

AE/MS from page 46

Laptops, and Engineering were among the popular stops.

Proctor Academy staff members and students offered stations that students loved. There was Math Fact Bingo, a Lateral Thinking station, and lots more.

Mega Math Mountain was built as a community effort. Mega Math Mountain consisted of a huge pile of non-perishables that moved on to the Andover Food Pantry at the end of the evening. Attendees all brought food items to contribute. The completed pile was estimated, and the student who had the closest estimate won a prize.

As if that weren't enough fun, the Book Fair stayed open late and was very crowded as families shopped for new reading selections and holiday presents.

Walk To School Day

For the second year in a row, our attempt at participating in the International Walk to School Day was sabotaged by the weather. We had great plans to walk on the Rail Trail, but the rainy morning prevented students and staff members from enjoying a walk.

However, the delicious local apples to be enjoyed after the walk were distributed as a healthy snack and enjoyed by all. The apples came from Highland Lake Apple Farm, where they had been carefully chosen, picked, and brought back to school by our first grade students. The first graders had a terrific day at the farm and even helped celebrate Peter Zak's birthday while there.

Town Ski Program

If your child is interested in participating in the Town ski program, now is the time to sign them up. On Friday afternoons in January and early February, students have the opportunity to go to Ragged Mountain Resort for downhill skiing and snowboarding. Contact David Powers, Howard George, or Ellie George for information and registration for the Ragged Mountain ski program.

The first ski day will be Friday, January 6. It is a five-week program. Rentals are available through Ragged Mountain Resort. Bus transportation is provided.

Grandparent Thanksgiving

Grandparent Thanksgiving, a favorite AE/MS tradition, is Thursday, November 17. Classes have already started making centerpieces and wall decorations. Grandparents and/or older relatives are invited to have a Thanksgiving dinner with their grandchild(ren).

Those students without local grandparents are also included, as AE/MS

staff members become grandparents-for-a-day. It ends up being a fun event for everybody.

Older students escort grandparents to the classrooms, set up the gym, bus the tables, and clean up when it is over. All classrooms contribute wall decorations and centerpieces. Staff members and volunteers cook and serve the dinner. It is always a well-attended event.

In Other News ...

The Andover Lions Club completed their annual vision and hearing screening on all AE/MS students. Concerns are referred to Mrs. Frost, the school nurse, and parents are contacted.

The Andover School Board, administration, and First Student manager Alison Jones are studying our present bus routes and looking at the future needs of our students. Keeping safety first and foremost, we want to be sure we are providing the most efficient and economical system possible. In the short term, we are working to make the kindergarten mid-day transition ride as brief as possible.

The Lions International Peace Poster Contest is currently underway for sixth grade students. The purpose is to encourage students to creatively express what peace means to them. The Andover Lions Club sponsors this locally. Teachers Linda DeMinico and Jennifer Bent are working with the students.

An order form for holiday wreaths is available on this page of this issue of *The Andover Beacon*. Once again, the PTO will decorate wreaths. Many community members support this activity. PTO members and students will festively adorn the Town buildings.

AE/MS students are no longer actively participating in the magazine drive we ran for many years. However, the school is still able to take orders online, and anyone who wants to renew subscriptions will be encouraged to do so. Details will be forthcoming. Money raised will continue to go toward field trips, SHARE Day, and playground equipment.

Twenty-one new students have moved into Andover and now attend our school. We are pleased to welcome them!

Community members are welcome to attend our winter concerts in December. On Thursday, December 8, students in grades kindergarten through five will entertain with holiday songs. The following Thursday night, December 15, is the Instrumental and Choral Concert. Both evenings will be entertaining, and all are welcome to attend.

NEASC from page 48

standards, each with its own chapter. The chapter for each standard is formulated as a paragraph-by-paragraph response to each indicator in that standard and concludes with a comprehensive list of commendations and recommendations that will drive our two-year and five-year follow-up process.

There are several noteworthy items in this report of which we should all be particularly proud:

- We have received a total of 54 commendations for strong adherence to the standards and 35 recommendations on areas which require greater focus and attention. It is extremely rare for a report to contain more commendations than recommendations, and with a total of 61% commendations, the report speaks to how well we adhere to the standards for membership.
- There is an overarching theme of "collaboration" that runs throughout the report, which speaks positively of our

school culture. The noted collaboration is seen at all levels (leadership, teachers, students, community and school board) and speaks highly of our core values and beliefs about learning.

For areas of improvement, there are a few general (but anticipated) items:

- "Technology" is a recurring theme throughout the report: in terms of equipment, training, and how it is used to support the curriculum, instruction, and assessment.
- We need to continue to find ways to better engage our students in the school. This has been a goal in our District's long-range plan, and we most recently made progress with this through our partnership with Main Street Academix.

Questions and comments about the report are welcomed and may be directed to me at Merrimack Valley High School, 106 Village Street, Penacook 03303-1953 or 753-4311.

Got News? Mail@AndoverBeacon.com or PO Box 149 or 735-6099

HOLIDAY WREATHS - 2011

Andover Elementary / Middle School PTO will be selling holiday wreaths. Profits will go toward decorating all the town buildings and K-8 field trips.

If you would like to order a wreath, please fill out the form below and return it to the school before the Thanksgiving break. Wreaths can be picked up at the school on December 3 between the hours of noon and 3 PM. Orders can also be picked up anytime during the school week of December 5.

All wreaths are double-faced with an outside diameter between 22 and 25 inches. Decorated wreaths have red bows, holly berries, and pinecones.

Wreaths can be paid for when ordering or when you pick up. Checks can be written to Andover Elementary / Middle School.

If you have any questions, please call Jane Slayton at 735-5400.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Quantity

_____ 24" Wreath, plain - \$13.50

_____ 24" Wreath, decorated - \$15.50

_____ Total wreaths ordered

_____ Total amount due

I'll pick up my order: ___ during the school week.

_____ on Saturday, December 3, noon to 3 PM.

UNDERHILL DRIVING SCHOOL

Steering today's youth in the right direction



Lynda & Bob Underhill
152 Whittemore Rd
Salisbury • 648-2308

nhdrivingschool.com
Bob's cell: 748-0193
Lynda's cell: 748-0207

Andover's Friendly Place for Great Food

Visit our other locations in
Sunapee • Bradford • Woodstock
Quechee • Windsor • Grantham
and at
394 Main St., New London
526-9202

161 Main Street, Andover, NH
(603) 735-5002