



Ada Grotnes, Asa Gilman, and Liam Fecteau play with Shivery, our first duck to hatch.
Photo and caption: Elizabeth Janvrin

EAVP Welcomes a Brood of Ducklings

By Carmen Bates, EAVP

As I write this article, I am sitting next to our incubator awaiting the arrival of our ducklings. Eighteen Pekin duck eggs were placed into the incubator on March 18 by the students. Then they asked numerous times, "Are the ducks here yet?"

It has seemed like forever (28 days), but we are now in the final stretch, and by the time you read this, we will have seen the wonder of ducks hatching! At the time of publication, we have three ducks that have hatched.

The students have learned all about ducks. They have worked hard to care for the eggs and prepare for the ducklings. They have experienced gentleness, patience, and disappointment, as some may not develop into healthy ducks.

The whole experience is very beneficial to the children's learning process. The teachers model the diligent care it takes to make this happen, and they fos-

ter the excitement of the event. Just today, we candled the eggs, and the children could see the air sack, the darkness of the duck, some veins, movement, and maybe even a little heart beat. Truly, even to an adult it has to be amazing!

As the ducks developed inside their shells, there were fairy tale explorations and stories told. The children walked like ducks and learned about the rain-forest.

The children did our Hop-a-Thon and sang songs. The ducks must have wondered where the children went when the building grew quiet. They were outside playing in mud, or home resting. As much as we awaited the sound of the ducks' peeping, surely they awaited the sound of the children.

We had a family carnival night on Tuesday, April 16, and enjoyed the ducklings and family fun together! We enjoyed eating hot dogs and popcorn, along with playing bean bag tosses and bowling.

Upper Valley Humane Society Open House was a Success

By Sierra Provost, AE/MS third grade

On March 28, the Upper Valley Humane Society hosted an open house to celebrate Homeless Pet Week. There were lots of animals up for adoption, which even included bunnies. Some of the activities included story time with Smeagle the Beagle, a stuffed animal clinic with Dr. Rothe, and tours of the shelter. During the open house weekend, 13 pets were adopted.

When an animal comes into the shelter, the staff evaluates the animal for any medical problems. Sometimes an animal can be at the shelter for months getting healthy and ready for adoption. To prevent pet overpopulation, each pet is spayed or neutered before leaving the shelter.

During the past year, more than 700 lives were saved just at this one shelter. You can help by being a foster family, adopting, or donating money or items on the wish list. On Sunday, May 19, there will be a pet walk in Lebanon to benefit the shelter.

For more, visit UVHS.org.



AndoverBeacon.com

Bob and Mary Ofenloch Celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary

By Robert Ofenloch
For the Beacon

Fifty years ago, on May 25, 1963, Mary T. Volz married Robert P. Ofenloch in St. Pancras Roman Catholic Church in Glendale, Queens, New York.



They met in 1962 while they were both employed at Equitable Life Insurance Society in New York City. Robert was a traveling auditor and Mary worked in the Accounts Receivable Department, where part of her responsibility was to review the expense accounts of the traveling auditors.

They have three children: Marianne, a retired sergeant with the New Jersey Park Rangers; Monica, wife and mother of three; and John, husband and father of two.

Bob, Mary, and their grandson, Rob-

ert, moved here to Andover from their home in Andover, New Jersey in 1999. Mary joined the Andover Service Club (ASC) in 2001 when her friend, Margo Coolidge, encouraged her to join, meet new friends, and serve the community.

Mary has been president of the ASC for the past two years. Bob and Robert are members of the Our Lady of Fatima Men's Club. Bob, Mary, and Robert are communicants of Our Lady of Fatima/Immaculate Conception Parish.



"Moving here to Andover was one of the best things we've ever done. The people are so nice, friendly, and caring," they say. "We hope to spend the rest of our lives here. We pray that we will have many more years of peace and happiness here in Andover."



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