Town News

AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY

Amy Lapointe, Library Director
14 Main St., Amherst NH
Phone 673-2288 Fax 672-6063
email: library@amherst.lib.nh.us
web http://www.amherst.lib.nh.us
Mon-Thu, 9:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Fri & Sat, 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sun, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Children's Programming at the Amherst Town Library

Storytimes

All of our traditional Storytimes are drop in, we love to see you when you are able to attend. Storytimes are held the following days and times:

Baby Listeners lapsit storytime (from birth to 24 mos.) is on Friday mornings at 10:30. Next session meets: May 4, 11, 18, 25, June 1 and 8.

Toddler Time for 2 and 3 year olds and their caregivers meet Tuesdays at 10:00. Next session meets: May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.

Book Bunch for 3-6 yr. olds is on Wednesdays at 1:00pm and Thursdays at 10:00am. Next session meets: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6 (Weds. afternoons) and May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, June 7 (Thurs. mornings).

What's Cooking at the Library? During the month of May, we'll be highlighting our collection of kid-friendly cookbooks. Come on in, and check some out—the results will be delicious!!

"Sensational Snacks!!" Has been postponed, and will be presented on Wednesday, May 30 from 3:30-4:30.

In keeping with the cooking theme, we'll be presenting a program with Cathy Duchesne from Kids Culinary Arts called, "Sensational Snacks!". Sensational Snacks gives students 7 and up the opportunity to learn how to make healthy and yummy after-school snacks for themselves. We'll be mixing up some snacks right here at the library, and then you can go home and try preparing something delicious for your family! Space is limited, so register now at www.amherst.lib.nh.us or call 673-2288.

'Get into Gardening' w/ Aisha from Peabody Mill Environmental Center
Tuesday, May 22 from 3:30-4:30

Aisha from the Peabody Mill Environmental Center will be visiting the Children's Room to provide a story-centered gardening program! Come and listen to a garden story, and then get your hands in some dirt! Suggested for kids ages 4-7.

Book Clubs

We have book clubs for all ages—

Jr. Bookclub (for kids in grades 2-4 and parents) meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. For the month of May, club members are reading Half Magic, the classic chapter book by Edward Eager. Come in and talk to Miss Sarah if you're interested in joining.

The Great Stone Face Reviewer's Club (for 5th and 6th graders) gets together on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 to review the newest fiction titles that we've all been reading—then Miss Sarah passes these ratings on to the Great Stone Face Committee at the state level. We're an opinionated group that loves to read---and loves to talk about what we're reading! If you'd like to join us, come in and talk to Miss Sarah.

The Popcorn-Eating Monsters Club (for 7th and 8th graders) gather on the 4th Wednesday of each month to share opinions about the newest YA fiction titles we're reading. Last month we had a blast putting on a Hunger Games event to coincide with the movie release. If you love to read, and love to talk about what you're reading, come and join us! Talk to Miss Sarah if you're interested.

Paws for Reading

Anna and Leo, our reading therapy dogs, and their handler, Carol, will be here to listen to our children read on Tuesday, May 1 from 3:30 to 4:30, and on Saturday, May 5 from 10:30 to 11:30. This is a wonderful way for beginning readers to practice their skills, and it's lots of fun for more experienced readers, too! To register for a 15-minute reading appointment, please call Miss Sarah or Miss Sue at 673-2288.

Lego My Library

On May 24 at 3:30, we'll gather at the library to express our Lego-creativity! Come and join us for a fun-filled hour of building, playing, and just plain fun. Space is limited, so register now at www.amherst.lib.nh.us or call 673-2288.

Clubs, Civic Organizations, Non-Profits please submit your publicity to *The Amherst Citizen*: news@amherstcitizen.com

It's About Conservation

Ducks Without Wings

By Bruce B. Beckley
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"'Tis like the birthday of the world,
When earth was born in bloom;
The light is made of many dyes,
The air is all perfume:
There's crimson buds, and white and blue,
The very rainbow showers
Have turned to blossoms where they fell,
And sown the earth with flowers."
— Thomas Hood

As I write , the day after Mother's Day, it's drizzling, great for transplanting but lousy for the transplantor. So I'll stay dry awhile. Last night the Amherst Conservation Commission discussed two very worthwhile land protection offers which together would total over 100 acres of open natural space. Unfortunately, we could act on neither one due to the lack of funds in our account for land protection. I hope I can report in the next issue that alternative funding has been secured.

Several people have commented about the variety of birds being seen this spring. Here in our small backyard sanctuary the species you would expect have been joined by nesting pairs of bluebirds, rose-breasted grosbeaks and orioles. And in the area we are seeing hummingbirds and an indigo bunting for the first time in over a decade.

Wildflowers, especially moccasin flowers, are among the species that seem to have bloomed early. The mockason flower as it was spelled in 1669 Virginia, like so many plants, carries many local names. Commonly called lady's slipper today, these native orchids were called ducks in 1894 because when the flower is partly filled with sand and set afloat it looks like a duck.

Returning to Puritan New England, a writer in 1672 observed, "I once took notice of a wanton woman's compounding of the solid roots of this plant with wine, for an amorous cup; which brought the desired effect." [Probably the wine alone would have worked]. Of course, the Greeks had a name for the orchid species – orchis – which in Greek means "testicle". Flowers and men's minds don't seem to change over the centuries.

On that note, back to planting such common species as marigolds, zinnias, and broccoli – drizzle or not.

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Hampshire Football Club/Amherst Soccer Club 2012 FALL TRYOUTS
We invite you to tryout for the Fall soccer teams.
Tryouts are open to all players from any town.

When: Mon/Thurs, June 11th & 14th
Boys and Girls
U11-U14 Tryouts
U10 Assessment and Registration
Tues/Thurs: June 19th and 21st
Boys and Girls
U15-U18 Tryouts

Eligibility Dates:
08/01/97-07/31/98 U14
08/01/98-07/31/99 U13
08/01/99-07/31/00 U12
08/01/00-07/31/01 U11
08/01/01-07/31/02 U10 (assessments)

Time: 6:00pm to 8:00pm
please arrive 15 minutes early to register

Where: Cemetery Fields
70 Merrimack Road, Amherst, NH

Fall Program Includes:
Summer Camp: 08/06/12 to 08/10/12
Camp is led by Marc Hubbard and HFC's professional coaching staff
Fall and Spring Seasons - 16 games total
Comprehensive plan for player development

Marc Hubbard, SNHU Men's Coach, HFC Director of Coaching and his staff will be conducting the assessments and tryouts.
Players should bring a ball, shin guards, water and be ready to play. Also, bring completed and signed medical release and registration forms which are available on our website.
For more information, please visit www.amherstsoccerclub.com

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Rare Opportunity to Enjoy Independent Living at the Villas at Nashua!

Each of the Villas at Nashua offers more than 1,000 square feet of sensitively planned living space, surrounded by lushly landscaped walled gardens and patios. And residency in the Villas grants you access to amenities and services offered at Courville's assisted living facility, Aynsley Place, located on the same campus.

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- Weekly hairdresser service
- Full calendar of social and cultural events
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- 1 Bedroom/1 1/2 Baths
- Living room with gas fireplace
- Walk-in closets
- Fully applianced kitchen
- Master suite with whirlpool bath
- More than 1,000 square feet of living space

CourvilleCommunities.com
800.638.5503
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