



Proctor's Slocumb Hall, once the livery stable of the Proctor House Hotel and currently home to the visual arts and ceramics programs, is slated for extensive renovation with funds provided by an alumnus. Photo: Chuck Will

## Proctor Academy News

By Chuck Will  
Proctor Academy

February was a busy month at Proctor! We were delighted by the number of townspeople who joined us for the celebration of the Blackwater Ski Area on February 9. At that event, Mike Henriques announced that the family of an alumnus is pledging a "match gift" of \$75,000 toward additional improvements to the ski area. This means that we will receive the money as soon as we raise an additional \$75,000 toward the project. Hopefully, we will be widening trails and enhancing lighting and snow-making soon!

Earlier on February 9, at a meeting of the Board of Trustees, Geoff Morris '62 announced his intention to fund the renovation of Slocumb Hall. Located on North Street across from Proctor Pond, Slocumb was originally a livery stable for the Proctor House Hotel, which burned in 1881. Home to visual arts and ceramics programs, this classic New England structure will be thoroughly rewired, insulated, and refurbished to include photography darkrooms in the future.

At the same Board meeting, trustees voted to finance construction of a biomass furnace to replace the oil-fired boilers that feed the campus steam plant. With oil prices expected to skyrocket over the next few years, this woodchip boiler will virtually pay for itself in savings. It is also a "win-win" in our efforts to practice environmental responsibility. Emissions from the biomass plant will be much cleaner than the exhaust from burning #4 oil.

Construction on the new, 18-student dormitory, Peabody House, continues with completion expected in July.

For the second time in 18 years, Proctor has been named Community Tree Farm of the Year for the state of New Hampshire. The award recognizes the school's thoughtful plan for multiple-purpose use of its 2,500 acre woodlot in Andover. The plan includes education, recreation, and economics.

Land Use Manager David Pilla comments, "This is a great honor. It was our academic use of the property that distinguished Proctor against the other candidates." David teaches Forestry and Wildlife Science and manages the Woods Team that maintains trails and bridges and provides cordwood to heat five dormitories.

### Donate!

The *Beacon* relies on voluntary donations for a substantial part of its budget.

## PROCTOR STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

are available to help local residents with snow shovelling, barn, yard, and house work.

Moving, pushing, pulling, stacking ... whatever the chore, contact us at 735-5149 or [Eric\\_Viandier@proctornet.com](mailto:Eric_Viandier@proctornet.com)



Main Street, New London  
(Across from the Gazebo)

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WINTER HOURS

Sun-Thur 11:30 to at least 8  
Fri & Sat 11:30 to at least 9

## AE/MS Parent-Teacher Organization

By Carmen Bates  
AE/MS PTO

We had our February meeting on the 4th, and here is what we discussed.

Some of the library murals have been handed out to artists. The students are going to brainstorm what each classroom feels the book they chose makes them imagine they can do. We will have a raffle to help raise money for the library project.

Fun Passes were sold, and we sold a total of seven for a profit of \$35. They will be sent home before February vacation.

Fun Passes are coupon booklets that provide over \$1,000 in discounts at over 100 popular tourist attractions in New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, and Vermont. They are a great deal for parents or grandparents with children under 12. Anyone still interested in getting one should get in touch with me.

Spirit Week is the last week of February, and the PTO will once again be serving very popular snow cones to the students and staff during Beach Day. Thank you very much to the East Andover Fire Department for letting us borrow their snow cone machine!

The fourth graders are going on their overnight visit to the Boston Museum of Science, and the PTO is going to help

fund this to make it affordable for the students to go.

We would like to remind all parents and PTO members to attend the Annual School District Meeting on Monday, March 3, at 7 PM. The 2008-09 school budget is discussed and voted on at this meeting, so *please try to attend*.

Eagle Bucks are coming in to staff and teachers, and auction items are being collected. Eagle Bucks are certificates that parents and students can give to staff members they feel did something special, or an act of kindness, or just something you would like to say, "Thank you" to them for. If you need more Eagle bucks, I have lots!

Let me know if you want to donate a basket or an item for the auction. The staff will use their well-earned bucks to bid on items at an auction during Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week in May.

The birthdays this month are Mrs. Young, Mrs. Gagne, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Silverstein. Happy Birthday!

The next meeting will be Monday, March 10, at 6:30 PM in the AE/MS Library.

If you would like to help in any way, contact Carmen Bates at [canddplus4@comcast.net](mailto:canddplus4@comcast.net) or 735-5589.

### Snow from page 44

**O&B:** How many more snow days do you think we will have?

**Dr. M.:** Ha! There will be more snow days.

**O&B:** Have you ever had a year with this many snow days before?

**Dr. M.:** No, there has never been a school year like this one.

**O&B:** Could we lose our April vacation?

**Dr. M.:** As a last resort that could happen. All of the snow days are made up in June.

**O&B:** What's the latest date you have had schools still in session?

**Dr. M.:** June 27.

**O&B:** When do you send students home early, an early release?

**Dr. M.:** We have an early release when the roads are really bad. We need to always make sure that every child has an adult at home before we dismiss.

**O&B:** If AE/MS is cancelled due to weather conditions and Merrimack Valley High School isn't cancelled, what happens to the high school students in Andover?

**Dr. M.:** Most likely, buses would be running, but this rarely happens.

**O&B:** Have any of your schools had a bus accident?

**Dr. M.:** Yes, but fortunately nothing serious. There have been fender benders in December. Thankfully, no one has had to go to the hospital.

**O&B:** Let's hope we don't have any more snow days!

### Calendar from page 44

- house, 5-7
- Mar 24:** Lions Club, Mr. D's, 6:30
- Mar 24:** Master Plan Committee, 7
- Mar 25:** Planning Board, 7
- Mar 25:** Andover Fish & Game, East Andover Clubhouse, 7:30
- Mar 29:** NHCHF State Spring Workshop, *Aprons*, AE/MS, 9
- Mar 30:** Youth Group, Andover Firehouse, 5-7
- Apr 1:** School Board, AE/MS, 6:30
- Apr 2:** Fourth of July Committee, Andover Fire Station, 7
- Apr 2:** *Rediscovering Afghanistan: Lessons From The Home*, AE/MS, 7
- Apr 3:** Kearsarge Masonic Lodge, Potter Place, 7:30
- Apr 7:** Board of Selectmen, 7
- Apr 8:** Cell Tower Hearing, 7:30



## AE/MS 2008-2009 Kindergarten Registration Information Gathering May 7

If your child will be 5 years old on or before September 30, 2008, please call Mrs. Parenteau to schedule an appointment.  
**735-5494**