

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

COME TO STORYTIME AT THE LIBRARY!

SESSION 1 Starts Sep. 8 and runs to October 17

SESSION 2 Starts Nov. 3 and runs to Dec. 12

(no storytimes Nov. 27 and 28)

Baby Listeners (newborn-2yrs.) Fridays at 10:30
Caregivers present

Our "baby" group offers an opportunity for babies and their caregivers to gather for rhymes, songs and puppets. Emphasis is on 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 (2 and 3-yr. olds) Tuesdays at 10:00
Caregivers present

Toddler Time is for our 2 and 3 year olds who are just beginning to discover the joy of books and stories! We mix it up with simple rhymes, songs, and puppets to appeal to a toddler's attention span. Each session concludes with a simple craft for the caregiver and child to



create together. Come and join us, we have lots of fun!

Book Bunch (3-6 yrs.) Wednesdays at 10:00 Thursdays at 1:00pm

Our "Book Bunch" storytime is designed for the longer attention span of the preschool-kindergarten set. These action-packed 40 minute programs include a wide variety of books, finger plays, and songs. At the conclusion of each session, caretakers are invited to come in and assist their children with a simple craft.

NEW THIS FALL!

Pajama Storytime! (ages 3-6 yrs.) Mondays at 6:30pm

This is a 'Book Bunch' for the after-hours set! Put on your 'jammies' and head on down to the library for some stories and fun. Then it's home to brush your teeth and hop into bed. The perfect program for working families, or for those kids who like a little 'nightlife'! All groups meet once per week for six-week sessions which run from September until June. No registration is required.

For more information, please call 603-673-2288 and ask for Miss Sarah or Miss Sue.

For up-to-date information concerning library programs and events, please visit our website, www.amherstlibrary.org and click on Calendar of Events.

Friends of the Amherst Town Library

Howard Muscott Photography on Exhibit

AMHERST – The Friends of the Amherst Town Library would like to welcome Howard Muscott and his breath taking photography to the Amherst Town Library during the month of November. Howard was born in New York City and has been a resident of Amherst for the last 22 years. When not out in nature with his camera, he is the Director at SERESC in Bedford. Howard finds balance with his career in Special Education with his love for photography which allows him to take in the world at a slower, less distracted pace.

Howard has been photographing landscapes and wildlife for more than 30 years. He spent his youth hiking and backpacking which laid the foundation for Howard's love for nature. His photography is fueled by the exquisite beauty of the natural world and the wildlife residing there. "The best photography combines one's vision for the image with the best natural light and requires both persistence and opportunity. That's why I'm always chasing the golden light." Howard prefers to photograph either at dawn or dusk to catch the light that "paints the scenes he sees through the camera".



Amherst photographer Howard Muscott's works on exhibit during November

Howard is a self-taught photographer who is compelled to take time during his business trips to explore and capture the beauty surrounding him. In addition to the beauty, especially autumn, of New Hampshire, Howard has photographed the mountains of Alaska, Colorado and the Pacific Northwest and their wildlife as well as photographed the Southwestern peoples and light.

Howard has had many shows and publications featuring his photographs. Most recently he was a featured artist at Beaver Brook in Hollis and featured in "13, 1 artist, 13 questions" in the Nashua Telegraph. His work can be found on his website, www.chasingthegoldenlight.com, and at various stores and galleries around NH.

"Get Festive With a Thanksgiving Centerpiece"

The Amherst Town Library presents "Get Festive with a Thanksgiving Centerpiece" on Thursday, November 20th at 7 p.m. in the Main Reading Room of the Library. Local artist and floral designer Kevin Dadoly of Woodman's Florist will share creativity tips while he develops several centerpieces that will be raffled off at the end of the program.

Using all the autumnal colors, flowers, and textures, Kevin will bring his exuberance and love of color and design to this fun, informational evening program of good cheer. Along with watching art in progress as Kevin develops beautiful arrangements, Kevin plans to share guidelines for keeping flowers fresh and maintaining centerpieces; and, he will speak about the latest trends in flower design. The Library thanks Woodman's Florists for providing all materials to be used in the presentation.

This Library program for adults is free and open to the public. However, registration is REQUIRED due to space limitations. You can register for this event by calling 673-2288, emailing library@amherstlibrary.org, or by visiting our website at www.amherstlibrary.org and selecting the "Community Services" tab, then click on drop down "Sign-Up for Programs."

Minecraft Club at the Amherst Town Library

Come and join fellow Minecraft players on Wednesday afternoons 4 - 5:30pm starting November 5th. Meetings will be in the Johnson room. Space is limited to 15, so registration is required.

This will be an adult moderated, child centric club. All ages are welcome, as long as they are willing to cooperate with older and younger members.

Club members will engage in structured and unstructured collaborative play, sharing tips and tricks on different topics (to be decided by the group) each week. For example, learn how to:

- Jump super high, or run super-fast.
- Build booby-trapped temples.
- Build Redstone based devices.
- Make a tesla tower.

What secrets will you share with the group? Players are requested to bring their own laptops with an active Minecraft license. The library has 3 laptops available for player use but these must be reserved in advance. Please indicate if you would like to borrow a library laptop when registering. Please direct any questions to Kim Ayers at 249-9108, kimberlyayers@comcast.net

Amherst Town Library – Information Session:

The Health Insurance Marketplace

AMHERST – Health Insurance Marketplace Information and Open Enrollment Assistance at the Amherst Town Library is being provided through a certified Marketplace Assister from the Servicelink Resource Center for Hillsborough County.

The sessions are scheduled for Tuesdays, beginning November 11, and continuing through Tuesday, February 10 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Archives Room of the Amherst Town Library. These sessions will begin with a formal presentation from 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. by Bokyoung Mun, a certified Market-

place Assister, and follow up with a Q & A session from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. If you are planning to attend the formal educational session, please register. During the Q & A time, "drop-ins" are welcome.

Bokyoung holds a Bachelor's degree in Health Care Management and a Master's degree in Business Administration with a Certificate in Health Care Administration from Plymouth State University. During these scheduled sessions Bokyoung will assist people in completing and submitting an eligibility application for health coverage; assist people with enrollment; re-

view eligibility determinations for enrollment in health coverage; educate people about eligibility and enrollment through the Marketplace; and, assist consumers in applying for exemptions or appeals.

All sessions at the Amherst Town Library are free and open to the public. To register, please sign up by calling 673-2288, emailing library@amherstlibrary.org or by visiting the library website at www.amherstlibrary.org and selecting the "Community Services" tab, then click on drop down "Sign-Up for Programs."

It's About Conservation

Abundant Blessings

By BRUCE B. BECKLEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Sometimes I fear that I mix up my readerships and my thoughts. Mostly I write for myself, putting thoughts and photographs together for my own pleasure. And in this column, I write for whom I'm never quite sure, again to get my thoughts set down and hopefully encourage an expanded enjoyment of conservation's blessings. A third group of possible readers gets exposed to my ramblings on Sundays.

No matter at which reader I'm aiming, it is hard to skip over the richness that is ours in the natural world around us. Here, living down the road from Grater Woods, the oaks have nearly finished shedding their russet leaves which sifted down onto the red blueberry bushes. Down in the marsh the black alders are making it their season with cloaks of red fruit jumping above the brown marsh grasses and cattails.

Halloween and elections are behind us. I'm not sure which was the scarier, or is the more humorous. Now roadsides can be cleared of printed signs and look more natural once more. One good thing about the election signs is that they remind us on this Armistice Day of our blessings of freedom. The garden is turned over. The winter rye is sown with the hope that next spring the deer will not eat all of it before it can be turned into green manure.

Now we enter the man-made season of thanks and giving - thanks for all we are blessed with and giving in response. As you plan your year-end giving, I hope you will choose one or more conservation organizations to be recipients of your thankfulness. In Amherst and nearby towns we are blessed specifically by the work of the Audubon Society of New Hampshire, the Society For the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, the NH Fish & Game Dept. non-game species programs, the gift accounts of the Amherst Conservation Commission and the

Amherst Land Trust. Each of these organizations uses gifts from private donors to support their natural history education programs and natural space preservation.

Fall is slipping away now. Snowbirds from the North Country arrive as human snowbirds fly off to Florida. The first snowflakes of winter pass the window reminding me of a piece I wrote for my enjoyment a couple of years ago about a winter blessing. Now it's yours:



First Snow

*Winter overcame fall last night,
Slipping in silently,
snow sifted through the trees,
settling on all below.
Crabapples await feasting robins,
frosted with icy whipped-cream dobs.
Purple pear leaves plucked by the wind
punctuate the white carpet.
Tell-tale tracks testify to trespassing cervid moochers,
seeking food beneath bird feeders and
among leftover turnips.
Soon on their menu - the yews.
Nature winds herself down.
Shadows creep up tree trunks.
Pines embrace the sunlight longest, mantled with
a pink alpenglow, reminiscent of far off mountains.
A beautiful day ends,
with much left over for another,
giving way to moonlight
for the fairies and critters of the night.*

Lickings Of Many Fires © 2014

Amherst Town Library

Anna Boardman Concert Featured Laszlo Gardony, John Lockwood



Pianist/composer Laszlo Gardony

AMHERST – The Anna Boardman Concert held at the Amherst Town Library on November 2, and featured jazz pianist/composer Laszlo Gardony and bass player John Lockwood. The performance, the 20th in the series, was enjoyed by a standing room audience.

Laszlo Gardony is a renowned artist and winner of the Great American Jazz Piano Competition. He has been a professor at Berklee College of Music since the 1980's.

John Lockwood has toured the United States and Europe with various bands and has per-

formed with the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Boston Pops, and MIT Symphony. He is associate professor at Berklee College of Music.

To learn more about Laszlo Gardony and John Lockwood and to hear clips of their music, visit www.lgjazz.com.

Helen Rowe and Don Holden, trustees, were the guests of honor at the concert, having served a collective 50 years. Trustees were available to showcase recent library renovations and answer questions.

The concert was free with limited seating by ticket.

► Development of "Maple Street" Neighborhood

continued from page 4

leans. In 1831, M & D moved to the Village, converting the former wheelwright shop and drug store at 110 BPR into their new whip factory, where they would remain in business for four more decades. In 1832, Melendy & David employed 16 men and 9 women, whereas Danforth had 6 men and 4 women making whips.



David Perkins Low House (1852) – 120 Boston Post Road. Since D. P. Low(e) (1816-1894) was a carpenter, he probably built this two-and-a-half story Greek Revival-style house himself as his family's home, on land he bought early in 1852. Notice the fancy detailing on the corner pilasters and entrance surround. His first wife, Lucy Ann Damon, died in June 1853 at age 35, leaving two young children. He remarried two years later, to Susan Upham. The Lows moved to Troy, N.H., in 1861 or '62. In 1867 they sold the house for \$900 to George W. Fletcher (1806-1882), who retired from farming at 377 BPR on Souhegan River, disabled by fall from an apple tree. (George's brother Daniel (1796-1873) resided since 1854 across the street in the brick at 117 BPR, retired from innkeeping at 382 BPR. The Fletcher wives were sisters.)

At 112 BPR, in 1840, Lemuel Bisell (1799-1882/3), house & carriage painter, opened a shop "adjoining the whip factory of Messrs. Melendy & David" and on their land. In 1845, Miss Louisa C. Eastman moved her millinery shop to this vicinity, "two doors south of the whip factory" (not clear whether on 112 or 114 BPR lot) for a brief period.

The Houses

1823/4 – 117 BPR: Capt. Daniel Fletcher House. In March 1823, Timothy Danforth published house specifications and solicited proposals for the work in the newspaper. In May, he inked the deed buying the large lot with 12.5 rods of frontage; then built the house, using bricks of his own manufacture. And in May 1824, he sold the Federal-style mansion for \$2250 to his brother-in-law, Joel Crosby of Leominster, Mass., who still owned it when he died in 1834.

1824/5 – 201 BPR: Means-David-Bean Mansion. Robert Means Jr. (1786-1842), a lawyer, built the brick mansion on SW corner with Amherst Street, on 40 acres bought in June 1824 for \$950. He sold the property in 1831 for \$4000 to Melendy & David, whip manufacturer, and it became the residence of the Barnabas B. David family and their descendants.

1832 circa – 118 BPR: George Kinson House. Lot created in May 1831. (In Jan. 1834 Kinson bought the rest of the block extending south from his new house to corner with Amherst Street for another \$60 from Dana. A later owner in 1852 split off 120 BPR & NE corner Amherst Street lot.)

1835 circa – 114 BPR: Widow Anah Goss House. Ephraim Goss (1767-1840), husbandman, bought the lot in Oct. 1835 for \$480 and built the house (or converted Danforth's harness- and whip-making shop into dwelling) as final home for himself and his long-lived wife, Anah Bathrick (1770-1875).

1845 circa – 112 BPR: Melendy Sisters House. Lot created August 1845 when Melendy & David split off a piece with 30 feet of frontage from the southern part of their whip factory lot and sold to Mr. Melendy's three unmarried older sisters, Mercy (1787-1854), Hepzibah (1791-1877) and Sarah (1792-1883). House was built (or converted from shop) before 1850.



Widow McClure House (c. 1869) – 115 Boston Post Road. The first owner of the newly-created narrow lot with existing house, who paid \$1150 in 1869, was Lucy (Melendy) McClure aka McClure (1835-1873), whose husband died in the Civil War leaving her with a baby daughter. This is where John Moor (1782-1862) kept his store (rebuilt after fire in Oct. 1848) from late 1840s until about 1857. John and his second wife Martha (d. 1866) lived at 12 Main Street, from which lot their adult children split off 115 BPR. The next owner, after the orphaned heir, was Miss Anstess S. Thomas (1819-1902), who bought the house in 1884 for \$800, returning to her childhood hometown after retiring from running a variety and fancy goods store for decades in Nashua.

1852 – 120 BPR: David P. Low House. Lot created in April 1852 when split off from 118 BPR lot.

1869 circa – 115 BPR: Widow McClure House. Lot created in 1869 with 4 rods (66 feet) frontage, existing house.

1880 – 110 BPR: The old M & D whip factory was converted to two tenements.

1954 – 2 Cross Street: Lavina Glover converted building into private home.

1970 – 119 BPR: House built by Edward M. Houck (1942-2002), who kept his realtor office in the house. (This NW corner lot was created in Oct. 1824, when sold by Dana for \$100 to owner of brick mansion at 201 BPR.)

NOTE: This stretch of Boston Post Road was called Maple Street in the early 20th century.