

**Teachers from page 32**

friendly, and she described Ms. Gray as thoughtful.

If she weren't a teacher, she would have to be involved with kids, maybe in daycare.

Mrs. Peters looks up to her mother because she has a wonderful heart and she believes in her. Mrs. Peters has a little boy who will be turning two, and she is expecting a baby boy who will be named Charlie in May.

**Shannon Gray**

Ms. Gray has also been teaching for five years, three of them in fifth grade at AE/MS. She likes the small size of the school, the helpful staff, the students, and the variety of after-school activities offered.

She likes fifth grade because of the subjects taught, the students' age and their enthusiasm for learning. Her classroom is a place where everyone is welcome, where they all have fun learning. And it has a very comfy futon.

Ms. Grays' favorite part of the day is the morning, and her favorite part of the school year is the first few weeks because she is just getting to know the students. Jeremiah, her new stuffed giraffe, is the only pet in her classroom.

When students leave her classroom, she would like them to know that learning is fun and they are always welcome to come back and visit.

Her favorite all-time book would have to be *Among the Hidden* by her favorite author, Margaret Peterson Haddix. If Ms. Gray could describe herself in one word it would have to be efficient. If she were to describe Ms. Peters in one word, she would choose funny.

If she weren't a teacher, she thinks that she would be only a little dot in the world. When asked who she looks up to, she didn't need to look very far: AE/MS's very own Ms. Owen, because of her kind and caring heart.

The fun thing about interviewing someone is that you learn new and sometimes unusual things about them. What I am about to share with you is quite amazing. Ms. Gray has many talents, but this one we were all able to witness with our very own eyes. Ms. Gray can say the alphabet backwards in less than four seconds *without* even looking at the alphabet!

**Internet Safety At AE/MS**

By Jane Slayton  
AE/MS Principal

You could have heard a pin drop in the gymnasium on the morning of January 25 when Detective James McLaughlin of the Keene Police Department shared slides and serious information with sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students, AE/MS staff members, and parents. Detective McLaughlin has been a member of the Regional Task Force on Internet Crimes Against Children and is a nationally recognized expert on the topic.

Detective McLaughlin kept the full attention of all as he discussed the serious situation of sexual offenders on the Internet. He talked with students about what type of persons are committing child exploitation crimes, how child victims are engaged, and where on the Internet sex offenders look for victims. An enormous amount of information was given to the participants with the intent that they practice safer Internet use.

Students were especially cautioned regarding the use of MySpace.com and other social network sites. These sites have made it much easier for sexual predators to interact with children. There have been many occurrences recently reported through the media where the MySpace Web site was linked to child sex crimes.

**AE/MS Spelling Bee**

By Molly Kidane  
AE/MS Fourth Grade Teacher

The annual AE/MS Spelling Bee was held on January 26 in the school library. Forty-two contestants from grades four through eight competed this year. Students used the *Paideia*, the Scripps National Spelling Bee book, to prepare for the bee.

After 16 tense rounds, seventh grader Will Henriques correctly spelled "defensive" and "captain" to become this year's champion. Our runner-up was sixth grader Siobhan Reid. The next level of competition for Will is the regional bee on March 18 in Laconia.

Good luck, Will!

An important point of Detective McLaughlin's presentation was that families need to communicate with each other and have rules for computer use at home.

With Detective McLaughlin's permission, his presentation was taped by the Andover Middle School Video Club. It has run on Andover's Cable Channel 8, and the video is also available here at the school.

Detective McLaughlin will be back in the area on March 7 to share his information and advice with seventh through 12th grade students in the Merrimack Valley School District. During the school day, he will be speaking to the students about appropriate use of the Internet. That evening, he will be speaking to all interested parents, guardians, and community members who want to know more about the potential dangers of the Internet.

This is an important and extremely relevant topic, and all are invited to join us for his presentation from 7 PM to 8:30 PM at Merrimack Valley High in Penacook. The evening will be quite informative for parents.



**AE/MS 2006-2007 School Year Kindergarten Registration**

Registration and information gathering is scheduled for April 12, 2006. Children entering kindergarten should be five years old on or before September 30, 2006.

Registration packets will be mailed. If you have not received your packet by March 17, please call Gail Parenteau at 735-5494.

At the time of your child's appointment, please bring birth certificate and immunization record.

We look forward to meeting you!

**Recycle Your Printer, Copier, & Fax Cartridges At AE/MS**

Parent volunteers package them and we sell them to raise money to help send our students to a week-long environmental camp.

**Recycle today to help a future recycler tomorrow!**



*Please welcome Patty Reynolds as the new Manager of Lake Sunapee Bank in Andover*

Patty has been with Lake Sunapee Bank for many years as Assistant Manager of our Newport Road, New London office. We are very happy to introduce her to the community as manager of our Andover office. Patty looks forward to serving the greater Andover area! Stop in to meet Patty...the coffee is on!



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Sign Ups at AE/MS Gym  
March 6 and March 9  
6 PM to 7:30 PM  
March 11  
9 AM to noon

**2006-2007 Kindergarten**

The Andover Five Alive Program is now accepting registrations for the 2006-2007 school year. Call Robin Rego at 735-6566 or stop by The Hamp House during operating hours.

Limited spaces available.  
Deadline for registrations is  
May 15.