



**BIG DEAL**

## Jukebox Hero

An Andover engineer resurrects a broken music machine.

**THE OBJECT OF DESIRE**

A 1972 Rowe/AMI Music Merchant jukebox. Measuring about 50 inches tall, 24 inches deep, and 30 inches wide, the machine holds 100 45s – and confuses the iPod generation. The price for this beauty? \$25.

**THE SELLER**



Kyle Tullos, 45, bought the non-working jukebox at a Medford estate sale last July, around the same time he opened Arlington Antiques.

A former professor of philosophy at Georgia State University, Tullos thought the record player would lend a yesteryear feel to the store. But after an electrician inspected his acquisition, Tullos discovered it would have been prohibitively expensive to fix. There was another problem. "We're a lower-level shop, and we couldn't get it down the stairs," he says. So Tullos put the machine up for sale online for \$200. Receiving no takers, he dropped his asking price to \$25. "It was a good way of getting our name out there, and we had 30 responses in two days." These days in the shop, satellite radio provides music from the 1930s and '40s. "We always want it to feel like a stroll down memory lane."

**THE BUYER**



"I'm happy to report I got the thing running" are the first words Bob Trottier, 54, of Andover, says by phone. When we spoke to him

about a week earlier, Trottier, who works in engineering at an information technology company, wasn't sure he could resurrect it. "Anything mechanical like this, that I don't understand, I love taking it apart and just figuring out how it works." He also counts a few pinball machines among his successful rescue efforts. The jukebox had parts and broken records lying on the bottom inside, bad capacitors, and disconnected lights, among other woes. Trottier says he "did the whole thing without picking up the manual." "I'm an engineer, and my nature is to say, 'How would I build that?'" He says his kids love the machine, as do his teenage neighbors. "They're like 16 or 17, and they've never seen one."

– Patrick Gerard Healy