

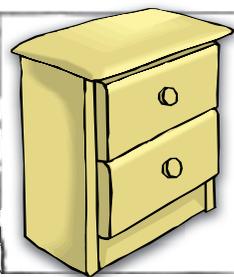


In late August the 4 Agoos siblings, Blue Country – Maple Street, East Andover, and spouses commandeered a narrow boat for a week on the Llangollen Canal in northeast Wales, UK. Peter brought along several copies of The Beacon to show that our readership loyalties transcend borders! The photo was taken at the Chirk Aquaduct, that separates Wales from England. Left to right: Julie, Peter, Kathy, and Ted Agoos.

Caption: Kathy Agoos



Betty and Dick Adams went to Hawaii for their 50th wedding anniversary recently. Here they are with their copy of The Andover Beacon in front of one of Hawaii's famous volcanoes. "We spent 12 days island hopping, meeting many new friends, and having a great time," Betty reports.



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Proctor Academy hosted the third annual Rail Trail Rally to benefit Special Olympics New Hampshire on October 1. It was a rewarding and fun-filled day for Special Olympians, Proctor students and staff, and Andover residents alike.  
 Photo: Lindsey Allenby

## Third Running of Special Olympics Rail Trail Rally a Big Success

### Proctor and Andover host 80 Special Olympians

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

Proctor Academy hosted the third annual Rail Trail Rally to benefit Special Olympics New Hampshire on October 1. With over 250 participants, including 80 Special Olympians, hundreds of volunteers, and most Proctor students taking part, the event was the biggest in its three-year history. Even larger than the event itself, however, is the impact the event has left on each of our lives.

In the spring of 2014, Proctor athletic director Gregor Makechnie '90 began conversations with Mary Conroy, the president of Special Olympics New Hampshire, investigating ways the Proctor community could get involved with Special Olympics. Six months later, Proctor hosted the first Rail Trail Rally. Proctor's relationship with Special Olympics has continued to grow since that initial event to include training for Proctor students to host a Young Athletes Program for Special Olympics and annual participation in the Prep School Polar Plunge in Lake Winnepesaukee each winter.

In advance of this year's Rail Trail

Rally, Proctor students and their advisors gathered Friday evening to watch the documentary film Including Samuel. The window into Samuel's challenges living with cerebral palsy and the impact on his family laid a powerful foundation for the relationships faculty and students would build with Special Olympians on Saturday morning.

The idea of prejudice and diversity within the Proctor community is one we revisit often as we seek to strengthen our community and teach students to understand, appreciate, and interact with those of different backgrounds. Our mission statement includes a clear charge to educate our diverse body of learners, and we recognize we each possess a unique learning style, personality, and physical ability. We also recognize, however, that Proctor is an independent school with a subjective admissions process that inherently favors the 'able,' thus limiting our students' ability to benefit from interactions with a complete cross-section of society.

As Proctor students, faculty, and staff gathered alongside Special Olympians and their families on Carr Field conversations blossomed and new friendships

See Rally on page 27

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