

Town News

AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY

Amy Lapointe, Library Director
14 Main St., Amherst NH
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email: library@amherst.lib.nh.us
web http://www.amherst.lib.nh.us

WINTER HOLIDAY HOURS

Saturday, Dec. 24.....closed
Sunday, Dec. 25.....closed
Monday, Dec. 26.....closed
Regular hours resume Tuesday,
Dec. 27

Saturday, Dec. 31.....closed
Sunday, Jan. 1.....closed
Monday, Jan. 2.....closed
Regular hours resume Tuesday, Jan. 3

2012 Session Calendar:

We run five 6-wk sessions during the school year
SESSION 3 week of Jan. 9 - Feb. 17
SESSION 4 week of Mar. 5 - April 13
SESSION 5 week of April 30 - June 8

Check Out Our New Storytimes!

In an effort to accommodate as many of our young patrons as possible, we have re-scheduled our groups to the following times----make sure to mark your calendars!



Our Winter storyhour

Session 3 will begin the week of January 9, and run through February 17.
Baby Listeners Lapsit Storytime
Fridays at 10:30 (birth to 24 mos.)
Caregivers present

Our "baby" group meets on Tuesday mornings and offers an opportunity for babies and their caregivers to gather for rhymes, songs and puppets. This 30-minute program emphasizes traditional rhymes that reinforce language patterns and provide for parent/child interaction. A simple book or two intended for this age is generally highlighted. Toddler Time Tuesdays at 10:00 (2 and 3-yr-olds) Caregivers present
The Tuesday story time offers a variety of books, songs, finger plays and felt board activities for our young preschooler. Two or three stories geared to the younger child will be presented, and every 45-minute session concludes with a simple craft for child and caregiver to complete together.

Book Bunch Wednesdays at 1:00pm
Thursdays at 10:00
(3- 6-yr-olds)

Our Book Bunch storytime is designed with the longer attention span of the older child in mind. These action-packed 30 minute programs include a wide variety of books, fingerplays, and songs.

Homer's Odyssey, A Living History Presentation

As part of the January adult evening series The Human Spirit: Adventures and Challenges, the Amherst Town Library presents the Chautauqua living history program, "Homer's Odyssey" on Wednesday, January 11th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Main Reading Room. We begin at Book V with Odysseus weeping on Calypso's Island. We then cover the great encounters: Princess Nausika, the Cyclops, Circe, Hades, and the Lotus Eaters. We end on Ithaka, with the recognition scenes, confrontations with suitors, and resolution with Penelope. Themes: the laws of hospitality, mortality and immortality, words before violence, reconciliation, olive wood as a symbol of restored peace and civility, the journey as allegory. Now you can ask Homer what so delayed Odysseus in his return, about the story of Troy, and the reunion with faithful Penelope. History comes alive with professional storyteller Sebastian Lockwood portraying

Homer's Odysseus!

Presenter Sebastian Lockwood has delighted many audiences with his professional storytelling of Beowulf, Caesar, Emily Dickinson, Gilgamesh, and Homer. He has an M.A. in Social Anthropology, Education, and English from Cambridge University, U.K.; teaches anthropology and storytelling at New Hampshire Institute of Art; and is involved with the storytelling curriculum at the Lesley University Creative Art program and at Endicott College.

This program is made possible by a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council and is free and open to the public. However, registration is REQUIRED for this program due to space limitations. You can register for this program or any one of the Human Spirit: Adventures and Challenges series programs for adults by calling 673-2288, emailing library@amherst.lib.nh.us or by visiting our website

at www.amherst.lib.nh.us and selecting "Calendar of Events."

Upcoming programs in the Human Spirit:

Adventures and Challenges series at the Amherst Town Library include: "What Endures: A Discussion Series led by Emily Archer on Wednesday, January 18th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, Tuesday, January 31st from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, and Wednesday, February 15th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM; "Denali Delmar's No-Knead Miracle Bread Workshop" on Tuesday, January 24th from 6:30 to 8:30 PM; "Adding Years to Your Life and Life to Your Years: A Roadmap to Enhance Longevity and Wellness" on Tuesday, February 7th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM; "It's Not About the Hike" on Tuesday, February 21st from 7 to 8:30 PM and "Exploring America's Tackiest Tourist Photos with humorist Darren Garnick" on Tuesday, February 28th from 7 to 8:30 PM.

"What Endures": A Discussion Series Led By Emily Archer

The Amherst Town Library is offering "What Endures", an innovative discussion series led by Emily Archer on Wednesday, January 18th; Tuesday, January 31st; and Wednesday, February 15th. The series is part of the Library's adult evening series of programs in January and February with the theme of The Human Spirit: Adventures and Challenges and we will explore what endures in all its many meanings in our lives. The discussion sessions are scheduled from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM in the Johnson Meeting Room. We will read a rich mix of poems, stories, and essays, and come reflect together in this new three-part discussion series. All reading materials will be supplied by the library and you are welcome to join us for any or all of the series discussions.

Feats of extreme physical endurance, technical challenge, and athletic skill make the news. Those who scale the highest mountains sail the uncharted seas, and dive unfathomable depths are the stuff of legend and bestsellers. But what about those whose marathons are hidden in hospital corridors or ordinary

suburban living rooms, who climb their Everests unnoticed? Perhaps you have known people who swim upstream through impossible illness, or who daily walk some wild unmapped path with their families. What keeps their spirits alive? How do they persist against the odds? In this series, you are invited to "get the news" of extraordinary, ordinary people who meet their unsought human challenges with honesty, humor, and great presence.

Facilitator Emily Archer has designed this series in consultation with Ruslyn Vear, Head of Reference. Emily holds a doctorate in American literature, is a published writer, and has led public humanities discussions and writing groups for over twenty years for numerous New Hampshire libraries, schools, churches, and medical communities. She lives in Mont Vernon with her family.

This discussion series is free and open to the public. However, registration is REQUIRED for this program due to space limitations. You can register for this program or any one of the Human Spirit: Adven-

tures and Challenges series programs for adults by calling 673-2288, emailing library@amherst.lib.nh.us or by visiting our website at www.amherst.lib.nh.us and selecting "Calendar of Events."

In addition to this discussion series, other programs in the Human Spirit: Adventures and Challenges series at the Amherst Town Library include: "Mountain Climber Craig John: Everest and More" on Tuesday, January 10th from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM; "Homer's Odyssey": a living history presentation on Tuesday, January 17th from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM; "Denali Delmar's No-Knead Miracle Bread Workshop" on Tuesday, January 24th from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM; "Adding Years to Your Life and Life to Your Years: A Roadmap to Enhance Longevity and Wellness" on Tuesday, February 7th from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM; "It's Not About the Hike" on Tuesday, February 21st from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM; and, "Exploring America's Tackiest Tourist Photos with humorist Darren Garnick" on Tuesday, February 28th from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM.

Next Issue: January 10, 2012
Deadline: January 4, 2012

It's About Conservation

Winter Wonderments

By BRUCE B. BECKLEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



Dust of Snow

by Robert Frost

The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow from a hemlock tree
Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I had rued.

Today, as I write one week into December, the grass outside is bright green and the ground soft and unfrozen. It was supposed to snow last night but only the wind-driven rain arrived. Nevertheless the woodstove behind me feels securely warm. Soon early winter snow will come when, as Florence Page Jaques wrote:

The flakes are almost like spring petals falling. This afternoon has a feeling of promise to it, such as April gives us but it is a far more mysterious promise than that of spring.

Winter gives a promise of new things coming and ways to enjoy nature on her white turf. Snowshoes and cross-country skis carry us into her sparkling winter wonderments. And there are so many opportunities for both modes of re-creation right here in town. You may say, "Been here, done that". John Burroughs would reply, "To find new things, take the path you took yesterday."

The Amherst Conservation Commission maintains 25 miles of trails, all of them decent for snowshoeing. Many of the trails in Joe English Reservation and Pond Parish Town Forest offer opportunities for X-C skiers, the experienced and novice. The loop in JER formed by the Hammond Brook, Timber and Old Brook Road trails or the

Pond Parish Loop Trail are good for X-C skiing, especially for the novice and families. The Joppa Hill Farm and Pulpit Brook Trail loop is a shaded more challenging but does offer a more varied course. Nearby, visit the trails of Grater Woods located in both Amherst and Merrimack.

Many more details on these suggestions for winter enjoyment are described in the Amherst Walk Book available for your use and gift giving from the Amherst Town Clerk and the Toadstool Bookshop. The Toadstool carries literally shelves of nature books and guides for all ages.

Our best wishes for you this holiday season and may your New Year be a happy one full of opportunities and time for enjoying Nature.

Halleluiah

By Mary Oliver

Everyone should be born into this world happy
and loving everything.
But in truth it rarely works that way.
For myself, I have spent my life clamoring
toward it.
Halleluiah, I'm not where I started!
And have you too been trudging like that,
sometimes almost forgetting how
wondrous the world is and how
miraculously kind people can be?
And have you too decided that probably
nothing important is ever easy?
Not, say, for the first sixty years.
Halleluiah, I'm sixty now, and even a
little more,
And some days, I feel I have wings.

Everest And More

continued from page 1

present a multi-media program in which he explores these similarities and how we can take what he's learned on the mountain and apply it to our own lives to become stronger, more competent individuals. A natural story teller, Craig presents his inspiring story of determination and courage while sharing the lore of the regions he has climbed.

Craig John began climbing in the Cascade Range and Olympic Mountains of Washington State. He has been a professional mountain guide since 1987. He has 189 ascents of Mt. Rainier by 12 different routes to his credit and has done over fifty high altitude expeditions worldwide including successful ascents of Everest by the North Ridge in Tibet, and Cho Oyu (the 6th highest in the world), 18 ascents of Kilimanjaro and ten expeditions to Denali. Craig

guides for International Mountain Guides based in Ashford, Washington and The International Mountain Climbing School in North Conway, New Hampshire. He is a member of the American Mountain Guides Association and the American Alpine Club. His website is www.craigjohn-climbing.com.

You are also invited to join us for this and the rest of the Human Spirit: Adventures and Challenges programs at the Amherst Town Library: Homer's Odyssey on Tuesday, January 17th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, Denali Delmar's No-Knead Miracle Bread Workshop on Tuesday, January 24th from 6:30 to 8:30 PM, "What Endures: A Discussion Series led by Emily Archer on Wednesday, January 18th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, Tuesday, January 31st from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, and Wednesday, February 15th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, Adding Years to Your Life and Life to Your Years: A Roadmap to Enhance Longevity and Wellness on Tuesday, February 7th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, It's Not About the Hike on Tuesday, February 21st from 7 to 8:30 PM and Exploring America's Tackiest Tourist Photos with humorist Darren Garnick on Tuesday, February 28th from 7 to 8:30 PM.

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Season's Greetings from the doctors and staff at Lindner Dental!

From left to right:
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Dr. Nina Casaverde, Dr. Rochelle Lindner,
Dr. Gary Lindner, Dr. Lesleyann Splagounias,
Dr. Luis Englander and Dr. Kathleen Chan

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