

Poetry Night At AE/MS

By Jane Slayton
AE/MS Principal

Every year the students at Andover Elementary/Middle School not only read poetry and prose but memorize and recite a piece for their classmates and then for judges. Finalists from each class are chosen to recite their pieces in an evening performance where they are judged once again, by non-school personnel. This event is known as the AE/MS Poetry Recital, and 2011 marks the all-school 17th year of recitals.

Andover Elementary/Middle School is proud to have a Poet Laureate among our alumni. Carol Leavitt Altieri, Andover High School Class of 1954, is a former Poet Laureate for the State of Connecticut and a published author. Carol is a former resident of Flag Hole Road in East Andover. Who knows? There may be future Poet Laureates reciting on stage at AE/MS this year or next year.

THE 15TH!!!!
Please have everything to the *Beacon* by the 15th of each month!

The 2011 event took place on April 14, and the poems ranged from pieces written by Emily Dickinson to Donald Hall and several self-written pieces. The competition was stiff, and the judges had a difficult time choosing who would compete for the evening performance. Congratulations to all students! Well done!

This year's finalists who recited in the evening event were: Betsy Abrahamson, Scout Armstrong, Hannah Asbury, Alicia Barry, Colby Benoit, Matthew Bent, Madisyn Brayshaw, Dana Buswell, Ayla Caron, Tyler Champagne, Molly Comrie, Hannah French, Teigan Friedrich, Shaelyn Hanlon, Maya Haynes, Aura Howe, Carl Hubbard, Madison Jewell, Annika Johnson, Britta Johnson, Colby Jones, Riley Keezer, Cope Makechnie, Nelson Makechnie, Hawk McCord, Chloe Methven, Garrett Niemyer, Shannen O'Donnell, Samantha Parkman, Jazlyn Perkins, Bailey Powers, Aurora Przybyla, DJ Rankins, David Reynolds, Matthew Reynolds, Sofia Reynolds, River Turnbull, Joey Upton, and Ben Yusko.



Colby Benoit and her sister Lily pose with the plaque Colby received for reciting a poem she wrote about love.

Photo: Jen Bent



Emily Abrahamson isn't the only one who loves the healthy breakfast and lunch that the food service staff (pictured here: substitute cook Julie Segien) dishes up every school day.

Photo: Jen Bent

"More eggplant, please ..."

AE/MS Students Lovin' Healthy Lunch & Breakfast

By Jane Slayton
AE/MS Principal

Students at AE/MS eat well these days. The school lunch program is filled with creative and delicious menu selections.

Mondays and Thursdays feature a salad bar with lots of healthy options and is a popular choice for young and old. Wraps have become a favorite, and the top two choices are the chicken Caesar salad wrap and the chicken salad with red grapes wrap.

This winter, AE/MS Kitchen Director Joanne Young worked collaboratively with the eighth grade health classes to add new menu items. Students learned about the USDA nutritional guidelines that the lunch program follows. They also learned that there were budgetary constraints; although lobster and shrimp cocktail are healthy options, they won't fit within the budget.

One of the new lunches that has won the praise of all the students is chicken alfredo, fresh broccoli, and fresh fruit. Another top choice is beef and black bean burritos, blue corn chips with salsa, and fresh pineapple.

Of course, pizza remains a favorite of all, year after year. Surprisingly, breakfast for lunch is also a favorite, and all enjoy pancakes and sausage or French toast sticks with orange slices.

Everyone still loves peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, just made a little healthier by using wheat bread not white. Chicken fajitas and chef salad disappear from lunch trays quickly. Homemade soups and Italian shaved ice are frequently consumed quite quickly, too.

Enjoying The School Garden

Ms. Young has been adjusting the menu to include healthier food since she began cooking at AE/MS, and our students are both eating it and loving it. Certainly, the addition of the school garden last spring created even more of a positive difference. Students are looking forward to increasing the size of the garden plots and having even more fresh fruit and vegetable choices at lunch.

It is interesting that sometimes students will eat vegetables at school that they wouldn't touch at home. Sausage and eggplant casserole is a new item

See Lunch on page 45

ANDOVER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
*On the hill, beside the road in East Andover
(Corner of Chase Hill Rd. and Rte. 11)*

All members, ministers
Rev John J. Wagner, Pastor

603-735-5160 • AndoverChurch@tds.net
AndoverCongregationalChurch.org

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Tuesdays, Growth and Discovery – 6 PM in the Grange Hall
Other Bible studies, women's groups, prayer; please call for details.

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