

THE AMHERST CITIZEN



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BRIEFS

Re-scheduled Historical Society Program

"George Washington Spied Here: Spies and Spying in the American Revolutionary War (1776-1783)" Monday, March 16 at 7:30 pm at the Congregational Church of Amherst (Village Common)

Douglas Wheeler presents an inquiry into the life and death of America's first spy, the patriot-martyr, Nathan Hale, of Coventry, Connecticut. Wheeler takes audiences on a journey through the spy world of the Culper Spy Ring of New York, Long Island and Connecticut, the most secret of the American spy rings and the most successful in getting useful intelligence to General George Washington.

This program is made possible through a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council. It is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Amherst Garden Club Holds March Meeting

The Amherst Garden Club will have an evening meeting of the whole club on March 5 at 7:00 PM at the Messiah Lutheran Church, Route 101 in Amherst. There will be no daytime meeting. Audrey Vargish will speak on "The Cutting Garden."

Audrey was born and raised in New Jersey. She and her husband, George, with whom she shares her love of gardening, moved to New Hampshire in 2008. Together they have transformed the plain landscape of their new home into an array of garden rooms and beds. A Master Gardener, Audrey has served as president of the Sandown Garden Club for the past two years.

There will be two books on cutting gardens given out as door prizes at the meeting. Visitors, as always, are welcome to attend.

TOWN OF AMHERST PUBLIC NOTICE

The Amherst Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the Town Clerk's Office at the Amherst Town Hall on Saturday, Feb. 28, 2015 between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. New voter registrations, additions and corrections to the checklist, and party changes may be made at this session. No additions or corrections shall be made to the checklist after this session until Election Day, March 10, 2015.

If unsure of your current party affiliation, you may go online to check it at <http://cfs.sos.nh.gov/app/Public/PartyInfo.aspx> or check the paper checklists located at the Town Office or Town Library.

Election Day, Tuesday, March 10

Voting for Town of Amherst, Amherst School District and Souhegan Cooperative School District Officers and warrant articles at Souhegan High School. Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Amherst Garden Club Seeks Applicants for Charitable Fund Giving

The Amherst Garden Club has established a Charitable Fund and has funds available to distribute to mission related causes in our community. The club has many fund raising activities throughout the year and our mission is to give back to our community through this fund. Recently, funds raised from The Memory Tree have been added to the fund. The mission of the club is to provide education, resources and networking opportunities for our members to promote the love of gardening, civic landscaping and environmental responsibility. We welcome applicants for projects that coincide with our values. More information as well as an applicant form is available on our website www.amherstgardenclub.org.

AMS Cheerleading State Champions



Elise LeRoux, Jasmine Carvellos, Tatum Zampella, Ainsley Redd, Abbey Cannon, Marguerite Maloon, Allison Shriever, Hannah Raudelunas, Olivia Prescott, Amanda Senk, Eva Brewersdorf, Karly Infanti, Stephanie Cushing, and Team Captains, Hannah Gilraine, Emily Fallon, Elaina Bolduc.

AMHERST – The Amherst Middle School Cheerleading Team finished their season with great success, coming in first place for Division II B at the 2015 Tri-County Spirit Tournament held at Sanborn Regional High School. There were twenty-seven teams that competed. Athletic Director Jeff Wing said it was the first time in AMS history that a cheerleading team has brought back the state title. Principal Porter Dodge attended

both competitions and was truly impressed by the level of commitment and spirit that his AMS Eagles cheer team displayed.

The AMS squad was coached beautifully by Kim Healey and assistant coach Christina Ellis who challenged this team to push their limits. The team captains in their speeches at the banquet each spoke about how much they learned, how much fun they had, and most importantly how they came together

as a team. The team had many challenges from the snow including missed practices, and even a broken down bus on the way to the final competition requiring parents to scramble to pick the team up in cars to get these athletes to the mats on time. These girls ended the tournament with a flawless performance full of great stunts, terrific tumbling, and most of all incredible teamwork!

Pipeline Authority to Selectmen – Sidewalks for the Village

BY CLIFF ANN WALES

AMHERST – At the town deliberative meeting the Board of Selectmen made an effort to zero out article 29 which requested taxpayers to raise \$62,620 to fund residential sidewalks. The article was being removed because it was contingent on \$262,480 (80% reimbursement from the government) coming from a federal grant program entitled Federal Transportation Alternative Program. When the grant was not awarded to Amherst, the selectmen with advise from legal counsel deleted the wording leaving the article as \$0.00.

The article as originally written would have constructed sidewalks along portions of Jones Rd., Mack Hill Rd., Manchester Rd., New Boston Rd., and Boston Post Rd for a total of 5,215 feet.

From the floor of the deliberative, George Bower amended the amended article, to add back into the wording

the full amount of \$328,100 for sidewalks with the taxpayer fully funding the project.

George Bower explained, "The town needs this project even without federal funding. Mr. Bower said that as a runner who uses these roads, he knows that safety is an issue. "More sidewalks to run on safely and for walking to school are needed."

Rick Katzenberg supported the amendment because the village is heavily walked and the town needs the village sidewalk project.

The amended sidewalk article will add \$0.21 to the tax rate. The town tax rate will go up by 11%. The Ways and Means had no comment because they did not have enough time for consideration.

Other articles considered and not amended were: FY 16 operating budget \$12,427,814 (increase of \$617,383). Default budget is \$12,064,726.

Bridge Replacement Bond - \$3,324,108. This article places two

Amherst bridges (Mont Vernon Road bridge and Thornton Ferry Road I) on the State list for repairs. The voter must pass the bond in order to qualify for 80% reimbursement from the State.

Contingency Fund - \$100,000 to come from undesignated fund balance. No tax impact in FY16 because it was raised through taxation in FY15.

No changes to Capital Reserve Funds: \$15,000 Assessing Revaluation; \$15,000 Communications Center; \$55,000 Fire Station Renovation to come from LUCT funds; \$150,000 Fire Truck Refurbish.

Public Health Mosquito Program was amended down to \$36,000 from \$40,000.

Article 32 does not have a tax impact. It grants the Board of Selectmen to act as Pipeline Intervener Status. "in order to present the claims of Amherst residents and property owners and protect their rights."

Amherst Garden Club



Books in Bloom At the Amherst Town Library

AMHERST – Once again the Amherst Garden Club is collaborating with the Amherst Town Library to bring "Books in Bloom."

During the weekend of February 27th garden club members will highlight the library's program "It's All

About the Words" by displaying flower arrangements inspired by books. The arrangements promise to be creative, colorful, and fun as well as a good way to take a break from the snow and cold!

Amherst Town Library



Clarinetist Karen Luttik with pianist, Molly Lozeau, and soprano, Lindsay Rinaldi

The Gateway Trio: Music As Language

AMHERST – The Amherst Town Library is delighted to offer a specialy created concert to kick off the library-wide March programming theme It's All About the Words. The Gateway Trio presents, "Music as Language" on Sunday, March 1st, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Main Reading Room of the Library. This innovative performance is part of our Sundays at 4 music series and is funded by the Friends of the Amherst Town Library volunteer organization. International Clarinetist Karen Luttik with guest pianist, Molly Lozeau,

and soprano, Lindsay Rinaldi, will explore how music can wonderfully communicate all kinds of emotions, such as joy, love, fun, and playfulness, with or even without words! Come and be part of the conversation as The Gateway Trio creates musical dialogues by great composers such as Brahms, Schubert and Mozart, with a little klezmer and nonsense verse thrown in for good measure.

Clarinetist Karen Luttik, freelancer in the Boston area, has recently relocated to New Hampshire

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