



Ben Cox (center) watches (left to right) Jason Ashburn, Ricky Dansereau, and Amelia Gilchrist try out some old-fashioned stilts.

Photo by Susan Norris



Alexis King, Kristi Perreault, Trisha McDonald, Cody Barton, Madison Powers, Ethan Barton, Tim Braley and Cameron Doucet.

Photo by Doreen Perreault

Fourth Grades Visit Historical Society

By Susan Norris

Andover Historical Society

On June 1 the rain finally stopped, and the sun peeked out – nice timing for the annual visit of fourth grade students and their teachers from Webster, Salisbury, and Andover to the historical museums in each of those towns.



Frank Baker and Brad Hartwell have finished painting the Freight Shed a beautiful yellow with maroon trim. Don't miss it!

Photo by Charlie Darling

They arrived in one hour shifts at the Andover Historical Society in Potter Place to experience a taste of yesteryear.

Highlights included the General Store and Post Office, old fashioned toasters, a wind-up Victrola replete with 78 rpm records, the Potter Place railway station with its crank cash register, talking on the crank telephone (which really works!), exploring nooks and crannies in the red caboose, trying their hands at stilt walking, and the homemade fun of running an obstacle course fashioned out of old objects.

FNRT Tests Solutions For Rail Trail

By Myra Mayman

Friends of the Northern Rail Trail

The Friends of the Northern Rail Trail in Merrimack County (FNRT-MC) held their regular meeting at the Andover Town Hall on June 15. Bob Ward reported that the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) contract for its \$20,000 grant has been signed and returned. It is hoped that the funds will be available by the first week of July.

The summer promises to be a busy one, as work on the trail gets underway. The first segment to be worked on will be the 2.5 miles from Potter Place east to the divergence of Routes 4 and 11.

On June 25 at Blackwater Park there was a test of what it takes to move the 3-inch stone ballast to the side, allowing room for hard pack to be put down. Proctor Academy saved the day (actually many days) by donating all the equipment and an operator. Garry George, with the approval of Director of Facilities Will Ames and Business Manager Donald MacDonald, supplied pickup trucks, dump trucks, a 4-wheel drive tractor with a York rake, a grading blade, and a box grader.

After several tests and advice from Maurice Nelson of Pike Industries in

Tilton, we've concluded that the most effective and cost-efficient process will be:

1. Shape ballast into a level surface
2. Compact existing ballast and sand
3. Lay down a 4" layer of ledge pack
4. Compact ledge pack with water

July 4 plans were made for a table on the Village Green, and a human-powered float (Nelson Lebo and his tricycle).

Monday, July 18 was the date set for the Vista PlusTime day of service, with July 25 and 26 as rain dates. This will be a Clean Up Day, including litter pick up, brush clearing, and scrap metal pick up.

Sarah MacDonald's application to Merrimack County Human Services was successful—\$1,000 was awarded to FNRT-MC for service projects on the trail.

Monday, August 1 is the due date for our application for federal Transportation Enhancement Funding (TEA). Tom Frantz is working on this application.

The TEA funding will be for an amount in the range of \$200,000. It was agreed that for this proposal we should focus on the stretch of trail from Potter Place west to connect our trail to the 25-mile Northern Rail Trail in Grafton County.

Finally, there was discussion about establishing a Web site and domain name for FNRT-MC.

I Remember When...

“...there was a raft at the Town Beach on Highland Lake in the late '40s. We kids had so much fun on it!”

— Connie Clausen Ressler



Edna Neff, Jane Dargie, Jeanne Martin (Putney), and Connie Clausen (Ressler) at Highland Lake in the late 1940s.



Craig Mayo, Tom Frantz, Howard George, George Burdick, Alex Bernhard, Garry George, and Bob Ward ponder the results of a test with grading blade borrowed from Proctor Academy.

Photo by Charlie Darling

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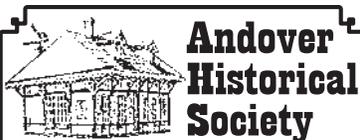
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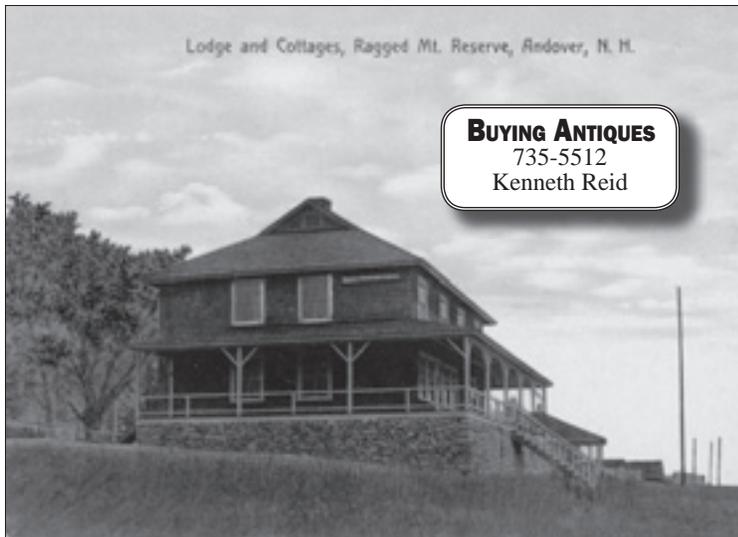
Andover Historical Society

Clean up and help the Historical Society - donate items to our 19th Century Fair auction and flea market.
Call for pick up:

Bill Cutter - 735-5628
Jim Goody - 735-5676
Ed Hiller - 735-5690
Dennis Fenton - 735-5226
Roger Henderson - 735-5551
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