

The **Andover Beacon**
Our Hometown Newspaper

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Molly Comrie, center, is part of the energetic cast of the Proctor spring musical, *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Photo: Chuck Will



Jesse Coffey was one of eight MVHS seniors who brought their work to the Senior Project Roadshow at AE/MS on April 21. He explained to the AE/MS seventh and eighth grade classes how a senior project and portfolio cap each student's four years at MVHS, then presented his senior project, a fundraiser concert for Reece's Rainbow in support of Down Syndrome. Special thanks to Jesse and to Chantal Caron, Brendan Coll, Savanna Donovan, Elise Goodwin, DJ Hawes, India Thompson, and Kyle Wiley for participating in this year's Senior Project Roadshow. For photos of all the Andover seniors' projects, see page 44. Photo: Charlie Darling

Proctor Spring Musical: You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown

By Chuck Will
Proctor Academy

The spring musical is a long-standing tradition at Proctor, and this year's production of Clark Gesner's *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* will play Friday and Saturday, May 25 and 26, at 7 PM in Proctor's Norris Family Theater.

Most of us are familiar with the characters from decades of Charles Schulz's *Peanuts* comic strip. The themes addressed in the play – opti-

mism, naivety, love, innocence, and belonging – are universal to the human condition, yet most applicable to adolescents.

The cast, including Andover's Molly Comrie, is busy with both afternoon and evening rehearsals, and director Michael Littman predicts a great show.

Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted at the door. Mark your calendars, and call 735-6870 to reserve seats!

India Thompson Takes Control

By Tim O'Sullivan
Concord Monitor staff

From the April 17 *Monitor*
Senior India Thompson [of Andover] took control for the [Merrimack Valley High School] Pride [softball team], pitching a complete game and also driv-

ing in all three runs in the win. Thompson struck out nine and allowed two hits and also drove in a run in the fifth and two runs in the seventh inning. Sophomore Kerry Fedion had a pinch-hit single for MV (4-0). Copyright © 2012 *Concord Monitor*

AE/MS And The Nation Prepare For Curriculum Changes

By Jane Slayton and Gretchen Hildebrand
AE/MS

If you walk into AE/MS after school, you are most likely to find groups of educators working on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Implementation of the standards is near, and much planning is taking place.

Collaboration among teachers across grade levels and subject areas is called

for in the CCSS. Integration of technology throughout all curriculum areas is necessary. The new assessment will be more performance-based, and scores will give students, parents, and teachers a more accurate snapshot of student progress.

Forty-six states, including New Hampshire, and two territories have adopted the CCSS, a move which will cause a major positive shift in American public education. The CCSS was designed by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices, the Council of the Chief State School Officers, and educators. It is not a mandate of the federal government.

According to CoreStandards.org, "The Common Core State Standards provide a consistent, clear understanding of See CCSS on page 47

If You're Proud of Our Schools and Our Students, Please Show It!

Every year in June, *The Andover Beacon* publishes photos of eighth graders graduating from Andover Elementary/Middle School and of Andover students graduating from Merrimack Valley High and from Proctor Academy. This year, the *Beacon* is asking for help in underwriting the cost of publishing not only these photos but also the many articles and photos about our schools and students it publishes all year long.

If you could make a special gift of \$10 (more or less, as you see fit) **by May 15**, we will be happy to include your name on the list of well-wishers who send congratulations to all our students and to the community that supports their success. The special message and list of well-wishers (a mock-up is shown here) will appear in the June issue of *The Andover Beacon*. The special message reads:

"It Takes A Village to advance a class of capable, confident, caring students to the next grade every year. In honor of the entire community's achievements in this area – and most of all, in honor of the students themselves – the following have helped underwrite the *Beacon's* continuing coverage of our schools."

If you'd like to help (anonymously, if you prefer), please get your special gift to the *Beacon* **by May 15**. Thank you! The Andover Beacon • PO Box 149 • Andover 03216

Contributions to the *Beacon*, a 501(c)(3) public charity, are tax deductible as allowed by law.

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Congratulations, all, from:

- ABC Auto
- Mr & Mrs Smith
- "Nanny" Jones
- Quickie Convenience Store
- The Andover Gazettes
- Jane and Rudy Emmonds
- The Staff at Happy Kids
- Playtime Productions
- Mike's Lawncare
- Jim Lawrence
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CORRECTION

Due to a production error, the *Beacon* omitted Madison Powers' name from the Proctor winter term Head's List published in the April issue. We apologize for the error and congratulate Madison and all the others on their fine work.