these and other donations."

The campaign continues its outreach efforts in the coming months as it broadens its focus to garner support from local businesses, organizations, and residents.

South Danbury Church News December 2021 – February 2022

Press release

Thank you to everyone who supported and participated in South Danbury Church activities in 2021! During the year, the church was fortunate to have several COVID-compliant events: an Easter Sunrise service in April, a Summer Happy Hour in July, an Autumn Happy Hour and Pie Sale in October, and a Holiday Happy Hour in November.

Because of COVID concerns, we did not have our traditional Christmas program and instead gathered outside the church on the Sunday afternoon before Christmas to welcome Santa Claus for a pre-Christmas visit and to receive donations for the South Danbury Church Essential Home Goods Shelf" at the Danbury Community Center (DCC). The (non-food) home goods collection began earlier in the year with a suggestion from Reverend Gail Kinney, and thanks to Kendra Braley, the DCC is hosting it. Contributions are always welcome!

During the unpredictable COVID surge and February's wintry weather, please check the South Danbury Church Facebook page each week for news about Sunday worship services

and other church events.

We had such a happy time with Santa's visit in December that (weather permitting) we plan to have an outdoor Valentine-themed drive-by donation event – "Love Your Neighbor" – at the church. It will be from 2 to 3 PM in the afternoon of Sunday, February 13, the day before Valentine's Day.

We'll give kisses (the Hershey kind that are gluten- and nut-free) to all who stop by to make donations for the "South Danbury Church Essential Home Goods Shelf" at the Danbury Community Center. Everyone is invited to share love and laughter with us! If you can't join the fun that Sunday, donations may be left at the DCC at its open hours during the week.

Please contact us if you need a ride to attend worship or events. We'll be happy to help. To learn more about the church and its activities, follow "Friends of the South Danbury Christian Church" on Facebook, call or text 603 491-3196, or email SouthDanburyChurch@gmail.com.

The South Danbury Church is located at 1411 US Route 4 in South Danbury.



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Andover Libraries Page

Andover Public Library New Acquisitions

Adult Fiction

At the Heart of Christmas, Jill Monroe
Missing in France, J.D. Mallinson
Blood of Elves, Andrzej Sapkowski
The Last Wish, Andrzej Sapkowski
Sword of Destiny, Andrzej Sapkowski
Dune, Frank Herbert
Dune Messiah, Frank Herbert
Never, Ken Follett
Mercy, David Baldacci
Go Tell the Bees That I Am Gone,
 Diana Gabaldon
The Lincoln Highway, Amor Towles
The Mountain Between Us,
 Charles Martin
Cloud Cuckoo Land, Anthony Doerr
Law of the Land, Elmer Kelton
State of Terror, Louise Penny
 and Hillary Clinton
The Butler, Danielle Steel
Autopsy, Patricia Cornwell
The Midnight Lock, Jeffery Deaver
The Stranger in the Lifeboat,
 Mitch Albom
Wish You Were Here, Jodi Picoult
The Dark Hours, Michael Connolly
Game On: Tempting 28,
 Janet Evanovich

These Silent Woods,
 Kimi Cunningham Grant
Fear No Evil, James Patterson
Flying Angels, Danielle Steel

Adult Nonfiction

Pathway to Heaven,
 Helen LaPlante Duchesne
Differently Wired, Deborah Reber
Betrayal, Jonathan Karl
Light For The World to See,
 Kwame Alexander
Undo It!, Dean Ornish, MD
 and Anne Ornish
Children's Books
Escape From Falaise, John Flanagan
I Funny, James Patterson
White Fox, Chen Jiatong
The Beatryce Prophecy,
 Kate DiCamillo
The Never Girls #9 through #13,
 Kiki Thorpe
The Year We Learned to Fly,
 Jacqueline Woodson
Love, Violet,
 Charlotte Sullivan Wild
The Snowman's Song,
 Marilee Joy Mayfield
Daniel and Max Play Together,
 Amy Rosenfeld-Kass
The Nutcracker, Jan Brett
Frozen, Disney

Bachelor Library New Acquisitions

Adult Fiction

The Anomaly, Herve Le Tellier
Benevolence, Meredith Hall
Dead by Dawn, Paul Doiron
An Elderly Lady Is Up To No Good,
 Helene Tursten
*An Elderly Lady Must Not Be
 Crossed*, Helene Tursten
Go Tell the Bees That I Am Gone,
 Diane Gabaldon
God Rest Ye, Royal Gentlemen,
 Rhys Bowen
Great Circle, Maggie Shipstead
Hell of a Book, Jason Mott
The Joy and Light Bus Company,
 Alexander McCall Smith
Mercy, David Baldacci
Adult Nonfiction
*The Chancellor: The Remarkable
 Odyssey of Angela Merkel*,
 Kati Marton
Crying in H Mart, Michelle Zauner
*Deep Presence: 13,000 Years of Na-
 tive American History*, Robert G.
 Goodby
Nature's Best Hope,
 Douglas W. Tallamy
*Organic Gardening (Not Just) in the
 Northeast: A Hands-On Month-
 By-Month Guide*, Henry Homeyer
The Salt Path: A Memoir,

Raynor Winn
Wild Silence: A Memoir,
 Raynor Winn
The Stars: A New Way to See Them,
 H.A. Rey
There is Nothing For You Here,
 Fiona Hill
Middle Grade/Young Adult
The Beatryce Prophecy,
 Kate DiCamillo
*Gone to the Woods: Surviving a Lost
 Childhood*, Gary Paulsen
Himawari House, Harmony Becker
The Okay Witch, Emma Steinkellner
*The Okay Witch and the Hungry
 Shadows*, Emma Steinkellner
Children's Books
Darling Baby, Maira Kalman
Fluffy McWhiskers,
 Stephen W. Martin
The Guinea Pig ABC, Kate Duke
Have You Seen Gordon,
 Adam Jay Epstein
*Make Meatballs Sing: The Life and
 Art of Corita Kent*,
 Matthew Burgess
The Mermaid, Jan Brett
The Three Snow Bears, Jan Brett
This Little Baby, Tony Bradman
 and Jenny Williams
Ten Cats Have Hats, Jean Marzollo
Wonky Donkey's Big Surprise,
 Craig Smith

Andover Libraries' Winter Newsletter

Book Club, walking,
and much more

Lee Wells and Priscilla Poulin
Andover Libraries

Happy New Year! We wish everyone a healthy, happy, and successful 2022!

We have been working on compiling lists of the "Best Books of 2021." Both libraries have compiled a list of the 10 most frequently checked out books from our libraries.

What is especially fascinating about these lists is that there is no overlap between the two Andover libraries. At both libraries, the number two book is a kid's book: At the Andover Library, the number two book is Christopher Columbus. At the Bachelor Library, it is Lego: Star Wars.

We have also compiled lists of books that have made several high profile "Best Books of 2021" lists. We looked at lists from newspapers, book stores, online booksellers, literary and library journals, etc, to compile the lists. We will put the books that we own that made the various lists out on display.

Stop by to see how many of the "Best of 2021 Books" you have read; perhaps

there are a few you'd like to check out and read. Spoiler alert: a good number of these books are, not too surprisingly, currently checked out, so you might need to wait before you can check them out. Other books are part of a series, so you might be tempted to start at the beginning of the series.

We also wanted to pass on the news that Hoopla, our digital media supplier, has started a new program called BingePass. When you check out something that is part of Hoopla's BingePass collection – for now, just magazines and the Great Courses collections – the library is charged for one "borrow," but you have unlimited "borrows" from the magazine collection or Great Courses collection for one week. They will be expanding their BingePass collections so stay tuned.

If you scroll down to the bottom of Hoopla's homepage, you will see a link for BingePass. Check it out (or go directly to [HooplaDigital.com/collection/14617](https://www.hoopladigital.com/collection/14617)). Please remember that the State Library also has a great collection of digital magazines on Libby. If you haven't signed up for Hoopla or Libby

See Libraries on page 21

Through the Reading Glasses February 2022

Janet Moore, Andover Libraries

When the century turned at midnight on December 31, 1999, no technological protocols and systems were overturned, and the world didn't come to a complete stop. But while my family was inside watching the ball drop, I stubbornly stood outside in the bitter cold, wondering if the stars would remain in alignment.

To my profound relief, the North Star was visible off the handle of the Big Dipper while the sky glittered with heavenly bodies: I've always found the winter sky a clearer window into the wonders of the universe.

Not so with astrobiologist Theo Byrne and his son, Robin, in Richard Powers' new novel, *Bewilderment*. After his wife's untimely death, Theo is left to raise Robin on his own, not an easy feat with a boy under the sometimes destructive spell of an autistic-like brain and emotional bereavement. But they both love the stars and the clear skies of the Great Smoky Mountains.

As Theo tries ever harder to get Robin through school without the help

of psychoactive drugs, he learns of an experimental treatment involving neurofeedback that sounds promising. There's just one catch: Theo and his wife participate in the same friend/scientist's brain research, and Robin will be trained on the recorded patterns of his mother's brain.

There's just one catch, again. As long as the project is funded, Robbie will take on all the best traits of his mother. As Theo struggles to digest the worsening news of a president gone mad with power, of pandemics, extinctions, and finally, the withdrawal of his own space telescope funding, Robbie chooses homeschooling and sets out to detail his minute observations. And then there's the final catch. The experimental project funding is halted.

If you've read *Flowers for Algernon* you'll know what's coming. Read *Bewilderment* anyway. The story encompasses the full range of human emotions, and, in Theo and Robbie's story, you may find yourself looking up at the stars and down into your heart and discovering hope.



The Library Page is sponsored by a Beacon Reader



REMINISCENCE

ON THE ROAD IN 1949

Walter Walker
Andover High School '49
reprinted from
the May 2011 *Beacon*

August 31: Entered Oceanside, California at 12:15 PM, where I wrote some letters, etc. Around 3:30 PM we met John Graves. We then ate our evening meal and played miniature golf for a long time. We took John Graves back to his base and hit the sack around 1 AM, just a few feet from the ocean.

Thursday, September 1, found us up around 9 AM, covered with ants again. We took a dip in the ocean and killed time until about 1 PM when we had lunch. We then went into Oceanside looking for work, but had no luck.

We then picked up Corporal Graves. Ate and played golf until we got sick of that, then went to an amusement park and later to a show. After the movie we sat around talking until around 3 AM, went to bed around 4 AM, in the ants again!

September 2 found us up and on the road by 9:30 AM, driving until we got to Riverside, where we went to the employment office. We got a job hoeing cabbages, and after hunting for a long time we finally found the place and learned we would be working under a Japanese woman. Remember, this is 1949 and not too distant from December 7th and Pearl Harbor, so "Grand Canyon, here we come," says my diary.

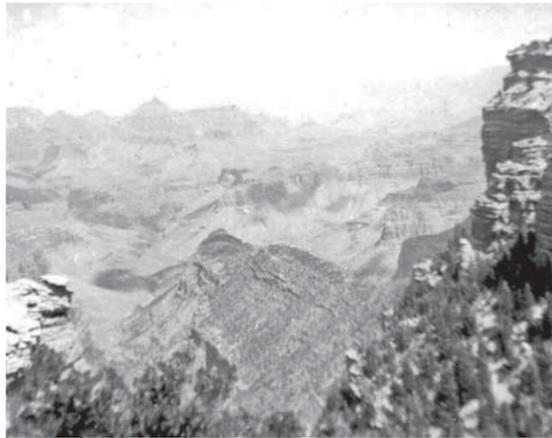
We stopped at 10:30 PM for gas, and it was an even 100 degrees! The Olds was boiling most of the time, but we managed to cross into Arizona at 11 PM, where it was a bit cooler.

On Saturday, September 3, we drove until daylight, which was around 4 AM. We pulled off the road about 50 miles from Grand Canyon and slept until

about 10 AM. We then drove to the canyon, where we had lunch and admired that beautiful natural "trench."

Our car quit on us as we were about to leave, but we got it going again and headed for Winslow, where we found rain. I wrote some letters; we ate and hit the road again. Crossed into New Mexico at 10 AM.

Sunday, September 4, found us driving until about 3:15 AM. We found a place to sleep a little way outside Al-



"This is the view we had [of the Grand Canyon] while we ate lunch one hot day in September 1949." Photo: Walter Walker

buquerque and slept until about 10:30 AM. We next stopped at Tucumcari for gas, got cleaned up, and bought something to eat.

We crossed into Texas at 3:30 PM. "Hadn't any more than crossed the line when we came up behind a car with an old couple in it. The way they were acting, you would think they were teenagers! That's Texas for you," says my diary.

I'm not sure if it was those two old-timers or us, but for some reason we had a tire blowout about 6 PM. We fixed it and drove until a little before 10 PM, when we stopped, and after listening to the radio for a little while, we went to sleep at 10:55 PM.

In the next installment, you will meet some of the nicest folks we came across during our trip.

Libraries from page 20

yet and need some help, please let us know.

The Book Club met on January 26 at the Bachelder Library to discuss the first half of former president Barack Obama's memoir, *A Promised Land*. We'll discuss the second half at our February Book Club meeting on Wednesday, February 23.

A Promised Land was listed as one of the top 10 books of 2020. Good Reads describes it as "a riveting, deeply personal account of history in the making, from the president who inspired us to believe in the power of democracy. This beautifully written and powerful book captures Barack Obama's conviction that democracy is not a gift from on high but something founded on empathy and common understanding and built together, day by day.

"Obama takes readers on a compelling journey from his earliest political aspirations, to the pivotal Iowa caucus victory that demonstrated the power of grassroots activism, to the watershed night of November 4, 2008 when he was elected 44th president of the United States, becoming the first African American to hold the nation's highest office."

Stop by either library to pick up a copy; the Andover Library has an audio copy as well. If you'd like to attend the Book Club meeting via Zoom, please let us know.

Valentines! Do you have fond memories of a secret admirer or a blind date? Did you meet a special person that way? During the month of February, stop by either of the Andover Libraries to pick up a "mystery book." Both libraries will have books in paper bags with a minimal description of the book. Take a chance and check out a book without judging it by its cover! Hot chocolate will be served all month at the Bachelder Library in East Andover. Go on a blind date with a book!

We are still WABL walking. If one of your New Year's resolutions is to get more exercise, or if you would just like some company when you walk, please come join us. Unless the weather is dreadful or the roads are way too icy and slippery, we leave from the Bachelder Library around 10:30 AM on Monday and Wednesday mornings.

If you are concerned about the contagiousness of the Omicron COVID variant and would rather not come inside the libraries but would like to check out some materials, just let us know and we can do curbside service for you.



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Andover Community Church February 2022

Highlights from December and January

Donna Thompson
Andover Community Church
Happy New Year!

We hope everyone will stay healthy, happy, and safe in 2022. Here are a few highlights since the last article.

Some of the Andover Church family went caroling in the area on December 19. Everyone enjoyed the evening, which was topped off with home-made hot chocolate prepared by our own Judy Evans. Yum!

The Christmas Eve service was very well attended. In addition to many families and guests, we had three special visitors who came to sing for us all. Actually, they were sock puppets and put on an amazing musical. The children especially enjoyed the show and learned all about the "Living Hope," born in Bethlehem. Can't wait to see what's up their sleeve for next year (maybe even Easter – who knows?).

If you missed the puppets, visit AndoverCommunityNH.org, hover over the Community tab, and then click KidzChurch. You can also check out the other happenings in the church, too.

A wonderful program called GriefShare has recently started. On January 12, Deacons Kathy Winkfield and Nancy Phillips teamed up to host the eight-week program at the Andover Community Hub.

This is a wonderful course for those grieving the loss of a loved one. The program is free, with a \$20 cost for the workbook. GriefShare is offered throughout the year. For information call the church offices at 603 735-5160 or see the GriefShare page

on our website.

Our annual meeting will happen on Sunday, January 30, where we plan to thank outgoing vestry members Alice Grover (Senior Warden), Linda McGrail, Linda Wickstrom, and Bruce Thompson for serving faithfully through a challenging season of calling Pastors Bill and Cinnamon Blomquist; COVID; and even putting down a new parking lot for the church and East Andover Preschool. Kudos to you all!

We will also welcome new vestry members, who include Jef DeMarie, Jane Walker, and Larry Reese.

This year we are planning a prison ALPHA (a 10-week course exploring the claims of the Christian tradition), a community family program based on arts and crafts and the seasons of the church, as well as other exciting activities in the Andover community.

In the meantime, we continue to meet on Sundays at 8 AM (traditional service) and 10 AM (with music), live and on Zoom. Personal prayers are offered by trained prayer ministers. You can see the website for more of what's happening.

On the fifth Sunday of the month we celebrate A Public Service of Healing, where people are encouraged to receive the anointing of oil from a priest and prayer ministry if desired. All are welcome.

We'd also like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the Highland Lake Grange Hall is available for rental for gatherings such as baby showers, birthday parties, and other celebrations. Contact Donna Thompson at 603 744-6858 if interested.

Best to you in '22!



Andover Garden Club Shares Plans and Schedule for 2022

A program of the Andover Community Hub

Larry Chase
Andover Community Hub

Committees of the Andover Garden Club have been busy making plans to fulfill its membership's expectations of increasing horticultural knowledge and serving the community through civic beautification. Exciting formal and informal educational offerings are being planned, in addition to regular business meetings, interesting speakers, and special trips to plant nurseries, historic gardens, and garden events.

Program-Education Committee members Pam Cooper, Christine Dixon, Liz Kingsley, Darrell Lockwood, Marie Nardino, and Bill Swenson have worked hard to develop an exciting program calendar for 2022 that accommodates as many Club members and interests as possible.

The season kicks off with a seed-starting presentation with Dave Murray from Murray Farm Greenhouse in Penacook to be held on Thursday, February 17, from 6 to 8 PM at the Hub. Stay tuned for more information about other upcoming programs and events; to keep up to date, follow us on Facebook at AndoverNHGardenClub.

Regular meetings will be held on Wednesdays about every six weeks from March through November. In order to meet the needs of Club members' varying schedules, times will alternate between mid-afternoon and early evening. Note your calendars and join us on Wednesday, March 23 from 2 to 4 PM; Wednesday, April 27, from 6 to 8 PM (brown bag supper); Wednesday, June 8, from 3 to 5 PM; and Wednes-

day, July 20, from 6 to 8 PM (brown bag picnic at offsite garden TBA.)

Special workshops, presentations, and outings will be held outside of regularly scheduled business meetings. Not a member? Join now by emailing AndoverNHGardenClub@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you about what you think about program topics, membership, and schedules!

While the Program-Education Committee has been hard at work, Beautification Committee members Gisela Darling, Anne Hewitt, Gail Parenteau, Joan Ryan, Roxanne Shedd, and Jen Turner have been exploring possibilities for civic beautification and have created a long list of locations and seasonal themes. Come spring, watch for signs of this committee's and volunteers' growing involvement in town gardens and public places.

But, they need help! We all know that keeping gardens beautiful throughout the growing season requires faithful watering. Unfortunately, not all garden locations have access to water, making it necessary to transport heavy jugs and watering cans from garden to garden. And even when there is a water source available, dragging heavy hoses can be a difficult chore.

Our solution? A donation or loan of a vehicle (a truck with an open bed would work) in which a large water tank could be placed and a hose attached. And voila! We have on demand water. Please let us know if you can help or have any other thoughts.

Please consider joining our club and helping to further our mission "to connect like-minded individuals; to promote civic beautification; and to further the education of members in the fields of horticulture, landscape design, and ecologically sustainable conservation practices."

For more information, email AndoverNHGardenClub@gmail.com. The club is a program of the Andover Community Hub, and membership is free.



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Sunday Services

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10 A.M. Family Worship
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This page sponsored by The Andover Community Hub

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Hub's Giving Tree Project Raises Over \$6,100 in December

AE/MS and Town distribute gift cards

Larry Chase
Andover Community Hub

What an amazing response we got from this generous community during the holidays! Through the Hub's second annual Giving Tree project in December, over \$6,100 was collected for people in need in Andover via 161 donated gift cards for groceries, gas, household needs, etc.

The gift cards collected were passed along mostly to the staff at AE/MS, with some going to the Town Office, to share with folks they know are struggling. By comparison, the initial Giving Tree project in 2020 attracted just shy of \$5,000.

A special shout-out goes to JJ's Market and Deli for collecting gift cards at the store in Andover Village, posting a flyer, and allowing informational handouts on the counter by the cash registers. JJ's was also the drop-off location for the Andover Turkey Trotters who donated several hundred dollars' worth of gift cards early on.

What a huge blessing for many local families! These gift cards will be given throughout the winter as families need them. Thank you to everyone involved, and best wishes for a healthy and happy new year!

Hub Offers AARP Income Tax Preparation Assistance

Tax-Aide is free, depending on age and income

Susan Chase
Andover Community Hub

AARP (formerly the American Association of Retired Persons) is again offering free income-tax preparation assistance to residents of Andover, along with free electronic filing, with a special focus on taxpayers who are 50 or older or who have low to moderate income. AARP Tax-Aide is the nation's largest free, volunteer-run tax-preparation service, and it operates across the country.

IRS-trained volunteers will be available at the Andover Community Hub on Wednesdays from February 2 to April 13. To participate, residents are asked to call 802 332-5065 to set up an appointment, to learn what documents and information they need to have available, or if they have questions as to their eligibility.

Volunteer Jeff North has said, "We will do any return that is not too com-

plex. Businesses with employees are beyond our scope. I'm glad to answer questions from anyone who is unsure of their tax-return complexity and whether or not we can help them."

The Hub is located at 157 Main Street, and the service will be offered again this year with COVID-related guidelines in place. When arriving for an appointment, residents will be asked to remain in their cars, to bring a cell phone if possible, and to have a mask available. A volunteer will meet them outside, interview them, and take their documents inside to prepare. Additional questions can be asked via cell phone or by the volunteer coming back outside.

AARP Tax-Aide volunteers are trained and IRS-certified every year to make sure they know about and understand the latest changes and additions to the tax code. For more information about TaxAide and what kinds of returns can be prepared and what can't, you can check AARP.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide/.

Andover Community Hub Program Lineup for February

Attendees required
to wear masks

Susan Chase
Andover Community Hub

After a several-week pause in programs due to the surge in COVID cases, the Andover Community Hub plans to be open for classes again as of February 1. The following is updated information on some ongoing classes and new offerings. Also see the Hub's ad on page 2 for a schedule of February programs and services.

Ballroom dance classes will be offered beginning on Friday, February 11 (postponed from January 14) from 7 to 8 PM, continuing for 10 weeks and including a variety of dance styles including swing, waltz, cha cha, foxtrot, and tango. Taught by Laura Kiefer and Gary Stanhope of Elkins, the first class is free to all, and the following weeks are on a drop-in, pay-as-you-attend basis, \$10 per person per class. Newcomers are welcome at any class; singles are also welcome.

Quilting 101 is an opportunity to learn basic machine quilting techniques, taught by experienced quilters Katherine Stearns and Brenda Lance. The next class is Saturday, February 12 from 9 AM to 1 PM. Offered free of charge. Participants are asked to bring their own sewing machines. To register and for other details, email KBStearns@icloud.com or call 603 491-0826.

A Sound Meditation series continues on alternate Mondays, February 7

and 21, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM, providing an opportunity to relax and meditate to the peaceful sounds of singing bowls and soft drumming as an antidote to the stresses of hectic modern life. \$15 per session. Taught by Shelby Nagy, who can be reached for further information at ShelbyCazier@gmail.com.

Interested in playing cards? There's interest in having a weekly card-playing time at the Hub for fun and socializing. Those interested can choose a time that suits everyone, but for starters residents can stop in during the regular Hub Coffee Hour on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 to 11 AM to chat with volunteer Leland Schneider about the card games they enjoy; or you can contact him at 970 846-4350.

Yoga classes at the Hub have an emphasis on breathing, inner focus, and strengthening the body for balance and function. Newcomers are welcome to join the Friday series already in progress from 8:30 to 9:30 AM on a drop-in basis at \$10 per session. For more information, contact teacher Maris Wofsy at Maris.Wofsy@gmail.com.

The Hub's COVID policy is to encourage anyone attending the Hub to be vaccinated and boosted and to require that all who participate in Hub programs wear masks and maintain social distance as much as possible.

For details or more information on any of the above programs, contact the Hub at TheAndoverHub@gmail.com or leave a message on the Hub's phone at 603 735-5509.



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This Page Sponsored by: **Andover Fish and Game Club**

Trout Ice Fishing Derby Takes Place on Sunday, January 30

Highland Lake; 6 AM to 1 PM; registration 5

Rich Gross, Andover Fish and Game Club

The fifth Andover Fish and Game Club's Trout Ice Fishing Derby will take place on Highland Lake in East Andover on Sunday, January 30. The derby runs from 6 AM to 1 PM. Registration starts at 5:30 AM at the Clubhouse.

This derby is for everyone and will be split into an Adult Division and Junior Division. The fee is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids 15 and under. Money and prizes will be awarded to the heaviest Brook or Rainbow trout in each division.

Everyone who enters the derby has a chance to win a door prize. We would really like to thank the Tackle Shop in Newbury for their help in organizing and making these prizes possible. For volunteers who would like to help at the clubhouse, or questions, call 603 768-3302. 

Application Process for 2022 Service Club Scholarships Begins

Deadline to apply is Friday, April 22

Mary Phinney, Andover Service Club

The Andover Service Club is pleased to announce that the application process for the 2022 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 professional or technical school are eligible to apply. Scholarship applications are available at the Andover Elementary/ Middle School, Proctor Academy, and Merrimack Valley High School. Applications may also be obtained by contacting Mary Phinney at 603 735-5599 or downloaded at AndoverBeacon.com/ASC-Scholarship.

To be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must have a close tie to the town of Andover. Details of the residential requirements are available in the application packet. All applications and supporting material must be postmarked by Friday, April 22, in order for the application to be considered. 



The winner of the 2021 Andover Fish and Game Deer Pool, Albert Morgan, is seen with his prize of a Winchester .308 Bolt Action Rifle.

Photo: Tanja Cloutier

Deer Pool Winner Albert Morgan Takes 224-Pound 10-Pointer

Fish and Game Club accepting new members

Rich Gross

Andover Fish and Game Club

The winner of the 2021 Andover Fish and Game Club Deer Pool was Albert Morgan with his 224-pound 10-point buck. The prize for first place was a Winchester .308 Bolt Action Rifle.

There were 31 deer registered, out of which 10 hunters won prizes, plus there were two Lucky Drawings. Congratulations to all who participated.

The total results are as follows:

- 1st: Albert Morgan, 224 lbs, 10 pt
- 2nd: Ken Lepage, 214 lbs, 8 pt
- 3rd: Lucas Benoit, 208 lbs, 8 pt
- 4th: Robin Gowing, 206 lbs, 8 pt
- 5th: Bill Mock, 197 lbs, 10 pt
- 6th: Carol Morgan, 194 lbs, 10 pt

- 7th: Darren Gove, 191 lbs, 8 pt
- 8th: Patrick Mead, 185 lbs, 8 pt
- 9th: Gary Currier, 175 lbs, 8 pt
- Average Weight: Shawn Adams, 156 lbs, 8 pt
- \$75 Lucky Drawing, George French Sr.
- \$50 Lucky Drawing, George French

After hunting season ended, a holiday party was held, complete with a pot luck supper, Yankee Swap, thank-you speeches, and the presentation of plaques of appreciation.

The club is always accepting new members. Dues are \$10 per year, and meetings are on the last Tuesday of each month at the Fish and Game Club on Route 11 in Andover. Contact Gordon Ordway for more information at Gordy03230@yahoo.com. 



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Friends of the Northern Rail Trail Minutes, December 15, 2021

Condensed from draft minutes.

The year ends in fine shape for our trail and our Board.

Board Attendees: Alex Bernhard, Amy Chan, Barbara Couturier, Steve Darling, George Heaton, Lindy Heim, Dustin Ladd, Charles Martin, Myra Mayman, Ricker Miller, Don Moyer, Chris Norris, Peter Southworth.

Guests and Committee Members: Audry Barriault (Sanborton, Lakes Regions Ebike); Craig Heim.

Business Matters

Treasurer's Report: Dustin Ladd's report covered past, present, and future financial scenarios, which show substantial balances at the ready to be expended for future maintenance, improvement, and trail-building projects. See reports on specific projects below.

The creation of our yearly budget is underway. Committee chairs are submitting estimates of expenses and inflows, which will be aggregated by Dustin for discussion at an Administration and Finance Committee meeting in January, prior to presentation to the full Board soon thereafter.

Committee Reports

Trail Building and Maintenance Committee: Don Moyer's PowerPoint slides summarized the many maintenance projects and people that are at the heart of our Trail enterprise. Given winter weather, most of the projects are in abeyance until spring. But winter weather also brings special needs for Trail-clearing, enlisting our many volunteers as well as snowmobile clubs – all much appreciated!

Much of Don's presentation focused on projections for the next year. Expenses can be inferred from two components: extrapolations forward from "ordinary" maintenance totals in the past, such as mowing, ditching, and clearing; and specific improvement projects already committed for the near future, or realistically envisioned.

Overall, these projections include five sites in Grafton County, for which plans and funds are in place; applications for new Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grants; and the construction of the long-awaited Trail extension in Boscawen. See more discussion below.

Another aspect of the discussion was consideration of how to cope with "contingency" funds. These are budgeted to cover unexpected cost or scope increases in projects; and in fact, are often required to be provided by grantees (such as FNRT) in grant applications. Whether and how to formalize such a need in FNRT budgets will continue to be considered.

Administration and Finance Committee:

Craig Heim offered a new idea to the Board: an FNRT Capital Campaign. Initial discussion ranged widely over the experience of other non-profits as well as the various possibilities and problems a Capital Campaign could pose for FNRT. The issue will be kept in mind for more discussion.

The Committee will meet next, as is its practice, one week before the scheduled Board Meeting, so as to anticipate and digest issues for the Board at the monthly meeting on January 19. On January 12, the preparation of a yearly budget will be the principal agenda item.

Marketing and Promotion, and Technology Committees: These committees go forward in their work, without specific report.

Other Developments

Boscawen Extension: Approvals of the necessary agreements among various parties – NHDOT, the Governor's Council, PanAm Railways, and FNRT – continue to move toward closure.

With the prospect of building a Trail extension in Boscawen now ever-closer to fruition, the FNRT is grateful to have had funds on hand for many months to immediately cover purchase of the right-of-way and the building of the Trail. The generous donors in this effort, and eager Trail users, can look forward to progress this year.

Grant from RTC: A recent public announcement by the National Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) highlighted FNRT's winning proposal for a grant to cover five high-priority resurfacing projects in Grafton County.

RTC's Trail Grant Program emphasizes strategic investments that support significant regional and community trail development goals – often providing funding for projects that are small in scope and scale and can be hard to finance within traditional funding streams. These projects are essential to building, maintaining, and managing the trails that communities rely upon for recreation, transportation, and economic vitality.

The FNRT is grateful for and proud of this award and recognition.

New Trail Count Project: Following on FNRT's existing initiative to count users at various sites, we are happy to announce participation in a six-state Trail Count Collaborative, whose funding apparatus is managed by the University of Connecticut. FNRT has put in a request for new traffic counters, docking stations, and other equipment as part of the State of New Hampshire request, and we eagerly await the result of the grant process.

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Franklin Animal Shelter Hires New Shelter Manager

The shelter will be open again soon

Jeff LeBlanc, Franklin Animal Shelter

The Board of Directors of the Franklin Animal Shelter is pleased to announce that we have hired a new Shelter Manager to oversee operations. After reviewing various candidates, the Board has unanimously promoted Krista Hebert to the position of Shelter Manager. Previously, Krista was serving as Interim Shelter Manager while the search was being conducted.

Krista has always had a love for all kinds of animals. In 2017, she began her journey working in animal care as a volunteer. Months later she became a part-time employee and eventually took the position of Animal Caregiver Supervisor at the Shelter.

During this time, she became very familiar with the policies and procedures required to successfully run the Shelter, making her an ideal choice to

step into the role of Shelter Manager.

Krista is continuing her education by taking online classes at Great Bay Community College towards a Veterinary Technician degree with a minor in nursing. On her own time, she has studied animal behavior, dog training, cat training, pet sitting, logo design, web development, and videography.

As Interim Shelter Manager, Krista rallied the Shelter staff to help many animals when a bout of sickness went through the shelter. After much hard work by the staff, many sick kittens were saved and will soon be ready to be sent out to their forever homes. It is this type of dedication that made Krista the clear choice for the role of Shelter Manager.

The Shelter expects to announce soon that we will again be open to the public. We encourage members of the community to visit us in person after we announce that we are open and give their regards and well wishes to Krista and the Shelter staff.

Granite Foundation Establishes Community College Scholarships

Andover's Pecco Beau-fays retires from board

Press release

The Granite Foundation recently partnered with the Foundation for New Hampshire Community Colleges to endow a \$25,000 scholarship. The first award(s) will be made to students in the 2022-2023 academic year.

The new Granite Foundation Scholarship Fund provides scholarship assistance to full or part-time students attending any of New Hampshire's seven community colleges. Eligible students must be New Hampshire residents, demonstrate financial need, and have a minimum 3.0 GPA after completing at least one semester of college.

"Our partnership with the Foundation for New Hampshire Community Colleges feels like a real 'win-win' for students across New Hampshire. Our shared goal is to provide access and financial assistance for students to complete their chosen courses of study," said Granite Foundation Board Member Sooze Hodgson, an Andover resident.

Founded in 2017, the Granite Foundation provides scholarships to New Hampshire students who pursue technical and vocational training at any of New Hampshire's seven community colleges.

"We are honored to be the recipient of this generous investment and pledge to be good stewards of these funds in

perpetuity," said Tim Allison, executive director of the Foundation for New Hampshire Community Colleges

The Foundation for New Hampshire Community Colleges provides greater access to educational opportunities through financial assistance for student scholarships, program development, and enhancements to facilities across



The Granite Foundation partners with the Foundation for New Hampshire Community Colleges to start an endowed scholarship fund. Shown are Elliott Hale, Granite Foundation board member; Lisa Clark, Foundation for New Hampshire Community Colleges; Sooze Hodgson, Granite Foundation board member, and Holly Walker, Granite Foundation board member.

New Hampshire's seven community colleges. The Foundation actively seeks contributions from public and private sources to create scholarships and program partnerships that prepare students for in-demand, skilled jobs to meet the needs in the workforce.

To learn more about supporting New Hampshire's community college students, visit GiveNHCC.org and GraniteFoundation.net.



Tim Sileo, V.M.D.
Kristi Gaff, D.V.M.

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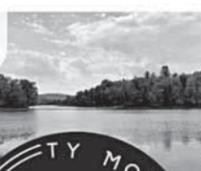

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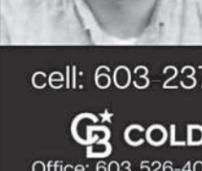



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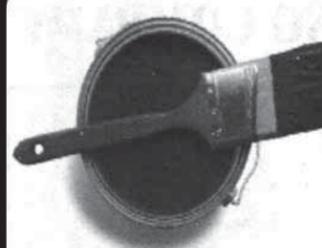
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OBITUARIES

BOWEN WARNER BRINEGAR, of Durham, North Carolina, passed away on December 19, victim of an automobile accident.

Bowen was a brilliant, dedicated young man with a kind, kind soul and a spectacular sense of humor. He liked to say that he was at his very best when swimming against a hard current. He loved fly fishing, especially on Pleasant Lake in New London and with his dad on the South Holston River in Tennessee. He loved hanging out with his older brother, Mackin.



He was skilled in photography and digital art and was an avid reader. He had just closed on his first house, filled with his growing art collection, that he shared with his rambunctious, joyous labradoodle Gilly.

Born on March 16, 1995, Bowen moved with his family from Lake Forest, Illinois to Durham in 2002. He attended The Hill Center, Durham Academy, and Trinity School of Durham and Chapel Hill. For high school he spent a year at The Salisbury School in Connecticut, finishing with three years at Proctor Academy in Andover, New Hampshire.

Bowen had a spectacular career at Proctor, as captain of the varsity golf team, editor of the yearbook, actor in seven theater productions and director of one, and with election to Assistant School Leader his senior year. He loved his semester abroad in Segovia, Spain, which he captured in a stunning set of images. During high school summers, he also caddied at Sankaty Head Golf Club on Nantucket, where he found special beauty and joy.

Bowen attended Elon University and The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he developed a passion for software development. That led to his serving as teaching assistant for

two courses, Full Stack Development and Data Analytics and Visualization, at UNC's coding bootcamp. There he caught the eye of an Epic Games executive who hired Bowen as a full stack engineer. He was so engaged with his work that he decided to postpone finishing his degree, instead continuing his education with online courses through the Harvard Business School and MIT Sloan Executive Education.

This August, Bowen took on a new role as full stack engineer with Menlo Park, California-based TapResearch. While he was able to work remotely, he reveled in the opportunity to travel to San Francisco in October for a week of team building with his fellow engineers.

Bowen was adored by his mother and father, Michelle and Brad Brinegar, and brother Mackin Brinegar, all of Durham. The timing of his passing is especially sad because no one loved and celebrated Christmas like Bowen.

Bowen was predeceased by his grandparents, Merle and Della Brinegar, and Alfred and Mary Alice Mansfield, all of Lake Forest. He also leaves behind five aunts and uncles and twelve cousins across the country.

Anyone wishing to celebrate the bright light that Bowen brought to our world and support his legacy of caring and giving to others is encouraged to contribute to funds that the family has established in his memory.

You can support the Bowen Brinegar Student Scholarship Fund at The Hill Learning Center in Durham online at HillCenter.org/make-a-gift/, by mailing a check to Hill Learning Center, 3200 Pickett Road, Durham NC 27705, or by calling 919 719-7559.

Or you can support The Bowen Brinegar '14 Performing Arts Theater Fund at Proctor Academy online at ProctorAcademy.org/bowen-brinegar-14-performing-arts-theater-fund or by mail to PO Box 389, Andover NH 03216.

For online condolences, visit Hall-Wynne.com.

HOMER W. GUILLETTE JR., 78, passed away peacefully at his home in Cerritos, California, with his wife Violet at his side on December 28, 2021. He was born on September 13, 1943. Beloved son of the late Homer and Sophia Guillemette. Cherished brother of Ruth Mahoney (Thomas) of West Roxbury, Massachusetts, Kenneth Guillemette of Andover, New Hampshire, Carole Bai of Gardner, Massachusetts, and the late Kathy and Kevin Guillemette.

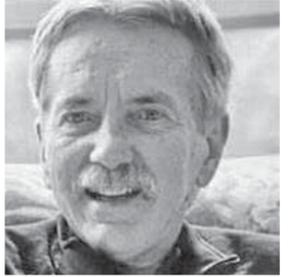
Uncle of Christine, Erin, Kim, and Debbie. Born and raised in West Roxbury, Homer graduated from Catholic Memorial in 1961 and continued his education at Wentworth Institute. After college, Homer served his country as a Paratrooper with the Army's 82nd Airborne Division in Vietnam.

Upon completing his service, he resided in California for over 50 years, working as an engineer for Los Angeles Port Authority. Services with military honors were held on January 20 followed by interment in the National Cemetery in Riverside, California.

DANIEL "DAN" H. O'NEIL, of Sunapee, died peacefully at Woodcrest Village in New London on January 4, 2022, at the age of 66, surrounded by his family and long-term

companion, Sharon Chase.

Daniel, the loving son of Gladys E. (Montgomery) O'Neil and John J. O'Neil of Melrose, Massachusetts, was born on July 12, 1955, in Boston at St. Mary's Hospital. He spent many summers with his family on Prince Edward Island (PEI) and attended PEI's youth hockey programs.



Daniel graduated in 1973 from Malden Catholic High School located in Malden, Massachusetts and went on to take courses at both Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Bunker Hill College in Boston. In 1986, he left his first-owned home in Saugus, Massachusetts and moved his family to Wilmot, New Hampshire.

Daniel was a collection agent who worked at Hayt Hayt and Landau in Massachusetts before owning Hollis Associates in Wilmot, a collection agency for many local small businesses, and then for Lake Sunapee Savings Bank in Newport.

Daniel was a sports enthusiast. He spent many weekends watching golf. See Obituaries on page 28

Chadwick Funeral and Cremation Service

Please Reconsider

If you have prearranged to have nothing done at the time of your death or if you are making arrangements for a loved one please consider doing something. Give family and friends a chance to gather and share stories, songs, hugs and just being together. It doesn't have to be long and formal but it's nice to give people the opportunity to get strength from each other.

We would be happy to help you explore the possibilities and brainstorm about different ideas. Gathering together really is an important step on the road to healing. Please make sure that you give yourself and others the opportunity to acknowledge the life of a loved one by having a service, celebration or visiting time. We are here to give you support and guidance.

Charles, Marion (Chadwick), and Dan Hafner

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For men and women who are experiencing a loss of any kind.

3rd Wednesday of every month; 4:00-5:00 pm

*Attend once, multiple times or as needed.
If interested, contact Elizabeth Gantner at
egantner@lakesunapeevna.org*



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LakeSunapeeVNA.org

Obituaries from page 27

and New England's sports teams. As a child and adult, he played on various hockey teams and went on to volunteer for the Kearsarge Youth Hockey Association in Andover. He was a golf caddy and an avid golfer at Mount Hood Golf Course in Melrose, Massachusetts and at Lake Sunapee Country Club in New London.

Not only was Daniel a sports enthusiast, but he was also a devoted friend to both people and animals alike. From a young adult to his later years, he was always in the company of a pet whether it needed rescuing or ongoing medical care. Most importantly, Daniel's outward sense of humor was far surpassed by his sentimental heart. His friendships lasted decades, and his family mattered most to him as evidenced by the collection of mementos he kept over the years.

Daniel is predeceased by his parents, Gladys E. (Montgomery) O'Neil and John J. O'Neil of New London.

Surviving family members include: his daughter, Heather L. (O'Neil) DiFonzo, and her husband, Michael A. DiFonzo, along with his first grandchild, Areielle R. DiFonzo, of Peabody, Massachusetts; his son, Christopher D. O'Neil, of Farmington, New Hampshire; his sister, Linda M. (O'Neil) Brenner, and her husband, Gary S. Brenner, of New London; his niece, Bethany L. Brenner, and her partner, Richard L. Stevens III, of Concord; and nephew, David J. Brenner, and his wife, Deborah M. (Panza) Brenner, along with his twin grand-nephew and grand-niece, Matthew J. Brenner and Katelyn R. Brenner, of Concord.

In remembrance of Daniel, the family will be having a private celebration of life service. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be sent to the Catho-

lic Charities of Boston.

MARILYN E. FORD, 76, passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by love on January 9, 2022. She had a life well-lived and well-loved.

She was born on July 1, 1945 in Franklin, the daughter of the late Maurice and Martha (Granai) Ford.



She began her career as a teacher in Salem, New Hampshire. Marilyn worked for many years for the State of New Hampshire, retiring in 1996. During her retirement, she worked part-time at several places including Danbury Elementary School, Andover Post Office, and Lake Farm Realty.

She grew up in Danbury and always considered it her home. She graduated from Bristol Memorial High School and received her degree in Education from Plymouth State College.

One of her proudest achievements was being inducted this summer into the Newfound Athletics Hall of Fame as part of the 1959-1960 Girls Basketball Team. She's probably one of the few five-foot-tall basketball players to be inducted!

She was an amazing mom, and many considered her their "second mom." Above all, the most important thing in her life was family. She cherished family time and has left us with many happy memories of our times with her.

The lights of her life were her grandchildren, and she treasured her time with all of them. To some grandchildren, she was Mimi, and to some she was Noni, but each one held a special place in her heart and received a silly nickname from her.

She is survived by her devoted husband Ray Laro, twin daughters Kara-

Lee Bean (Jim) and Tiffany Hodges (Chris), brother Moe Ford, sister Maurine Calder, grandchildren Kyle Hodges, (fiancé Claire), Drew Hodges, Seth Bean (Maddy), Chandler Bean, Tyler Denney, Charlotte Denney, Cole Dickenson, Darby Laro, Chase Laro, Macie Kendrigan, Jada Kendrigan, Danielle Laro, and Hailey Laro. She is also survived by several adored nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Calling hours, with a time for sharing memories and remarks, were held on January 15 at Chadwick Funeral Home in New London. Graveside services will be held in the spring in Eastman Cemetery, Sunapee.

The family would like to thank the staff at Lakes Region Visiting Nurse Association, especially Jenn, for their

as a choicest saleswoman at Pariseau's Women's Clothing and Apparel and for an extended period at Lady Grace until her retirement.

She enjoyed skiing, skating, picnics, antiques, flea markets, gardening, shopping, and activities with her daughters.

Marcy had a love for life and strong devotion to her family. Her magnetic personality captured young and old, and she will be remembered for her kindness and compassion and abundant sense of humor. She will be deeply missed by family, friends, and neighbors.

Members of her family include her four adult children: Robert Croteau of Litchfield, Charlotte Eddinger of Goffstown, and Richard Croteau of Andover; her three grandchildren: Jonathan Ed-

In Memory

If you'd like to honor the memory of a friend or loved one with a donation to *The Andover Beacon*, we will print a simple list of all such donations in the February 2023 issue. For details, visit AndoverBeacon.com/InMemory; or just mail a check to PO Box 149, Andover NH 03216.

compassionate care that was such a comfort to all of us.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Lakes Region Visiting Nurse Association, 187 Waukegan Street, Meredith NH 03253.

MARCELLE "MARCI" O. CROTEAU, 101, of Manchester died on January 10, 2022, after a period of declining health. She was a lifelong resident of the city.

Born in Manchester on April 29, 1920, she was the daughter of the late Edgar and Eva (Goselin) Roy.



She attended and graduated from local parochial schools and was a longtime parishioner of St. George's Parish.

Mrs. Croteau was employed for many years in downtown Manchester

dinger, MD, of Amherst; Jennifer (Eddinger) Maklan of Chattanooga, Tennessee; and Michael Croteau, attorney, of Litchfield; one great grandchild: Jackson Eddinger of Amherst; and her beloved daughter, Michele Croteau, who cared for her for 16 years until the time of her death. She was predeceased by her husband, Roland J. Croteau.

A memorial gathering will be held on Friday, January 21, from 10 to 11 AM at St. Catherine Church, Hemlock Street, in Manchester. A memorial service will follow at 11 AM in the church. Committal prayers and interment will follow at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Manchester.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association local chapter in Bedford.

Much gratitude goes out to Amedysis Hospice of Bedford and to former caregivers.

Phaneuf Funeral Homes and Crematorium assisted the family with arrangements. To view an online memorial, leave a message of condolence, or for more information, please visit Phaneuf.net.

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AE/MS from page 32

greater “normalcy” this coming spring, as we did at the end of last year.

Academic Improvement

So far this school year, we have made considerable gains on various academic improvement initiatives. This progress is due to the professional collaboration and commitment of our teachers, the skillful support of our curriculum advisers, and the dedication of our student support services personnel.

We have begun implementation of a new and highly acclaimed math program for all of our students and have also expanded exciting and meaningful new programs in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). We have transformed our school library into a modern and dynamic Library Learning Commons which hosts classes regularly and serves as a learning resource for our students from kindergarten to grade 8.

In many ways, AE/MS has a new look, but it still feels like home.

Enrichment Programs Are Back

Perhaps more exciting for our students, we have been able to launch a number of student activity and enrichment programs that have brought even more enthusiasm, engagement, and joy back to student life at AE/MS each day.

For student activities, we have concluded a fall sports season during which we fielded interscholastic soccer and cross country teams and are currently in the midst of a winter basketball season during which we are fielding both girls and boys basketball teams.

Our Andover Players were able to cap the fall with a series of amazing per-

formances of *The Wizard of Oz* in mid-December. This production included almost 50 students in its cast and crew.

To provide additional enrichment opportunities for our grade six through eight students, our school’s Specialist Team (Art, Music, Physical Education, Technology, Learning Commons, Guidance) have developed a program of special courses and clubs for our students to participate in during their lunch and recess block, and the kids just love these dynamic opportunities to learn new things with students they do not see often in the normal course of their studies here at AE/MS.

Additionally this mid-winter, most of our students participate in either the Andover Recreation Committee’s Ragged Mountain Ski Program or the Proctor Academy Skating Program on Friday afternoons – our students look forward to these exciting experiences all week long!

Increasingly over the first half of this school year, AE/MS has returned to much of what it had been before the pandemic. We’re back on our feet and moving forward briskly. We have high aspirations for what our school will be in the time ahead and have every expectation of attaining rigorous goals set for high academic achievement and outstanding student citizenship.

At AE/MS we continue to nurture the development of “The Whole Child,” offering a well-rounded education to every student and preparing the children of Andover for a lifetime of success and happiness in the years to come. Thank you for your ongoing support of our amazing students and their remarkable school.

EAVP Summer Camp Registration is Open through March 1

For children three to seven years old

provide transportation.

Enrollment deadline is Tuesday, March 1.

Schedule

Camp will run from Monday, June 27 through Friday, August 19. Camp will be closed on Friday, July 1 and Monday, July 4.

Half day camp runs from 7:30 AM to noon. Full day camp runs from 7:30 AM to 5 PM.

For registration or information, contact EAVP@

Press release

Summer program registration for East Andover Village Preschool camp is here!

Camp will be separate from our regular school year program and based on enrollment and staffing. Camp is offered for all children between the ages of three and seven years.

Daily water play will be offered. Field trips will be planned based on ability to

tds.net, call 603 735-5105, visit EAVPkids.org, or find us on Facebook.



Girl Scouts Hold Information Night at AE/MS

Tuesday, February 15, from 6 to 7 PM

at Andover Elementary/Middle School. Older girls are also welcome to find out more about Girl Scouts.

Press release

Girl Scouts follow their own convictions, take the lead in their own stories, and explore all the extraordinary things they’re capable of. Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains invites you to an information night as a free and fun way for girls and their families to get to know Girl Scouts. Bring a friend or make a new one!

The event is planned for girls in kindergarten through third grade in Andover and the surrounding area on Tuesday, February 15, from 6 to 7 PM,

Parents and caregivers are invited to participate. RSVP to 888 474-9686 or CustomerCare@GirlScoutsGWM.org. Walk-ins are also welcome.

With programs in the outdoors; entrepreneurship; science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); and life skills, girls have the space and support they need to grow so they can see themselves how we’ve always seen them: Bright. Perceptive. Powerful. Be yourself with us. Join Girl Scouts. Visit GirlScoutsGWM.org to learn more.

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Preschoolers enjoyed the views while our driveway was getting a much-needed makeover. We watched all the construction vehicles while they worked right from our window. Thank you to Andover Community Church for making this happen. Standing at the window are: first child wishes to not be named, Owen, Lauralei, Jolene, and Briar. Caption and photo: Stephanie D'Amour

Preschoolers Watch Pavers at Work from School Window

Press release

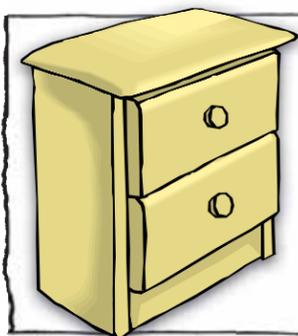
Happy New Year from East Andover Village Preschool! Some of our favorite learning experiences from 2021 included our enthusiasm to explore nature, coming together during circle time for group conversations, and expressing our love of the seasons through art.

As we closed out the year, we celebrated the holidays, learning about different customs and traditions. Another way we celebrated this year was welcoming a new member to our EAVP family. Our director, Miss Stephanie, greeted baby boy Cashton on November 30, 2021 at 1:38 PM, weighing 7 lbs,

1 oz and measuring 20 inches long. We are so happy for her family and wish them the best!

Enrollment is still available for our summer program. Camp will be separate from our regular school year program and based on enrollment and staffing, running from June 27 to August 19, closed July 1 and July 4.

Camp is offered for all children between the ages of three and seven years. There will be daily water play, and field trips will be planned based on ability for transportation. Please reach out to EAVP@tds.net for more information or enrollment.



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Proctor Academy launched a new Winter Ocean Classroom program that pairs Proctor students with nine students from the MET School, a charter school in Providence, Rhode Island, aboard the schooner Harvey Gamage. Andover's Lily Menard '22 is taking part in this program.

Photo: Proctor Academy

Proctor Launches Winter Ocean Classroom from South Carolina

Nine-week adventure from Charleston to Mobile

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

Proctor's Winter 2022 Ocean Classroom program, aboard the *Harvey Gamage* in partnership with Sailing Ships Maine, launched this month from Charleston, South Carolina. The nine-week journey will finish on Tuesday, March 8 in Mobile, Alabama as students from both Proctor and the MET High School and Big Picture Learning, both of Providence, Rhode Island, explore the historic roots of these two southern ports, and the open waters in between.

The 2022 winter program will include a focus on the history of involuntary servitude, inequality, and racism in America while helping students to understand how powerful proximity between student experiences and the complex issues of justice, equality, diversity, and inclusion expand world-

views and create a desire to engage in the real issues facing our world.

In addition to 14 Proctor students, Winter Ocean Classroom has developed a partnership with the MET High School and Big Picture Learning of Providence. The 23 students, an intentionally diverse community, are joined by a crew of 10 educators from Harvey Gamage to deliver the curriculum.

The history curriculum, *Hope and Heritage, Freedom and Resistance, Migration and the Sea: An Exploration of Civil Rights and the African Diaspora at Sea* will include the book *Black Jacks, African American Seamen in the Age of Sail*, by W. Jeffrey Bolster, a book which was inspired during one of Bolster's voyages as captain of the *Harvey Gamage*.

When the *Harvey Gamage* arrives in Mobile, the crew plans to meet with members of the Africatown community founded by descendants of the slave

See Ocean on page 31

Come Experience PROCTOR SKI AREA SATURDAY FEBRUARY 5

Bring your skis and boards and enjoy Proctor Ski Area with us!

Enjoy skiing Proctor's FIS homologated Nordic trails at 3:30PM and stay for alpine skiing and snowboarding under the lights from 5:00 - 8:30PM. For the health and safety of the community, access to Yarrow's Lodge is prohibited. A limited food menu of hamburgers, hot dogs, and pulled pork will be available. Join us for this free event, celebrate the winter, and be together by the warm fires blazing throughout the night!

RSVP to Debbie at (603)735-6721 or events@proctoracademy.org

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This Page Sponsored by **Andover Elementary/Middle School**

Oz from page 32

part of the new production.

When asked why it was decided to keep *The Wizard of Oz* as the play rather than starting with something new and fresh, Katie Dow replied, "I wanted to see the production of *The Wizard of Oz* happen because of all the work that went into the set design, building, and painting from 2019 and 2020. Mike Wiley built all the sets, and we transitioned to having a projection screen with animated backgrounds. There was a lot of initial investment in the first production, so the show had to go on!"

With new kids ready and putting in time and effort, the show would go on! The main roles were finally cast. Dorothy (Bria Trembley), The Scarecrow (Ryleigh Perry), The Lion (Ben Simard), The Tinman (Amelia Bryant), Glenda the Good Witch (Evian Powers), and finally the Wicked Witch of the West (Briley Mudgett) led the many other cast members to a fantastic performance.

The entire cast and crew put in a lot of time and effort to put the show on as

quickly as possible, hoping that the virus wouldn't end up putting things on hold once again. With the stage direction of Katie Dow, music direction of Alex Ager, and choreography direction by Kyle Tremblay, the play debuted on December 17 with a weekend of performances that were enjoyed by all.

"It was so exciting to see the students perform in front of a live audience," added Ms. Dow. "They had three shows, and the cast and backstage crew just got better each time. There were many hours of rehearsals, but it really paid off. The play would not have been possible without all the hard work of staff members and parents."

Music Director Alex Ager reflected after the show by saying, "It was incredible to finally perform the show. Being able to work in person with this year's cast and crew was a wonderful experience. I got to see the vocal talents of our students grow and shine throughout the whole rehearsal and performing process. The students brought so much energy and life to their roles and it showed in their performances." 

AE/MS Students Eagerly Embrace In-School Enrichment Clubs

Students have choice of clubs or recess

Kasey Schoch, AE/MS teacher

One of the things that was greatly missed during the COVID shutdown of 2020, as well as during the hybrid schooling model that was in place last year, were extracurricular activities and social events.

Knowing this, and wanting to make up for so much lost time, the specialist team at AE/MS (Alex Ager, Alex Bramley, Matt Orlando, Courtney Minnehan, Stephanie Peters, and Lisa Lane) have been offering middle school students enrichment clubs during their lunch/recess break. "This is giving students something to look forward to besides recess, and gives us the opportunity to teach in smaller class sizes," said Courtney Minnehan, AE/MS art teacher and enrichment club organizer.

A wide variety of clubs were offered

for students to choose from, including open art studio, guitar, Dungeons and Dragons, volleyball, poetry club, baking, sewing, and more. Club opportunities change every six weeks. Each club meets once a week for six weeks, so students can participate in five clubs in a given week or choose the traditional recess option.

After the first session wrapped up shortly before Thanksgiving, new choices were offered and students that had never signed up before were suddenly joining the clubs, which shows that the excitement and enthusiasm their classmates have had for the program is rubbing off.

It would seem that this group of teachers has struck gold with the students this year and has truly inspired students to get more involved in school activities. That can only lead to a more positive, stronger community at AE/MS. 

Ocean from page 30

ship *Clotilda*, the recently discovered, last known slave ship in United States' history. *Clotilda* made an illegal run to Benin, West Africa in 1860 and returned that summer with 110 enslaved people.

The long-lost wreck of the *Clotilda* – now physical proof of the crime – was recently discovered at the bottom of the Mobile River. The 23 students will also have the opportunity to visit Selma and Montgomery as friends and shipmates and to consider deeply the history of our nation.

Proctor Academy Ocean Classroom Director Brooks Bicknell '77 reflects on this evolution of the Ocean Classroom program. "It is very exciting that Proctor is expanding its winter off-campus experiential learning opportunities by offering a program to our students and those from very different backgrounds. This mixes adventure, authentic challenge, hardship, and skill building while being immersed in the study of our watery planet.

"I am also very excited the program will have a strong historical focus that delves into not only general maritime history, but the exploration of the economic and historical roots of slavery in America."

Proctor Head of School Brian Thomas adds, "For each of the young people

involved in this program, they are about to embark on a journey of a lifetime where they not only have the opportunity to study maritime history and literature and learn to sail a tall ship, but to learn to live alongside others.

"They must be a team and act like a team, which means everyone has an important role to play, and must play that role excellently. They must each climb out of their bunks in the morning and begin to understand the complexity of not only their crew on board, but the complexity of the world in which we live.

"I am excited to see the growth of each of the students involved as this program gets underway."

Sailing Ships Maine's Executive Director Alex Agnew notes, "Schooner *Harvey Gamage* has educated thousands over its history and we are delighted to be her current custodians. The ship is in excellent condition thanks to loving owners and hard working crews.

"And this partnership with Proctor, MET, and Big Picture Learning would make our co-founder Bert Rogers and Proctor's Ocean Classroom Co-Founder Dave Pilla smile to see the tradition they started continue and evolve with now two semester programs operating to offer at sea experiential learning programming." 

In Celebration!

If you'd like to celebrate an important event in your life or the life of a friend or loved one with a donation to the *Beacon*, mail it to PO Box 149, Andover or visit AndoverBeacon.com/InCelebration.



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Sixth Grader Ember Morgan Earns First Place Award for Peace Poster

Lions Club sponsors Peace Poster contest

Ella Rodgers
AE/MS Eighth Grade Student

Andover Elementary/Middle School has hosted its annual Peace Poster contest for grades six through eight. Every year there is a different prompt, with this year's being "How we are all connected." The Andover Lions Club sponsored and organized the event, but

Courtney Minnehan, AE/MS art teacher, is credited for working with the students during school hours as one of this year's enrichment clubs.

This year's Peace Poster contest was a huge success, and for the second year in a row sixth graders were invited to enter the contest. Students were asked to show people how they feel about the idea that the whole world is connected.

The winner of this year's Peace Poster contest was sixth grader Ember Morgan. Her project has already been sent to the state contest judges for review. Second and third place went to Ella Rodgers (a two-time second place winner in the eighth grade) and Victoria Koron (seventh grade).

The Peace Poster contest was definitely something AE/MS needed, to show people that through the rough times there's still peace and hope. All of the posters took hours of time to show that we still have that. All of the posters were phenomenal, and the Peace Poster contest is sure to continue as a favorite activity for students to participate in for years to come.



AE/MS Art Teacher Courtney Minnehan presents sixth grader Ember Morgan with first place for her Peace Poster. Photo: Kasey Schoch



In the spirit of the holiday season, AE/MS students collected toys for a Toys for Tots event. Our very own local New Hampshire State Trooper, Erin Frost, herself an AE/MS graduate, made her cruiser available to stuff with new, unwrapped toys on December 13.

Caption and photo: Christine Frost, AE/MS School Nurse



Sixth grader Bria Tremblay, left, performs her spellbinding solo, *Over the Rainbow*, in the long-awaited AE/MS performance of *The Wizard of Oz*. Later, seventh grader Ben Simard as the lion wows the crowd with his song about being the king of the forest. Caption: Kasey Schoch. Photo: Jennifer Bent



The Wizard of Oz Finally Makes Its Return to AE/MS

Play had been put on hold due to COVID

Aubrey Simard, AE/MS 8th grader and
Kasey Schoch, AE/MS ELA teacher

Two years ago, when COVID-19 shut down schools, *The Wizard of Oz* was less than two weeks away from opening night. Sadly, the perfor-

mance that the cast worked so hard on was never able to be presented to the community.

Finally, the show did go on! Since most of the roles were held by students that had moved on to high school, all of the parts had to be recast with new performers. Students as young as third grade were given the opportunity to be

See *Oz* on page 31

At AE/MS, Greater Normalcy Despite COVID Challenges

Masks required indoors, but no distancing

Dennis Dobe, AE/MS Principal

It has been a very busy and productive fall and winter here at AE/MS. Despite the many challenges and complications presented by the pandemic (the greatest of which is the disruption caused by COVID-related student and staff absences), I am pleased to announce that we are doing very well at AE/MS. Amazingly, we find ourselves half way through the current school

year, so it is a good time to reflect on our school's progress since August.

Since the beginning of this school year, AE/MS students and staff must wear a mask at all times while indoors (no masking requirements outdoors), but do not need to maintain physical distance or maintain cohorts (where kids stay in small, separate groups which do not interact with others).

This means that school is much more "normal" for our students this year. We hope that AE/MS will return to even

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Proctor's Mountain Classroom program explores the American Southwest. Andover's Ani McIntyre '23 (second from right), Phoenix Verite '23 (third from right), and Wesley Koziol '22 (fourth from left) are taking part in this winter's program. Photo: Proctor Academy

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