



Lee Wells, Ken Wells, Sarah Eslick, Jason Eslick, and Susan Eslick were all on hand at St. Mark's School for Jason to receive the Richard A. Rader Chair. Photo: Andy Weigl

St. Mark's Rader Chair has Many Andover Connections

Jason Eslick is most recent recipient

Lee Wells, Andover

On April 8 at St. Mark's School in Southborough, Massachusetts, English teacher Jason Eslick was honored at a special ceremony at which he received the Richard A. Rader Chair.

Many people in Andover remember Jason, who grew up in Andover and attended Proctor Academy. More will remember Jason's parents, Tom and Susan, influential members of the Proctor faculty for many years. Tom taught English, and Susan worked in the Admissions Office.

The Richard A. Rader Chair was established at St. Mark's in 2001 to honor Richard "Dick" Rader, who taught physics and computer science at the school. Dick also wrote academic software used by many other schools. He inspired his students, and some went on to be leaders in the computer industry.

A couple of grateful students, each founding well-known Silicon Valley companies, endowed the Rader Chair to be awarded to a "faculty member who shows the same foresight and enthusiasm about teaching and learning that characterized Dick Rader's work at St. Mark's."

The first recipient of the Richard Rader Chair was Ken Wells, also of Andover. Ken taught math, physics, chemistry, environmental science, and engineering at St. Mark's.

Jason is the second recipient of the Rader Chair. In addition to being an English teacher, he is also a successful songwriter and performer.

Both Jason and Ken feel it is a great honor to receive this chair, established to recognize an outstanding teacher at St. Mark's.

But surprisingly, the Andover connection goes even further back! Dick's father, Harold "Dutch" Rader, taught at Proctor, and Dutch met his wife, Dorothy, while at Proctor.

Ella from page 32

edge that our perfectly green grass was winter wheat!

"As I'm writing this, everyone is scrambling around the living room finishing final preparations for our

first long voyage tomorrow. Mason is strumming the guitar, and all our stomachs are filled with Hachis Parmentier (French version of Shepard's Pie) and Kara's lemon tart. Safe to say we are all in love with the European lifestyle."

Proctor Presents *Shrek, the Musical* on May 20, 21

Tickets are free, but reservations required

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

Proctor Academy's drama department will produce *Shrek, the Musical* on Friday and Saturday, May 20 and 21, in the Norris Family Theater at 7 PM. The show, at the time of this publication, is open to the public at no charge, but tickets must be reserved on Proctor's Performing Arts website at ProctorAcademy.org/on-campus/arts/performing-arts prior to the show.

Should Proctor's COVID-19 policies shift in the coming weeks prior to the show, the school will provide notice online prior to reserving tickets.

Sweet Spot from page 30

As parents and educators, we have to fight the tendency to smooth the path of our students as we emerge from a trying two years of pandemic disrupted education. We are at an inflection point, both in our children's lives and our lives as educators, where we can choose to lower expectations for our students because we are worried about their well-being, or continue to push them toward challenges because we know that is where growth and confidence blossom.

At Proctor, we believe we must trust that challenge, when combined with consistent feedback and support, yields powerful learning experiences for our students.

Now, more than ever, our work must be focused on continuing to find that sweet spot of accountability and trust, rigor and support, demanding expectations and honest feedback. This is what Proctor does so well. We see our students thrive when we are willing to embrace these dichotomies as a community.

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PARENTS: HOW ARE THE KIDS?

Parents, please help the *Beacon* keep alive the connection between your grown kids and the community they grew up in!

Send news of how they're doing in college, in their careers, engagements, marriages, babies, promotions, etc. Everyone in town takes great pride in seeing how "our" kids turn out - please help us keep them up to date.

Send news and pictures to Articles@AndoverBeacon.com!

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