

# THE AMHERST CITIZEN



VOLUME 19 - NUMBER 16

APRIL 26 - MAY 9, 2011

AMHERST, NEW HAMPSHIRE'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

POSTAL SERVICE  
FIRST CLASS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 10  
Amherst, NH  
E01775  
Postal Customer

## Mont Vernon

The Mont Vernon Village School held their Science Jam 2011. Thirty-five fourth graders displayed their projects.



Mont Vernon page 16

## Letters

"Officer Knox, we love you".  
Letters of support for SRO Mike Knox.

Letters pages 2 and 3

## Library

Student Art Show will be on display during the month of May.

Town News page 5



## Concert

Souhegan Valley Chorus performs its Spring Concert, May 14 and 15.

Town News page 7

## BRIEFS

### AMHERST REPUBLICANS Monthly Meeting

**Saturday, May 7, 8:00 AM**  
Joey's Diner, Route 101A, Amherst  
Guest speaker will be Americans for Prosperity NH State Director Corey Lewandowski. Read about AFP-NH at <http://www.americansforprosperity.org/new-hampshire>

### 1st Annual Spring Fashion Show sponsored by the GAP at Amherst Middle School

The Amherst PTA invites you to attend the 1st Annual Spring Fashion Show sponsored by the GAP at Amherst Middle School on Friday May 6th at 7:00 pm. Proceeds will also benefit Marguerites Place in Nashua. Tickets at the door: \$5.00 - Bring an item from Marguerite's Wish List and take \$1.00 off admission.

Watch Middle Schoolers strut the catwalk in summer fashions provided by the GAP. We will raise money for school grants and help a neighbor in need, Marguerites Place. Visit [www.margueritesplace.org](http://www.margueritesplace.org) to view the Wish List. Door raffles donated by the Homestead, The Meathouse, Jakes Ice Cream, the PTA and Master Stylists Katie Forget & Robyn Lee from Salon Arne!

### D.A.R. Monthly Meeting

The Captian Josiah Crosby Chapter, D.A.R. will meet at noon on Monday, May 2nd, at the home of Helen Tognetti, 09 Westgate Way, Amherst. Following luncheon Kathy Holland will present a program on the Pease Airport Greeters, and guests are welcome to hear her interesting talk on how volunteers gather to greet all returning troops who land at Pease. Please call 673-7190 for further information.

### Enjoy a Great Meal and Raise Funds for Historical Society

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 10% of the bill will be donated directly to the Historical Society of Amherst. Vouchers are available at the door—participants need only show up with an appetite for food and fun and mention of the Historical Society of Amherst voucher.

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! Reservations are not necessary and walk-ins are welcome, but anyone planning in advance can email Marie Grella ([mgf1225@aol.com](mailto:mgf1225@aol.com)) to help the restaurant set a headcount.

### Amherst BSA Troop 22 Yard Sale Fundraiser

After a year off and due to popular demand, Amherst Boy Scouts Troop 22 will be having their annual yard sale fundraiser on Saturday, June 4th from 7:30am-1:30pm at 199 Meeting Place Plaza on Route 101. Please mark the date on your calendar and start setting aside any items that you would like to donate. Items in good condition can be dropped off at 199 Meeting Place Plaza on Friday, June 3rd from 3pm-8pm. If you are unable to drop the items off, please send an email to [yardsale@amhersttroop22.org](mailto:yardsale@amhersttroop22.org) to arrange for pick-up. There are some items that we can not accept including: computer equipment, refrigerators, microwaves, televisions, car seats, air conditioner units, de-humidifiers, or broken items. All other items in good condition will be gratefully accepted. While there, you can help support one of our Eagle Scouts towards his PMEC garden project by purchasing goods from his fundraiser bake sale. Lunch items will be available for purchase as well. All proceeds will be used to benefit the Scouts with their yearly programs.

### Amherst Junior Women's Club

## Annual Easter Parade and Egg Hunt



Easter Bunny photos make wonderful family memories. More photos on page 8.

### Amherst Recreation Dept.

## Art In Bloom 2011



MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS - BOSTON, MONDAY, MAY 2nd

AMHERST - Join us as we celebrate spring at this annual festival of fine art and fresh flowers. Fifty garden club arrangers and twenty professional designers will transform the Museum of Fine Arts' spectacular new wing, highlighting the Art of the Americas with creative floral interpretations of works of art. Exhibit is Saturday, April

30, - Monday, May 2, 2011. We hope you will join us on Monday, May 2 for our trip to the show.

The day will feature flower arranging demonstrations in the Alford Auditorium, gallery spotlight tours, the Flower Cart at the entrance to the Museum, and of special interest, the Gund Exhibit is Saturday, April

Continued on page 7

### Amherst Garden Club's

## Annual Plant Sale - May 7



Amherst Garden Club will have a wide variety of plants ready for the Annual Plant Sale to be held on Saturday, May 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Wilkins School in Amherst. There will be approximately 2000 perennial plants dug from local gardens available at the sale along with plants and bushes from local vendors. Master Gardeners and club members will be available to answer questions and make suggestions.

## The Gavel Has Been Passed

Town Moderator, Bob Schaumann Retires After Serving Amherst for 23 Years

BY CLIFF ANN WALES

AMHERST - From 1988 to 2011, Bob Schaumann has served the town as moderator.

However, he will not be standing at the podium when the 2012 town deliberative session is called to order. At this year's meeting he announced he would be stepping down and moving his family to Jaffrey. Bob was first elected to the position in a tightly contested election in March 1988. At the time, a much-respected Arnie Wight who had served the town as moderator for 29 years was not standing for reelection.

Amherst has had a remarkable legacy of public servants who have filled the role of moderator. The job description doesn't mention honor and respect however going back to John Goffe, the first moderator in 1760 those residents elected to this position have been men of integrity who were well respected by their peers. Other recognizable names include Moses Nichols, Sam-



Bob Schaumann holds the moderator's gavel for the last time.

uel Wilkins, John Secombe, William Mack, and Robert Means. All persons

who directed the town's business during wars, economic downturns and declining influence.

When Bob was faced with challenges it was his keen wit, his understanding of meeting rules, tall stature and booming voice that swayed the meetings and kept us on track. During his tenure the town adopted a new format of a deliberative session and a voting session (SB2) which replaced the long held ritual of March town meeting.

"It's not perfect and I do miss the old town meetings," said Bob. Yet, he sees good and bad in the process. The voting process at the polls is good but the lack of participation at the deliberative session is bad. "If you don't go to the deliberative session, you miss out on the opportunity to have your voice heard."

Reflecting on the last 23 years, Bob has fond memories of many families and people he has worked with. "No one ran against me, so I must have

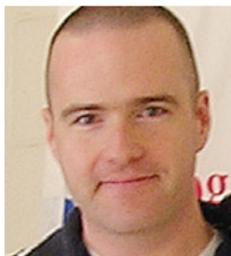
Continued on page 4

## SRO at AMS To Change?

BY CLIFF ANN WALES

AMHERST - Mike Knox's eight year tenure as the Special Resource Officer at Amherst Middle School, may be coming to an end. Officer Knox may be the best known and respected police officer to the middle school students, but the position is being reviewed by the police department.

"I worked hard to get the position (SRO) established at the Middle School eight years ago," said Amherst Police Chief Peter Lyon. "I wouldn't do any thing that would have a negative effect



SRO, Mike Knox

on it." In a phone conversation Chief Lyon explained that the position is a temporary assignment that is reviewed periodically to see if

other parties are interested.

At the April 19 meeting of the Amherst School Board, parents, teachers and students complained to the board about the possible personnel change slated for the SRO position in the fall. It is expected that the police department will be sending the school board a list of candidates for the position which will then be reviewed by a selection committee.

Members of the school board asked the question why all of a sudden is there to be a change in personnel. Board member Jim Manning asked, "If Mike Knox

isn't on the list of candidates, what can we do. 50% of the salary is funded by the School Department." He continued, "If the list of officers are not as qualified as the present SRO, why change?"

Board member, Lucienne Foulks said, "The Police Department may have their own set of issues for staffing."

AMS principal, Porter Dodge said that the principal and the police will be collaborating on this issue.

Continued on page 8

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Letters .....	2
Town News .....	4
Announcements.....	6
Schools.....	9
Honor Rolls .....	11
SportsFolio.....	12
Arts & Entertainment .....	14
Region .....	15
Mont Vernon .....	16

Next Issue: May 10, 2011

### AMHERST RABIES CLINIC

SATURDAY  
APRIL 30TH  
9AM - 11AM

### AMHERST SOUTH FIRE STATION STEARNS RD

DOGS ON LEASHES  
CATS IN CARRIERS  
PLEASE

\$13.00 PER VACCINATION  
LICENCES AVAILABLE TO AMHERST RESIDENTS

DR. AMY HOLLENGREEN FROM AMHERST ANIMAL HOSPITAL IN ATTENDANCE