

Bulletin Board

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.

New Date for 5K Leprechaun Leap

On Saturday, April 4th Team Earley will sponsor the re-scheduled Leprechaun Leap starting at 10 a.m. at 118 Main Street, Nashua. For more information see advertisement on page ?????? To register: www.teamearley.org/Race_Registration.html

Are You a Vietnam Veteran?

Cemetery Trustee Marie Grella is seeking the names of Amherst residents who served in the Vietnam War. Also residents who served in the Vietnam War but have moved away. They can contact Marie at mgf@aol.com or Marie Grella PO Box 86 Amherst NH 03031

Night of Comedy sponsored by Amherst Junior Women's Club

Friday, April 10th

Crowne Plaza, Nashua

6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. Silent Auction

7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Comedy Show

Cash Bar/Appetizers

Mention AJWC and your Overnight Stay at Crowne Plaza shall be \$99.00 + tax (Reservations: 886-1200)

Tickets: \$35.00/EACH Pre-show, \$40.00 at the door, \$300.00 Table of 10- No reservations; must be paid pre-show date. Tickets may be purchased online at ajwcnh.org.

Featuring comedians: Dan Crohn, Christine Hurley, Pat Napoli

AMHERST Rabies Clinic

Saturday, April 25, 2015, 9Am – 11Am

Amherst South Fire Station, Stearns Rd

Dogs On Leashes, Cats In Carriers

\$15.00 Vaccination for 1st Pet, \$10.00 Additional Pet

Licenses available to Amherst Residents

Dr. Amy Hollengreen from Amherst Animal Hospital in attendance

Amherst Junior Womens Club presents Family BINGO Night

March 27th 5:30-8 pm

Wilkins School

This is a fun, affordable night out for the family, especially those with grade school children. Each BINGO game will have multiple winners and prizes! There will also be some special games with extra AWESOME prizes! Pizza, beverages and snacks will be available for purchase! Hope to see you there!

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

Reminder – Requests Due March 31

AJWC Funds Available for Area Non-Profits

AMHERST – The Amherst Junior Women's Club invites non-profit organizations in need of charitable contributions to apply for a donation. Throughout the year, the AJWC raises money and then disburses those funds within the community.

Request must follow these guidelines:

Requesting organization must be affiliated with a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

- Organization does not need to have an Amherst address but must service the local community.
- Request must be submitted by March 31, 2015, in writing or by e-mail.

Request must contain the following information:

Name of organization, mailing address, e-mail address, website (if available), telephone number, contact name.

- Dollar amount requested.
- How would donated funds be used?
- How does requesting organization currently benefit Amherst and greater community?
- How does organization's objective correspond to the mission of the AJWC? AJWC mission is explained below.
- When was organization established? Provide short history of organization.
- How does organization fund itself, ie. federal/state/local grants?
- What is organization's annual budget? Include any expected shortfalls.

The AJWC is an organization of women who volunteer their time, energy and talent to enhance the community. The club's mission is to focus efforts on civic needs, educational advancement and the less fortunate.

All requesting organizations will be notified when applications are received. Once approved, funds will be distributed no later than June 15, 2015. Only chosen recipients will be notified of disbursements.

Questions may be e-mailed to Christina Zlotnick at cip.ajwc@gmail.com. Please reference "CIP Request" in subject line. For more information, please visit our website at: ajwcnh.org. Our mailing address is: AJWC, CIP Request, P.O. Box 513, Amherst, NH 03031.

Town News

Historic Amherst

Old Recipes to Water-Proof the Leather of Boots & Shoes

Store-bought Boot Blacking Also Works for Harnesses and Buggy Tops

BY KATRINA HOLMAN

in dire need of waterproofing? And now that sleighing season is over and it's time to get the buggies out of the barn, does the leather in your harnesses and chaise top need re-conditioning? Here are some 18th and 19th-century do-it-yourself recipes, published in the local newspapers.

Recipe to Render the Leather of Boots, Shoes, &c. Impervious to Water

"A pint of boiled linseed oil, one half lb. of mutton suet; six ounces clean bees-wax; four ounces rosin: melt and incorporate these together, and, when milkwarm, rub the liquid well upon the leather before the fire, first taking care it be perfectly dry." (*Amherst Journal*, N.H., 16 Jan. 1795; *Courier of New Hampshire*, Concord, 4 Oct. 1800.)

Recipes for Boot & Shoe Blacking

"Best Blacking for Boots and Shoes: Take 1 pint of good drying oil; 2 ounces of bees-wax; 2 ounces spirits turpentine, and half an ounce Burgundy pitch – carefully melt them over a good fire. With this mixture, new boots or shoes are rubbed at some distance from a fire with a sponge or brush, the operation to be repeated as often as they become dry and until they are fully saturated. In this manner the leather becomes impervious to wet; and boots and shoes thus prepared last much longer, and the wearer is less subject to cold and chilblains." (*Farmers' Cabinet*, Amherst, N.H., 22 Jan. 1820.) Two decades earlier, a similar recipe to "water proof leather," except calling for a full ounce of Burgundy pitch, had made the rounds of newspapers – e.g., in New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Virginia in 1800 – touted as "the most effective preservative against cold and chilblains." In 1807, a New York paper published a similar recipe advising readers that



John Watson's First Tavern (c. 1795) – 1 Carriage Road. This was the home of Richard Boylston (1782-1857), who sold boot blacking in his newspaper office-cum-book store next door north.

more than ordinary precautions against receiving colds should be taken because influenza, a disorder which affects the lungs and weakens the frame, was so lately prevalent in the United States. (Reprinted in *New-Bedford Mercury*, Massachusetts, 1 Jan. 1808.)

"Receipt for Preparing a Mixture which, put on to Boots or Shoes, will render them impervious to water: One pint of boiled linseed oil; 2 oz. Beeswax; half an oz. Burgundy pitch; 1 oz. of spirits of turpentine; a small quantity of lamp black – melted over a moderate fire and well mixed. Rub it on the boot or shoe, warmed by heat, with a soft brush and sponge, till the leather is saturated." ("From a London paper." *Farmers' Cabinet*, Amherst, N.H., 12 Jan. 1822.)

Boot Blacking for Sale in Amherst Village

Advertized in 1812 in the Farmer's Cabinet of Amherst, one of the items sold in the apothecary store of Dr. Matthias Spalding (1769-1865) & David McG. Means (1781-1835) in Amherst Village was "British Chemical Liquid Blacking" prepared by chemist W.

T. Conway of Boston for boots, harnesses, etc., sold only in glass quart bottles for 1 dollar. Prepared with oil, they claimed it instantly imparted a "jet black varnish without labor." Their store, which Means ran from 1809-1813, was located at the SW corner of Main & Middle Streets, in what is now the side yard of 4 Main Street. In 1813, Read & Shepard became the local purveyor of the same product. Robert Read (1785-1857) and John Shepard (1791-1870) were partners from May 1812 to 1816. Their store building and lot, which now is Soldiers' Monument Common, were owned by Robert and his father William Read (1754-1834) from 1807-1835.

In 1821, shoe & boot maker Charles Porter (1796-1832), who had recently arrived in town and opened a shop near the Read store, offered his own blacking preparation for sale, at 38 cents per half pint stone-jar, with a sponge affixed to the cork. He warranted it to be equal in producing a brilliant a jet black gloss; as durable, impervious to wet and heat, and harmless to the leather; and used with as little labor as any blacking ever made. Intended to be applied after the boot or shoe had been coated with tallow or well oiled or greased (well, there's the laborious part!), it would not soil anything that might come in contact with it. It was also useful for Morocco leather (used for ladies' shoes), for harnesses, chaise tops, leather military equipments and any other leather objects "wished to be kept bright and clean." In this early year, Porter had 200 pairs of shoes on hand, later he would carry as many as 700 pairs. He lived in the house now standing at 15 Church Street at its prior location. Porter's competitor was David Russell (1797-1882), who in 1823 offered boot & shoe blacking prepared by Abraham Gould

Continued on page 6 ►

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 @amherstreccreation

NOW Hiring!

The Amherst Recreation Department is looking for Summer Staff. Open Positions include Camp Counselors, Lifeguards, and Gate Guards. If you love kids and want to have fun this summer, this is the place for you!

We will be conducting a group interview on Saturday, April 11th at PMEC from 9-11am. Please come dressed to move and have fun! Please fill out an application before at www.amherstrec.org or stop by the office to pick one up.

NEW Programming

NEW Tot Soccer

Our 6 week program is offered to 3 and 4 year olds who will be introduced to the basic building blocks of soccer including dribbling, passing and kicking skills through games and activities appropriate for their age group.

Who: 3-4 yr olds
Where: Spaulding Field- field 1 (front)
When: visit website for schedule options
Fee: \$45R; \$50NR

NEW Tai Chi Easy™

Class will be held at Clark Elementary School in the multi-purpose room with experienced instructor Susan Flanagan. More information at www.amherstrec.org

Who: Adults of all ages and abilities
When: Wednesdays 4:00-5:00pm
Where: Clark Elementary School, 14 Foundry Street

Class size is limited to 12 participants, and must have 4 to run the program.

NEW Baboosic Lake Swim Team

Join the Baboosic Lakers!

Amherst Recreation Programs and Events

The goal of our team is to provide every member an opportunity to improve swimming skills in order to achieve success at his or her level of ability, make NEW friends and have a great deal of fun!

Who: Ages 4-19
When: 6/22-8/14 M-F from 9-10am
Where: Baboosic Lake Town Beach
Fee: \$45R; \$70NR

NEW Swim Lessons at Baboosic Lake

Take advantage of our American Red Cross swim lessons. All instructors are ARC Water Safety certified. Swim lessons are scheduled for a 30 minute time period between 10am-2:00PM, Monday - Thursday at Baboosic Lake.

Please visit www.amherstrec.org for schedule options

NEW Morning Miles

Who: Adults
What: Loosely organized running group
When: Tuesday and Thursdays at 6am March 31-June 18
Where: Village Green, in the parking lot across from the Congregational Church
Fee: FREE!

Summer Camps

Start thinking summertime in Amherst! This year we will be offering two full day summer camps. Each week at camp will be centered around a theme. Both camps will take part in weekly field trips, all on Wednesdays

2015 Field Trips include: Canobie Lake Park, Roll On America, Sky Zone, Circus Smirkus, Seacoast Science Center, Hampton Beach SP, and Water Country!

Baboosic Lake Summer Camp

Who: Entering grade 1-7
Where: Baboosic Lake
When: 6/22-8/14
Early Bird Fee: \$115R; \$155NR per week
\$870R; \$1190NR Full Summer Rate

Baboosic Lake CIT Program

Volunteer Counselors in Training will work with our camp counselors to provide a fun camp environment for all children. A ticket to that week's field trip is included.

Who: Entering grades 9 and 10
Where: Baboosic Lake
When: 6/22-8/14
Fee: \$35R; \$45NR

Outdoor Discovery Summer Camp (grades 1-5)

Who: Entering 1-5
Where: Peabody Mill Environmental Center (PMEC)
When: 6/22- 8/7
Early Bird Fee: \$125R; \$165NR \$825R; \$1105NR
Full Summer Rate

Outdoor Discovery Summer Camp (grades 6-8) Includes all field trips!

Who: Entering 6-8
Where: Peabody Mill Environmental Center (PMEC)
When: 6/22- 8/7
Early Bird Fee: \$159R; \$199NR \$1063R; \$1343NR Full Summer Rate

Outdoor Discovery Mini Camp

Who: Ages 4&5
Where: Peabody Mill Environmental Center (PMEC)
When: 6/22/7/31
Early Bird Fee: \$85R; \$100NR \$460R; \$550NR

Cheer Camp

Who: Grades 1-8
Where: Bean Fields
When: 6/22-6/25
Fee: \$100R; \$120NR

Challenger British MultiSport Camp

Sports covered may include tag rugby, cricket, soccer, rounders, kickball, netball and handball.

Who: Ages 6-16
Where: Bean Field
When: July 27- July 31
Fee: \$135 Half day \$190 Full day
All Prices Increase by 20\$ after May 15, 2015

Youth Programming

Volleyball for Middle School Girls

This 5th through 8th grade program for girls is designed to develop basic volleyball skills for beginners. This is a great option to tone your skills if you are trying out for the school team!

Who: 5th-8th Grade Girls

When: Mondays and Wednesdays 4/6-5/20 @6:45pm-8pm
Where: AMS Gym
Fee: \$55R; \$65NR

Track and Field

The Amherst Track and Field program helps athletes develop age-appropriate skills and overall conditioning, including strength and flexibility, which are essential to performance in all athletic fields. Participants receive expert training in individual events.

Practices will be held on Monday, Wednesday & Thursday starting 4/20
10 and under: 6-7pm
11 and up: 6-8pm

Who: Ages 6-18
Where: Practices will be held at the SHS track
When: Practices start 4/20 from 6-8pm
Fee: 10 and under: \$45R; \$55NR 11 and up: \$60R; \$70NR

Yoga for Kids

Yoga can help children develop a healthy mind-body connection that improves self-awareness, confidence and concentration. This class will include yoga poses, games, meditation and relaxation.

Who: Grades 1-4
When: Tuesdays 4/21-6/2 from 3:15-4:30pm
Where: Wilkins School
Fee: \$45Res/\$50Non-Res

Yoga for Middle Schoolers

This yoga class is suitable for males and females who are experienced with yoga and those who are NEW to yoga. Each student will be challenged according to his/her ability.

Who: Grades 5-8
When: Wednesdays 4/22-6/3 from 2:45-3:45pm
Where: AMS Chorus Room
Fee: \$54R; \$64NR

Karate

Who: Ages 4 and up (adult too!)
What: Beg./int. Karate lessons
Where: Amherst Karate Studio
Fee: \$59 Please visit www.amherstrec.org for Schedule Options

Archery

Continued on page 6 ►