

# THE AMHERST CITIZEN



VOLUME 19 - NUMBER 9

JANUARY 11 - 24, 2011

AMHERST, NEW HAMPSHIRE'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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**Arts**  
PEM unveils a private collection of Dutch and Flemish paintings opening February 26.

**Arts & Entertainment** page 9



## Amherst EMS

Emergency Medical Services Director, Brian Gleason reviews the benefits of crew size and how it affects safety and treatment.

**Town News** page 4

## Historic Amherst

Contributor, Katrina Holman takes a look back at the Second New Hampshire Turnpike that ran through Amherst and Mont Vernon.

**Town News** page 8

## BRIEFS

### Public Hearings

#### Amherst School District

The Amherst School District will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Souhegan High School to consider the FY12 Amherst School District budget. (Snow Date: January 14, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.)

The Deliberative Session of the Amherst School District will be on Tuesday, February 10, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Souhegan High School.

Voting for School District Officers and Warrants will be on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at Souhegan High School from 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

#### Souhegan Cooperative School District

The Souhegan Cooperative School District will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 12, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at Souhegan High School to consider the FY12 Souhegan Cooperative School District budget. (Snow Date: January 14, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.)

The Deliberative Session of the Souhegan Cooperative School District will be held on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Souhegan High School.

Voting for School District Officers and Warrants will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at the following locations:

- \* Amherst Voters-Souhegan High School, 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- \* Mont Vernon Voters-Mont Vernon Village School, 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m

#### Town Of Amherst

The Amherst Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 17 at the Town Hall to consider the FY 2011 - 2012 budget and bonds.

The Deliberative Session of the Town of Amherst will be held on Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Souhegan High School.

### TOWN OF AMHERST PUBLIC NOTICE

The Amherst Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the Town Clerk's office at the Amherst Town Hall on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 between 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. This session will be for correction of the checklist. Change in party registration will be accepted.

Please bring proof of residence and identification with you.

### Troop #22 - UNO's Fundraiser

Please join Boy Scout Troop #22 in their Pizzeria Uno fundraiser! Thursday, January 20th, the Uno's on Amherst street has set aside the entire day (lunch, dinner and take-out) for anyone with a Troop#22 ticket. All you have to do is present the ticket to your server at the time of your order. To print a ticket, visit: amhersttroop22.org. Come out and join us for a night of pizza and help support a good cause!

### Lions Roast Beef Dinner To Benefit New Reviewing Stand

Amherst Lions Club will be offering citizens a great meal at a reasonable price and a way to feel good about it. Hosting the 5th annual Roast Beef Supper at the Amherst Middle School February 4th. Dinner is served from 5:30 to 7:30. Tickets are \$10.00 for a complete dinner (\$7.00 for children under 12). Previous dinner fundraisers helped save the sight of over 1500 people.

This year, however, the entire net proceeds will be used to help pay for a new, portable Reviewing Stand for the Town of Amherst. So come out to the Middle School, have dinner with us, and help the Town of Amherst get a new Reviewing Stand without using your tax dollars.

Tickets can be obtained at the door or every Saturday morning at the Amherst Post Office from 9:00-12:00 AM beginning January 16. For more information on the Lions programs or the Roast Beef Dinner, contact any Lion or Lion Bob Flegal (935-9705).

### Wilkins/Clark Schools

## Nicholetta Hitt is Wilkins School Geography Bee Champion 2011



Jaime Richardson, 3rd grade teacher with Eleanor Farris, runner-up and Nicholetta Hitt, winner.

AMHERST - Ten finalists in the National Geographic Geography Bee were seated on the stage at Wilkins School on January 6 ready to answer some very hard geography questions. The finalists were fourth graders Devon Hernandez, Rylee Young, Eleanor Farris, Abigail Kirk, Olivia Bennett, Hunter Raudelunas, Jeffrey Boehm, Isabella Geskos, Nicholetta Hitt and John Natale.

After preparing and testing at the classroom level, ten students were chosen to compete for the school title of Geography Bee winner. In the first round students were expected to be knowledgeable about longitude, latitude, bridges, mountains and in what state the Red Rocks could be found. After the first round, four students were left on the stage.

The next set of questions were focused on the United States riv-

ers, Civil War battle sites and lakes. As finalists Nicky Hitt and Eleanor Farris fielded questions about agricultural products, African mountains and Viet Nam.

The Wilkins School winner is Nicholetta Hitt who will go on to compete at the state level after taking a qualifying written test. Runner-up is Eleanor Farris.

To test your own geography knowledge visit: www.natioalgeo-graphic.com.

### Amherst Town Library

## Caesar: The Man From Venus



Professional storyteller Sebastian Lockwood as Caesar.

### A Living History Presentation

AMHERST - As part of the January adult evening series On Location in Italy, the Amherst Town Library presents the living history presentation, "Caesar: the Man from Venus" on Tuesday, January 18th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Main Reading Room. Meet Caesar as he grows up in a Rome

that is recovering from one civil war and headed for another. Meet the powerful women in his life who help him achieve his destiny: his mother Aurelia, his aunt Julia, his wives and his great love Servilia. History comes alive with professional story-

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## Beaver Water Flow Device at Joppa Hill Farm

By JACK GLEASON  
ACC BOARD MEMBER

AMHERST - At the beginning of the twentieth century, beavers were nearly extinct in New Hampshire because of over trapping. Today, after a successful re-introduction program, they are flourishing doing what they do best, damming streams and forming the resulting, all-important upstream wetlands.

These wetlands and ponds are critical in our watersheds because they act as settling bowls, allowing soil particles carried by streams to settle out. They also permit dissolved nutrients in the water to be conserved, as they are absorbed by the bountiful plants in these marsh areas. Consequently,



The water flow "filter" is positioned 40 feet from the bridge over Pulpit Brook on Joppa Hill Farm.

these important soil components remain in the local area, rather than being carried down our streams, where they are permanently lost to the ocean.

However, this damming behavior is not always compatible with the human plan resulting in the flooding of roads or property. We have two possible solutions to the

problem: kill or remove the beavers, or learn to live in harmony with them, reaping the benefits of their dam building behavior.

Killing or removing beavers is a short term solution. Vacated ecological niches will be filled by new individuals due to a large migrating beaver population seeking new territories.

Live trapping and movement of wild animals, such as beavers, to new territories frequently results in killing them by starvation and is not usually recommended. It requires the perfect habitat for the move to be successful.

The Amherst Conservation Commission (ACC) has chosen coexistence. The

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### Amherst Garden Club Donates to SHARE



Sue Alger, President of the Amherst Garden Club and Co-Chair of the Memory Tree project, presents a check to Chris Janson, Executive Director of SHARE. The Memory Tree raised over \$1,000 to donate to the Christmas fund at SHARE. Also pictured are Marti Warren, Co-Chair of the project, and Ann Logan, Treasurer of the club.

## Amherst Blaze Puts New Fire Chief to The Test

AMHERST - The Amherst Fire Department, led by Fire Chief Mark Boynton, responded to a call of a vehicle fire in a garage on Friday evening at 31 Storybrook Lane, home of Daryl and Croth Benson. The fire destroyed the attached garage but not the house.

The structure fire at 31 Storybrook Lane on Friday late afternoon was the first major fire for our new Chief Mark Boynton. The following information was provided by the Chief.

The call came in at 4:48 pm. First department member on the scene at 4:53 pm. Fire apparatus on scene at 4:57 pm. The second alarm went out at 4:58 pm, 3rd Alarm 5:10 pm and 4th

Alarm 5:50 pm. The fire was under control at 6:43.

All units clear of the scene Saturday, January 8th at 11:30 am. No injuries to civilians or fire fighters.

When asked to comment on the fire the Chief wrote: "We had nearly every member of the department at the fire. Current roster is 37 we had 31 that showed up for the fire and all Amherst units responded (four engines, one tanker and one ladder tower). Great turn out and great job by the guys, I am very proud of what the department accomplished Friday night."

This was the first major fire for the new chief and his four new officers. "We performed like a well oiled ma-

chine. Upon arrival we were faced with a fully involved 3 car garage attached to the 2 story breeze way and house. A fire of that size requires a great deal of water to extinguish. The closest fire hydrant was 3600 feet away," he says.

He continues, "While additional fire apparatus was stretching hose the first arriving companies went to work trying to keep the fire out of the house. Before the water on the first arriving trucks was gone crews had managed to lay 3600 feet of hose and secure an adequate water supply. Outstanding accomplishment for any department! The crews did an amazing job keeping the fire out of the main portion

of the house."

Chief Boynton says that the house did suffer smoke and heat damage but the majority of the family's personal belongings were saved. Garage and breeze way were a total loss with some damage to the attic. "Once extinguished and I was able to see the inside of the home I was once again amazed at how little water damage there was," says Chief Boynton.

Mutual aid was provided by Bedford, Merrimack and Milford crews providing much needed assistance and relief to Amherst crews fighting fire inside the house. Additional towns assisting were Mont Vernon, Brookline, Hollis and



Fire at 31 Storybrook Lane last Friday, destroyed the garage and caused heavy smoke and water damage to the house.

Wilton while Manchester, Mont Vernon and Nashua units covered the Amherst Stations and responded to a motor vehicle accident on Route 101A.

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