

Events Calendar

Photographers Forum Meeting - April 18

Photographers Forum camera club's next meeting is Monday, April 18 at 7:30 at Bishop Guertin High School in Nashua. This competition meeting has three categories: Assigned: "Upside Down", Challenge: "Neon", and "Open". We are an informal club offering educational programs for all ability levels and the opportunity to meet people with similar interests. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. Be our guest for your first meeting. Dues are \$20/year thereafter. For more info go to www.photographersforum.org, email colettecrisp@earthlink.net or call 603-880-1420.

Causes and Consequences of the Civil War

Nashua native and historian Bob Sampson will discuss the history of the Civil War and its impact on Nashua at the Nashua Historical Society's next meeting at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, April 19 in the Florence Speare Museum, 5 Abbott St., Nashua.

With roots reaching back to our earliest colonial history, the Civil War has consequences even today. The program will cover what the war was about and how it was viewed both here and elsewhere. Sampson draws from Nashua's Col. Elbridge Copp's "Reminiscences," which calls it "The War of the Rebellion."

CLUB COMEDY at AMHERST - New Menu and New Chef

Saturday Nights...Live Comedy

We are going back to our roots! History lives on! Twenty years ago we had a very successful comedy club operated by Comedy Connection Boston. You may have seen faces like Roseanne Barr and Adam Sandler. Now the co-founder of Comedy Connection is back!

Tickets are \$20/person. Doors open at 7PM. Show starts at 8pm

Complimentary snacks will be served.

To purchase tickets please call our box office at 603-673-9908

Next show is Sat, April 23, 8:00pm – 10:30pm at the Tap In Grille, Amherst Country Club, PonemahRoad, Route 122, amherst, NH.

This meeting is free and open to the public. Reservations are not needed. Refreshments will be served following the presentation. Call 883-0015 if you have questions.

Nashaway Audubon April Events!

Need a nature fix? The public is welcome to join the Nashaway Chapter of the NH Audubon society on Saturday, April 16 as they head to Parker River Wildlife Refuge on Plum Island in Newburyport, MA. Parker River is one of over 540 Refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System, a national network of lands dedicated to "wildlife first". The refuge provides pristine coastal habitat for over 300 species of resident and migratory birds, as well as a large variety of mammals, insects, fish, reptiles and amphibians. There is a \$5.00 per car fee to enter the Refuge and no pets are allowed. Bring binoculars and pack a lunch and snacks for the all day trip. Meet at the Exit 7 Park & Ride, on the hill behind Granite Inn by 8am. Take your own car or carpool with someone else. If you'd rather, you can meet the group at the Refuge. To register and for directions, please contact Richard Bielawski 429-2537 or rbielawski@gmail.com. For more information about the refuge go to <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/parkerriver/>

MOMS Club of Amherst Announces 2010-2011 Meeting Dates

AMHERST—The east and west sister chapters of MOPS® (Mothers Offering Mothers Support) Club of Amherst recently announced their 2010-2011 business meeting schedules. Route 101 delineates the split into East and West chapters.

The East chapter meets 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. The West chapter meets 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. Both groups' meetings convene in the basement of the First Baptist Church of Amherst, 25 ½ Middle Street.

E-mail: amherstmomsclub@yahoo.com.

2010-2011 Meeting Dates:

EAST—	WEST—
April 19	April 20
May 17	May 18
June 21	June 15

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Mosquito Control Inc., Integrated Pest Management (IPM) begins with a comprehensive look at a town's geographical area from the sky. We identify potential mosquito habitat using satellite photos, paper maps, tips from residents and other sources. Then we visit these sites on foot and sample mosquito larvae. Contrary to popular belief, not all wetlands support breeding mosquitoes. After a thorough assessment of each site, we treat those that are actually supporting mosquito larvae. Treating larval habitat is highly effective because it kills mosquitoes before they get a chance to grow into winged adults and pose a biting risk.

Following larvicide treatments, larva mortality assessments are performed to ensure that our approach is producing the desired results. Residents may see blue colored carbon dioxide-baited light traps hanging from trees in select areas that are used to attract and collect adult mosquitoes at monitoring sites.

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Town News

Historic Amherst

The Second New Hampshire Turnpike – Part Four: The Key Players Amherst's Transition from 18th to 19th Century

BY KATRINA HOLMAN

So just WHO were the creators of "our" turnpike? Did they benefit from their investment? Your intrepid researcher has uncovered the key players, the early instigators as well as the later Amherst principals. I think you'll get a pretty good sense from their occupations and locations of WHY they invested.

Instigators – 1799

The initial petition to the N.H. Legislature in June 1799 (as reported in newspapers of Portsmouth and Walpole) gave only the name of Josiah Stevens. The legislative act of 26 Dec. 1799 incorporated Josiah Stevens, Isaac Green and Nathan Coolidge and unnamed associates and successors as the "Proprietors of the Second Turnpike Road in New Hampshire." Josiah Stevens was given the duty of calling a meeting of said proprietors "by advertisement in the newspapers printed at Walpole and Amherst." I think it's safe to say that Stevens was the driving force behind this venture. He was its treasurer from beginning to at least 1825 or his end.

Col. Josiah Stevens (1752-1827) of Claremont: mercantile and manufacturing businessman as owner of store in town (likely its first; liquor license 1792), paper making plant (first in then Cheshire county), grist mill, and distillery (destroyed by fire in 1808, estimated \$3000 loss); also a farmer. After turnpike built, appointed postmaster Dec. 1801; co-owner of Boston-Amherst-Windsor mail stage (1803-1805); lost two steers and a heifer on drove southward in Nov. 1805; owned store, one-story house and potashery in Unity (situated on same turnpike); opened his house as inn/tavern called Tremont House in 1822, where in June 1825 "the nation's guest" General Lafayette, the idolized hero of the Revolution, stayed on his farewell tour; the inn was carried on by his sons until 1838. Son Paran Stevens was co-proprietor of stage to Vermont in 1830s; he later gained fame and fortune as manager of luxury hotels in Boston and New York City.

Dr. Isaac Green (1759-1842) of Windsor, Vt.: physician, druggist and dry-goods merchant; had brother-in-law who was a leading Boston merchant; one of first directors of Ascutney Bank; a director of Cornish Bridge Co., which operated bridge between Windsor and Cornish, N.H. (built 1796); served as selectman 7 times; among wealthiest men in town. (In 1850 & 1860 his son George was second largest landowner in town).

Deacon Nathan Coolidge (1766-1836) of Windsor, Vt.: merchant with store opposite Pettes' coffeehouse, the stage stop, plus saddle and harness-making business; among first share subscribers of Cornish Bridge.



Original late-18th c. office building (front part 18 by 28 feet) at 9 Courthouse Road. This had been the office of the eminent Wm Gordon, N.H. state attorney general when he died in 1802. It then became the office of his brother-in-law Charles H. Atherton, register of probate and businessman, who was also proprietors' clerk of the 2nd N.H. Turnpike.

First Directors – 1800

The very first meeting of the proprietors of the Second Turnpike was held in Claremont in February 1800 at the tavern of Stephen Dexter, which was located near the meeting house "on the road where it is supposed the Turnpike road will pass" (shortly afterward offered for sale in Amherst's Village Messenger, March 1800). In March 1800, the not-directly-named postmaster and druggist, Dr. Samuel Curtis who also happened to be an innholder in Amherst Village and had been co-owner of stage between Amherst and Boston before the turnpike was even chartered, appended the following notice to an advertisement for stomach pills in the Amherst newspaper: "P.S. Any person willing to become a proprietor in the Turnpike Road from Claremont to this town, may know the terms by applying at the [Post] office." Already in 1801 turnpike meetings shifted to a more central location, namely the inn/tavern of Giles Newton on Main Street in

Continued on page 7 ►

Mosquito Testing

continued from page 1

As the mosquito season progresses, the adult mosquito surveillance process begins. Surveillance is an early detection system to confirm the presence of diseases such as Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and West Nile Virus (WNV). We deploy various types of mosquito traps depending on the targeted species. Captured mosquitoes are then frozen, identified, pooled by location, packed in dry ice and sent to the State Laboratory for testing. (By the way, a mosquito pool is a grouping of trapped mosquitoes by location - not a specific pool of water.)

Positive EEE/WNV test results will trigger a reassessment of risk levels and immediate discussions with town officials. At this point, treating adult mosquitoes may begin in accordance with the scope and scale outlined by town and state public health officials.

Residents who do not want their property treated must contact Dragon Mosquito Control in writing at PO Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. Please be sure to include your name, physical address, phone number, and a description of your property with boundaries.

Residents who would like to have their stagnant water checked for mosquitoes can call 964-8400 or email Info@DragonMosquito.com. There is no charge for this service. Contact us for more information on spray dates, location, materials used, precautions or other concerns.

Historical Society of Amherst Day at Longhorn Steakhouse

The Historical Society of Amherst is very happy to help our membership celebrate spring with a great meal and a great deal courtesy of our friends at Longhorn Steakhouse.

Thursday, April 28, is Historical Society of Amherst day at Longhorn Steakhouse on Route 101A in Amherst. When members, families, or guests dine in or take out between 11 am and 9 pm on April 28th ten percent of the bill we be donated directly to the Historical Society of Amherst. Vouchers are available at the door—participants only show up with an appetite for food and fun and mention the Historical Society of Amherst voucher.

Longhorn offers more than just famous burgers and steaks. The

menu also includes terrific chicken, fresh seafood, and tasty salads. Everyone's favorite New England teams are always on tap on TV at Longhorn and April should feature Bruins and Celtics playoff action as well as the return of the Red Sox.

Kids also love Longhorn and a family night out could be a perfect treat during school vacation week. Kids enjoy their own menu filled with Longhorn favorites like kid-friendly steaks, smoothies, chicken, and macaroni cheese.

Please tell your friends and join us Thursday, April 28th at Longhorn Steakhouse for a tasty and fun way to support the Historical Society of Amherst!

Friends of the Library

Join a Short Story Group

Do you have limited time to read but want to discuss great stories?

Friends of the Amherst Town Library are offering you an opportunity to be a member of a short story group.

Richard Russo, who is the guest editor for The Best American Short Stories 2010, writes that he believes stories are like jars of bees. You

unscrew the lid and out come the bees. Russo feels that his role was to choose the stories that contain the most bees, the tales that sting us good, leaving us surprised and sore at first, then free to worry at our leisure the tender, inflamed spot, our attention focused, ourselves wide awake and alive.

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