History *from page 15*

too many of us that lived in that section of town. There were Sandy and Irvin Nelson, Donna Crisp, Wanda Prescott, and me. We'd cut across the railroad tracks and up over the bank to get to the school.

"After I left home in 1963, I'd take the train from Boston, but it didn't stop in Andover and I'd get off at Potter Place instead. On Sunday nights when I was ready to head back to Boston, Al Eaton used to flag down the train with a lantern so I could get on. I remember one time the train was full, and I ended up riding in a freight car with a bunch of Dartmouth students going into Boston..

"I think sometime about 1965 or so the train stopped taking passengers, and I took the bus home instead. So it must have been in the late '60s or early '70s that the Andover train station was gone.

"Another memory about the train station is that my grandfather, George Harding, was the manager of the Clarence E. Carr estate (now part of Proctor). My folks and I lived in the main house with Ella Carr, while my grandparents had the house across from the hollow next to the cemetery.

"We had a huge coal furnace in the cellar that Dad had to bank every night so the heat wouldn't go out. One of my grandfather's jobs for Mr. Carr was to be sure the coals were banked at the Proctor Block.

"A coal car would be taken off onto a spur and parked there. Dad and my grandfather would offload the coal car with shovels into a dump truck and bring the coal to the house, hook up a chute at the cellar window, and shovel it down into the coal bin. Both of them would be filthy, and my grandmother would make my grandfather leave his overalls and boots out in the back shed."

Dr. Allen Koop spoke to a large audience in Potter Place last month. His talk was based on his book, *Stark Decency: German Prisoners of War in a New England Village*. The talk was jointly sponsored by the Andover Service Club, the Andover Historical Society, and the Andover Library. Photo: Bob Bussey

Mystery Solved

Beverly Rivers Engelhart called after the April issue appeared to let us know there is a set of dates on the back of the original photo – March 18 to 20, 1936. So this is indeed a photo of the "benchmark" flood to which everyone compared the Mother's Day Flood of 2006.

The Burleys

We continue to receive much valuable genealogy information in response to the photo of the students and teachers at East Andover School in 1915. The latest addition is more detail about the Burleys from Joan Burley Swett. Joan's genealogic information appears on the *Beacon's* Web site along with all the other information we've collected about the people in this wonderful photo.

To find the information on AndoverBeacon.com, click on "The *Beacon* Online" in the left-hand column, then select the March 2007 issue. Scroll down to the very bottom of the page to find the link.

Do you have a history mystery to share with our readers? Send it to Mail@AndoverBeacon.com or *The Andover Beacon*, PO Box 149, Andover 03216.

Friends of the Northern Rail Trail

By Myra Mayman
Friends of the Northern Rail Trail

The Friends of the Northern Rail Trail (FNRT) received word on April 23 that it had been awarded a grant of $30,000 from the New Hampshire Bureau of Trails. This will allow us to extend the trail from Switch Road to at least Ice House Lane in East Andover.

We are considering various alternatives (including a fund drive) to stretch these funds so that we can reach Channel Road in East Andover. This would create a walking/biking trail that would connect Potter Place, Andover, and East Andover.

This is the third application and the third Recreational Trail Grant we have received in three years – three for three!

An important upcoming date is our Annual Meeting: Tuesday (not our usual Wednesday), June 19, at the Danbury Community Center at 7 PM. Ken Cushing, railroad historian, will speak on the history of the Northern Line – on which the rail trail is being built. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome to attend.

At the April meeting we reviewed recent and current activities:

Bob Ward, Alex Bernhard, Myra Mayman, and Danbury members Twila Cook and Phyllis Taylor met with the Danbury Selectmen about plans for the future. The $206,000 grant from the Transportation Enhancement program will take the rail trail from Potter Place through Danbury, possibly in 2010. Meetings with the Andover and Wilmot Selectmen are being planned, to keep them up to date.

Charles Martin represented FRNT at the Franklin Sportsmen's meeting, and with Alex Bernhard, the Choose Franklin group's meeting.

Danbury member Phyllis Taylor and Alex Bernhard represented us at the Blazing Star Grange's pot roast supper. Proceeds will be donated to FNRT. Phyllis and Alex encourage all to attend the Grange's dinners in the future, since the Grange Hall is beautiful and the food excellent.

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation meeting on options for the bridge repair or replacement at the junction of Routes 4 and 11 was held on April 5. FNRT-MC is an official consulting party on this project. Of the three options DOT is considering, we favor their repairing the current bridge, to avoid a long tunnel that could be made physically dangerous by the washboard effect, ice, and darkness. DOT is planning to accommodate our needs and those of the Andover Snowmobile Club, for a 12' x 12' box opening, level grade, and the same hardpack being used for rail trail surface.

Tom Frantz and Marilyn Paige of Sutton are planning a foot race on the rail trail as part of Andover's July 4 celebration.

On August 10 the Montreal-to-Boston bike race will speed through Danbury, Wilmot, and Andover. Bob Ward, Pecco Beaufays, and Peter Southworth will brainstorm ideas for FNRT's presence at this event.

Peter Southworth and Bob Ward are conferring about having a group of Proctor students clear brush on the rail trail for Earth Day.

Kids' Spring Fishing Derby

By Richard Gross
Andover Fish & Game Club

The Andover Fish & Game Club is sponsoring its 12th Annual Kids' Spring Trout Fishing Derby at Highland Lake in East Andover. The Derby will be held on Saturday, May 12. This is for all kids age 15 and under. Registration starts at 7 AM at the Clubhouse by the channel.

You may begin fishing then until 11 AM. Food and drinks are provided, with lucky prizes, ribbons, and trophies to be awarded. Bring your own fish poles and bait.

There will be a trout stocking the night before, on Friday, May 11, around 6 PM along the channel. All kids are welcome to come and help stock and ask our game warden any questions they may have.

Please come and enjoy! For more information, please call 735-5311.

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