



During the last open house of the season, Frank Baker pauses for a moment in the Tucker Mountain Schoolhouse. Staff photo: Bob Bussey

Robert Bussey

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50 YEARS AGO

NOVEMBER 1958

Here’s some old news from the Andover, East Andover, West Andover, Potter Place, and Cilleyville “gossip” columns of the Franklin Journal Transcript, selected by Heather Makechnie.

November 6, 1958: Andover – Hot lunches started this week for the school children with Mrs. Etta Currier, Mrs. Charlotte Clark, and Mrs. Lana Nelson doing the cooking.

November 13, 1958: Andover – The Andover Lions Club has resumed showing movies at the Holland Auditorium again this year. They start at 7:30 PM. The next one will be on November 19, and will be *Cockleshell Heroes*.

November 20, 1958: Andover – Fire Destroys Home on Andover Plains – A small one-story house on Andover Plains, occupied by the family of John Sharkey, was destroyed by flames last Friday afternoon. The place is located near the Dalphond Lumber Mill. The East Andover fire department responded to an alarm, but the situation was hopeless before they could get there. Firemen said that an overheated stove may have been responsible for the blaze.

Andover – Proctor Plans New Library. There was important news at Proctor Academy this week. Lyle H. Farrell, headmaster, announced plans for building a new library at the school. The building, which will cost about \$60,000, also will house two classrooms, as well as library space.

“We have no definite date set to begin construction,” Mr. Farrell said. “First we must raise the necessary funds.” It was reported that \$10,000 has already been given toward the project. Plans

for the building are being drawn by the firm of Bradt, Littlefield and Williams, architects of Dover.

November 27, 1958: East Andover – Fire Radio Installed – After seemingly endless delays and miles of red tape, the two fire trucks of the East Andover Volunteer Fire Department have been equipped with two-way radios last Friday. The project was started soon after the big Easter Sunday fire on Andover Plains in 1957, and the money was raised that summer by various means to defray their cost. Following several complications, these were requested through Civil Defense, and then the red tape began.

The radios were installed by George Welch of Weare October 24, and that same night were given a trial work-out by the firemen from various points in the area. Successful contacts were made with Andover, Franklin, Hill, Belmont, and Concord departments, and the service should be of great value in the case of a major fire.

Now the company is again seeking additional funds to finance the radios. Ironically, the firemen have the money completely out of reach in the now closed Valley Trust Company.

To help build up other funds the East Andover firemen are planning to hold a “Chicken and Turkey Jamboree” at the fire station the evening of Monday, November 24, to which all are invited to attend and go home with a fowl or turkey for Thanksgiving.

Early that same evening the firemen will also give a demonstration of the new radios for the benefit of local folks.

Moose Hunters At 50% Success Rate Through October 22

As of Wednesday, October 22, a total of 256 moose had been taken in the 2008 New Hampshire moose hunt (150 bulls and 106 cows). That means that half (49.6%) of hunters holding moose permits had succeeded by the mid-way point in the state’s moose hunt, slightly down from the 56% success rate hunters had achieved at this point in the moose season last year. The nine-day season ran through Sunday, October 26.

“The weather has been perfect for moose hunting,” said New Hampshire Fish and Game Department Moose Project Leader Kristine Rines. “It’s obvious the rut is still going on. Hunters are still able to call bulls in, and some have observed bulls fighting.”

Kristine explained that in some years, the moose hunt occurs so late that the rut, or breeding season, is nearly over

and only the younger bulls will respond to the call of a female moose. “This year the big boys are still responding to calls,” Rines said.

The largest bull taken so far this year weighed 840 pounds (dressed weight; it would have weighed 1,230 pounds live) and was taken in WMU D-1 by Robert Whitten of Litchfield. The largest cow taken so far had a dressed weight of 715 pounds (1,050 pounds live weight) and was taken in WMU A-1 by Brian Cole of Antrim.

This year, more than 15,000 people entered the 2008 moose hunt lottery, held last spring, for a chance to win one of the 515 permits drawn for the New Hampshire moose hunt.

For more information, including a list of check stations and photos from this year’s hunt, visit Wildlife.state.nh.us/Hunting/Hunt_species/hunt_moose.htm.

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