

# Schools

## Amherst Middle School Spring Coaching Positions Available.

Baseball Coach, experience as a coach preferred.  
Assistant Track & Field Coach, looking for a person experienced as a distance coach and/or runner.  
If interested please contact Athletic Director Jeff Wing at [jwing@sprise.com](mailto:jwing@sprise.com).

## Amherst PTA Family Math & Science Night was a Super Success!

On a frigid February Friday, more than ninety children and their families enjoyed an educational and fun evening at Wilkins School. The Amherst PTA Family Math & Science Night was originally scheduled for Monday, February 9 but was postponed to Friday the 13th due to a snow storm. The theme, "Superhero Science", was a big hit with the young and the young at heart.

Children and their families enjoyed designing Superman's best cape and learning about X-rays thanks to Anne Clifton-Waite (Anatomy and Physiology teacher at SHS) and her student, Alison Bowman. Making a polymer at the ElastiGirl station was popular, as was the creation of Cyborg robotic hands and using magnets to "Paint with Magneto." Origami, tangrams and tessellations of Aquaman's undersea friends were created, along with tornadoes in a bottle. Cryptography with the Riddler, laser beams with Wasabi, The Penguin's Puzzling Egg and Baymax balloons were enjoyed by all. Jennifer Eccleston, Math Coach at Wilkins School, and Mary Beth Gilpin, Math Interventionist, led the crowd in two "rain-storm" demonstrations as part of the Storm station. Also part of the Storm station, Tom Wahle, founder of Techspiration, generously lent his Van de Graaff generator for the evening!

The IronMan station was extremely popular. Children and their families were able to see robots created by some amazing local inventors. The SHS First Robotics Team (Olivia Falkenstein, Nick Orr, Ben Prescott, Mike Poisson, Brian Walters) was on hand, as well as members of the Mont Vernon Team (Tony Edvalson, Rylee Noorda, Brian Apple, Bryan Rose, Maria Edvalson) that created PickUp Patrol. Does your school need to calm the chaos of afternoon dismissals? Visit [pickuppatrol.net](http://pickuppatrol.net) to learn more.

At the Wolverine station, PMEC displayed native NH mammal furs, skulls and claws. Children enjoyed seeing and touching these items while learning about important creatures. Be sure to visit PMEC to



see more of their collection!

The Amherst PTA would like to thank all who volunteered to make this night a success, and Jeff Hall for volunteering his time and talents by photographing participants at the Boom! Photo Booth. You may look for your photo at <http://jefpix.smugmug.com/Souhegan-High-S/Wilkins-Math--Science-Night-2015>.

In conjunction with the event, AMS students were asked to design the posters for each Superhero station. Over thirty pieces of art were submitted by talented AMS students. The Grand Prize winner was Michaela Purvis for her rendition of "Wonder Woman." Congratulations, Michaela! Artwork will be on display at AMS during the PTA Read-a-Thon which is called "Reading is My Superpower." The PTA would like to thank Porter Dodge for providing participation awards and the grand prize for this successful contest.

Many families proved to be real-life Superheroes by donating coats to a charity coat drive. Emma Brown and Chloe Grund from Girl Scout Troop 22171 sponsored the coat drive for the Salvation Army. They wish to express their thanks to all who donated!

Plans are already underway for next year's PTA Family Math and Science Night event. Co-Chairs Karen Oates and Francine Brown are always looking for volunteers! If

you would like to be involved, please contact Francine at [francinebrown@gmail.com](mailto:francinebrown@gmail.com) for information. Karen and Francine would like to thank the following Committee Members for their hard work and

dedication: Heidi Cloutier-Kennedy, Michelle Arbogast, Amanda Rogers, Vicky Leknes, Terri Behm, Ken D'Ambrosio, Christine Grayson, Jennifer Eccleston, and Mary Beth Gilpin.



## Important Information Regarding Kindergarten Registration in Amherst For 2015-2016

AMHERST – Kindergarten registration packets for the 2015-2016 school year in the Amherst School District can be downloaded from The Clark-Wilkins School and the SAU39 websites. In order to enter Kindergarten for the upcoming year, students must turn five by September 30, 2015. Registration packets must be completed in their entirety before any student can be placed.

Although the Amherst School District has put together a warrant article on the March 10th ballot for the implementation of full-day Kindergarten for all incoming students, we are still asking families to complete the registration form for a half-day program in the event that the warrant article for full-day Kin-

dergarten does not pass. Completed Kindergarten registration packets can be dropped off at the main office at Clark School between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. during any school day or packets may be emailed to Terry April, Clark School office manager, at [tapril@sprise.com](mailto:tapril@sprise.com).

We look forward to meeting all of our incoming students and their families as we prepare for the upcoming school year. In addition to communicating with Mrs. April about registrations, please feel free to communicate directly with me, Gerard St. Amand—Principal of Clark-Wilkins School, via phone at 673-4411, x4202, or via email: [gstamand@sprise.com](mailto:gstamand@sprise.com).

## Amherst PTA News

Wednesday March 11th at 7 p.m. Wilkins Elementary School Library PTA meeting with guests Officer Knox, AMS Resource Officer giving a presentation on Internet Safety along with Peter Warburton, SAU 39 Superintendent, there to discuss the SAU's strategic plan.

The next general membership meeting is Wednesday, March 11th at 7 pm in the Wilkins Elementary School Library. Please join us as we listen to Officer Knox (AMS resource officer) teach us about internet safety and our children. Also, Peter Warburton (SAU 39 Superintendent) will be there to share with us the SAU's strategic planning for the school districts. Loads of information and education at this one!

## College Scholarships Available

AMHERST – The Souhegan Scholarship Foundation is pleased to announce that its scholarship applications are posted for the 2015 scholarship year. In addition to our Memorial Scholarships, we have posted scholarships for Arts & Humanities, Business, Career & Technical, and STEM categories.

The SSF college scholarships are available to any high school senior who is a resident of Amherst

or Mont Vernon, NH, regardless of school attended, including public, private, and home school students. To date, the SSF has given more than \$105,000 in scholarships.

Please visit our website, [www.souheganscholarshipfoundation.org](http://www.souheganscholarshipfoundation.org), for more information and to download the applications.

All applications are due by March 16, 2015. Scholarships will be announced in mid May.

## Amherst Garden Club Offers Annual Scholarship

AMHERST – The Amherst Garden Club is offering scholarship awards to qualified students this spring. \$4000.00 is available to Amherst or Mont Vernon residents who will be attending an institute of higher learning to study horticulture, botany, plant science, landscape design, or environmental science as it relates directly to horticulture. The Garden Club believes it has the opportunity to impact our planet in a beneficial way by supporting the education of students who have an interest in a field closely allied in some way with horticulture.

Applications are available from student services or guidance offices at Souhegan High School, Bishop

Guertin High School, and the Derryfield School. Other Amherst and Mont Vernon students or graduates can get the application from Sue Alger at 673-5664 or on the Amherst Garden Club website, [www.amherstgardenclub.org](http://www.amherstgardenclub.org). There are two applications forms available, one for high school seniors and one for high school graduates who are presently college age or older.

Souhegan High School students need to return their applications to the high school student services offices. All other applicants should mail their applications to the Amherst Garden Club, Attn: Scholarship Committee, PO Box 694, Amherst, NH 03031. Deadline for all applications is March 16th.

## Community/Family Climbing Continues at SHS Monday Evenings, 6:30–8:30pm

AMHERST – 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 Wintercrossion Joshua Tree Climbing Trip. If you have questions, please contact John Dowd: [jdowd@sprise.com](mailto:jdowd@sprise.com).

## February 28th Admissions Event at Applewild School

FITCHBURG, MA – Applewild School will host a series of admissions events during the month of February. First is an Open Invitation to prospective families to visit the school on a day of their choice, see teachers and students in action, and join in our family-style lunch. Due to the cancellation of the January Admissions Open House because of weather, several interested families were not able to attend the event for which they had pre-registered. Families can register for a tour and lunch on a day of their choosing by calling Director of Admission and Financial Aid Jen Wing at 978-342-6053 x110 or emailing

her at [jwing@applewild.org](mailto:jwing@applewild.org). Saturday, February 28, 9:00 am will be AppleCore Scholarship Interview Day. Students who have applied for an AppleCore Scholarship are invited to participate in a group activity and a personal interview. Parents will have coffee and participate in a round table discussion with school administrators and Director of Admissions. Applewild School is a Kindergarten–Grade 8 coeducational independent day school in Fitchburg, MA serving families in central Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. The school also has two preschools for ages 2.9-5 in Fitchburg and Devens.



POETRY OUT LOUD 2015 PHOTO COLLAGE BY JEFF HALL

## More than 500 Souhegan Students Participate in Poetry Out Loud

Sophomore Jake Upton named Champion; Paris Dzen Runner-up  
JEANNE STURGES, WRITING CENTER COORDINATOR

AMHERST -- And the Souhegan High School 2015 Poetry Out Loud Champion is... sophomore Jake Upton! His rendition of "Kubla Khan" by Coleridge was other-worldly -- captivating -- while runner-up Paris Dzen offered a stunning performance of "The Man with the Hoe" by Markham. Jake has won a \$40,000 college scholarship to the New Hampshire Institute of Art, should he choose to attend, and is off to perform at the NH Regional competition on March 9th, then hopefully, on to the State Finals, and maybe even the Nationals in Washington DC.

Over 500 students participated in Poetry Out Loud at Souhegan this year, with the top 20 competing in Souhegan's School-Wide Final on Tuesday night. Souhegan's Finalists are: Lauren McCormick, Callie Cinque, Kaitlin Griffin, Hannah Whitney, Lindsay Evans, Sean Corrigan, Sophie

Doiron, Kole Nunley, Hannah Gillis, Elise Lambert, Emma Fleurette, Dylan Goldberg, Liz Purvis, Molly Saturley, Adele Patnaude, Olivia Cashman, Jon Nogueira, and Jack Kane.

Dozens of teachers and administrators volunteered in the classroom, grade-wide and school-wide competitions over the past month. Superintendent Peter Warburton and NH Poetry Out Loud Advisory Board member, Jason Lambert joined teachers Aimee Gibbons and Matt McDonald as Performance Adjudicators. A special thanks goes to our student MCs -- Alex Craven and Robert Zampella -- as well as to the super talented musician, Paris Dzen, who all made the night especially fun and memorable.

In 2005 the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the Poetry Foundation joined to create Poetry Out Loud, a program that encourages the nation's youth to learn about great poetry through exploration, memorization and performance.