

100 YEARS AGO

JUNE 1908

Here's some old news from the *Andover, EastAndover, WestAndover, Potter Place, and Cilleyville "gossip" columns of the Franklin Journal Transcript, selected by Heather Makechnie.*

**June 4, 1908:** "A herd of elk have been turned loose upon Ragged Mountain, where they are free to roam at large, destroying the buds of the forest trees in the woods and our fruit orchards in the summer. Several in this vicinity have lost their fruit trees because of the depredations, which is no small loss for the farmer. But the

[animals] are protected by law. Has the citizen no rights to protect his property?"

"John Carr is at home from Harvard this week."

**June 11, 1908:** "Carl Jenness is our new station agent, Mr. McClane having gone to Contoocook."

"Proctor closed the baseball season Saturday, June 6, by defeating Rockland Military Academy of West Lebanon 7 to 5."

**June 18, 1908:** "John Pinard has enlisted in the navy and is on his way to Cuba."

"Arthur Downes killed a black snake last week, which measured five feet and nine inches."

**June 25, 1908:** "Fred Keniston is at work for the Concord Lumber Company."

"Friends of Clarence Buswell, formerly of Andover, and of Miss Mabel Morrison of Danbury, are receiving cards announcing their marriage. Mr. Buswell sings in Keith's Theatre in Boston, while Miss Morrison has been a very successful teacher in Danbury and vicinity."

"The services at West Andover Chapel are well attended. Prayer service is held on Wednesday and Sunday nights."



The Tucker Mountain Schoolhouse

Photo: Heather Makechnie

Tucker Mountain Schoolhouse

By Donna Hartwell-Baker  
Andover Historical Society

The Andover Historical Society announces that the 1863 one-room schoolhouse on Tucker Mountain Road will be open to the public throughout the summer and fall season on the second Sunday of each month, from 1 to 3 PM, starting June 8. Each month there will be a special exhibit or activity to enjoy.

In 2005, the two-holer privy was restored by Frank Baker, Jr. The seat had long ago been chewed beyond recognition by porcupine. The remnant of the toilet seat has been kept for visitors to see. Porcupine were such a problem in the 1940s and '50s that the Fish and Game Department had a bounty out on them. Frank remembers getting 25 cents apiece for each nose he turned in. Porcupine eat wood and have done considerable damage to old barns and out buildings – the schoolhouse's privy is an example.

with some incredible incisors for gnawing wood, and the amount of gnawing that they do in their lifetime means that their teeth get a lot of wear. Fortunately for them, they grow teeth on demand. I liken it to a lead pencil that you can push new lead out as it wears down.

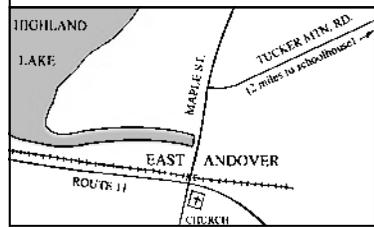
If you would like to see up close how this works, come to the open house on June 8 at the Tucker Mountain School and see the actual skull and teeth of a porcupine.

Along with the porcupine skull, Frank Baker III will be exhibiting his collection of animal skulls. Included in the exhibit will be skulls of coyote, bear, deer, moose, cougar, partridge, woodcock, duck, turkey, snapping turtle, bat, and raven.

Note cards, t-shirts, and other items of the Andover Historical Society will be available for purchase at the school house. Tours of the school house may also be made by appointment.

For more information, please call Donna Baker-Hartwell at 735-5586.

The Historical Society's museum at Potter Place is open for the summer Saturdays from 10:30 AM to 3 PM and Sundays from 1 to 3 PM. The Tucker Mountain Schoolhouse (see Ed Hiller's map below) is open on the second Sunday of every month from June to October from 1 to 3 PM.



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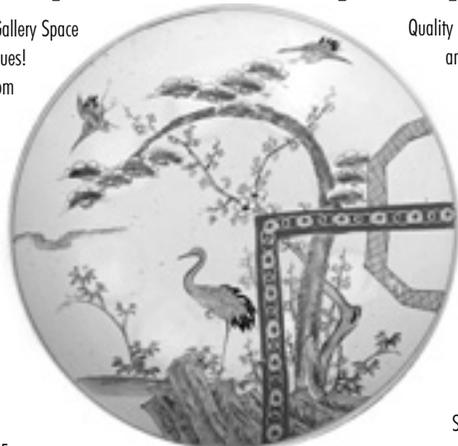
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