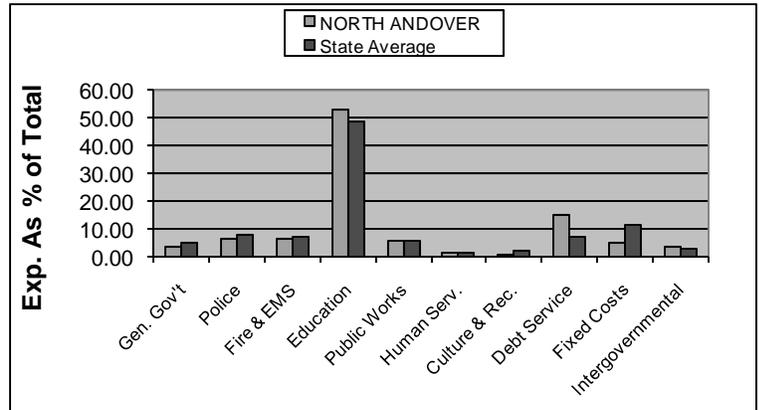
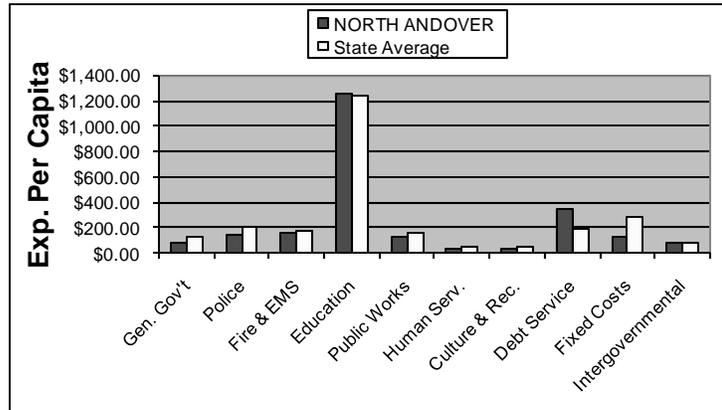




News from the Town Manager's Office

Expenditure Comparisons— The two charts that accompany this article compare North Andover general fund expenditures to the State average for all cities and towns in Massachusetts. The first chart compares expenditures on a per capita basis and the second chart compares expenditures as a percentage of budget. For the most part, North Andover expenditures are below or near the average spent by other municipalities in both comparisons. The one exception is debt service where we spend above the state average. This may be explained by the large amount of Proposition 2 ½ ex-

cluded debt the town has approved. In FY2007, the year this data was from, 59% or \$5.67 million of the town's total debt service of \$9.55 million was excluded from the limitations of Proposition 2 ½. Of the Proposition 2 ½ excluded debt \$3.05 million was for the new high school. This data, plus considerable more statistical information on municipal finance can be found in the Municipal Data Base maintained by the Bureau of Local Services, Department of Revenue, Executive Office of Administration and Finance and can be accessed through the Commonwealth's website: www.mass.gov.



News from the School Superintendent's Office

The North Andover School District had a very smooth opening of school this year. Teachers are energized, and students are enthusiastic about the coming school year. There is very little that can compare with the excitement of a new school year.

With a few exceptions, class size continues to be reasonable throughout the district. At the high school level the National Merit Scholarship Corporation recognized twelve seniors as Commended Students for their achievement on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) and one student was named a National Merit Scholar for extraordinary achievement. Participation in Advanced Placement Courses has grown by 61% over last year. Thanks to a reorganization of the schedule, the middle school is able to offer foreign language classes in German, French, and Spanish, at grades 7 and 8 providing our students with a broader academic program. This summer the elementary school teachers from across the district participated in extensive curriculum development workshops designed to

assure that all North Andover students will receive the same quality program independent of the school they attend.

The following will be areas of focus during the 2008-2009 school year.

While NAHS is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC), the high school staff is focused and taking deliberate steps to address the issues identified by NEASC and to remove the designation of warning from its accreditation.

The Middle School and the Thomson Elementary School principals are developing specific action plans to improve the academic achievement of students in the subgroups who did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as required by No Child Left Behind (NCLB) regulations.

While the district's faculty, staff, and administration are fully aware of the challenges ahead, we will continue to marshal our resources to make an excellent school system even better.

News from the Town Clerk's Office

My Office is preparing for the largest Presidential Election turnout in history on Tuesday November 4, 2008. We have almost 18,000 voters and need your help. The following information is critical to making every vote count:

The last day to register to vote to be able to vote in the Presidential Election is Wednesday October 15, 2008. My Office at 120 Main Street will be open until 8:00PM.

If you are uncertain if you are registered to vote you can call (978) 688-9501 or e-mail jbradshaw@townofnorthandover.com. We will mail out registration or absentee ballot forms.

Absentee ballots are available for this and all elections if you are unable to get to the polls on Election Day. You may vote in person in the Town Clerk's Office when the ballots are available. We anticipate having ballots by October 15. We will also mail ballots to you and they can be returned by a Family Member or by mail. We also now have a convenient drop box in front of Town Hall where you can deposit your ballot. This is a safe way for us to receive ballots or

quest after hours.

The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is noon on Monday November 3, 2008.

New naturalized citizens have until 4:00PM to register to vote or vote absentee on Monday November 3, 2008.

Voters who will be 18 years of age by November 4, 2008 can vote in this election. You must register by the October 15, 2008 deadline.

All absentee ballots are processed on Election Day! All voters vote at the North Andover High School 430 Osgood Street. All schools will be closed for a full in-service curriculum day. The polls will be open early at 6:00 AM and close at 8:00 PM. Look for updates on the Town's web site at www.townofnorthandover.com. The North Andover cable channel, and our local newspapers. Please help us by applying for absentee ballots early for students and those who will be away on election day. Thanks for your assistance. Call (978) 688-9501 if you have any questions or need assistance.

News from the Police Department

The North Andover Police Department hosted a National Night Out celebration for town residents at the North Andover Middle School football field on Tuesday August 5, 2008 from 6:00 to 9:00pm. Prior to the event, twenty-five officers and staff attended the Wood Ridge Homes 5th year National Night Out event. Both were well attended and everyone was enthusiastic.

More than seven-hundred residents and community leaders attended the event. The Neighborhood Crime Watch Block Captains greeted every guest at the front gate, distributing pamphlets and brochures about the Neighborhood Crime Watch program, and signed up new residents for Crime Alerts which are sent via email. The result was hundreds of additional Crime Watch members within the town, some of whom were interested in becoming Block Captains themselves within their respective neighborhoods. The community had the opportunity to interact directly with Police Officers and Firefighters, and to view their emergency vehicles and equipment. Children had their pictures taken in police cruisers and fire apparatus. Fire Chief Martineau and his firefighters were very well received. North Andover Youth

Services provided ten staff members to coordinate ball games and running events. Prizes were awarded to the participants. Some of the highlights of the evening were K-9 demonstrations and a ride-a-long with our police ATV's for children around the track.

Wood Ridge Homes has been fantastic in sponsoring National Night Out on their grounds over the past five years. The police department decided to expand the program town-wide this year, to promote our successful Crime Watch program.

The night could not have happened without the assistance of some of our local businesses and residents. In particular were the North Andover Marker Basket, who provided all the food and drinks for the barbecue and Joe Fish Restaurant for the services of their chef and supplies. We once again encourage our residents to become part of the Neighborhood Crime Watch program. Crime alerts and informational emails are sent out via email periodically. To join, please email crimewatch@napd.us with your name, street address, and an email address where you wish to receive the alerts. We ask for your street address, as alerts are often neighborhood specific.

News from the Fire Department

Over the past six months, Fire Fighters Jeff Crosby, Graham Rowe and Ryan Titcomb have been teaching CPR to numerous groups and individuals of all ages. From teaching personal trainers at a local gym to teenagers at the youth center, this group of dedicated instructors has taught well over 100 people in this very short amount of time. By the end of the month, the instructors are scheduled to have completed training the entire North Andover High School varsity football team in CPR and the use of an AED. We hope that this may be the beginning of one day having all graduates of North Andover High School not only leave the school with a diploma, but with a certification of CPR too.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation or CPR is a learned skill that most people are aware of what it is, but not all people know how to do it. This is a vital skill within the chain of sur-

vival for someone who suffers a heart attack and goes into cardiac arrest (heart stops). CPR in conjunction with and AED (automated external defibrillator) can dramatically increase someone's chances of survival that has collapsed due to cardiac arrest. CPR allows vital oxygen rich blood to be circulated throughout the body and keep vital organs alive, while an AED acts as a reset button for the heart.



News from the Community Development Office

Community Development welcomes two new staff members.

The Community Development team has two new faces joining the staff. The Town would like to welcome Ms. Jennifer Hughes, as the new Conservation Administrator and Ms. Judy Tymon as the new Town Planner.

Jennifer Hughes has over twelve years of conservation and management related experience. Prior to coming to North Andover, Jennifer worked for Rimmer Environmental Consulting as a Wetland Scientist and as a Project Scientist for the firm Environmental Resources Management.

Jennifer possesses a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Massachusetts, where she graduated Summa Cum Laude.

Judy Tymon has over seven years of planning experience and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Prior to coming to North Andover, Judy worked for the Town of Newbury as their Town Planner and spent several years as a Senior Product Manager in the high tech industry. Judy possesses a Bachelor of Arts from Brown University and a Masters degree from Boston University.



HOLIDAY WREATHS—Annually the North Andover Decorating Committee places Holiday Wreaths on light poles around the Town Common and the down town business district. If you would like to sponsor one or

more of the wreaths and have your name displayed under it, please send a contribution of \$60 per wreath to the North Andover Decorating Committee c/o Rosemary Smedile, 65 Greene Street, North Andover, Ma 01845. The expense of making the wreath is paid through contributions only.