

The **Andover Beacon**
 Our Hometown Newspaper
 Happy Holidays!

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First graders (back, l-r) Julianna Baptiste, Cassidy Piroso, Jesse Niemyer, (front) Michael Miller, Colby Jones, Lilly Carlson, Braden Keyser, Brenden Miller, and Rylee Sweeney get ready to spell out "We appreciate our veterans. Thanks!"

AE/MS Honors Veterans

By Jane Slayton
 Principal, AE/MS

A heartwarming Veterans Day ceremony was held at AE/MS on November 3. Every student in every classroom and all staff members contributed to the celebration. Some sang, some shared poetry, some played their musical instruments, while others decorated and made personal cards for the veterans.

The patriotic art work created by the students for the occasion was stunning. Our new middle school chorus performed for the first time. Our PTO provided coffee and delicious cookies and brownies. Veterans Day has become one of the most important days of the year for our school community.

Our keynote speaker, Naval Commander Charlie Giles, delivered a heartfelt message to the students, staff, and veterans. His message, both humorous and serious, commanded the attention of the crowd. American Legion Post #40 added the traditional military posting and retiring of colors.

Many veterans stayed after the ceremony to enjoy refreshments and each other's company.

This year the ceremony was particularly special because Army PFC Jeff Sweeney, father to AE/MS students



PFC Jeff Sweeney surprises his sons Keygan (l) and Parker at the AE/MS Veterans Day ceremony before leaving for an extended tour in Kuwait. Photos: Chris Connor

Keygan and Rylee, made a surprise appearance and reunited with his family before leaving for an extended tour to Kuwait.

Proctor Academy's Choral and Music See Veterans on page 50

MVHS FALL SPORTS WRAP-UP

By Kevin O'Brien
 MVHS Athletic Director

Overall, MVHS had a very productive fall athletic season. All of our teams with the exception of football qualified for the state tournament. The golf team was represented by Travis Landry and Taran Cullen at the state meet. Travis finished 3rd in Division II.

Field Hockey was seeded 7th for the state tournament and lost to Hanover in

the first round. Emily Laro, Ashleigh Fife, India Thompson, Marisa Laro, Chantel Caron, Bekka Sterns, Haley Adams, and Erin Frost, all of Andover, were members of the program.

Girls Soccer was seeded 14th and lost to Souhegan in the first round. Jenna Davis and Kristi Perreault were members of the program.

The Boys Soccer team was the num- See MVHS on page 50

Chuck Will Chronicles Daily Life At Proctor Academy



By Meg Heckman
 Concord Monitor staff

From the Nov. 20 Concord Monitor

With a Nikon camera and an eye for detail, Chuck Will roams Proctor

a blog he calls Chuck's Corner. The details are mundane – the fall cook-out, boys wearing cowboy hats, a science class exam-



Academy's Andover campus, documenting students' daily lives. In chemistry labs and at sports games, at school plays and the art studio, he's there, taking pictures and jotting down notes. He sees students study for exams, queue up for meals, and goof around with friends.

Then Will, the school's communications director, returns to his office, writes a few paragraphs, selects his favorite images, and posts them all to

ing wildlife at Proctor Pond, that time someone forgot to add water to Ramen noodles and smoke filled a dorm – but, pieced together, they form a link to the school that's cherished by parents and alumni around the world.

Will has been doing this for more than a decade, since before most of the school's current students were in first grade, when digital cameras were rare and the term "blog" had yet to be See Chuck on page 46

AE/MS Works Hard To Stay Ahead Of The Flu

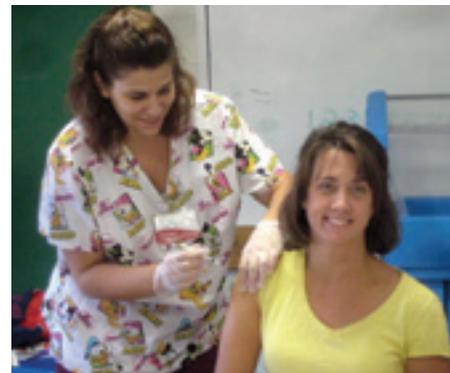
By Christine Frost
 AE/MS School Nurse

Did you know that the first confirmed case of the influenza virus in New Hampshire was detected the first week of October?

In an effort to maintain and promote a healthy school environment, AE/MS, with the support of the New Hampshire Immunization Program, sponsored a school-based influenza clinic on November 10. The clinic was a success, immunizing 26 students and 11 staff members.

The flu vaccine is updated every year to combat the flu viruses that research indicates are most likely to cause illness during the upcoming season. The 2010-2011 flu vaccine is being made in the same way as seasonal vaccines have been made for decades. It will protect against the 2009 H1N1 virus that caused so much illness last season, and

two other influenza viruses (an H3N2 virus and an influenza B virus). About two weeks after vaccination, antibodies that provide protection against influenza virus infection develop in the body.



School Nurse Christine Frost was among the students and staff who got their flu shots at AE/MS. Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

Even people who were vaccinated with the 2009 H1N1 vaccine or last year's seasonal vaccine need to be vaccinated with the seasonal flu vaccine

See Flu on page 50



AE/MS second graders wowed audiences with an original performance of *Be the Friend You Want to Have*. It was a series of four skits in which predators and their prey get along and help each other in the wild. Special thanks to Deborah Emery, AE/MS volunteer, who contributed supplies, time, and creativity working with the students to make the scenery. L-r: Hawk McCord, Jarrett Benson, Katie Bent, Galen Whitman, and Colin Coolidge. Missing from the photo is Lilly Furtkamp.

Photo and caption: Gretchen Hildebrand