

AE/MS BAND

By Paul Hubert
AE/MS Band Director

Spring is finally here, and summer is in sight. Field trips are underway, and a lot of school activities are winding down. Not for the AE/MS Band! This is one of our most exciting and busy times of the year.

On Monday, May 28, the advanced and intermediate band players participated in Wilmot's Memorial Day Parade and ceremonies. Two mighty trombones, Shrief Elmasry and Damick Kinson led the charge. Will Henriques, our trumpeter, played two sweet renditions of *Taps*.

Our drummers, Andrew Young and Madison Powers, drove the machine with their awesome beats. Three flutes and a clarinet – Megan Hanscom, Becca Lance, Emily Lance, and a volunteer from the Kearsarge Community Band – played the mellow melodic relief. We understand that the Lances drove all the way from Tennessee to be there!

Bringing up the rear and providing the backbone were two alto saxes: Brendan Coll and Mr. Hubert.

Congratulations on a job well done and well appreciated. You guys rock!

This was the third year that the AE/MS Band participated in the Wilmot Memorial Day ceremony. We were

proud to be invited back. Performing for community functions is a meaningful experience for the band members.

Spring Concert

The AE/MS Spring Concert was Thursday, May 31, at 6:30 PM in the school gym. The audience heard performances by grades kindergarten through five as well as bands, solos, and duets.

This year we have three bands; Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced. Each rehearsed furiously and gave their best performances yet. We were glad to see you all there in the audience so the students could show you what they can do.

Fourth Of July

Look for the AE/MS Band again at Andover's Fourth of July celebration. Band members have been invited to join the Kearsarge Community Band for a joint concert on the lawn at the Holland Memorial Auditorium at Proctor Academy following the parade. The concert start time is 1 PM.

This will be the third year for this event, and it has proven to be a good show in the past. It's a valuable experience for the student musicians to interact and play with grownups who have made playing music a lifelong activity. Come grab some shade and join us for a relaxing musical interlude.



Jen Braley (l), Principal Jane Slayton, and John Braley (r) help Matt celebrate his new school record.
Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

Matt Braley Sets New Record

By Gretchen Hildebrand
AE/MS Second Grade Teacher

Matthew Braley, a second grader at Andover Elementary/Middle School, passed his 150th Accelerated Reader test on Monday, April 30, setting an AE/MS record, an Andover town record, and who knows what other record!

Matt was rewarded with a drum roll from AE/MS band members, a certificate signed by Ms. Slayton and Ms. Hildebrand, prizes, and the new challenge to get to 200 by the end of this school year. Fellow classmates shared his excitement, asking him for autographs.

Matt's parents, Jennifer and John Braley, were on hand for the ceremony.

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a computer-based program that provides independent reading practice. AR checks students' comprehension of what they have read with quizzes.

Upon completing a quiz, the student sees his or her percentage score, total quizzes taken and passed, the level of difficulty of the reading material, and how many of the books read were fiction versus nonfiction. It is a great incentive for students and a super monitoring tool for teachers as well.



Earth Day at Proctor. (Left) Justine Hewitt of Andover brandishes her pruning saw during a trail-clearing project in the Proctor woodlands.



(Right) Andover residents Eric Viandier, Nick Fairall, and Kinley Viandier enjoy the sunrise from the Bulkhead on Ragged Mountain.

Photos: Chuck Will

Hillside Orchard Greenhouses

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