

The Amherst PTA Play Proudly Presents "CATS"



Cast members practice a dance move during rehearsals

Felines in All of Their Finery

What's a Jellicle cat? If you have never heard of this phrase before then perhaps you have not seen the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical CATS! But now you can!! The Amherst PTA's 63rd Annual Production brings this delightful musical April 16th – 19th to the Souhegan High School Theatre. The annual play is the biggest fundraiser for the PTA, benefitting curriculum enrichment for the lower elementary schools in Amherst. Based on Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats by T. S. Eliot, the musical tells the story of a tribe of cats called the Jellicles and the night they make what is known as "the Jellicle choice" and decide which cat will ascend to the Heaviside Layer and come back to a new life.

CATS first opened in London in the West End in 1981 and then on Broadway in 1982. It won numerous awards, including Best Musical at both the Laurence Olivier Awards and the Tony Awards. The London production ran for twenty-one years and the Broadway production ran for eighteen

years, both setting new records. As of 2014, CATS is the third longest-running show in Broadway history, and was the longest running Broadway show in history from 1987–2006, surpassed by The Phantom of the Opera. CATS is the fourth longest-running West End musical. It has been performed around the world many times and has been translated into more than 20 languages. In 1998, CATS was turned into a made-for-television film.

Prepare to be delighted as the cast performs loved songs the world over such as "Memory", "Jellicle Songs for Jellicle Cats", and "Skimbleshanks". This show has everything you could want in a musical: songs, dancing, pranks, fights and plenty of emotion. Watch as the cast turns themselves into an array of feline personalities. From the skittish to the feisty, the older and the younger, the calico and the tabby, something for everyone. And with the amazing sets and special effects, incredible costumes and make-up, and a live orchestra,

this is one show that is fun for the whole family and sure to please the most finicky felines and feline lovers. Come and find out exactly what a Jellicle cat really is!

Directed by Alan D. Kaplan of Manchester
Choreography by Vouli Anthimidou of Vouli-Dance in Amherst
Music Direction by Ken Grinnell of Manchester

Producers Jackie O'Dowd, Lisa Volonte and Rita Piotrowski
Stage Manager Sharron April

Show times are April 16, 17, 18 at 7pm and April 18 and 19 at 2pm at the Souhegan High School Theatre, Boston Post Road, Amherst. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for Students and Seniors.

Tickets can be purchased at <http://amherstptacats.brownpapertickets.com/> or at our ticket outlets. The Black Forest Café and Bakery, Moulton's Market or The Homestead Deli and Grocery in Amherst or The Toadstool Bookshop in Milford. Questions please call Jenny Ciotti 817-5309.

SHS Robotics Team Earns Finalist Medal at Granite State Competition

Souhegan High School's Robotics team, Entropy 138, competed at the US FIRST Granite State District Qualifying Competition on February 26-28 at Nashua South High School. The team of students and volunteer mentors competed in the qualifying rounds, earned a spot in the playoffs and advanced to the championship round. At the end of the competition, Entropy 138 was a member of the second place alliance and earned a Finalist Medal.

US FIRST Robotics is a program created by inventor Dean Kamen offering opportunities to students from Kindergarten through High School. At the high school level, students are given an engineering challenge in early January and are given 6 weeks to design, build and trouble shoot an operational robot. This highly respected, international program offers instruction in mechanical engineering, electrical design, programming, project management and basic machining. It builds skills and enthusiasm in High School students, training them for 21st century careers in science, technology and engineering. Souhegan has had a competitive team for more than 15 years and boasts over 35 students and 20 adult volunteer mentors.

The team had a great experience at the Granite State Event qualifying fifth out of a forty team field in the qualifying rounds. In a competition that relies heavily on the abil-



Members of the team pose with the robot before competition

ity to work with other teams and form alliances, SHS's team became the fourth alliance captain and advanced to the championship match. The robot performed flawlessly and highlighted Souhegan students' skills in effective engineering. All

of the students worked very hard during the build season to make this possible and should be very proud of the finalist medals they were awarded.

Entropy 138 will compete again at the New England District UNH

Event March 20-22. More information is available at the Team's website www.robotics138.org or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/robotics138>.

The Hungry Heart – Award Winning Film On Opiate Addiction

MILFORD – The Hungry Heart a documentary film on prescription drug addiction and recovery in Vermont will screen on Wednesday, April 1st 6:30 pm at the Amato Center, 56 Mont Vernon Street, Milford NH. The movie is immediately followed by a panel discussion including Film Director, Bess O'Brien and representatives from local community agencies. Come and be part of an important conversation about this critically pressing issue.

New Hampshire Pediatric Society President, Bill Storo, MD, FAAP says, "We need to educate teens and parents about the addictive potential of these powerful drugs and their ability to ruin lives."

Do you know the facts about adolescent drug abuse? According to the YRBS (Youth Risk Behavioral Survey) completed in 2013 by high schools in the Souhegan Valley area (includes Hollis/Brookline, Milford, Souhegan, and Wilton/Lyndeboro students):

- Over 20% of 12th grade of students self-reported using prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription (17.2% of 11th grade students report the same).
- Over 21% of high school students do not think it is wrong to take a prescription drug without a doctor's prescription.
- And 36% DO NOT believe they are at great risk of harming themselves if they take a prescription drug without a doctor's prescription.
- Over 3% of 11th grade students have reported using heroin one or more times in their life (over 69 students).

Understanding what drugs kids are abusing, the signs of abuse and the risks they take when they do is an important step to protecting your child from danger. The Hungry Heart opens up dialogue around many issues connected to addiction and recovery and serves as a jumping off point for discussion and action steps that many of our communities need. We urge you to be informed and be part of the solution.

The Hungry Heart produced by Kingdom County Productions provides an intimate look at the often hidden world of prescription drug addiction through the work of Vermont Pediatrician Fred Holmes whose patients struggle with this disease. The film shines a light on the healing power of

conversation and the need for connection that many of these young addicts yearn for but do not have in their lives.

This event is free, however, seating is limited and registration is required - register today at:

<http://tinyurl.com/Heartmovie>. For more information about the movie visit, www.thehungryheartmovie.org. This event is being sponsored by St. Joseph's Hospital, the Milford Rotary Club, Hollis Brookline High School PTSA, Crossway Christian Church, and the Boys and Girls Club of Souhegan Valley.

CAST is a committee of the Boys and Girls Club of Souhegan Valley whose mission is to prevent substance use and promote healthy choices for youth throughout Souhegan Valley. For more information visit www.cast-nh.org or contact CAST Chair, Monica Gallant at 769-0978.

Clark-Wilkins 2015-2016

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

Registration for Kindergarten and incoming first graders that are new to the Amherst School District, will take place in the Clark School Multipurpose Room on Wednesday, March 25th from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Registration packets can be downloaded from our website at <http://sau39.schoolwires.net/domain/250>. Please bring completed packets along with your child's most recent physical, immunization records and original birth certificate, which will be copied at the school.

Kindergarten: Children must be 5 years old by 9/30/10.

First Grade: Children who are 6 years old by 9/30/10 and did not attend kindergarten at Clark School must register for the upcoming school year.

Current students do not need to re-register for first grade.

Souhegan High School

Spring 2015

Evening Enrichment Courses & Workshops

General Information:

Check <http://www.sau39.org/shs> for a detailed schedule and course descriptions.

To register:

Call 673-9940 ext "5317" during school hours or email mpaul@sprise.com to register. Course size is limited to space available. The courses will be filled with the first registered and payments before the first class will secure your seat. The cost of the course is based on the number of weeks the course meets and residence in the SHS School District.

All courses and workshops meet at Souhegan High School – 412 Boston Post Rd. Amherst, NH 03031.

***Please check the start date!

Tuesday

Mosaics and Stained Glass – A Combo Class

Teacher: Susanna Ries

Dates: Tuesday 6 weeks Tuesday March 31, Tuesday, April 7, 14, 21, May 5, May 12

Time: 6:00-8:30pm

Cost: \$80.00 for residents and \$90.00 for non-residents

Think outside the flat panel - and let's make some creative boxes, lampshades and lanterns using 3-D construction.

This class is for beginners and advanced students. Most tools will be supplied, and there will be some glass available but each student should buy a starter kit which will cost around \$50.00. Come join the fun!

Create a mosaic candle holder or garden stone using shells, glass, or broken china.

We will make up the designs, and then grout the final product. Or you can create a stained glass panel of your choice.

Handmade wooden candle holders will be available to use for mosaics.

Susanna Ries has been creating original stained glass for 21 years.

Her passion for glass began when she took classes at Renaissance Glassworks in Nashua NH. She has been showing her artwork at two local galleries, East Colony Fine Art in Manchester and the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen Store in Concord. Susanna's background is in Fine Art - she earned a BA Degree in Art from Colby-Sawyer College in New London, New Hampshire.

Wednesday

An Inner Journey With Chakra Energy

Teacher: Gloria Bry

Dates: Wednesday 8 weeks Wed. April 1, 8, 15, 22, May 6, 13, 20, 27

Time: 7:00 - 9:00pm

Cost: \$70.00 for residents and \$80.00 for non-residents

You are invited to embark on a journey of self-discovery. Your body has an energy system where body, mind and emotion connect. There are seven major centers that symbolize this connection. In this introduction eight week series, you will learn how this subtle energy system flows through you. You will develop insight into where your Chakras are, their meaning and purpose as well as the benefits of exploring this powerful energy as a vehicle to well being. As we journey through each Chakra (one per week) we will:

- Balance and align energy patterns
- Wake up your Chakra energy through simple yoga poses and chanting
- Release your creative energy to bring you closer to your high self
- Create a deep sense of relaxation
- Experience corresponding vibrational tones and colors
- Integrate what you learn into your everyday life
- Learn about the crystal rock connection to vibrational energy.

Your teacher, Gloria Bry, has developed a series of rich experiences for you to be able to connect to each of these powerful energy centers that are at the essence of who you are. Included in the class will be simple yoga moves, opportunities to develop your meditation skills and music dedicated to enhance your ability to connect to your chakras and yourself.

Taking you on your Chakra journey - teacher, Gloria Bry

Gloria Bry has over twenty years experience in the body, mind, spirit connection. Her experience includes involvement in naturopathic healing, Hatha yoga, Kundalini Yoga, Somatics as well as metaphysical training. Gloria is a certified Yoga/Dance instructor. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Behavioral Science as well as Training and Development

MASH Class of 1983 "It's Never Too Late For A Reunion, Reunion."

MILFORD – Did you graduate from Milford Area Senior High in 1983? Know anyone who did? If so please spread the word. We're having a 30th (well actually 32nd) reunion this summer on the evening of July 11, 2015 and are trying to reach all classmates to invite to this great event. So, if you graduated from MASH in 1983 we need your

contact information. Please send your email and mailing address to us (The Reunion Crew) at mash83.reunion@gmail.com or join our Facebook Group - MASH class of 1983-Reunion in 2013. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible and sharing fun memories from the past and new stories from the present.

Amherst Lions Club to Grant Two \$1,500 College Scholarships To SHS Class of 2015

At the Souhegan High School Senior Scholarship and Awards' ceremony scheduled for Monday, May 18th, the Amherst Lions Club will once again award two individual \$1,500 college scholarship to two graduating seniors who have excelled both academically and in the area of Community Service. Ap-

plications for the Amherst Lions Club scholarship as well as all other available scholarships can be obtained through the Souhegan High School Guidance Department or by contacting Maren Petropoulos at the Souhegan High School, (603)673-9940 ext 5309.

► SHS Musical "Guys and Dolls" from page 1

gians as Sky Masterton, Paris Dzen as Nathan Detroit, Hannah Whitney as Mimi, Ally Hull as General Cartwright, Ben Gottwald as Nicely-Nicely Johnson, Tim Johnson as Benny Southstreet, Matt Campbell as Big Jule, Michael Robicheau as Harry the Horse, Jake Upton as Arvide Abernathy, Duncan McGrath as Rusty Charlie, and Brandon Ward as Angie the Ox and Joey Biltmore, all supported by a fabulous ensemble of Guys, Gals and

Mission Folk. Stan St. Onge is the Technical Director, Set, Sound and Lighting Designer, and Kim Whitehead is Orchestra Conductor.

The show's dates are Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 26, 27 and 28. Curtain time is 7 PM. Tickets are \$15 Adults and \$10 Students and Senior Citizens. Look for the ticket order form on the Souhegan website at SAU39.org. Don't miss this Broadway and Souhegan classic.