

Bulletin Board

Evening Meeting The Amherst Garden Club

"Feeding and Caring for your Backyard Birds"

The Evening Meeting of The Amherst Garden Club will meet on Thursday, February 12 at Pankhurst Place (11 Veterans Road, Amherst). The February (12) Evening meeting will take place at Pankhurst Place at 11 Veterans Road in Amherst starting at 7:00 pm. The speaker for this meeting will be Gene Harrington from Nashua Farmers Exchange. Gene will be speaking on "Feeding and Caring for your Backyard Birds". Gene and his wife Judy are owners of the exchange, where their mission is to bring to the consumer top quality nutrition for animals as well as plants. Gene holds a degree in both Wildlife Biology and Entomology. If you enjoy attracting birds to your yard, you will want to hear this informative talk. A question and answer period will follow. Guests are welcome. If inclement weather, the cancellation will be listed on WMUR-TV. Gene had been scheduled to speak in January and unfortunately was cancelled due to weather. WE are happy he can come this month!

Nashaway Chapter of the New Hampshire Audubon Society

Upcoming Events

NH Bald Eagle Recovery

On Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 7pm, the Nashaway Chapter of NH Audubon welcomes Chris Martin, raptor biologist for NH Audubon. Chris has coordinated Bald Eagle recovery in the Granite State for a quarter century. He recruits, trains, and supervises an enthusiastic corps of volunteers and coordinates breeding recovery with NH Fish and Game. Learn about the success story that has led to the 2007 removal of the Bald Eagle from the federal Threatened and Endangered Species List. 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.maloon@att.net.

Wintering Owls and Raptors, Salisbury & Newbury, MA

On Saturday, February 21, 2015, from 8am to 3pm, the Nashaway Chapter of NH Audubon will have a field trip to Salisbury Beach State Park and Parker River Wildlife Refuge, at the mouth of the Merrimack River. These places are winter havens for birds of prey. Rodents and birds are often exposed in the salt marshes, attracting Short-eared and Snowy Owls, Bald Eagles, and numerous hawk species. Bring your scope if you have one and pack a lunch. Dress WARMLY. There will be a small entrance fee per car at Parker River, and dogs are not permitted on the refuge. Meet us in Nashua at the Exit 2 Park & Ride, on the hill behind the Fireside Inn and Suites, or contact Richard Bielawski at 429-2537 or rbielawski@mac.com to arrange to meet nearer the coast.

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.

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

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 area for 45 years.

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.com

Amherst Junior Women's Club Announces 2015 Call for Volunteers

The Amherst Junior Women's Club is an organization of energized, dedicated Amherst-area women who volunteer their time, energy and talent to the community. Our mission is focusing our efforts on civic needs, educational advancement and those less fortunate. Our goals are achieved with the assistance and generosity of businesses, organizations and individuals and fundraisers.

We are in need of women with motivation and dedication to join us in growing our mission even further within our surrounding communities. If you have that energy and would like to "burn it off", we would love to have you join us to accomplish these goals. The advantage is the opportunity to meet new people and make new friends at the same time. This is a great opportunity especially for, but not limited to, those with children in the school system. The AJWC sponsors several of the elementary and middle school events.

If you are interested in joining or just learning more about Amherst Junior Women's Club, visit: www.ajwcnh.org or look for our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AmherstJuniors. Also, please feel free to contact the membership chair Susanne Lynch at ajwcmembership@gmail.com. Thank you!

Sponsors Needed for 2015 Student Art Awards

The Friends of the Amherst Town Library is looking for tax-deductible donations of \$100 to sponsor awards for exceptional pieces of art at the 22nd Annual Student Art Show held at the Amherst Town Library in May.

If you are a local business or a patron of youth art and would like to sponsor one of the 15 art awards or have question please e-mail: Christine.farris@mac.com for more information.

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AMHERST Town Election – March 10, 2015 Amherst, New Hampshire

Filing Period for Town Offices
January 21, 2015 – January 30, 2015

- 2 Selectmen for 3 years
- 1 Treasurer for 3 years
- 1 Cemetery Trustee for 3 years
- 2 Library Trustees for 3 years
- 3 ZBA members for 3 years
- 1 Moderator for 2 years
- 1 Trustee of the Trust Funds for 3 years
- 1 Supervisor of the Checklist for 1 Years

Candidates shall file with the Town Clerk during regular business hours which are Monday – Friday from 9AM – 3PM and Tuesday night for 4:30PM – 6:30PM. On January 30th, the last day of the filing period, the office will be open until 5PM.

Nancy A. Demers, Town Clerk

Town News

Historic Amherst

Mr. Perkins Nichols, Esq., of Boston and New York City – Part One Amherst's Native Son Who Gave Milford Its Paul Revere Bell

BY KATRINA HOLMAN

Our neighboring town of Milford, N.H., has a great historical treasure – a genuine Paul Revere bell. It has never cracked, making it the oldest intact Revere bell in New Hampshire. It bears the molded inscription "REVERE & SON BOSTON 1802" on one side and "THE GIFT OF PERKINS NICHOLS ESQR" on the other side. The donor, Perkins Nichols (1773-1855), at that time an importer and wholesale merchant at Boston as well as register of probate for Suffolk County, Massachusetts, was born and raised in Amherst, N.H.

Paul Revere (Jr., 1735-1818) is famous for his role as a patriot in America's Revolutionary period. Lovers of antiques know that he was a fine silversmith in Boston. He covered the dome of the Massachusetts State House in Boston with copper in 1802, and is credited with being the first American to roll copper into sheathing in a commercially viable way. Paul Revere began his career as bell caster late in life, in 1792, when a Boston church needed to recast their cracked bell. That was the first bell cast in Boston. At that time there were hardly any skilled bell makers in America, so this meant that Revere had to learn by trial and error, but it also meant that there was considerable demand for his bells. Milford's bell was no. 56 in the Revere foundry's catalog. Perhaps it was particularly good luck in the metallurgy that Milford's bell has lasted. As an aside, Amherst was not so lucky with its early bells. The first bell, bought in 1793, soon cracked in use. The second and third bells in the Amherst meeting house (now Congregational Church) also cracked; it was the 1839 bell that lasted into the 20th century.

Perkins Nichols commissioned the bell from Revere to celebrate the settlement of the first minister of Milford, Rev. Humphrey Moore (1778-1871), who would serve as pastor 1802-1836. Moore accepted the call in August and was ordained in October 1802. In anticipation of this gift, the Town of Milford held a special town meeting a month after the ordination in which they voted to build a belfry onto the meetinghouse with a cupola similar to that in Frankestown. At this time, the meetinghouse was owned by the Town and served as both town hall and church, and taxes supported the Congregational minister. Milford sold four pews belonging to the town, for \$99 to \$136 each, towards the expense of the belfry.

The bell weighs 802 pounds (364 kg) and is 30 inches high with a diameter at the mouth of 33 inches. It was a generous gift. Milford's



Paul Revere Bell (1802) in town hall belfry of Milford, N.H. was donated by Perkins Nichols (1773-1855) of Boston, who was born in Amherst, N.H.

first town historian, David Goodwin (1801-1881), a shoemaker and farmer, wrote that it cost about 50 cents per pound, which comes to \$401, a significant sum in those days. (For comparison: An invoice from Revere & Son to the town of Newington in 1804 charged \$210.40 for a bell weighing 505 lbs.) A bit of trivia about Goodwin (from Ramsdell's History of Milford): The first building raised in Milford without the use of spirituous liquors was Rev. Humphrey Moore's barn in 1827. The first time a dwelling house was erected without aid of intoxicating beverages happened three years later when David Goodwin raised the frame of his new house. In Amherst, when the Unitarians raised their meetinghouse, now the Baptist Church, in 1835, it was a newsworthy event that it was raised "without accident and without rum."

According to local lore, Perkins and Humphrey were close friends. Perhaps they met in Boston or Cambridge while Humphrey was studying at Harvard University. When Rev. Moore married Miss Hannah Peabody in 1803, the year after his ordination, the two men became relatives. Mrs. Moore was a granddaughter of Amherst's first minister, Rev. Daniel Wilkins, through her mother

Abigail. Abigail's brother John Wilkins was married to Lucy Nichols, a sister of General Moses Nichols (1740-1790) of Amherst. And Gen. Nichols, who was a Revolutionary war hero, physician, and county register of deeds, was the father of Perkins Nichols.

The bell moved four times. First it made the journey from Massachusetts to New Hampshire, either by ox cart or, more likely considering that it was winter, on a sledge pulled over snow-covered roads by a team of horses. The bell was first installed in 1803 in Milford's meetinghouse (built 1784-1796), when it was located on the west side of the Oval. When, for the separation of church and state, the Congregationalists built a separate church in 1833/4, the bell remained in the meetinghouse. In 1846, the meeting house was moved across the Oval; and in 1869 it was moved yet again nearer the bridge, where it stands today, known as Eagle Hall for the eagle on top. For its third move within Milford, the Revere bell changed buildings, installed in 1870 atop the new, brick Town Hall where it hangs and clangs to this day. The tower that is part of Milford's logo is the belfry of the Revere bell. One cannot really

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Milford's brick town hall with belfry beneath the clock, current home of venerable Revere bell.

Happy New Year! Be sure to visit our new website design at www.amherstcitizen.com and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and other social media 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
Like us on Facebook
Follow us on Instagram @amherstrec

Winter Carnival Weekend 2015!

We are pleased to announce the return of our Winter Carnival this year. We have a fun-filled weekend planned with events Feb. 6th, 7th, and 8th. Please see schedule below:

February 6th: Family Skate/Bonfire

Join us for the Ribbon Cutting of our AMS Ice Rink. We will kick off the winter carnival weekend with some family skating, a bonfire, and music!

Where: AMS Ice Rink
Time: 6pm
Fee: FREE!

February 7th: Disney's Frozen

Let it go and relax for a night while watching Disney's Frozen on the big screen! There may even be a special guest...stay tuned

Where: AMS Cafe
Time: 6pm
Fee: FREE!

February 8th: Winter Carnival

Come out for a FREE afternoon of Winter fun! Activities include: skating, snowshoeing, face painting, make a craft, build a snow quinzhee, raffles, food... and more!

Where: Middle Street
Time: 1-3pm

And that's not all...

Hockey Clinic with the Souhegan Sabers:

This 2 Hour FREE clinic will provide students in grades 1-8 the opportunity to meet, skate, and play hockey with Souhegan Sabers girls ice hockey team. Students will even get a chance to scrimmage with the Sabers. Helmets and ice skates are required. All other equipment will be supplied.

Amherst Recreation Programs and Events

portunity to meet, skate, and play hockey with Souhegan Sabers girls ice hockey team. Students will even get a chance to scrimmage with the Sabers. Helmets and ice skates are required. All other equipment will be supplied.

Where: AMS Ice Rink
When: Sunday, February 8th
Time: 9am-11am
Fee: FREE!

The Inaugural Bear Fest Broomball Tournament:

The Amherst Recreation Department presents the first ever Broomball Tournament! This is a co-ed family tournament for ages 14 and up. We encourage YOU to rally up your friends and family for a weekend of friendly competition.

Details:
February 7th-8th
Co-ed teams of 7-10
Games will be 6v6
Double Elimination
Ages 14+
Fee: \$40 per team

Complete rules and registration can be found at www.amherstrec.org

All proceeds will benefit future projects and maintenance for the AMS Ice Rink

Youth Programming

NEW Baseball for Youth

Batter up! Baseball is open for kids 5-15 years old. Practices will be held Monday-Friday between 5:30 and 7:30pm. Games will be held on Saturdays between 8am and 8pm. Baseball age is based on participant's age on April 30, 2015

NOTE: We are hoping to start baseball practices the week of April 12th, depending on weather and field conditions.

*** Register by Friday February 27 to avoid a \$25 late fee. Teams will be formed and uniforms will be or-

dered Friday March 20***

5&6 year olds: T-Ball

Introduces the player to organized baseball

Who: 5&6 year old boys

What: T-ball

Where: The back of Wilkins Elementary School
When: 52015-6/13/2015
Fee: \$40R; \$65NR

7, 8 & 9 year olds: Instructional and Rookie

All 7 and 8 yr olds will participate in skills screening. Numbers will dictate if we will be able to separate into two levels

The instructional level will be coach pitched

The rookie level will begin to develop player pitching

Who: 7, 8 and 9 yr old boys
What: Instructional baseball
When: Tentative start date of 42015
Fee: \$45R; \$70NR

9-12 year olds: Minor/Major League

Players will play regulation Cal Ripken baseball

Team placement will be based on the screening

Minors play on a 60' diamond, Majors play on 70' diamond

Who: 9-12 yr old boys
What: Minors/Majors
When: Tentative start date of 42015
Fee: \$95R; \$120NR

13-15 year olds: Babe Ruth

Games and practices will take place on a 90 foot diamond with home games at Souhegan High School

Babe Ruth games generally play on Wednesdays and Saturdays, not to conflict with the Middle School Schedule

We encourage all 7th and 8th grade players to sign up. If your player makes the school team and

decides not to play for this program you will get a full refund

Who: 13-15 yr old boys

What: Babe Ruth

When: Tentative start date of 42015
Fee: \$100R; \$125NR

NEW Softball for Youth

Come join girls ages 5-16 on the softball diamond. Whether you want the experience of an instructional league or are ready for some fun and competition there is a spot for you on one of our many teams.

All instructional, minor/major and juniors teams will play teams surrounding towns.

Softball age is based on the participant's age on December 31, 2014. ***Registration by Friday March 6 to avoid a \$25.00 late fee. Teams will be formed and uniforms ordered Friday March 27***

NOTE: There is a mandatory screening for the Minor/Major League players. Time and location TBA

5&6 year olds: T-Ball

Introduces the player to organized softball

Who: 5&6 year old girls

What: T-ball (Softball)

Where: The back of Wilkins Elementary School
When: 52015-6/13/2015
Fee: \$40R; \$65NR

7 & 8 yr olds: Instructional

Fundamentals of softball reinforced. Games will be played with surrounding towns

Who: 7 & 8 yr old girls

What: Instructional softball

When: Tentative start date of 42015
Fee: \$45R; \$70NR

9-12 year olds: Minor/Major League

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