Town News

Parkhurst Place

11 Veterans Rd. Amherst, NH 03031 (603) 249-1600 parkhurst-place@comcast.net

Programs for Seniors at Parkhurst Place

Call: 249-1600

Strength Training Classes (on-going) (Join class at any time: fee will be pro-rated) Two classes per week: Tuesdays & Fridays, 10:30 – 11:15 am OR

Tuesdays & Fridays, 11:30 am – 12:15 pm Instructors: Joanne Leedy, Trilogy Fitness - Amherst Sue Greaney, Hampshire Hills - Milford

Cost: \$30 for 6 weeks (for 2 classes per week)
Please call Lorraine at 249-1600 to sign-up (please leave a message)

Gentle Yoga Classes* (on-going)

(Join class at any time, fee will be pro-rated) One class per week: Mondays OR Thursdays Mondays, 8:15 – 9:15 am OR Thursdays, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Instructor: Laurie Daley, Certified Kripalu Yoga Teacher,

Cost: \$ 30 for 6-week session
Call Lorraine to register: 249-1600 (please leave a message)

Tai Chi Facy Classes (on doing)

Tai Chi Easy Classes (on-going) Wednesdays 9:00 – 10:00 am Instructor: Susan Flanagan Bean Community Room

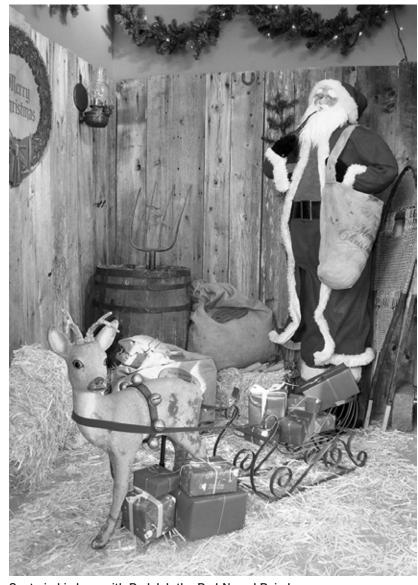
Cost: \$5 per class or \$30 for 6-week session (Join any time)

"Old Wives Tales"

Monday, December 15th, 2014 10:30 am

James Sullivan, The Elms and Crestwood Health & Rehabilitation Centers, Milford

"Silver Lining Chorus"
Holiday Performance
Tuesday, December 16th, 2014
3:00 pm
Followed by a Pizza Party!



Santa in his barn with Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

New Hampshire Antique CO-OP Hosts Annual Holiday Open House

MILFORD - New Hampshire Antique Co-op invites young and old alike to attend the Annual Holiday Open House, December 6 and 7 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The shop is festively decorated for the holiday season, complete with a miniature vignette of Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer in Santa's barn. Enjoy refreshments and an array of fabulous cookies while children write their letters to Santa and post them in an old-fashioned North Pole mailbox. Stroll the charming Main Street shops and visit the Discovery Barn and upstairs Loft for unique items sure to please the antique enthusiast on your gift list. All are welcome to this family-friendly

"Being in the antiques business, we are very fond of old-fashioned traditions. What's more traditional than writing letters to Santa & tasting some cookies while surrounded by all things from the olden days?" quips co-owner Jason Hackler. "The open house at New Hampshire Antique Co-op is a great way to take a break and truly enjoy the holiday season."

Once again this year, renowned antique ornament expert Beverly Weir-Longacre will share pieces from her collection in a whimsical and detailed miniature vignette created especially for New Hampshire Antique Co-op. In recognition of the 50th anniversary television

broadcast of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, this year's display will feature a vintage Rudolph as well as a portrayal of Santa's barn, his sleigh, and, of course, Santa himself. As part of the annual display, New Hampshire Antique Coop will also have a separate "Letters to Santa" workstation where children can write and mail their letters to Santa. This fun-filled holiday display is on view through January 6, 2015 in the Focus Gallery at New Hampshire Antique Co-op.

Beverly Weir-Longacre's creations have been on display at New Hampshire Antique Co-op for many years and have included recreations of Santa's North Pole village, his workshop and even Mrs. Claus's kitchen. Weir-Longacre is a renowned collector of vintage glass ornaments and other holiday-themed decorations. She lives in a historic 1795 antique cape in Marlborough where she and her husband, Tom Longacre, who is also an expert folk art antique dealer, decorate more than twenty trees

filled with antique ornaments. For more information, call 673-8499, visit online at www.nhantiquecoop.com The shop is open daily 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

► Legacy of John Moor, Storekeeper in Amherst Village continued from page 4



Martha Moor House aka Widow McClure House (1859) – 115 Boston Post Road. This narrow lot was created in 1859, split off from 12 Main Street by James R. Moor in trust for his step-mother Martha née Sprague (d. 1866) and sold along with the store (rebuilt after Oct. 1848 fire) of his father John Moor (1782-1862) to be moved and converted into the final home for her and his father. Lucy (Melendy) McCluer aka McClure (1835-1873), whose husband died in the Civil War leaving her with a baby daughter, bought the place for \$1150 in 1869 from Martha Moor's four adult children. Miss Anstress S. Thomas (1819-1902) bought the house in 1884 from the married McClure heir for \$800, returning to her childhood hometown after retiring from running a variety and fancy goods store for decades in Nashua.

chant in Manchester. After 1860, he removed from N.H.)

Store at 8 Main Street

The elder Moor took over the store at the turnpike location, his stock further reduced to \$600 by April 1840, before moving to 8 Main Street, which John Moor leased and occupied as home and store from 1841 until 1845 (according to *Farmers' Cabinet* of 30-4-1841 and Amherst tax invoices of 1843-1846 for non-resident landlord Jonathan White). Moor did not advertise his wares and his store remained relatively small.

Home & Store at 12 Main Street

In Sep. 1845, John Moor bought the Joseph Cushing-Judge Parker House on the corner at 12 Main Street. John was nearly 63 and Martha had four children by then, all born in Amherst, the youngest an infant of six months. John kept his store adjacent to and behind the house, with further reductions in stock (valued \$500). The fire of Oct. 1848 that destroyed his barn standing on what now is 115 Boston Post Road lot – also burned his store, which was connected to the house. The loss of livestock and crops from the barn was huge, but he was insured and the goods from the store were saved. Moor rebuilt and ran the store himself until about 1852. (In 1856, Henry Marvell advertised meats, vegetables and provisions, which he would sell as low as the lowest for cash, or in exchange for articles in his line" "at the Store of John Moor, opposite the Whip Factory.")

In 1854, John borrowed \$400 in the form of a mortgage from his son James Ray Moor (1806-1888), a grocer in Lowell. In 1855, the father sold his 12 Main Street house and lot to James for \$1000.

Home at 115 Boston Post Road

In preparation for selling the old house, James in April 1859 split off 115 Boston Post Road lot which he conveyed for one dollar to his half-sister Fannie in trust for his step-mother Martha, "to her sole and separate use and disposal," and "also the building called the store and shed connected therewith immediately south of the same with the chimney belonging thereto and underpinning stones" giving her three months to access them. So probably the old store was moved and converted into a dwelling. At the same time, for a mere one dollar, James deeded Martha the right to draw water from the aqueduct at 12 Main Street (which came from land to the west of the brick house at 201 BPR) and he promised to install the necessary pipe. For comparison, in 1861-1864, Mrs. Martha Moor was taxed on quarter acre of land valued \$50 with buildings valued \$350, whereas James R. Moor was taxed on one acre valued \$150 and buildings valued \$1200. As soon as Martha was widowed, Fannie quitclaimed the place to be er. (My guess is that these legal arrangements for the real estate were made to protect mother & children from creditors of their husband/ father, or from himself.) John & Martha & their four children lived at 115 BPR until John Moor died

in Oct. 1862, aged 80, and Martha died in Nov. 1866, aged 66.

Daughter Fannie (1837-1899) worked as a teacher, no doubt helping support the family. She taught 15 scholars in the 10-week summer term of 1857, for which she earned \$14 per month, and 19 scholars in the 10-week winter (Nov-Jan.) term, earning \$19/month, in the one-room schoolhouse of District 4. The following summer she taught 21 scholars for 9 weeks, earning \$15 per month, in District 2. It was the custom in those days for teachers to bounce around in various districts and towns, with little continuity, but Fannie got rave reviews from the "superintending committee" and soon had a permanent post teaching the youngest pupils in the Brick School in the Village (Primary Department of District 1), a short walk from her home. She was paid a dollar less a month than the teacher who had the Intermediate Department. In her final year, 1866/67, Miss Fannie M. Moor taught 38 pupils for 22 weeks for \$24 [per month] wages. "These were model schools. Perfect order and quiet pervaded the school room. The teacher loves her work and her pupils, and the affection is largely reciprocated. Corporal punishment unknown, because unneeded. Progress very marked. Music, mottoes, dialogues, declamations, drawing and writing upon black board, and other well-chosen means were used to give life and change to school hours." Fannie moved to Malden, Mass., where she worked as a copyist and died at age 62.

Daughter Nellie (b. 1842) also worked as a teacher, although in Amherst only for two years for the 9-week summer terms of 1861 and 1862, when she taught 18 scholars in District 2, for monthly wages, including board, of \$14. She received

a positive review for her first term: "Miss Moor has the elements of a superior teacher; has a happy manner of gaining the affections of her pupils, and governs more by love than by the rod. We believe she gave general satisfaction." About this district, the superintendent wrote, "Many of the pupils live at a distance from the schoolhouse, and a majority of them are backward." Nellie was employed as a copyist when she was married in 1867.

The four heirs (children) of Widow Martha Moor sold 115 BPR in April 1869 for \$1150. They all moved out of town.

Next Generation at 12 Main Street

Although James attempted to sell the 12-14 Main Street property in 1859, there must have been no buyer because he rented it out, and then moved to Amherst between April 1861 and April 1862 with his first wife, Ruth (d. 1863), and lived there; daughter Annie was born in Dec. 1862. He remarried to a considerably younger woman, Abbie M. Farnum (1833-1907) with whom he had another daughter, Grace Ray Moor (1875-1955). It was James's older daughter and his widow who in 1890 sold off the west portion of their homestead to create 14 Main Street lot to become site of Amherst Town Library – "reserving the fruit from the trees left standing on the premises as long as Annie M. Moor or Grace R. Moor may own the adjoining land on the east." In 1900, Grace, 24, was employed for three months as a teacher, and Annie, 31, worked year-round as an inspector.

Correction: This article corrects and clarifies the info about the origin of 115 BPR in this column on p. 4 of 11 Nov. '14 issue.



Isaiah Bacon House – 89 Boston Post Road. This lot was created in July 1837 when bought for \$100 by John H. Moor (1782-1862), who kept a general store at 2 Middle Street. He sold the lot a year later for \$530, so the house was probably built – or moved here – by or for Moor, although this cape is in older style.

► Amherst Recreation Programs and Events continued from page 4

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

Youth Programming

Art at Wilkins

In this 2 week class, students will explore a variety of media and art techniques as they create 6 gifts ready for giving. Join us as we learn that the best gifts really are from the HeART!

Who: boys and girls grades 1-4 What: Art at Wilkins (Gifts from the heart)

Where: Wilkins School Classroom When: Thursdays 12/4 & 12/11 from 3:05-5pm Fee: \$75R; \$85NR

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 registration numbers! Students will be picked up from Amherst Middle School & 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.

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.)

Yoga for Middle Schoolers

Yoga is a great way to cultivate a strong body and mind. It will increase flexibility & strength, working every system in the body. This yoga class is suitable for males and

females who are experienced with yoga and those who are new to yoga. Please dress in comfortable, non-restrictive clothing. Bring water. Mats and blankets will be provided.

Who: 5th-8th graders When: Wednesdays 11/19-12/17 2:30-3:30 Where: AMS Chorus Room

Fee: \$45 Res/ \$50 Non-Res
Basketball for Youth

Basketball for Youth ATTENTION ALL BASKETBALL PLAY-ERS!

1st and 2nd grade Hoops: Who: 1st and 2nd grade Boys and

Where: multi-purpose room at

Girls What: skills-based basketball program that will focus on the basics of basketball

Wilkins School
When: Saturday Mornings, from
115-2/15/15 time TBA
Fee: \$ 35.00 R, \$ 45.00 NR
Deadline for Registration: 1214. A
\$25.00 late fee will be assessed on
any registration after that date until
teams are formed.

3rd and 4th grade Hoops:

Who: 3rd and 4th grade Boys and Girls

What: This program offers both instruction and games Where: Practices at the multi-purpose room at Wilkins School, Games at SHS When: Practice will be held once

weekly with weekend games from 12/13/14-2/15/15, times TBA Fee: \$ 60.00 R, \$ 70.00 NR Deadline for registration: 1214. A \$25.00 late fee will be assessed on any registration after that date until teams are formed.

5th and 6th grade Hoops:

Who: 5th and 6th grade Boys and

What: This league combines skill development and recreational play Where: Amherst Middle School

When: Practice will be held once weekly with weekend games from 12/13/14-2/15/15, times TBA Fee: \$ 65.00 R, \$ 75.00 NR Deadline for registration: 1214. A \$25.00 late fee will be assessed on any registration after that date until teams are formed.

Adult Programming

Weekly Walks in Amherst Let's get out and explore some of

Amherst's best kept secrets. The Amherst Parks and Recreation Staff will meet you at the selected trailhead on Tuesdays at 10am. Once the snow flies we will bring snow shoes for hikers. Please wear orange during hunting season. If it is raining...please call the Recreation office for cancelations after 9am.

Who: Amherst Residents When: Tuesdays @ 10am Fee: Free

Schedule: 12/2 - Pond Parish Town Forest and Trail - 1.7miles - Trailhead on Pond Parish Rd

Knitting Classes for Beginners

Those who have taken classes with Sandy Zielie continue to return for her depth of knowledge and gentle manner. This three week series is for the adult who has never knit or the knitter who is looking for support in returning to the craft. All supplies are included.

Who: Adults When: Wednesdays 4:30-6:00 11/19-12/10 Where: Amherst Recreation Office, 4 Cross Road

Fee: \$72/\$82, including yarn and needles Knitting for Adults: Beyond the

Basics Projects
Our project for October is "Ombre Cowl" made with worsted weight for a quicker (and thicker)

finished product, photo on the website. We have a dedicated group of 8-10 participants of varying abilities-come join us!

Who: Adults
When: Wednesdays 11/19-12/10
4:30-6pm
Where: Amherst Recreation Office,
4 Cross Road

Fee: \$72.00 Res/\$82.00 Non-Res, includes yarn and needles

Zumba Gold Perfect for b

Perfect for beginners and folks over 50...this is a "kinder, gentler Zumba[®]." Laugh! Dance! Love your Body! With no need to be perfect, this feels joyous...like dancing in your living room with all your "crazy" friends! Can't resist a great dance beat? You'll LOVE the variety... from 40's swing and 50's rockn-roll to Latin rhythms like Chacha and Salsa. Easier than learning to waltz, you'll soon forget your feet, lose yourself in the music and leave feeling happy and energized! Low impact, moderate intensity and easy to learn, this class is about having fun and making friends! There is a once a week and a twice a week option for registration.

Who: Adults When: Mondays and Thursdays 3:45-4:30 11/10-1/5 Where: Clark School MPR Fee: 1x/week \$42 Res/\$47 Non-res, 2x/week \$59 Res/\$69 Non-res

Adult Basketball and Adult Volleyball

Pick up games at AMS have begun. The registration fee covers the entire school year. See our website for details and to register.

We add programs weekly, so check our website often... And make time in your life for Recreation!