



TITLE PREVIEW?

Surging Salem ready for matchup with defending champ Bedford.
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ARREST » Lawrence bank robbery suspect caught in NH. Page 2

HAVERHILL » Mayoral contenders want district councilors. Page 2

FALL FLAVORS » Autumn vegetables take center stage. Page 9

► **Andover High School**

War of words

Messages on 'rock' lead to tension, suspensions

BY MIKE LABELLA AND BILL CANTWELL
Staff Writers

ANDOVER — Dozens of Andover High students walked out of school Thursday as tensions built over a fight between two students and messages painted on "the rock" — a boulder in front of the school.

Two students at the school who were involved in a fight Wednesday morning are facing disciplinary action, as are students who were present at the fight and interfered with first responders — including police, firefighters and EMTs — school officials said. The students who participated in Thursday's walkout also face disciplinary action, school officials said.

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RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo

One side of the rock outside of Andover High School, as it appeared earlier this week after students painted a "black lives matter" message without getting the school's permission.

Court records reveal history of violence

BY JILL HARMACINSKI
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PELHAM, N.H. — The 37-year-old man accused of opening fire at a Bridge Street church Saturday morning is a Latin Kings gang member previously convicted in Massachusetts for a violent assault on a woman, according to court records.



Dale Holloway

Dale Holloway, who most recently lived at 549 Lake Ave., Manchester, New Hampshire, according to court papers, served time in prison for a conviction in Plymouth County for assault and battery and intimidation of a

See **HOLLOWAY**, Page 6

OVERNIGHT PUNCH



Photo courtesy of Yahaira Rosa

A Lawrence Public Schools bus sits trapped under a fallen tree and power lines on North Street at Chandler Road in Andover on Thursday morning. Only the driver was onboard at the time and escaped any serious injury.

Nor'easter drops trees, power lines as it rips through region

BY MADELINE HUGHES
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Trees and power lines came down on roads, houses and a bus as the region was hit hard by a wind storm and heavy rains Wednesday night into Thursday morning. High winds tore through the region and pelting rain fell in the Merrimack Valley because of the nor'easter, according to the National Weather Service. Overnight wind gusts were around 50 miles per hour in the Merrimack Valley, with recorded winds gusting at up to 54 miles per hour in Lawrence, the service reported.

Overnight a tree limb fell into a Methuen home, police said. The resident at 22 Hidden Road luckily chose to sleep downstairs during the storm. When he woke up, he found a tree limb on the bed where he normally sleeps.

As winds continued into Thursday morning a tree and power lines fell on a Lawrence



RYAN HUTTON/Staff photo

A car attempts to ford flooded Market Street in Lawrence next to the O'Connell South Common on Thursday morning as two other vehicles turn back.

public school bus. Road in Andover and no one emergency exit because the bus was covered by a tree, a snapped utility pole and some driver escaped through the

See **STORM**, Page 6

Chamber forum offers state 'snapshot'

BY JULIE HUSS
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DERRY — It was a quick snapshot of how the state's economy is faring with its housing opportunities and other economic development trends.

The Greater Londonderry Chamber of Commerce hosted a "Vision for Southern New Hampshire 2020: A Snapshot of New Hampshire's Economic Evolution" Thursday morning at Brookstone Event Center in Derry.

Key speakers were Taylor Caswell, commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Business and Economic Affairs; Laurel Adams, president of the Regional Economic Development Center and George Reagan, community engagement manager with New Hampshire's Housing

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TIM JEAN/Staff photo

Taylor Caswell, commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Business and Economic Affairs, speaks during the Greater Derry Londonderry Chamber of Commerce Vision for Southern New Hampshire 2020 breakfast at Brookstone Event Center in Derry on Thursday.

NiSource taps veteran executive Nick Stavropoulos to oversee gas safety for Columbia Gas

BY CHRISTIAN M. WADE
Statehouse Reporter

BOSTON — Columbia Gas of Massachusetts has tapped a veteran energy executive to oversee its natural gas safety operations, as the embattled utility seeks to restore public confidence following a series of gas leaks and disasters.

Nick Stavropoulos, the

former president and chief operating officer of California's Pacific Gas & Electric Co., has been brought out of retirement to take over as chief safety adviser for the company's gas distribution system in Massachusetts, which includes 320,000 customers statewide and about 8,600 in the Merrimack Valley.

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Today's weather:
Partly sunny, breezy, 56°
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