

# THE REST OF THE TOWN REPORT

The annual Town Report includes reports from all the Town committees, boards, commissions, and other entities that form our local government. It also includes reports from some agencies and organizations that serve our community.

To round out this annual update, the Beacon asked over 20 other organizations that serve our community for a short report on their activities in 2009. Here, in alphabetical order, is "the rest of the Town Report."

## Andover Five Alive and Andover After School

The Annex currently serves 14 kindergarteners in our Five Alive Program and 31 elementary students in the After School Program, for a total enrollment of 45 children ages five through 12. We are happy and proud to provide a bright, happy, and healthy space for all our kids to create, learn, laugh, and grow. Our learning spaces include:

- building blocks area with three different types of blocks and Legos,
- dress-up with hats, shoes and other accessories,
- magnets and animals in our science and nature area,
- an ever-improving library with thousands of books and many musical instruments, puzzles and games

for practice sharing, strategizing, and working on motor skills

- lots of visual arts supplies like paper and paint, glue and scissors.

Our dining room space functions as snack- and lunch-eating space, homework room, a place to create art, and also becomes a spontaneous meeting spot for families, staff, and groups of kids throughout the day.

Whether a Five Alive or After Schooler, every child here at the Annex receives time everyday to work, play indoors and out, and also gets some time to sit (or lie) down and rest, and, of course, to read or do schoolwork, when needed. Our staff strives to provide a safe and structured environment that is conducive to each child's constructive fun and learning, allowing for as much student choice as possible. The unique atmosphere at the Annex brings new, fun social interactions, special events, and real-life learning situations that children might not experience in formal elementary school. We're glad to be a part of encouraging each child to become the well-rounded, happy students we greet every day.

## Andover Boy Scouts

The Boy Scouts are a nationwide organization for boys from age 11 to 18.

Please join me in thanking Mary Anne Broshek for the great job she has done once again in managing this important section of the Beacon as well as the On The Ballot section. It takes hundreds of e-mails and dozens of phone calls to get all the candidates and organization leaders focused on our deadline and motivated to inform the readers of the Beacon. Thanks, Mary Anne!

- Charlie

Andover Troop 489 presently has nine boys enrolled. We have weekly meetings where the boys work on rank advancement and outdoor skills such as knots, first aid, fire building, compass/orienteering, and physical fitness. We also do monthly activities such as hiking Mount Kearsarge and playing laser tag in Hooksett.

We do a lot of outdoor activities such as camping and hiking – some with just our troop, and sometimes with other New Hampshire Boy Scouts. During the campouts we have the opportunity to work on fire skills, cooking, knife/ax skills, and safety. The boys also choose merit badges that they are interested in completing on their own time.

Another part of the Boy Scouts is community service, and we have several projects that we participate in every year:

- Help the library move donated books for the sale on Fourth of July
  - March in the Fourth of July parade
  - Help the Andover Historical Society with their auction in August.
- The boys carry items for display and then help load the sold items into people's vehicles.
- Canned food drive in November. This year with the Cub Scouts we collected over 450 items that were donated to the Andover Food Pantry in the Town Hall.

We are grateful to our charter organization, the Andover Lions Club, for their continued support by providing storage space for our camping equipment and providing our annual re-charter and registration fees.

Interested in learning more? Please contact Kathy Bennett, Scoutmaster, at 735-6142 evenings.

## Andover Congregational Church

The Andover Congregational Church, the white church with green shutters, by the side of Route 11, in East Andover, celebrated its 200th anniversary in 1997.

Andover Congregational continues to be a place in Andover for people of all ages to find God and to be in fellowship, worship, and service through our Lord Jesus Christ. Here, we are called to make disciples by sharing the Word, to support one another in love, and to follow our Lord in compassion.

Our pastor John Wagner, along with wife Amy and six sons, has been our spiritual leader for 17 years.

Our church has a versatile musical group and choir led by Don Towle. Every Tuesday night, ALPHA meets at the Grange Hall, located next to the church.

Linda Wickstrom organizes this now worldwide course on Christianity and discussion group where one is able to learn and to ask any question regarding his or her faith.

BETA is another group that meets at this time, exploring deeper religious topics. A delicious dinner presented by Irene Jewett and Sandy Miller begins the experience at 6 PM with the meetings beginning at 6:30.

On Wednesday at 9:30 AM, a Bible study (now the book of Acts) is held at Irene Jewett's home on Maple Street in East Andover.

Our newest members are Charles Chamberlin, Dawn Ordway, Lawrence and Pam O'Neill, and Lorna Rogers. One said recently, "We are like one big family."

Striving to follow the will of God, we invite you to join us at 9:30 for Sunday morning worship and a coffee hour after. Call 735-5160 for more information or questions.

## Andover Historical Society

We applied for, but did not receive, a grant from the New Hampshire Department of Historic Preservation to paint the Potter Place Railroad Station with the original B&M colors. We will try again for 2010. The Board formally accepted the new mission statement submitted by Nancy Tripp: "To preserve the history of Andover through the acquisition and conservation of property, artifacts, and stories and to foster an awareness and appreciation for that history within the community."

In May a cooperative agreement between the Society and the State of New Hampshire for the use of state land was approved, and on June 13, 2009 our freight car arrived over the roads from the siding in Canterbury where it had been stored since December 31, 2007.

The long-awaited video re-enactment of *Elder Moody's Hat, This Old Town*, became reality. Expertly executed by Ethney McMahon and conceived by Larry Chase, it was shown on Channel 8 and is available for sale at AHS.

The Society published the book *Reminiscences of People and Events in East Andover*, a collection of newspaper articles written by Frank Brown between 1898 and 1902. Our October annual meeting was a very well received pot luck supper held at Bluewater Farm.

Thanks to a generous donor, the replacement ceiling at the Tucker Mountain School was removed and a new horse-hair plaster ceiling installed over the original split lath.



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