

Business Briefs

Upcoming Events at the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce

AMHERST – The Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce has several upcoming educational and networking opportunities for local businesses.

Open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act runs from November 15 to February 15, 2015. This year, a major change has occurred for New Hampshire subscribers. Last year, New Hampshire had only one provider of health plans but this year there are now five providers with over 60 different plans

available. Confused? The Chamber is holding a Lunch & Learn on how to enroll and all the options on Tuesday, December 2 from 12-1 pm at the SVCC office located at 69 Route 101A. ACA specialist Steve Farrar will present the various options available, how businesses can participate and how to enroll. This is free to Chamber members, \$10 nonmembers. A light lunch will be served. For more information, visit www.souhegan.net or telephone 673-4360.

St. Joseph Hospital Earns 'Top Performer on Key Quality Measures®'

Recognition from The Joint Commission

NASHUA – St. Joseph Hospital today announced it has been recognized as a 2013 Top Performer on Key Quality Measures® by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of health care organizations in the United States. St. Joseph Hospital was recognized as part of The Joint Commission's 2014 annual report "America's Hospitals: Improving Quality and Safety," for attaining and sustaining excellence in accountability measure performance for Heart Attack, Heart Failure, Pneumonia and Surgical Care. This is the fourth consecutive year that St. Joseph Hospital has achieved this distinction in all four categories – the only hospital in New Hampshire to have done so. St. Joseph Hospital is one of 1,224 hospitals in the United States to achieve the 2013 Top Performer distinction.

The Top Performer program recognizes hospitals for improving performance on evidence-based interventions that increase the chances of healthy outcomes for patients with certain conditions, including heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, surgical care, stroke, venous thromboembolism and perinatal care.

This is the fourth year St. Joseph Hospital has been recognized as a Top Performer. St. Joseph Hospital

was recognized in 2010, 2011, 2012 for its performance on accountability measure data for Heart Attack, Heart Failure, Pneumonia and Surgical Care.

St. Joseph Hospital is one of only 147 hospitals to achieve the Top Performer distinction for the past four consecutive years.

"Delivering the right treatment in the right way at the right time is a cornerstone of high-quality health care. I commend the efforts of St. Joseph Hospital for their excellent performance on the use of evidence-based interventions," said Mark R. Chassin, M.D., FACF, M.P.P., M.P.H., president and CEO, The Joint Commission.

"High quality, safe care is what matters most for our patients. That is why we have made it a top priority to improve positive patient outcomes through evidence-based care processes," said Dr. Rich Boehler, President and CEO of St. Joseph Hospital. St. Joseph Hospital is proud to be named a Top Performer. To do this four consecutive years is an outstanding achievement and it recognizes the knowledge, teamwork and dedication of our entire hospital staff," said Dr. Boehler.

For more information visit jointcommission.org/accreditation/top-performers.aspx.

SportsFolio

2014 NHIAA Hall Of Fame Inductees



Standing: Leslie Laychak-Rendall (Milford Area Senior High School), Thomas Underwood (Plymouth Regional High School), William Marston (Concord), Ed Lecius (Nashua), Graham Perham (Lisbon High School). Seated: David Minickiello (Keene High School), George Tebbetts receiving award for George Tebbetts (Nashua) and Rev Robert Odierna (Salem).

BILL DOD COURTESY PHOTO

Eli Moksowitz of Souhegan Wins Meet of Champions!

Eli Moksowitz remained undefeated for the season as he raced to a strong first place finish in the field of 160 finishers at the New Hampshire Meet of Champions on Saturday at Nashua South High School! The meet featured the top high school teams and individuals from all of New Hampshire. Eli ran with the lead pack of about a dozen runners from the start. One by one runners dropped from the pack as it maintained a torrid pace despite the wind, rain and cold. With about 600 meters left in the race, the pack was reduced to Eli and Cam Daly of Interlakes High School. With about 400 meters to go, Eli surged ahead and was never seriously challenged again as he won by over 7 seconds with an excellent 15:32 time over the 5K course.

Souhegan Girls Soccer Program End of Season Awards Banquet, Thursday, November 13th



Recognized from the JV Team were (from left to right): Jillian Roberts - Most Improved Player of the Year, Rebecca Hall - Offensive Player of the Year, Sophie Oehler - Brandi Chasten Award, Abbie Estabrook - Defensive Player of the Year



Recognized from the Varsity team were (from left to right): Casey Johnson - Rookie of the Year, Emma Fleurette - Sportsmanship Award, Hailey Johnson - 12th Player Award, Rachael Facey - Defensive Player of the Year, Hannah Chick - Offensive Player of the Year, Emma Estabrook - Dwayne Andresean Award

Sports Extras

Reminder:

AJWC Trot Off Your Turkey 5K Race/Walk and 1 Mile Fun Run

The deadline for mailing in your registration has been extended to November 24 (see form on page X).

Participants also can bring their completed form to race day Friday, November 28 and submit in advance of race time: Fun Run/Walk start at 9:00 a.m. or the 5K Race/Walk start at 10:00 a.m. at 11 Church Street in Amherst Village. Details are listed on the registration form.

Any business or individual still interested in sponsoring this wonderful family event can contact Theresa Grella at amherstturkeytrot@gmail.com

Thank you for helping AJWC support one of our favorite fundraisers for local charities!

FREE LACROSSE CLINIC

Come train with outstanding college coaches and top collegiate players at this

FUN & FREE Lacrosse Clinic at the Hampshire Dome!

FOR: Girls grades 2-8

DATE: November 29th

TIME: 10 - 12 (noon)

PLACE: Hampshire Dome 50 Emerson RD. Milford, NH

REGISTER: www.GSE-Sports.com

INFO: mckinley.curro@gmail.com

Community/Family Climbing at SHS Monday Evenings, 6:30-8:30pm

Come climb with us on Souhegan High School's indoor rock climbing wall. Ages 5 and up are welcome. Climbers will have the opportunity to push themselves and support others as they do so. All equipment will be supplied. No prior experience is required.

The sessions will be led by John Dowd, founding Souhegan HS fac-

ulty member and senior climbing instructor at the Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. Fee is \$5.00 pp. or \$20.00 per family. All proceeds will benefit the 2015 SHS Wintercession Joshua Tree Climbing Trip. If you have questions, please contact John Dowd: jdowd@sprise.com.

Pats Peak After School Ski & Snowboard Program

Pats Peak will once again be offering it's after school ski and snowboard program this winter. This popular program for grades 2-12 runs for 5 weeks beginning in January. The program dates are Wednesday January 7, 14, 21, 28 and February 4, 2014.

You can register online at www.patspeak.com click on Learn to Ski and Ride Program. Username: amherst Password: learn2ski.

Register by November 14th to avoid the \$25 late fee.

Bus transportation is available from AMS & Wilkins! If you need bus transportation please call Kim or send an e-mail to kim@neinterviewing.com before registering for the program.

For questions, call: Kim Adams 440-3330 or Stacy Sweetser 781-485-7012

Note: This is a non-sanctioned school/town activity.

SHS Boys Soccer Program 2014 Honors & Recognition

NHIAA Division 2 Champions

National Soccer Coaches Association of America High School Team Ethics and Sportsmanship Silver Award

National Soccer Coaches Association of America

Senior Excellence Award - for Seniors who have made exceptional contributions to their team while exemplifying the finest attributes of a high school student-athlete. Teigue Young

3RD TEAM AWARDS & HONORS

Defensive Player of the Year – Cole Manz
Offensive Player of the Year – Jacob Alger
Most Improved Player – Aidan Arnold
Outstanding Contributor – Matt Greany
Captain's Award – Marc Patnaude
Coach's Award – Monty Jones

2ND TEAM AWARDS & HONORS

Defensive Player of the Year – Nick Tabor
Offensive Player of the Year – Peter Forster
Most Improved Player – Jonathan Amrein
Coach's Award – Thomas Robinson
Outstanding Contributor – Collin Titus

1ST TEAM AWARDS & HONORS

Defensive Player of the Year – Reed Larson
Offensive Player of the Year – Ali Ewies
Leadership Award – Jasper Jones
Leadership Award – Devan Casey
Coaches Award – Patrick Noble
Rookie of the Year – Erik Richardson
Most Improved Player – Nate Chamberlain
Save of the Year – Teigue Young, 1v1 v. OR regular season, but also in Finals, full stretch save in 1st half!
Goal of the Year – Jasper Jones, full volley on Senior Night v. Milford

NH SOCCER COACHES ASSOCIATION HONORS

Teigue Young, Goalkeeper – NH All Scholastic
Jasper Jones, Midfield – NH All Scholastic
Matt Hopfenspirger, Midfield – NH All Scholastic, 1st Team All-State
Reed Larson, Back – NH All Scholastic, 1st Team All-State
Devan Casey, Forward – NH All-Scholastic, 2nd Team All-State
Pat Noble, Back – Honorable Mention All-State, NH All-Scholastic

NH TWIN STATE LIONS CUP TEAM – MATCH V. VT IN JULY

Reed Larson
Matt Hopfenspirger

NH SOCCER OFFICIALS SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Reed Larson & Matt Hopfenspirger

2015 LEADERSHIP GROUP

Ely Marciano
Joshua Anson
Joshua Massa

► Amherst Patriots continued from page 1

per Bowl at the ESPN Sports Zone in December. It would be a first for the program, and mark only the third time a New Hampshire team has played in Florida.

Win or lose on Saturday, this kind of success is a huge accomplishment not only for the coaches, players and families associated with the program, but also for the communities of Amherst, Mont Vernon and the rest of the Souhegan Valley. And it begs the question, what makes a youth football program in a relatively small community so successful? Kathy Zampella and her son Nick (#21) have been involved in the Amherst Patriots for six years. When asked what the Patriots have meant to Nick and her family, she said "The first word that comes to my mind is family. The closeness and support you get from people in the program and the friends my family and my son Nick have made has been heartwarming. We've been in it for six years, and it has been the very best experience we've had since we've been in town." This type of sentiment is familiar among parents and children that play for the Amherst Patriots. Diane Manning has three boys who play, including her middle son Luke (#12) who plays quarterback for this year's championship Pee Wee squad. "Many parents are concerned about the perceived dangers associated with football, but in my experience the benefits for my boys have outweighed the risks. They've developed confidence and learned resilience from football in ways they haven't in other sports. The friendships they've made, the friendships my family has made, has enriched all of our lives.

At the core of the Amherst Patriots accomplishments are the kids. More than other youth programs, Pop Warner places a significant emphasis on developing the "student-athlete" and annually recognizes kids who earn a cumulative grade point average of 96% or above with the Little Scholar Award. In October, nineteen members of the Amherst Patriots were honored at the Pop Warner Little Scholars Banquet, sending six members of the cheer squad and thirteen members of the football program to receive the honor, demonstrating the Patriots are about much more than football. In addition to the kids, the Patriots are supported by a strong core of volunteers. Jason Patch, President of New Hampshire Pop Warner, describes the program as

"one of our most successful organizations both on the field and in the community. You don't win nine state football championships (Junior Pee Wee and Pee Wee) since 2008 by accident. It takes a lot of sacrifice and hard work by a lot of dedicated people to make that happen. They have always done things the right way and that is what I am most proud of. They are the type of program that you want to represent our league and the State of New Hampshire."

On Sunday's opening drive, the Patriots scored their first touchdown on a short pass play after a sustained 70 yard drive. It was a play the entire team rehearsed all year long, as passing at the youth level can be very difficult to coach. Like it has on most Sunday's this season, it all looked so easy, but the coaches, parents and kids know the truth. Playing football is hard. There is a lot of sacrifice involved in making all the pieces come together in unison. There were very strong performances by boys who have been with the program for years, by others who are relatively new, and others who have worked incredibly hard all season but don't get the kind of recognition a quarterback or a running back gets. But that's what makes football special. It's not about the "me", it's about the "we". Commenting on the state championship victory, John Dodge, head coach of the team noted "it meant a lot to the boys to win it after being so close for a few years (at the younger levels) and for them to win it all together as a team was great to see and also fun to coach. This group of kids has been playing football together since Tiny Mites and I was excited I could be part of it as their coach this year." Once again, it was a total team effort, by a group of very dedicated, very talented and most importantly, very good group of boys.

This year, the Amherst Patriots Football and Cheer program is celebrating its' 40th anniversary. Any organization that has lasted 40 years says something about its' traditions, values and people. A tradition of winning championships is admirable. But having a tradition of developing great kids that just so happen to win championships is truly special, and an accomplishment for which the Souhegan Valley communities represented by the Patriots can be proud.

Upcoming issues: December 2 and 16.
Please email: news@amherstcitizen.com