

# Letters & Opinion

## Trivia Night "Fun Raiser" Huge Success!

### To the editor:

Thank you to all the communities that participated in the 3rd Annual Friends of the Amherst Town Library Trivia Night fundraiser. The competition was fierce this year with 15 teams competing at the Hampshire Hills Athletic Club in Milford. The evening was full of laughs, great food and topped off with a lot of good cheer with not too many groans this year. "Congratulations and thank you to our two-time champions Simple Minds, who donated back over half their \$150.00 cash prize to the Friends of the Amherst Town Library."

A SPECIAL THANK YOU goes out to Hampshire Hills Athletic Club for generously donating the John Burns Room, to our wonderfully entertaining MC, Tom Knapp, and the following local businesses that also generously donated raffle prizes:

**Amherst Garden Shop**  
**Enchanted Lace**  
**Innovations Salon & Spa**  
**La Belle Winery**  
**Moulton's Market**  
**P.J. MacWilliam's Bon Bon**  
**TGIF Friday's Restaurant**  
**The Toadstool Bookshop**

**The Chocolate Fanatic**  
**Great New Hampshire Restaurants**  
**Jeffrey Scott Fine Jewelry**  
**Longhorn Steak House**  
**Orange Leaf Frozen Yogurt**  
**Karen Burns at Salon Apex**  
**The Mile Away Restaurant**  
**Walt's Service**

Again, THANK YOU to all for supporting this fundraising event so the Friends of the Amherst Town Library can continue to provide enriching programs and contributions to the Amherst Town Library to help better serve our community. If you would like to become a member of the Friends of the Amherst Town Library please visit: [www.amherstlibrary.org](http://www.amherstlibrary.org)

*Christine Farris*  
*Amherst*

## Hopes and Memories Go to Mount Everest Fundraising Climb

### To the editor:

In the United States over 16,000 families live a daily struggle with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). Young people with the progressive disorder begin to show symptoms as early as 3 years of age, are confined to a wheelchair near the age of 12, and pass away when in their mid-late 20's. Scientific research has identified the cause of DMD and made progress toward developing therapies that enhance and extend the lives of those afflicted.

But as yet, there is no cure, and today's generation of children with DMD will never bike across the country, run marathons, or climb mountains.

However, this fall, a group of children with DMD will share in an adventure to MT Everest.

DMD families from all over the world have been invited to send their family member's names to be placed on a flag that will be carried by members of the Hope for Gus Foundation's Everest to End Duchenne trek this October. The flag contains two sections for names. The "In Hope For..." section contains the names of children with DMD who are living, and waiting for a cure. The "In Memory of..." section contains names of those that have passed away as a result of, or from complications arising from the disease.

The expedition, comprised of 10 people who are parents of or who have connections to children with DMD, will spend nearly 20 days trekking through the Himalaya Range to end at the MT Everest Base Camp. En route, the flag will be unfurled and photographed with Everest in the background. Photos will be shared on the internet without charge. At the Base Camp, the flag will be passed off to a team making a summit attempt in the hope that it may be photographed there.

Thus far over 200 families from 10 countries have added names to the flag. Countries represented include: South Africa, the United Kingdom, Scotland, Ireland, Korea, New Zealand, Australia, Indonesia, the United States, and Canada.

To add a name to the flag contact: [chris1953balch@gmail.com](mailto:chris1953balch@gmail.com). To help support this effort, contributions may be made at: <https://life.indiegogo.com/fundraisers/hope-for-gus-mt-everest-basecamp-trek/x/7773819>

*Chris Balch*

## This Pipeline is an Opportunity

### To the editor:

The pain of change was apparent last night, March 23rd, 2015, at the pipeline meeting at Souhegan HS.

After an overly long presentation by the Kidder Morgan Staff, the painful questions from the people being directly affected by the pipe flowed freely.

Emotion was the order of the day. Let's hope that the rancor recedes and questions are answered. However, questions will never be answered if the people affected will not even address them to the company. Many home owners will not talk to the company.

Our quality of life and livelihoods are slowly being destroyed by our lack of energy in the Northeast. We will never return to a vibrant economy for us and our children, if our energy prices are the highest in the nation for lack of supply. Renewable technology is just not efficient enough to do the job today, or in the foreseeable future.

We need electricity and fossil fuels. The pipeline is one half of the answer to lower costs, and increase business activity.

The "process" which is the critical path used to build the pipeline is excruciating, and everyone is hiding behind it, not talking to each other.

The pipeline is needed, and the people affected have to not only be compensated, but be made comfortable with the thing in the ground next to them.

The company, which seems to have too many names, needs to be more active in alleviating the home owner's concerns...

Nothing breeds contempt like not knowing each other; there was a lot of contempt apparent last night.

The Town of Amherst is owed not only a say in this process, it is owed compensation beyond the 500thousand\$\$\$ in property taxes the company is estimating.

Property values will be affected. To what degree, nobody knows. For the home owners affected individual negotiations need answer those questions.

Any hint of eminent domain would destroy that. However, the impact to the town can be offset by adding natural gas infrastructure to the town, allowing more competition in energy, thus reducing energy cost to heat our houses, and cook our meals.

The company is not only a master pipeline builder, but also a master aggregator of funds to build pipelines.

If Kidder Morgan were to fund Liberty Utility's fit out of the Town of Amherst, everyone would be a winner by being able to use very low cost natural gas from The Marcellus Shale gas field which has perhaps hundreds of years of supply.

People of Amherst, this pipeline is an opportunity, once we stop yelling, and start talking to each other.

*David McConville*  
*Amherst*

## Huge Thank You from Amherst Lions Club

### To the editor:

On behalf of the Amherst Lions Club, a grateful thanks to all who participated in the 43rd annual pancake breakfast on Sunday, March 29. It was a spectacular event with more than 300 guests deciding to enjoy our pancakes, sausage and fruit toppings. While the final figures aren't yet in, an estimated \$3,000 net will be going to local charities.

We couldn't have done it without the generous donations of Panera Bread, Sam's Club, Shaws, BJ's Wholesale Store, Costco Wholesale, and Market Basket Supermarket. Also, this year, Gale Hill Sugar Shack donated the maple syrup that gave our closely held pancake recipe added flavor and taste!

A huge thank-you goes to the Amherst Fire, Police, EMT, and CERT whose information tables and demonstrations enhanced the sense of community service to the event. Another partner in service, the Boy Scouts and their leaders and parents from Troops 613 and 22 not only volunteered to clear and set the tables, but cheerfully greeted our guests!

In summary, it takes a community effort to make for a successful event. And the Lions Club members are grateful to have the opportunity to share the generosity that makes Amherst a good place to live.

If you're interested in learning more about the Amherst Lions Club and their activities, please contact our membership chairman, Ron Hebert at [RonAHebert@gmail.com](mailto:RonAHebert@gmail.com) or [Amherstlionsclub@gmail.com](mailto:Amherstlionsclub@gmail.com).

*Sincerely,*  
*Joan Ferguson, 1st VP,*  
*Amherst Lions Club*  
*Pancake Breakfast Chairperson*

## Amherst Town Hall Telephones Cause Concerns

### To the editor:

During the early part of the month of March we learned that our telephone system was not functioning properly. Specifically, messages left at a variety of extensions in the town hall were not recorded. This was discovered following a number of complaints about telephone calls not being returned. We do not know how long this problem existed but it has now been repaired. If you called any one of the following departments and did not receive a return call, please try us again.

Town Administrator, Finance, Executive Assistant, Public Assistance, Community Development, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, and Assessing.

We apologize for this inconvenience and look forward to hearing from you.

*Jim O'Mara*  
*Town Administrator, Amherst*

## Amherst Recycling Task Force

The Task Force meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:00pm at the Office of DPW – residents are welcome. Visit: [www.amherst-nh.gov/publicworks/transfer.html](http://www.amherst-nh.gov/publicworks/transfer.html) for complete details.

### Amherst Recycling Center

**Hours:** Tuesday: 12 noon to 8 p.m.  
 Thursday: 12 noon to 8 p.m.  
 Friday: 7 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
 Saturday: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Fee Structure (PAID AT THE SCALE HOUSE)

Appliances with Freon: Refrigerators, Air Conditioners, Freezers: \$10.00  
 Brush over 6" diameter: \$0.10/lb.  
 Demolition & Construction material (No asbestos or asbestos shingles): \$0.10/lb.  
 Propane Gas Cylinders: Check at Scale House for price based on size.  
 Car Tires: \$2.50 each. Truck Tires: \$10.00 each.  
 TVs, Computer Monitors, CRTs: \$5.00 each.

### Aluminum Cans

Recycle on aluminum can sorting table; rinse and squash.

### Batteries-Alkaline

Put in trash compactors.

### Batteries-Rechargeable

Take to Radio Shack, Nashua Hazardous Waste Center, or place in special battery container in recycling area.

### Batteries-Car

Stack At Designated Area.

### Books

Put in Book Shed or recycle soft cover books in mixed paper compactor. Take covers off hard cover book and recycle in mixed paper compactor; put covers in trash.

### Brush-up to 6"

Put in brush pile at top of hill.

### Brush – over 6"

Pay at Scale House, then put in brush pile at top of hill.

### Yard Waste

Put in compost pile: Grass clippings, leaves, pine needles, garden waste and COLD fireplace ashes; no brush, rocks, food products, flower pots, or plastic bags.

### Cell Phones & PDAs

Recycle at Scale House, or with Peabody Mill Environmental Center at the Library, Town Hall, or Wilkins School.

### Clean, untreated lumber

Dispose of at top of hill: Not painted or stained, no pressure treated items, no plywood, no wood-like composite material.

### Clothing/Textiles

Must be clean, dry, and in plastic bags—clothing, bedding, rags, or towels. No pillows or sleeping bags. Place in collection container.

### Commingles

Recycle plastic and metal containers on commingle sorting table

### Corrugated Cardboard

Recycle in cardboard compactor; flattened, clean, dry, no pizza boxes.

### Electronics

Check at the Scale House – VCRs, radios, electronic equipment; computer equipment. - Place "intact" CPU box (all components including hard drive) and laptops into the container dedicated to CPU's. TVs/computer monitors – pay at Scale House.

### Fluorescent Lights

Recycle in covered plastic containers near trash compactors.

### Glass

Recycle on glass sorting table; bottles, drinking glasses, ceramic coffee cups, plate glass, and window panes.

### Kitty Litter

MUST be disposed of in trash. Cannot be Recycled.

**Visit us anytime between issues:**  
[www.amherstcitizen.com](http://www.amherstcitizen.com)

## Letters To the editor:

The Amherst Citizen is eager to serve as a community forum. We welcome your letters, opinions, and commentaries and make every effort to run them in their entirety. We do reserve the right to edit. The views and opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the position of the staff of The Amherst Citizen.

Please direct your letters, views and commentary to the Editor, The Amherst Citizen, P.O. Box 291, Amherst, NH 03031-0291, or e-mail your submission to: [news@amherstcitizen.com](mailto:news@amherstcitizen.com). We will attempt to run your letter as submitted (space permitting) providing it is signed and phone number is included.


**The AMHERST CITIZEN**

**Cliff Ann Wales**  
*Publisher & Editor*

**Jim Wales**  
*Advertising & Production*

Published 22 times a year on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each Month, on the last Tuesday July and August, and the 1st and 3rd Tuesday in December. (Dates may vary near Holidays or elections.)

**Subscriptions: \$17.50 per year (prepaid)**  
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**THE AMHERST CITIZEN**  
 Schedule of Issues

— 2015 —

January 13	April 28
January 27	May 12
February 10	May 26
February 24	June 9
March 5	June 23
March 24	July 28
April 14	August 25

Issue dates may be subject to change.  
 Watch future issues for schedule updates.  
**Phone: 672-9444 Fax: 672-8153**  
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**NEXT ISSUE:**  
**Tues., April 28, 2015**  
 Deadline: 5 p.m.  
**Wednesday, April 22**

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