

## Town News

### AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY

Amy Lapointe, Library Director  
14 Main St., Amherst NH  
Phone 673-2288 Fax 672-6063  
email: library@amherstlibrary.org  
web http://www.amherstlibrary.org  
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 3**  
Starts Jan. 5 and runs through Feb. 13

#### 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.)

**Thurs. at 10:00**  
**Thurs. 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.

#### 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.

#### COMING SOON:

#### ELLA FITZGERALD FOR KIDS

**Tuesday, Feb. 3 at 4pm**  
Sing along with the Queen of Swing: Ella Fitzgerald! Hear her story in images and video and dance to the swinging sounds of her Big Band! Come dance along to the jazzy movement, singing and storytelling by vocalist and educator, Nanette Perrotte. This program will get us all dancing and singing, and while we're at it, we'll learn a lot about one of our greatest Jazz musicians!

For kids ages 4 and up.  
Space is limited, so please register online at www.amherstlibrary.org or call 673-2288

Nanette will present a program for adults on Tuesday evening—see our website for more information.

### Amherst Town Library

## Ella Fitzgerald, Queen of Swing – February 3rd

AMHERST – The Amherst Town Library welcomes Nanette Perrotte in a multi-media presentation and performance, "Ella Fitzgerald, Queen of Swing," on Tuesday, February 3 at 7:00 p.m. as part of the Library's series for adults entitled, Hail to the Harlem Renaissance. This is the story of the singer that all other singers call the best, Ella Fitzgerald, who against impossible odds achieved fame as a Jazz singer by the age of seventeen. At that young age she found herself at the heart of the Harlem Renaissance and American Jazz. She would go on to perform around the world for another 58 years.

Nanette Perrotte tells Ella's extraordinary story of traveling from being homeless in Harlem to the Queen of Swing. Along the way she had great mentors: Chuck Webb, Duke Ellington, Marilyn Monroe, Dizzy Gillespie, Louis Armstrong, and Frank Sinatra. Then there is the Battle of the Bands—the Cutting Contest at the Savoy Ballroom where she wins the battle over Billie Holiday. All of this is played out in the context of the Harlem Renaissance, the Great Depression, Segregation, and World War II: the critical years, 1935-1955. Through singing her signature songs and telling her story, this presentation illuminates the Social History of that time. The Man I Love, It Don't Mean a Thing, It's Only a Paper Moon and Azure among others. The multimedia presentation allows Perrotte to combine her singing, storytelling, and teaching talents to showcase Ella Fitzgerald's masterful work and complex life story.

Born to an Ecuadorian mother and a French father, Perrotte was

raised in Amsterdam, Holland and Orlando, Florida before attending Boston's Berklee College of Music where she received her BA in Jazz Composition and Arranging with a principal instrument of Voice. This course of study was the fulfillment of a childhood spent singing and performing that continues on as a professional vocalist. Perrotte's Master's Degree in Education from Lesley University in Cambridge, MA focused her work on Arts as a tool to learn and experience cultural diversity. With her college teaching career, private coaching and voice students, college choir and acting/improve troupe, Perrotte has now evolved a new lecture/presentation form that combines social history, musicology, and storytelling in her program on Ella Fitzgerald.

Perrotte will also be performing in our Children's Room at 4 p.m. on the same day, Tuesday, February 3, to the younger set (ages 4 and up) in a specially created program on Ella for their age group.

Coordinating with the Hail to the Harlem Renaissance series is an exhibit, "Walk Thru Harlem," on loan from the Seacoast African American Cultural Center in Portsmouth. From Billie Holiday to Zora Neale Hurston, to the Savoy Ballroom and Rent Parties, visual items of interest grace the Amherst Town Library walls from mid-January throughout the month of February. We invite you to take a "Walk Thru Harlem" during our regular library hours.

Please join us for the other February programs in the Hail to the Harlem Renaissance series that celebrate National Black History Month: "Boston Saxophone Quartet performs Duke Ellington: Be-



Nanette Perrotte

yond Category Concert," on Sunday, February 8 at 4:00 p.m.; "The Pleasure of Our Company: Harlem and the Origins of its Renaissance, 1910-1940," on Tuesday, February 10 at 7:00 p.m.; "Poets of the Harlem Renaissance," on Tuesday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m.; "Miss Anne of Harlem: The White Women of the Black Renaissance," on Thursday, February 19 at 7:00 p.m.; and, "Every Man's Wish On Board: The Art of the Harlem Renaissance."

All programs in the Hail to the Harlem Renaissance series for adults are free and open to the public. However, registration is REQUIRED for each program due to space limitations. You can register for all these events 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."

### ► Boston Saxophone Quartet Performs Duke Ellington continued from page 1

ton Saxophone Quartet is a unique blend of musicians who have performed with the Boston Pops and Boston Symphony Orchestra and leading Broadway theaters throughout New England. The BSQ musicians are proficient on all the woodwinds including flute, clarinet, oboe, and bassoon, in addition to, of course, the saxophone. The four members of the BSQ are Tom Ferrante (soprano saxophone and bass clarinet), Greg Floor (alto saxophone and flute), Brent Beech (baritone saxophone and clarinet), and Peter Cokkinias (tenor saxophone and clarinet). The Library is grateful to be hosting these stellar professional musicians under our roof!

Sharing a dual career as an instrumentalist and conductor, Peter Cokkinias has conducted the Boston Ballet, Boston Pops, Springfield Symphony (MA), and the Atlantic Sinfonietta (NY). He has performed with the Boston Lyric Opera, Boston Ballet, and Cincinnati, Hartford, Pittsburgh, and Boston Symphony Orchestras. Presently, Dr. Cokkinias is in his 30th season as Music Director/Conductor of the Metrowest Symphony Orchestra (MA), Professor at Berklee College of Music, and is a woodwind doubler at the North Shore Music

Theater in Beverly (MA) and Colonial and Wang Theaters in Boston (MA). Tom Ferrante's performing career has been in the orchestras of the Colonial, Wang, and Schubert Theaters of Boston. Other credits include membership in the Herb Pomeroy Jazz Orchestra, The Viola Premier Saxophone Quartet, and the Greg Hopkins Big Band. A former Director of Bands for Waltham (MA) High School, Tom has been featured jazz clarinet soloist with the Boston Pops Orchestra for the past twenty seasons. Music is in the blood of renowned saxophonist Greg Floor. Clarinet was the instrument of choice for his grandfather and father and his sister is a pianist. Greg graduated from the New England Conservatory in Boston where he received his Master of Music (Jazz Performance) under the instruction of virtuoso tenor saxophonist, Jerry Bergonzi. Greg was a featured soloist with the Boston Pops under the direction of the legendary John Williams. He has appeared in Jazz Festivals across the world. Brent Beech rounds out the quartet with his exuberant baritone saxophone and clarinet. Brent received his Master of Arts in Clarinet Performance at Louisiana State University. With Duke Ellington on

the menu, this is a concert performance not to be missed.

The Amherst Town Library is appreciative for the funding provided by the Friends of the Amherst Town Library for this 2015 Sundays at 4 music series which also includes the following upcoming programs: "Gateway Trio: Music as Language" on March 1st; and, "Klezwoods Quintet" on April 12th. We invite you to join us for all of these amazing concerts!

While here for the concert, we invite you to leave some extra time for a "Walk Thru Harlem," an interesting visual exhibit on loan from the Seacoast African American Cultural Center in Portsmouth, NH. The exhibit is open during regular library hours in the Main Reading Room and stairwell areas. The exhibit will continue through the entire month of February.

All events are free and open to the public. However, registration is REQUIRED for each performance due to space limitations. To register for any or all of the Sundays at 4 concerts, please call 673-2288, email library@amherstlibrary.org or visit our website at www.amherstlibrary.org and select the "Community Services" tab, then click on drop down "Sign-Up for Programs."

### It's About Conservation

## Not Smoke & Mirrors

BY BRUCE B. BECKLEY  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



#### ACC to Review Kinder-Morgan Project

Regionally, the need for additional sources of energy is the major issue in the licensing of the Kinder-Morgan (KM) Northeast Energy Direct natural gas pipeline. That issue will be one of the decisions to be ruled on by the NH Site Evaluation Committee and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission after public hearings.

Locally, the communities through which the pipeline is proposed to pass will be studying the impacts of construction and operation on their residents and natural communities.

The Amherst Board of Selectmen has named a task force chaired by Selectman John D'Angelo to assemble comments and develop information for the Town to submit in the state and federal proceedings, should the voters approve the warrant article authorizing the Town's interventions. The task force has, in turn, requested that the ACC evaluate the environmental effects of the project.

A working group of the ACC will be assembling data on the KM project to substantiate whatever conclusions are reached by the full commission by early March. The group members and their areas of expertise include:

**Dr. Paul Indeglia** Water resources and quality, public health and safety, hazardous materials and waste, air quality and noise.

**Dr. Jack Gleason** Wetland species and impacts, including bogs and vernal pools.

**Rob Clemens** Land use, geology and soils, visual impacts, recreation.

Bruce Beckley Construction, natural habitats and species

#### Open Space Accounting

Land conservation-wise, the Town of Amherst isn't doing too badly. Let's look at some numbers which include the year end generous gift of 240

acres for conservation purposes by Jane Hager.

The Amherst Conservation Commission manages 2,442 acres of fee-owned land and 195 acres more on conservation easements for a total of 2,637 acres. This acreage is found in 95 separate parcels. In addition, 858 acres owned by other organizations; namely, the Amherst Land Trust, Audubon Society of NH, the State of New Hampshire, and the Department of Defense. The total protected acreage of 3,495 comprises 16 percent of the town's area.

The largest protected parcel in town is the 665 acre portion of the New Boston Air Station lying in Amherst. This parcel is well managed for wildlife although closed for non-military personnel enjoyment. And, of course, the Base's future is always in the hands of Congress. The parcels comprising the Joe English Reservation total 558 and the Hager parcels sum to 240 acres.

There are 25 managed parcels of 40 acres or larger and 18 parcels smaller than 5 acres – a wide spread for management. Every open space; that is parcels without homes on them; including woodland, wetland, and utility rights of way, serve the town and wildlife species. Other town-owned open spaces include scattered parks, school district parcels, and cemeteries.

At this point, the ACC is without the resources to acquire any fee or easement parcels except by gifts. Nevertheless, the Commission continues to woo landowners with lands that are important to Nature and present passive recreation opportunities. Three of these blocks of special interest totaling over 800 acres are held by out-of-town owners.

We aren't doing too badly but we can do more. It will not be with smoke or mirrors.

### Amherst Town Library

## The Pleasure of Our Company: Harlem and The Origins of Its Renaissance, 1910-1940

AMHERST – The Amherst Town Library welcomes Dr. Dan Breen, Legal Studies Professor at Brandeis University, for the presentation, "The Pleasure of Our Company: Harlem and the Origins of its Renaissance," on Tuesday, February 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Reading Room as part of the Library's series for adults entitled, Hail to the Harlem Renaissance. Presenter Dan Breen received his Ph.D. in American History from Boston College in 2003.

The artistic explosion known as the Harlem Renaissance occurred in a part of upper Manhattan with a particularly rich and colorful history, dating back to the Dutch settlement of the seventeenth century. It was a place first of farms and pastures, then of great estates, and finally of modest tenements occupied by Germans, Italians, and Eastern Europeans. How did the crowded precincts north of 110th street finally evolve into the center of African-American thought and culture for which Harlem has ever since been famous throughout the world? Why Harlem? And why

did that neighborhood of churches and numbers rackets, "rent parties" and jazz clubs, develop as it did? Why did tens of thousands of African-Americans, from all points of the compass, pour into Harlem beginning with the turn of the Twentieth Century? We will try to answer these questions as we discuss the unique physical setting of the Harlem Renaissance.

In a 1928 interview with the radio program "The World Tomorrow", African-American anthropologist/novelist Zora Neale Hurston was asked about her view on racism to which she answered, "Sometimes, I feel discriminated against, but it does not make me angry. It merely astonishes me. How can any deny themselves the pleasure of my company? It is beyond me." Hence, the title of the presentation...

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grace the Amherst Town Library walls from mid-January throughout the month of February. We invite you to take a "Walk Thru Harlem" during our regular library hours.

Please join us for the other upcoming programs in the Hail to the Harlem Renaissance series that celebrate National Black History month: "Poets of the Harlem Renaissance," on Tuesday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m.; "Miss Anne of Harlem: The White Women of the Black Renaissance," on Thursday, February 19 at 7:00 p.m.; and, "Every Man's Wish On Board: The Art of the Harlem Renaissance" on Tuesday, February 24 at 7:00 p.m.

All programs in the Hail to the Harlem Renaissance series for adults are free and open to the public. However, registration is REQUIRED for each program due to space limitations. You can register for all these events 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 At The Library - Session 2 Starts January 9th - Sign Up Now

AMHERST – Minecraft at the library is a smashing success! Session 2 starts Wednesday January 7th from 4:00pm to 5:30pm and will run for six weeks, ending February 11th. Registration is REQUIRED, so please contact Kim Ayers at 249-9108 or kimberlyayers@comcast.net to reserve your spot.

Kids currently on the waiting list are guaranteed a spot in Session 2. If you plan to participate this ses-

sion, please sign up as soon as possible as Session 2 is already nearly full. We will also start a waiting list for Session 3 (starting March 4th).

The library laptops are a bit underpowered for the Minecraft application, so participants are asked to bring a laptop from home if at all possible. There is also an iPad/iPod table for kids who prefer to play on those devices.

I am looking for parents of participants who would be willing to help moderate at least one meeting. The only requirements are (1) be able to help trouble shoot computer issues such as WiFi not connecting, (2) keep players interacting appropriately. Most of the kids are quite knowledgeable and can help out with any game related problems

### Exploring The iPad

AMHERST – It is a New Year and time to get up to speed with all those technology online wonders! The Amherst Town Library is pleased to help you with that goal by offering our three part January series for adults called Tackling Technology... and Winning. "Exploring the iPad" kicks off the series and is followed by "Succeeding on Craigslist," and "Facebook Workshop: Going Beyond Getting Started." Mark your calendars for these Winning Wednesday scheduled for Wednesday, January 28th from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

If you are an iPad owner, or want to become one, come and learn about all the things an iPad can do in the "Exploring your iPad" presentation with Marjorie Wein and Carol Wein, technology professionals and owners of WizeGuides—a company that helps people get comfortable with all types of technology. A short time ago, only a few people had even held an iPad in their hands and now millions of people own them. It is surprisingly fun and easy to use as you hold it in your hands and interact with it by touch. This course will introduce you to all the basic iPad functions—

from settings, organizing, surfing the Web, checking email, texting messages, making FaceTime calls, and exploring Apps.

This Library program for adults is free and open to the public. However, registration for this program and all programs in the series is REQUIRED due to space limitations. You can register for this event, and all events, 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."