Food for Fines at the Amherst Town Library

The Amherst Town Library will collect "food for fines" from November 1st through November 15th. Please generously donate canned goods, paper products, diapers, cereal, pasta or packaged mixes and your fines will be waived. These items will be taken to SHARE to benefit families in our community. Help support SHARE and clear all your fines during the library's amnesty week.

Talk by Yankee Magazine's Edie Clark

On Wednesday, Nov. 19 at 9:30 a.m., Edie Clark, columnist for Yankee magazine, will speak on "Baked Beans and Fried Clams: How Food Defines a Region" at Messiah Lutheran Church, 303 Rt. 101 in Amherst, N. H. This free event is hosted by Nipmugs Questers of Amherst.

Nashaway Chapter of the NH Audubon Society Upcoming Events

Lions and Zebras and Ostrich, Oh My!

On Wednesday November 19 at 7pm, The Nashaway Chapter of NH Audubon will host Ruth Smith, NH Audubon Program and Camp Director and Summer Naturalist, and nature columnist for the Concord Monitor. Ruth recently toured the plains of Tanzania. Ruth's presentation about her dream-come-true safari will include tales of close encounters with elephant herds, towering giraffes, mischievous monkeys, and many amazing birds. This program takes place in the downstairs theater room of the Nashua Public Library and is free. Registration is not necessary. For more information, contact Richard Maloon 424-5621 or richard.

Field Trip: Odiorne Point and the NH Coastline

On Saturday, November 22 from 7:30am to 3:30pm, the Nashaway Chapter of NH Audubon will visit the NH coast, traveling south from Odiorne Point to Hampton Beach State Park. We expect to find loons and grebes that have migrated here from inland lakes, sea ducks such as scoters and eiders, and high-diving gannets coming from their breeding cliffs in the Maritimes. Bring binoculars and a scope if you have one, lunch and drink. Dress WARMLY. Trip is free and open to the public. Meet in Nashua at the Exit 7 Park & Ride, on the hill behind the Fireside Inn and Suites. To register or for directions to the destination, contact Richard Bielawski at 429-2537 or rbielawski@mac.com.

Amherst Area Newcomers Club Monthly Meetings

Amherst Area Newcomers Club holds monthly social meetings both informative and entertaining. We have many interest groups that also meet weekly or monthly including book group, knitting, bunco, crafts, golf (is still meeting), out to lunch, movie night, poker and more.

Please join us on December 1st, 630-830pm for our annual wreath making night. Bring a plain green wreath and learn how to add fruits and other festive decorations to your wreath. You will impress yourself!

Newcomers also hosts Amherst's Breakfast with Santa for the community. This year Breakfast with Santa will be on December 13th.

For more information on our activities visit our website at www.nhnewcomers. com. We would love to meet vou!

Amherst Garden Club Evening Meetings

Sue Alger will be the speaker at the evening meeting or the American Club on November 13 at Parkhurst Place, 11 Veterans Road in Amherst starting "Parkhurst Place, 11 Veterans Road in Amherst starting with Succeedings and Fall Bounty." The at 7:00 pm. She will speak on "Decorating with Succulents and Fall Bounty." meeting, which will begin at 7:00 pm, is open to the public.

DISCUSSION GROUP at TOADSTOOL BOOKSHOP

On the first Thursday of each month, the discussion group meets from 7PM to 8:30PM. We share ideas on philosophy, current affairs and familiar truths. For more information contact: Norah at 673 - 6948.

Open to All Southern New Hampshire Women

The Amherst Area Newcomers Club has been an active social organization in

The club is open to all women in the Souhegan Valley, regardless of how long she has lived in the area. We hold monthly general events on a wide variety of topics along with smaller special interest groups which cater to socializing with others of similar interests. The club is a great way to meet new people, get to know the area if you're new, or cultivate a new passion. We currently host interest groups for crafts, knitting, bunco, walking, charity, lunch, poker, healthy eating and golf.

For information and a calendar of events visit: NHNewcomers con

Amherst Juniors Open for New Members!

Our mission is civic needs, educational advancement and those less fortunate. Our goals are achieved with the assistance and generosity of businesses, organiza-

We are in need of women with motivation and dedication to join us in growing our mission even further within our surrounding communities.

Please email us at memberships@amherstjuniors.org. Our website is www. amherstjuniors.org. Call Barb @ 508-783-3686 or Karen @305-3046 for more

Amherst Garden Club

The Memory Tree 2014

Sponsored by the Amherst Garden Club, the Memory Tree acts as a remembrance of a loved one to all who have made a donation. The tree, an Amherst tradition dating back to 1995, is located in the center of town speaking out with a twinkle to all who pass by. "Remember me, remember the times we shared." The Memory Tree will be lit on Friday, December 12, the weekend of the Tree Lighting Festival and will stay lit through the cold winter nights into January. Now is the time to send in your donation and names to be remembered.

We have donated the money raised each year to various projects around Amherst and the local area.

Donations this year will go to a local organization that supports our mission statement of providing education, resources and networking opportunities for our members to promote the love of gardening, civic landscaping and environmental responsibility.

Please call Trese Gilligan at 714-9182 if you have any questions. Donations (\$10.00 for individual name or \$25.00 for a family) may be sent to "The Memory Tree/Amherst Gardeners, PO Box 694, Amherst, NH. Thank you for your support. Stop by and see the tree and sign posted with the names of those being remembered.

Bulletin Board Town News

Historic Amherst

Development of "Maple Street" Neighborhood: Boston Post Road Between Main Street and Amherst Street

BY KATRINA HOLMAN

The year 1823 was significant as the kickoff of the development of the Village neighborhood along the road now

called Boston Post Road, between its intersection with Main Street on the north and Amherst Street on the south. That also happens to be the year that a new courthouse was built, on speculation – and this preemptive action did ensure Amherst's continuing role as county seat. Timothy Danforth (1788-1855) made the bricks for Town Hall - and for the first house on the block, which he erected at 117 Boston Post Road (BPR) in 1823. At the same time, he established blacksmithing across the road at 2 Cross Street.

Prior to development, the land on both sides of this stretch was owned by Samuel Dana, Esquire (Jr., 1767-1835) of Groton, Mass., who had inherited from his father, the Honorable Judge Samuel Dana (Sr., 1739-1798). Judge Dana resided at 19 Main Street, and when he died, he owned practically all land on the west side of Amherst Village, extending as far north as Sunset Road lots and bounded on the south by Amherst Street. It would take more than half a century before the Dana sons/heirs & their descendants divested of all their Amherst Village property, but in 1823 Timothy Danforth acquired multiple tracts of land from Dana Jr., including 117 BPR for \$75 in May; and three more tracts for \$180 in June, namely (1) 15 & 17 Carriage Road and 1 & 3 Davis Lane, (2) 2 Cross Street & 114 BPR, and (3) 142 or 144 Amherst Street.

Mechanics' Shops

The block on the east side of BPR, between the 3-story brick building (aka Cushing's Folly) at 10 Main Street (where now Moulton's Market stands) and Cross Street, became quite a center of industry in the second quarter of the 19th century. Two blacksmith shops were built early in 1823 on Tim Dan-

Smith and the other by Jonathan Thayer 2d and Calvin Boutell, with the option of a 5-year lease of the land. After less than a year, in Jan. 1824, Danforth sold the land for \$50 to John Eaton Jr. (d. 1829), a Boston merchant who had grown up in Amherst and owned the 3-story brick block from 1821 to '25. Other blacksmiths followed in this spot. One of the original shops, the brick one, burned in 1877. At the end of the 19th cen-



George Kinson House (1832) - 118 Boston Post Road. A blacksmith from Milford, Geo. Kinson (1800-1867) first bought 2 Cross Street with two blacksmith shops in 1829 for \$160 at probate estate auction. In 1831, he paid \$60 to Dana for this adjacent lot and built the two-story house. When they moved into their new home, George & Martha K. had three very young children; two more would be born here. The next owner of house and shops was Benjamin Merrill Stevens (1813-1847) who left Tyngsborough, Mass., to run a blacksmith and wheelwright business here, until he died three years later aged 34, leaving his widow with four young children under 10. From 1851-'54, Gilbert Small (1820-1887), another blacksmith, rented the house at 118 BPR until he bought 15 Middle Street in April 1854; Small also leased the smithy at 2 Cross Street, which he bought in 1855.

forth's 2 Cross Street lot, one by Peter E. tury, various industries were carried out in the old shop: upholstering, painting and carriage trimming; boot and harness repairing. By the 1930s, it was a blacksmith shop again, and in 1940s it was a gas station with two

Also in 1823, wheelwright David Underhill (1799-1840) arrived in town and set up shop at 110 BPR (next door to Cushing's Folly), making carriages, waggons and sleighs there until 1826, when John M. Wilson bought the place and turned it into a drug store.

Meanwhile, Danforth still owned 114 BPR and in June 1824 commenced the "harness, chaise making and wheelwright business" at his "new shops on Amherst Plain" - with a livery stable too. In 1828, Tim opened Amherst's second whip factory – the first in the Village! - in the same building as the harness-making, manufacturing whale bone and cat gut whips with ivory, horn, button, plated and silver mountings. In April 1830, Tim sold 114 BPR to his out-of-state brother-in-law Crosby, but continued to run the businesses there. In 1831, Danforth opened a short-lived general store (but sold no "ardent spirits") in the same building as his whip-making. (Although this record suggests that Tim Danforth was what we might call an entrepreneur, you'll have to draw your own conclusion as to whether that made him an astute and/or successful businessman. Secomb says he continued whip-making on a small scale until his death – perhaps in his later home? – but he had other occupations

The other whip manufacturers were Samuel B. Melendy (1799-1883) & Barnabas B. David (1802-1883), who in 1823 had moved their factory from Boston to the south part of Amherst, and in a couple years had sales offices in Boston, New York and New Or-

Continued on page 5

The start of the Holiday Season begins with the November 11th issue! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and visit www.amherstcitizen.com for frequent updates on events and celebrations.

AMHERST RECREATION **DEPARTMENT**

4 Cross Rd, Amherst, NH 03031 603 673-6248 **Peabody Mill Environmental Center** 66 Brook Road 603 673-1141 www.amherstrec.org

If you haven't perused the Recreation website recently, we invite you to take a look. We have many new programs for families and adults, from guided walks on local trails to family art programs. We hope you will find one that sparks interest with you!

Family Programming

NEW Fall Family Fun Days Come to PMEC for our new

monthly event! Make a craft, learn a skill or just have fun with organized games! We will feature new themes and plans every month. November 15th - Outdoor

Cooking: come learn the art of cooking food over an open flame! Hike to collect materials and learn to build a correct bonfire safely and have some snacks that we cook our-

December 20th - Dream-catchers: (indoor program) Learn how to make your own dream-catcher! Native Americans made these beautiful pieces of art to help them have pleasant dreams. Make one to take

Who: Families and Individuals When: 10/11 1:00-3:00pm Cost: \$4.00 per person, with a family maximum of \$20.00 Where: PMEC, 66 Brook Road

NEW Family Studio Night

It's all about creativity and Imagination at Family Studio Nights at Amherst Middle School! Art Teacher Brandie Pettus will lead these hands-on studio-based workshops where grown-ups and children work together to craft amazingly fun works of art! Grown-ups and children ages 3 to 103 will explore a variety of media and techniques and spend some artsy time together! We may dance, we may share stories, we may listen to funky music--but we'll definitely have FUN!

Who: Families ages 3-103 When: 11/13 6:00-8:00pm Where: Amherst Middle School Art

Fee: \$20.00 for a family up to 4 members, \$2.00 addition member

Youth Programming

Big news for Thursday Night Lights

Have a pass to Crotched but need a ride? The cost of the bus has dropped by \$25.00 because of

our registrations! Students will be picked up from Wilkins Elementary School and driven to Crotched Mountain Ski and Ride in Bennington NH. Students will have the opportunity to rent equipment, take a lesson and have some free skiing time before heading back to Wilkins School by 8:30pm.

Amherst Recreation Programs and Events

Who: Grades 1-8 When: Thursdays, 1/8 - 2/12 (2/19 will be a makeup date for this program if needed).

Transportation: \$55 (includes transportation to and from Crotched Mountain for 6 weeks.)

Kids CAN Cook!: Burger Heaven, including Turkey, Veggie and Beef

They can be cooked on the grill, on the stove top or baked in the oven, but anyway you make them, burgers are a classic! Students will learn how to make and sere turkey, veggie or beef burgers. They will also make "Chippy Potatoes" because potatoes can be cooked in a healthy way, too. All students will have the opportunity to try all three kinds of burgers, because you never know what you may like until you try it! Let's all learn to appreciate the goodness of homemade, wholesome and healthy cooking!

Who: 5th-8th Graders When: Thursday 11/10 Where: AMS Life Skills Room Fee: \$20 Res/\$25 Non-Res

NEW Artist Workshop Series at AMS

Students will explore a variety of art supplies in a safe, low pressure, creative studio environment. Students can sign up for one afternoon class or get a discount and sign up for all three workshops in the series. Tools and methods for these classes are more sophisticated and the emphasis is on creativity, self expression and exploring "What is ART?" in our culture and around the world.

Who: 5th-8th Graders When: Thursdays 11/13 and 11/20 3:30-5:00 Where: AMS Art Room #2

Fee: \$20/\$25 for each class Yoga for Kids

Encourage children to turn off their devices and tune in to themselves with yoga. Yoga can help children develop a healthy mindbody connection that improves self-awareness, confidence and con-

Continued on page 6

MEMORY TREE 2014

Print YOUR NAME Clearly:

Name of person to be remembered. A. Family - i.e. The John Smith Family -\$25.00

B. Per Individual Name - i.e. John Smith - \$10.00 Select (Either A or B) A. The

Family (\$25.00) B. Last Name First Name Last Name_ First Name Last Name First Name Last Name First Name

(\$10.00 per individual name) Make checks payable to:

"The Memory Tree"/Amherst Garden Club PO Box 694

Amherst, New Hampshire 03031 Deadline: Please return by December 1, 2014. Thank you. Need more information? Contact Trese Gilligan at 714-9182

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High School. Ideal for professional individuals, young

couple, teachers or graduate students. Limited ameni-

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Roommate(s) Wanted

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Joseph Raczek, O.D.

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620-3517

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or email: cheryl@chafinesq.com

Please reply to: 814-746-7134