



Kathy Halliday-Hildebrand, a long-time AE/MS volunteer, is drowning in the thousands of Box Tops For Education collected by the students. All money raised through collecting Box Tops For Education goes toward new playground equipment. Box Tops For Education are collected year 'round, and checks are issued twice a year. Most recently, AE/MS received a check for \$1,640. Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

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The fourth grade students are immersed in Shakespeare and will perform *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on Friday, June 8, at 1:30 and 7 PM. Be sure to catch a performance of each play!

The kindergarten class will officially become first grade students on Wednesday, June 13, at 6:30 PM. Come early for good seating!

The eighth grade graduation is Thursday, June 14, at 6:30 PM. This is a semi-formal occasion and is usually held before a standing-room-only crowd.

Seventeen students will be moving on to the next phase in their education. This eighth grade class will surely be missed by the teachers and students they will leave behind.

The graduation will be a very special evening with student involvement in the program. The ceremony ends with a slide show that begins with baby pictures of the graduates and then progresses to the present. Gretchen Hildebrand and Chris Connor compile this sentimental journey every year.

Field Trips And Fun

Eighth grade students will be very busy as the weeks lead up to their graduation. They will be visiting Ellis Island,

touring the Statue of Liberty, and riding the roller coasters at Six Flags in early June. The following weekend they will have an end-of-year barbeque and bonfire with plenty of outdoor activities.

The last day of school for students in kindergarten through grade eight is Monday, June 18. The morning will consist of cooperative and competitive outdoor games. Students and staff will enjoy the annual BBQ for lunch. Andover's number one rock group, the Long Tail Monkeys, will perform, followed by awards and closure activities back in the classroom.

A New School Year

Preparation is underway for the 2012-13 school year. A lot of work will be completed in the building in July and August. Some teachers are changing classrooms, and we are interviewing for a seventh and eighth grade Reading and Language Arts teacher and a World Language teacher. Time is also being spent transitioning our curriculum to meet the Common Core State Standards.

We are looking forward to Monday, August 27, when the school community comes back together for a brand-new school year after a well-deserved summer vacation.



Vito is a big hit at the AE/MS library.

Photo: Joy Annas

Vito The Black Lab Visits AE/MS Library

By Joy Annas
AE/MS Librarian

If you visit the library on Monday mornings at AE/MS you are in for a real treat. Vito a nine-year-old black lab will be waiting for a story to be read to him. If he enjoys the story he may lick your hand or wag his tail.

Jane Landenberger is Vito's owner; she adopted Vito when he was a small puppy. When looking for a dog of her own, she had the choice between a yellow lab from the Humane Society or Vito, a black lab with big brown eyes from the

Guiding Eyes for the Blind Association. Jane fell in love with Vito instantly.

Jane is an interesting woman to talk to; she has trained 14 puppies in the Guided Eyes for the Blind program. 12 of the dogs that she trained are currently serving blind folks. Jane enjoys meeting students, conversing with them, and listening to their stories.

When the students leave the library they always thank Mrs. Landenberger for coming and pet Vito. Jane remarks, "It is our pleasure to spend time with the students here at AE/MS!"

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