

Andover Libraries

By Ray Mitchell
Beacon staff

The ice will be going out and the roads will be clear. Are you planning a trip? Below are some suggestions to make your travel more enjoyable. Most cars have a tape or CD player. Our libraries have a selection of books in both forms. You may check them out for entertainment and learning as you drive.

Books On CDs

For inspiration you might listen to Christopher Reeves read his story, *Nothing Is Impossible*. *Ice Bound* is the story of Dr. Jeri Nielsen, who had to deal with her cancer while she was isolated in Antarctica.

If you need something to keep you awake, try *Tales of Horror*, which includes the stories of Dracula and Frankenstein. Fortify your faith with *Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis. If history is your interest, listen to *Theodore Rex*, which records Teddy Roosevelt's presidential years.

For those who find the size of Harry Potter books daunting, they are available on CD in the children's section. You may have to bend over to find them, but the exercise is good.

Books On Audio Tapes

Some of our popular writers are collected in this format. For romantics, several of Danielle Steele's books are on the shelf. Those who like courtroom dramas will find John Gresham's books there. J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit* will entertain the whole family. Stephen King's works may scare you as you drive, but don't get distracted.

For Children

For the younger listeners there is *Babar* and the *Berenstain Bears*. Older children will enjoy *The Secret Garden* or *Lemony Snicket*. The Harry Potter series is found in this section even though the fantasy appeals to many ages.

The above is just a sampling. Visit the library and see the many audio titles that may appeal to you and enliven your travel.

Food, Friends, & Merriment!

By Tracy Merriman
Beacon staff

April is such a wonderful time of the year, and it brings with it the Easter holiday! I decided that this month's article should include something fun for the children. Who better to supply fun for children than our very own AE/MS kindergarten teacher, Audrey Pellegrino. When I asked her if she would like to submit something for our young readers, she knew right away that she wanted to share an Easter tradition from her family. Here is what Mrs. P had to say:

"When I was growing up, Easter meant a lot of different things to me. We would start the day waking up before the sun rose and walking to sunrise service. Later in the day we would have Easter dinner and a jellybean hunt. In a family as big as mine the jellybeans went further than two dozen eggs would.

"What I would wait for would be the bunny cake. I loved helping my mother decorate the cake. It was magical how she could make it with an ordinary cake pan. I hope you try the bunny cake with your children and start a new tradition, or enjoy an old one. Happy Easter!"

Send your favorite recipe to Cooking@AndoverBeacon.com or PO Box 149, Andover 03216. Include your name and phone number so we can print a little interview along with the featured recipe.

Bunny Cake

Contributed by Mrs. Audrey Pellegrino

- 1 package yellow or white cake mix.
- 2 9-inch round baking pans
- 4 cups vanilla frosting
- Colored sugar or small candies
- Black or red shoestring licorice
- Shredded coconut
- 2 chocolate chips
- 2 mini marshmallows

Bake cake as directed using two 9-inch round pans. Cool and cut one round as shown in diagram. Pieces can be placed in freezer for one hour for easier frosting. Arrange pieces on a tray as shown in diagram. Use small amounts



Diagram: BettyCrocker.com

of frosting to assemble the pieces. Frost the bunny using white frosting. Reserve a 1/2 cup of frosting to color pink for the ears, nose and cheeks.

Sprinkle the bunny with coconut for fur. Use colored sugar or candies to decorate the bow tie, licorice for whiskers and eye lashes, chocolate chips for eye pupils, and marshmallows for teeth.

Use your imagination, and have fun creating your very own bunny cake!

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