Mark Your Calendar!

OCTOBER

5: Fall Festival & Square Dance, Bluewater Lodge, 4-8
6: Last day for East Andover Village Preschool Classic Cookie Dough orders, 735-5105
6: Proctor Younglife, 6:30-7:30
6: PTO, AE/MS Library, 6:30
6: Snowmobile Club, AE/MS, 7
6: Andover Democrats, Town Hall, 7:30
7: AE/MS Soccer, Sunapee at Andover, 4
8: International Walk-to-School Day
8: Middle School Youth Group, AE/MS, 2:45-4
8: Service Club, Potter Place, 10
9: MVHS Younglife, 4:40-5:45
9: Blackwater Grange, Potter Place, 7:30
11: Giant Flea Market to benefit NH Food Bank, Cilleyville
11: Bachelder Book Club, Bachelder Library, 9 AM
11: Wyldlife Club, AE/MS Gym, 6-7:30
12: Giant Flea Market to benefit NH Food Bank, Cilleyville
12: Tucker Mtn Schoolhouse, Tucker Mtn Rd, 1-3
13: Lions Club, Mr. D's, 6:30
13: Proctor Younglife, 6:30-7:30
15: Middle School Youth Group, AE/MS, 2:45-4
15: Special Olympics Scarf Project, AE/MS, 5-6:30
15: Friends of the Northern Rail Trail, Andover Fire House, 7-9
15: **Deadline for Material for November Beacon**
16: AE/MS Soccer, Sant Bani at Andover, 4
16: MVHS Younglife, 4:40-5:45
17: Andover Fish and Game Club Turkey Raffle, Club House, 7
19: East Andover Grange Hall Restoration Baked Goods Sale, 11
20: NHCHF, Program Planning, Diane Benson's home, 12
20: Proctor Younglife, 6:30-7:30
21: VNA Flu Shots, Town Hall, 526-4077, 2-4
22: Middle School Youth Group, AE/MS, 2:45-4
23: AE/MS Math Night, 6:30
23: AE/MS Book Fair, Library, 6:30
23: MVHS Younglife, 4:40-5:45
27: Proctor Younglife, 6:30-7:30
28: Andover Fish & Game, East Andover Clubhouse, 7:30
28: Lions Club, Visitation at Hillsboro Lions Club
29: East Andover Village Preschool Halloween Open House
29: Middle School Youth Group, AE/MS, 2:45-4
30: MVHS Younglife, 4:40-5:45

NOVEMBER

1: NH Tree Farm Field Day, Proctor Land Use Office, 9-12
3: PTO, AE/MS Library, 6:30
5: AE/MS Veteran's Day, 9

AndoverBeacon.com October 2008 $2.00

Fourth graders are reporting via the Web on what they see happening around this kestrel nesting box on school grounds. Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

AE/MS Students Monitor Kestrel Nesting Site

The Squam Lake Science Center has launched a project that blends natural science education with hands-on conservation and allows students throughout the state to become citizen scientists. The New Hampshire Kestrel Project involves AE/MS fourth grade students monitoring a specially-designed, numbered nesting box (made from a steel mail box) on school grounds. The students report their observations via a Web-based reporting form.

Scientists have uncovered a dramatic decline in American Kestrels, a small brown falcon that swoops down on its prey in open country from a height of 30 to 50 feet. Students at AE/MS are learning about kestrel ecology through programs presented by a Science Center naturalist, including a visit with one of the Science Center's non-releasable ambassador kestrels.

The kestrel's decline in the east has been linked to loss of grassland habitat, which affects both nesting territories and migratory stopover sites. Other possible factors include West Nile virus, predation by larger hawks, and competition with other birds for limited nesting sites.

A male American Kestrel. Photo: Joseph Kennedy

AE/MS NEWS

By Jane Slayton
AE/MS Principal

Maintenance – Your Thoughts Needed

It is already time to begin putting together the Andover School budget for 2009-10.

When the bond vote failed a few years ago, a three-year maintenance plan was established. In Year One, the roof of the 1934 part of the school was replaced. In Year Two, the gymnasium and first addition had roofs replaced, bricks were replaced, the thresholds in the entryways were repaired, and life safety alarm notification systems were brought up to code.

We are now coming upon the final year, and the maintenance plan focus is to resurface gym flooring and remove asbestos tiles in the gym and areas close to gym. School Board members and I would be very interested in hearing from parents and community members your thoughts on the gym floor replacement. Do you still see this as a priority?

Due to the high cost of fuel oil, the School Board may need to seek ways to improve energy efficiency of the school and address the gym floor issue in the future. Are there other issues you think should be addressed first?

Please let us know in the next few weeks. It will be a topic of discussion at the School Board meeting on Tuesday, October 7, at 6:30 PM in the AE/MS library.

New Eagle Mascot

The first kindergarten through eighth-grade SOAR Community Meeting of the new school year was held on September 12. Our new eagle mascot,

See News *on page 50*

New Dorm At Proctor Teaches Sustainability

By Chelsea Conaboy
***Concord Monitor* staff**

Originally published in the September 24 Concord Monitor

Sixteen students and two faculty families now call Proctor Academy's new green dormitory their home. The project was featured in a *Monitor* story in February [and in a *Beacon* story in September].

The dorm faces south and is heated and cooled by six 500-foot geothermal wells drilled into the ledge beneath it. Many of the materials used in construction were recycled. Wood floors in the common areas came from Plymouth State University's basketball gym.

"We teach best by example," said Mike Henriques, head of the Andover school, in a press release. "These investments in ecological sustainability are ultimately cost-effective for the school."

The dorm [was] dedicated to former board members Bill and Betsy Peabody on Saturday, [September 24,] in a 12:30 PM ceremony.

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