

STILL MORE TOWN REPORTS

or the motorized ones this year had a much longer ride thanks to Frank Judge, Tom Miller, and Larry Ayer. These railroad friends repaired and extended the siding tracks after the brush and trees were cleared by a group of Proctor students on Earth Day.

We celebrated our 25th anniversary with an ice cream social on September 23. Paul Fenton delighted the crowd with readings from his book, *Halfway Up the Hill*.

You can support the Andover Historical Society by becoming a member. Memberships are: Individual, \$10, Family, \$15, Donor, \$50, Life for one person, \$150, or for two, \$200. Please send a check to PO Box 167, Andover 03216.

Andover Service Club

Our club purpose is to be of service to the people of the community and the state. We wish to broaden and strengthen the social and intellectual life of the members.

Our official calendar of meetings is from September to June with an additional event for the Fourth of July. Our typical meetings start at 10 AM and end by 1 PM and include club business, a break with light refreshment and a guest speaker.

Annually, we have been guests of the Women of Ragged Mountain in September. In November, with the Lions and the Andover Girl Scouts, the ASC lights the Town Tree. The Irving Blue Canoe hosted our annual Thanksgiving pie sale. December brings our Holiday Themed Luncheon. The club also assists AE/MS families with Holiday food baskets.

January is our Book Review month.

February we celebrate Valentine's Day with a Yankee Swap. In March, we host a Bake sale at Town Meeting and have a Guest Night. April brings the ASC together with the Immaculate Conception Church to clean out the closets of Andover! They host their annual Rummage sale and we hold a Treasure and Bake sale next door at the Masonic Hall. May is always a fun program and we complete the year in June with our scholarship distribution at our annual luncheon and a discussion of Fourth of July activities.

This past year we assisted with a variety of fundraisers for our community projects. We have achieved IRS 501(c)(3) status effective 2008.

The main fundraiser for scholarships is the Thrift Shop. Last year we awarded over \$11,000 in scholarships. The Thrift Shop hours are Tuesday from 10 AM to 2 PM, Wednesday from 3 PM to 7 PM, Thursday from 10 AM to 4 PM, and Saturday from 10 AM to 2 PM. Membership applications and scholarship applications are available at the Thrift Shop.

East Andover Village Preschool

The East Andover Village Preschool is in the midst of another successful school year. Established in 1979, we are entering our 29th year on the hill in East Andover. Our Director, Doreen Perreault, is celebrating her seventh year and our Assistant Teacher, Becky Smart is enjoying her sixth year with us. The 2007 school year welcomed 26 children ages three and four. The staff has created a wonderful fun filled learning environment that includes both social and academic learning.

Being a small non-profit preschool, we know that our success is based on two factors:

- the wonderful families enrolled in our preschool, and
- the support of the community.

We are grateful for your support and thank those in the community that have sent financial donations, hosted a field trip, donated classroom supplies or building supplies as well as those who have volunteered numerous hours by helping with yearly events, doing maintenance work and serving on our Advisory Board.

We know that the preschool's success will continue to depend on community involvement and support. This year, more families are in need of help causing a strain on our Scholarship fund. We are looking for community members interested in making a difference in the lives of a young child. Please consider sponsoring a child for the 2008-2009 school year, or consider making a tax deductible financial contribution to our worthy organization. Contact our Director at 735-5105 to find out how you can make a difference today.

Friends of the Northern Rail Trail

The mission of the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail (FRNT) in Merrimack County is to improve, main-

tain, and promote the Northern Rail Trail as a four-season multi-use trail. Once completed and connected with the Northern Rail Trail in Grafton County, the Northern Rail Trail will stretch 59 miles from Lebanon to Boscawren and will be the longest rail trail in New Hampshire.

In 2007, FNRT continued its focus on rail trail construction and received its third grant from the New Hampshire Recreational Trails Program (RTP). This \$30,000 grant extended the rail trail from Switch Road to East Andover. Peter Crowell of New London donated labor and equipment; Rosie Best monitored deliveries of hardpack.

Other funds included a second grant from the National Park Service for technical support; the proceeds from the Danbury Blazing Star Grange Supper; and grants from the Lake Sunapee Bank, the Brundage Foundation, Davis Conservation Fund, and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.

In the spring there were meetings with the Danbury Selectmen, Andover Selectmen, and Wilnot Planning Board to discuss plans for the \$206,000 Transportation Enhancement grant to take the Rail Trail from Potter Place through Danbury. Engineering studies will be done during 2008, and Andover has

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