

The **Andover Beacon**
Our Hometown Newspaper

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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%.

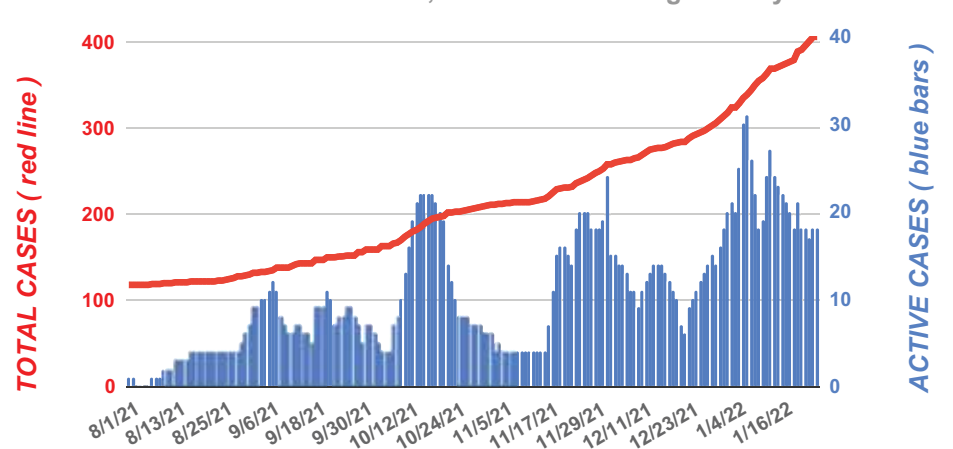
Throughout the budget, you will see this percentage budgeted in each of the function's health and dental benefits

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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