



# Town of North Andover Quarterly Newsletter

JANUARY 2009 - Issue 10

## News from the School Superintendent's Office

**Superintendent Search** — The Superintendent Search Committee completed the candidate screening process and has recommended four finalists to the School Committee. Over the next few weeks, the School Committee will be scheduling site visits and public interviews. Information regarding dates and times of the meetings will be posted on the North Andover Public Schools website [www.northandoverpublicschools.com](http://www.northandoverpublicschools.com)

**Redistricting** — The Redistricting Advisory Committee held a public hearing on October 28<sup>th</sup> to solicit input from members of the community regarding criteria for redistricting. The Committee is incorporating the feedback from the hearing and developing redistricting plans to present to the community. The plans will be posted on the school department website. A second public hearing to present the plans and hear input from the commu-

nity is scheduled for January 27<sup>th</sup> at the North Andover Middle School.

**Thomson School** — I am pleased to inform you that Gregg Giligan has agreed to remain as the Thomson Elementary School principal for the 2009-2010 school year. Gregg has done an outstanding job as interim principal this year. Parents and staff are enthusiastic about Gregg and are confident that the Thomson School is headed in the right direction under his leadership.

**Preschool** — Proposals were received from modular contractors for the construction of the ten classroom modular building to be constructed on the Atkinson School property. The School Building Committee will be evaluating the proposals and selecting a contractor. The project is on time, and we are anticipating completion in time for the 2009-2010 school year.

## News from the Stevens Estate

The Town owned Stevens Estate at Osgood Hill, on the National Register of Historic Places, is the perfect location to host your wedding, conference, outing, party or fundraiser. The historic mansion, gardens, and 153 acres of conservation land offer a unique, elegant and private setting and our staff provides personalized service to make your event a truly special occasion.

The mansion features formal rooms furnished with rich oak paneling, leaded glass and imported marble fireplaces. The floor plan includes a large function room that can seat up to 100 guests and a tented terrace seating up to 225 guests in the warmer months. The double parlor, music room and dining room are used for food stations, ceremonies, small gatherings and more. Additionally, guests may stay overnight in our guest rooms.

The grounds include a garden for ceremonies, a tented cobblestone terrace, an in-ground pool, volleyball and bocce courts, as well as horseshoe pits. There are also hiking trails that lead down to Lake Cochichewick.

Your wedding or event will be a memorable occasion at the Stevens Estate at Osgood Hill. Whether you are planning a large celebration under the tent or an intimate gathering in the oak double parlor, the staff at the Stevens Estate will provide the service and support to make your day special. Our staff will assist you in planning every detail of your day. Wedding packages

can be complete with bridal suite and event planning services, or just an intimate reception for you and your guests. We are happy to customize each package according to your needs.

Businesses find the Stevens Estate to be the perfect location to host conferences, outings, and retreats. Our flexible layout, with large and small meeting rooms, overnight accommodations, array of

preferred caterers, and peaceful surroundings, provide companies flexible choices and an excellent value. The Estate's elegantly appointed rooms, historic surroundings, and well groomed gardens guarantee extraordinary events.

For more information about the Stevens Estate please visit our website at: [www.stevensestate.com](http://www.stevensestate.com) or contact Laura Gifford, Director, at 978-682-7072 or [thestevesestate@verizon.com](mailto:thestevesestate@verizon.com) (email). The Stevens Estate is located at 723 Osgood Hill, North Andover, Massachusetts 01845



## News from the Police Department

The North Andover Police Department will be hosting several Resist Aggression Defense (RAD) classes in the upcoming months. RAD is a self defense course dedicated to teaching women concepts and techniques against various types of assault scenarios. It is an effective and proven self defense method utilizing martial arts tactics. Female residents from sixteen to seventy-five years old have taken our course in the past. The course is made possible, free of charge, from a Department of Public Safety Community Policing grant. Several North Andover police officers are nationally certified instructors of the 16 hour course. Generally the course is held over a two week period in four hour increments. The officers will provide the participants with the knowledge to make an educated decision about resistance.

For information, and to register for the classes, contact Offi-

cer Katherine Knab at [kknab@napd.us](mailto:kknab@napd.us) or call her at the station 978-683-3168. The department is also encouraging women and female college students to apply for a Massachusetts state identification card (FID) for the possession and purchase of chemical sprays or "pepper spray". To purchase or possess in our state requires this state issued FID card unlike some other states.

"A Class D or so called "restricted" FID card shall entitle the holder thereof to purchase or possess chemical sprays designed to incapacitate" A cardholder must be at least 18 years of age. The cost of the card is twenty-five dollars and is valid for six years. Renewals are free. Appointments to apply for the card can be made by Officer Tracy Castiglione [tcastiglione@napd.us](mailto:tcastiglione@napd.us) or by calling the station.

## News from the Division of Public Works

### Weekly, Single-stream recycling is here !

The transition in June to weekly single stream recycling by a private contractor has been successful. However, we can always recycle more and reduce the amount of trash going to the Wheelabrator incinerator. For every ton of material that is recycled, the Town saves \$65 per ton in tipping fees at Wheelabrator. This frees up money to be spent in other municipal services such as schools, police and fire. Just in case you have any questions here's what you need to know; What does "single stream" mean? That you can put all your recyclables in one appropriately marked container if you so choose. No need to separate paper from bottles and cans anymore. Read below for details.

- Your recycling will be collected every week on the same day as your trash and should be at the curb by 7 a.m.
- Place your recycling away from your trash, on the opposite side of your driveway, if possible.
- You will be able to continue using your red bins and bagging your paper as you have done for years, OR you may choose to use a larger container with a lid, such as a wheeled cart, and mix all of your recyclables together. The advantage of a container with a lid is that you will not have to bag your paper, which some people will find to be more convenient. The required lid will prevent loose paper from blowing around and keep paper dry.
- You may use a lidded container you already have by clearly labeling it for "RECYCLING". If you like, you may pick up a green recycling sticker from the Department of Public Works (DPW).
- Cardboard can go in a lidded container, but take care that it is not wedged into the container. The cardboard

will need to fall out easily when the container is turned upside down.

- Single-stream recycling is easy when you have a recycling container with a lid. The DPW has placed an order for the 64-gallon wheeled carts. A sample of cart is on display at the DPW offices. Each cart is stamped on the side with the recycling symbol (chasing arrows) and on the top with the words "Recyclables Only." The price is \$63 per cart and residents can place their order by sending a check made out to Town of North Andover to: Department of Public Works, 384 Osgood Street, North Andover, MA 01845. Carts are available to pick up at the DPW during business hours Monday through Friday 8:30 to 4:30 pm.
- Our old recycling trucks have been retired and Northside Carting is collecting our recyclables using two different type trucks, one of which looks very similar to a trash truck. It will be a rear-end packer and will be able to hold much more material. So, don't worry if you see your recycling go into a truck that looks like a trash truck – it is not being thrown away, just being mixed with other recyclables. Trash trucks will deliver your trash to Wheelabrator, and the recycling truck will deliver your recyclables for sorting to Integrated Paper Recyclers. Both companies are located in North Andover on Holt Road. You should never see your trash and your recycling being put into the same truck.

If you have any question call the DPW at (978) 685-0950 or go to [www.townofnorthandover.com/Pages/NAndoverMA\\_Recycling/index](http://www.townofnorthandover.com/Pages/NAndoverMA_Recycling/index)

## Safety Tips from the Fire and Building Inspection Departments

As the temperatures continue to drop and the winter heating season is upon us, your Fire and Building Inspection Departments are urging residents to be mindful of increased fire and building damage risks during this period. The following safety points should be adhered to by all building owners and residents:

- Wisely use your home heating system and alternative heating appliances such as space heaters and wood stoves. Make sure all are vented properly to avoid accumulation of dangerous gases inside the building.
- Make sure there are working alarms outside each sleeping and on every level of the home.
- Test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms monthly and change the batteries twice a year when you change your clocks.
- Have heating systems inspected and cleaned every year. Make sure that any new heating equipment is approved by a national testing agency such as Underwriter's Labo-

ratory (UL).

- Space heaters need space. Keep anything that can burn a minimum of 3 feet away from these heat sources.
- Please clear snow away from fire hydrants.
- Accumulation of snow and ice on roofs and raised decks should be removed. Large accumulations of snow, coupled with the thaws and spring rains dramatically increase weight loads which may lead to collapse.
- Make sure that the external vent pipes of natural gas furnaces, fire places, water heaters and clothes dryers as well as gas meters, are unobstructed by snow and ice. Be careful when keeping these vents and meters clear of snow and ice so that you do not damage them.

For further fire safety information contact the Fire Department at 978-688-9591, the Building Inspection Department at 978-688-9545 or go to [www.mass.gov/keepwarmkeepsafe](http://www.mass.gov/keepwarmkeepsafe).