

The **Andover Beacon**
Our Hometown Newspaper
Happy Holidays!
 AndoverBeacon.com Holidays 2013 735-6099



When New Hampshire Gleans brings a bounty of fresh corn to AE/MS, a Huskin' Crew forms spontaneously to get the corn ready for cooking. The Huskin' Crew on this particular day was a mix of students and staff members: (L-r) Jay Hubbard, Anne Hewitt, Zachary Cronin, Molly Kidane, Jane Slayton, Keygan Sweeney, Stephanie Peters, Jesse Wagner, Linda DeMinico, Alex Crucitti, Luke Weber, Collin O'Donnell, Adam Stewart, Deana Crucitti, and Anna-Kate Hattan. At AE/MS we're all ears! Students and staff have way too much fun husking corn for student lunches. It is an enjoyable way to end a school day, as students and staff come together, husk, and tell corny jokes!
 Caption: Jane Slayton. Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand



First grade students at AE/MS had lots of fun working together to build tall cup structures. Moments after this photo was taken, it all came tumbling down. This is an example of some of the activities that happen after Grandparent Thanksgiving dinner has ended. Pictured are Addie Pine, Liam Murphy, Olivia James Bentzler, Jacob Demers, Shelby Barton, Abby James Bentzler, Carsyn Perkins, Ben Kelly, and Garrett Barton. Photo: Jane Slayton

Winter Brings Music, Skiing, and More to AE/MS

Ray Burton, former AE/MS principal, remembered

By Jane Slayton, AE/MS Principal

We are already seeking students for the 2013-2014 kindergarten class. If you know of any Andover children who will be five years old before September 30, 2014, please contact me.

Grandparent Thanksgiving and Veterans Day were two school-wide events in November that brought many community members into the school. These are favorite and cherished days at AE/MS.

Both events were well attended, and photos can be viewed on the school Web site at AEMSeagles.org.

Seventh and eighth grade basketball teams started practices before Thanksgiving. There are two boys teams and one girls team this year. Coaches Jim Tucker and David McCarthy are looking forward to a great season with the Andover Eagles.

Early December was Winter Concert season. The first holiday program was on December 5 and included students
 See Winter on page 39

Andover Lions Host Third Annual Christmas Basketball Tournament

December 26 and 27 at Proctor Academy

Press release

The Andover Lions Club will be holding its third annual Middle School Christmas Basketball tournament at Proctor Academy on Thursday and Friday, December 26 and 27. The public is invited to help support local youths and the Andover Lions Club. The schedule is as follows:

December 26

3 PM: Kearsarge girls vs. Chichester
4:15 PM: Andover girls vs. Franklin

5:30 PM: Franklin boys vs. Kearsarge

6:45 PM: Chichester boys vs. Andover

December 27

3 PM: Girls consolation game

4:15 PM: Boys consolation game

5:30 PM: Girls championship game

6:45 PM: Boys championship game

Trophies and medals will be awarded and team pictures will be available. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for students and seniors. Refreshments will be available.



NH Gleans Puts Fresh Produce on the AE/MS Menu

Surplus from local farms put to good use

By Heather Rogers, NH Gleans

This fall the Andover Food Pantry and Andover Elementary/Middle School (AE/MS) were the beneficiaries of New Hampshire Gleans, a new program to distribute surplus fruit and vegetables from local farms. "Gleaning" dates back to biblical times; it is the process of collecting surplus fresh produce from farms, gardens, or farmers markets and delivering it to those in need.

Funded by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, New Hampshire Gleans connects local farm produce with food pantries, community kitchens, and schools in several regions throughout New Hampshire.

Since August, local farmers and home gardeners in the towns sur-

rounding Mount Kearsarge have contributed over 1,500 pounds of fresh vegetables and fruits to seven local food pantries, the Friendly Kitchen in Concord, and Andover Elementary/Middle School. Warner River Organics, Terra Organics in Webster, and Worksong Farm in Hopkinton donated generously over the season to supply local organizations with fresh produce. Two Mountain Farm of Andover also donated a substantial amount of garlic this fall.

New Hampshire Gleans relies upon volunteers to glean surplus produce from the farms. For example, students from Colby-Sawyer College contributed several hours digging potatoes to help farmers bring in the crop before the ground froze.

In return, New Hampshire Gleans
 See Gleans on page 39



Five AE/MS students played on the Blue Storm Football sixth grade team this fall. The team was helped to a 4-3-1 record by defensive coach and AE/MS second grade teacher Michael Jensen. Front: Ronan Walsh, Chase Keyser, Clay Farley, Dillan Reed, and Riley Keezer. Back: Mr. Jensen.
 Photo: Becky Walsh