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AE/MS Readys Holiday Shoppe

By Audrey Pellegrino
AE/MS Kindergarten Teacher

Each year at the Andover Elementary/Middle School we try to recapture that feeling of giving for the students. We hold a Holiday Shoppe where the students are able to choose and purchase gifts for family members, with prices of the gifts ranging from 25 cents to \$5.

Each year we ask for donations to have at the Holiday Shoppe. Last year we had over 1,400 items and sold them all. As we purchase some items, this is not intended as a money-making endeavor but as an opportunity to share the gift of giving with our students.

If you can donate items or money to the Shoppe we would appreciate it greatly. We ask that items be new or in excellent condition. If you are out shopping and see something that would be appropriate, please pick up one for yourself and one for our shoppe. Items can be sent in to the office at any time and, since we sell items for people ages newborn to 128 years of age, almost anything goes.

For more information contact Jane Slayton or Audrey Pellegrino at the school, at 735-5494. The Holiday Shoppe will be held on December 16 this year. Thank you, and Happy Holidays!

Book Fair Dec. 6 Free Preschool Screening

The Book Fair will be coming to Andover Elementary/Middle School on Tuesday, December 6, and will set up shop in the school library through Friday, December 9. The Book Fair will be open from 8 AM until 2:45 PM with the exception of Parents' Night on Thursday when the hours will be 8 AM until 6:15 PM. The Book Fair will close promptly at 6:15 so that all can be in their seats for the Holiday Concert.

Come and find a good book or two!

Are you concerned about your child's development? Do you suspect that your child may have an educational disability? Where do you get information? How can we help your child?

The Special Education staff of the Andover School District is providing a ChildFind Clinic free of charge for Andover School District residents. The ChildFind Clinic screens for possible educational disabilities. These can include speech, vision, hearing, motor ability, or learning disabilities. The screening is administered by staff members of the Andover School District.

The ChildFind Clinic will be held on Saturday, January 7, from 9 AM to 11 AM at the Andover Elementary/Middle School, 20 School Street, in Andover. For an appointment, call Kristin Spanger Flaherty at the school at 735-5494.

MVHS from page 24

with others in the school, we have no choice but to respond.

Guidance News

Andover eighth grade students visited MVHS on October 24. They were welcomed by current Andover seniors who volunteered to lead student tours of the building.

After touring, the eighth graders met in the auditorium with the guidance staff to talk about block scheduling, homerooms, lunches, the Wellness Clinic, and many other facts about MVHS. Also, a question and answer session was held with Andover senior students answering questions.

National Honor Society

The fall inductees for the National Honor Society included Samantha Rheume of Andover.

Celebrate!
For \$19 you can have a "celebration" ad in the *Beacon*. Call 735-6099.

PROFILE: SAM WESLEY

By Abigail Lance
Beacon staff

Sam Wesley of Andover, a senior at MVHS, has been named a Commended Student in the 2006 National Merit Scholarship Program. Sam was born in Dallas, but he grew up in Houston. He moved to Andover when he was 12.

When I asked Sam to describe himself, he said that he's serious in serious situations and foolish the rest of the time. "Like a chameleon, I change my mood according to the situation," he said. As you'll see, that foolishness appeared in some of his answers.

Sam's favorite subject at MVHS, and the best part of his MVHS experience so far, is engineering, "because it's fun and easy and we all get A's!" If he could change one thing about MVHS, however, he would create a course in Japanese.

For his senior project, he's building a traditional Japanese tea house and garden. When I asked, he also said "I like swords, and Japanese swords are the best!"

He likes all different types of subjects, such as: engineering, learning languages, math (especially calculus), and middle and old English literature. Sam likes epic films, such as the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, and the classic books, like the type you read in English class.

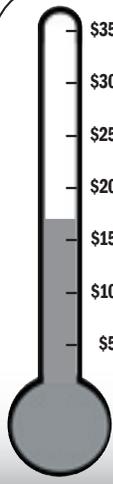
He likes rock, techno, classical, and disco music. He also enjoys *Dance Dance Revolution*, an interactive video game where you dance to disco music accord-

ing to the directions on the screen. In addition, he likes playing chess and other strategy games, cooking and watching *Iron Chef*, using and programming computers, and instigating revolution.

After he graduates, Sam says he's considering many possibilities, including taking a year off or going to Yale. He's looking forward to taking engineering and Japanese courses, and eventually going to Japan. He says he also would like to someday "buy Africa."

As Sam says (quoting Oscar Wilde), "Life is far too important to talk seriously about."

WATCH US GROW!



The Andover Recreation Committee has raised \$17,000 toward better, safer, more convenient, and more efficient facilities at Corson Field and Blackwater Park. Won't you help us reach our goal with a tax-deductible contribution today?

Andover Recreation Fund
PO Box 61
Andover NH 03216

Teachers from page 24

Nicole Wallace
By Carmen Bates

Some people recognize Miss Wallace from being a student teacher last year in the first grade at AE/MS. This is her first year teaching on her own, and she is very much enjoying her third graders. She likes this age group because they begin to become more independent and responsible.

Miss Wallace could not choose just one book as a favorite of hers, so she has a few that she would recommend to her students: *Ramona Quimby* by Beverly Cleary, *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli, and *Rainbow Goblins* by Ul Derico.

Miss Wallace has started a bi-weekly newspaper with her third grade class, and each week the students have a different job to make sure that the paper gets to press. It is sort of a weekly wrap-up for parents and is very informative and even more interesting because it is mostly written by the children.

Describing herself in one word, she says that she is "interested," and when you watch her with the children in her class, you can see it in her face that she is truly interested in them and what they have to say.

What she wants most for her class to take away from this year is to notice the natural world around them more and appreciate it. Her advice to parents is to be as involved as you can.

ChildFind Clinic
Preschool Screening

On Saturday, January 7, from 9 AM to 11 AM the Special Education Staff of the Andover School District can screen your child for possible disabilities in the areas of:

- Speech
- Vision
- Hearing
- Motor ability
- Learning

There is no charge for residents of the Andover School District. For an appointment, call Kristin Spanger Flaherty at 735-5494.

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Special Holiday Hours: Sun 10-4

