

The **Andover Beacon**
Our Hometown Newspaper

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The Wilmot Garden Club's famous annual plant sale, on Saturday, May 28, will feature local perennials as well as flowers and vegetables raised by Jolly Farmer Nurseries. See page 21 for details. Photo: Lindy Heim



The spirit of giving continues as representatives of Bar Harbor Bank and Trust meet with board members of the Andover Community Hub on the Hub doorsteps to deliver the bank's gift of \$2,000 in support of the Hub's \$100,000 Capital Campaign to support new uses for Andover's old town hall, now the Hub headquarters. Conveying the check was Kayla Chandler, Bar Harbor branch relationship manager. To her left: Charles Seugling, the bank's regional manager, and Hub board member Ken Wells. To Chandler's right: Hub board members Gisela and Steve Darling, Susan Chase, and Thomas Ware (far left). Behind them: Bar Harbor's community banker Elliot Hale. Caption and photo: Larry Chase

Sights and Sounds of 80th Fourth of July Celebration are Coming

A chance to show what our little town has to offer

Andover Fourth of July Committee

Imagine you are a stranger arriving in Andover on the Fourth of July. As you approach the town, you pass one of the large signs announcing our celebration. You might think ... hmm, what would a small New England town have to offer?

You won't be disappointed, because in this small town there is a commaderi and community-mindedness like no other.

Since it's fairly early in the day, all the activity is at the school. You will see a line of old friends chatting as they wait for their pancake breakfast, cooked to order. You might also notice that these old friends haven't seen each other for awhile and are catching up; and you might notice the young ones waiting with anticipation.

If you stay a little while longer, you could wander over to the Village Green and hear the Kearsarge Band playing *Stars and Stripes Forever* and smell the aroma of food cooking. A thousand conversations and laughter are in the air!

Kids are playing games such as bas-

ketball toss and running through the inflatable obstacle course as their parents watch nearby. For-profit and non-profit vendors are displaying their wares, and there's a smile on everyone's face. It's contagious! You might never have seen a community come together like this before.

By the time you've been able to take all of this in, you can hear the drumbeats of the parade approaching and the announcements from the grandstand and feel the excitement of the crowd. Kids are picking up candy being tossed. As a stranger in a small town, you've probably never felt so at home.

The parade is over now, so why not take another lap around the vendors on the Green and take a swing through the library book sale in the stone church, grabbing a hotdog and listening to the music from the bands playing. Now's the time to stop and catch your breath, because people will soon be heading to Carr Field for more activities before the big finale.

Picnic blankets are spread on the field with children orbiting around them. Conversations, laughter, and joyful noises, the sounds of happy people, are all around as the evening dew

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NHEC Decreases Electric Costs This Summer by About 4%

Less of a decrease than in years past

Press release

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative's (NHEC) Board of Directors has approved changes to the Co-op Power rate and Regional Access Charge which will result in an overall bill decrease for most residential members of about 4%, or \$5.06 per month. The new rates will take effect with bills rendered on or af-

ter Sunday, May 1.

The Co-op Power portion of members' bills will decrease from the current winter rate of 9.8 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) to 9.6 cents per kWh for the summer. The Co-op Power Charge includes the cost that NHEC pays to purchase electricity from the wholesale electricity market. The cost of this power is directly passed through to members who have not chosen to

See NHEC on page 2

THE SWAP SHOP WELCOMES

REUSABLE ITEMS IN WORKING CONDITION:

TOYS, CLOTHING, BOOKS, BICYCLES, YARD TOYS, KITCHEN WARE

PLEASE NO UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE, TIRES, WINDOWS, DOORS, ELECTRONICS, or PORCELAIN FIXTURES!

The Swap Shop will be open on Saturday, May 14 from 8 AM to noon and welcomes (before noon) reusable items in working condition like toys, clothing, books, bicycles, and kitchenware. Please, **no** upholstered furniture, tires, windows, doors, electronics, or porcelain fixtures.



The Andover Highway Department has been hard at work on many projects this spring. Here, members of the road crew – Jim Reed, Bruce Murphy, and Mike Campbell – put Town-owned equipment to good use picking up winter sand around the Town Hall and AE/MS parking lots. Photo: Charlie Darling

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