

Bulletin Board

2015 Household Hazardous Waste Begins April 18

MERRIMACK —The 2015 Household Hazardous Waste season begins on Saturday, April 18 from 8:00AM to 12:00PM at the Nashua Public Works Garage, 9 Stadium Drive, Nashua. Visit www.nashuarpc.org/hhw for the rest of the 2015 collection schedule. Residents of Amherst, Milford, Mont Vernon are welcome to attend. There is a \$10 user fee per vehicle, which covers up to 10 gallons or 20 pounds of waste. Residents who bring more than this amount will be charged accordingly to help offset the additional costs. A variety of common household hazardous waste (HHW) products are accepted at the collection events, including non-latex paints, solvents, oven cleaners, pool chemicals, pesticides, drain openers, and auto chemicals. For a complete list of accepted items, visit www.nashuarpc.org/hhw or call 424-2240.

Nashaway Chapter of the NH Audubon Society Upcoming Events

New Hampshire Naturally

On Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 7pm, the Nashaway Chapter of NH Audubon welcomes Bob Quinn, former NH Audubon ornithologist and widely traveled wildlife tour leader. His experience and knowledge of New Hampshire's natural heritage spans the North Woods, the White Mountains, the lakes, river valleys, and the coast. Come enjoy Bob's stories and photos of the wildlife, landscapes, and seasons that make New Hampshire special. This program takes place in the downstairs theater room of the Nashua Public Library and is free. Registration is not necessary. For more information, contact Richard Maloon 424-5621 or richard.maloon@att.net.

Massabesic Audubon Center, Auburn

On Saturday, April 18, 2015, from 7am to noon, the Nashaway Chapter of NH Audubon will have a field trip to the NH Audubon Massabesic Audubon Center in Auburn. Join us as we spend the morning walking the trails through the woods skirting Lake Massabesic. We will meet in the Massabesic Audubon Center parking lot on Audubon Way, off of Spofford Road. Contact Richard Bielawski at 429-2537 or rbielawski@mac.com for more information or directions.

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

Amherst Junior Women's Club Announces 2015 Call for Volunteers

The Amherst Junior Women's Club is an organization of energized, dedicated Amherst-area women who volunteer their time, energy and talent to the community. Our mission is focusing our efforts on civic needs, educational advancement and those less fortunate. Our goals are achieved with the assistance and generosity of businesses, organizations and individuals and fundraisers.

We are in need of women with motivation and dedication to join us in growing our mission even further within our surrounding communities. If you have that energy and would like to "burn it off", we would love to have you join us to accomplish these goals. The advantage is the opportunity to meet new people and make new friends at the same time. This is a great opportunity especially for, but not limited to, those with children in the school system. The AJWC sponsors several of the elementary and middle school events.

If you are interested in joining or just learning more about Amherst Junior Women's Club, visit: www.ajwcnh.org or look for our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AmherstJuniors. Also, please feel free to contact the membership chair Susanne Lynch at ajwcmembership@gmail.com. Thank you!

MASH Class Of 1983'S "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.

Town News

Historic Amherst

The Richest Men in Town Who Paid the Highest Taxes in Early 19th-Century Amherst

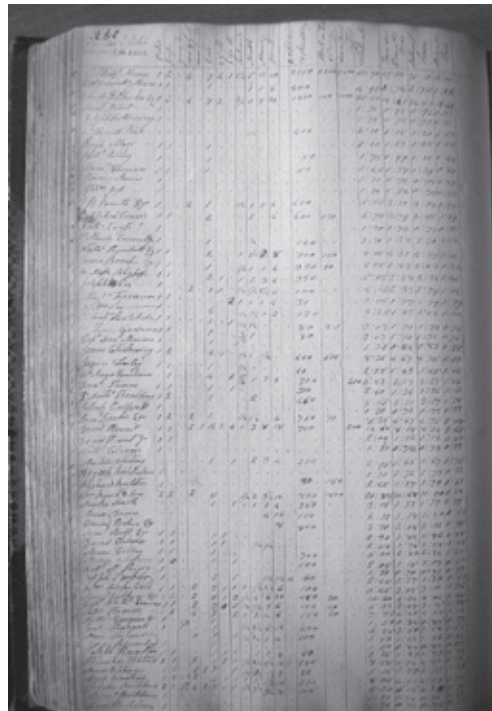
BY KATRINA HOLMAN

Arghh, another tax day is upon us. Well, let's take an historical perspective. Already in the late 18th century, April was the month in which the selectmen of Amherst took an inventory of the taxable property of all residents. The 18th and 19th century tax inventories or "invoices" are a rich resource for the historical researcher. The earliest local one, which is held in the N.H. State Archives, is "Inventory of the Rateable Estate of the Town of Amherst in [Hillsborough] County co[n]sisting of what each Person was possessed off on the first Day of April 1777 - pursuant to Directions from the General Assembly of said [N.H.] State." It is a collective (no individual names) summary of property of 322 men aged 18 or older, including total number of acres in agricultural use and total numbers of equine and bovine livestock, as well as a summary of taxes assessed by category in pounds-shillings-pence.

In the late 18th century, all New Hampshire men aged "18 & upwards" (the upper age limit reduced to 70 years by 1782) had to pay taxes, at the very least a "poll" tax whether or not they chose to vote, "except those from 18-21 enrolled in militia, ordained ministers, the president, professors, tutors and students of colleges, paupers and idiots" (1812 New-Hampshire Register printed by C. Norris & Co.). Later in the 19th century (some time after 1812), the taxable age increased to 21, the age of majority.

In Amherst, tax invoices by the selectmen with all the individual names start in 1801; annually from 1804. From 1801 to 1819, the invoices - which look like spreadsheets - are mixed in with the hand-written bound volume called "Records Volume 2," available on microfilm for your perusal at Amherst Town Library. From 1820 on, there are dedicated bound volumes of tax invoices in which Amherst's town clerk wrote out a neat copy with the assessed taxes for residents and non-residents.

People of both genders had to pay taxes on real estate and merchandise offered for sale (called "stock in trade") and certain livestock and pleasure carriages and "money at interest." Also on mills and aqueduct (piped water) businesses. There are some women, only a few, on Amherst's old tax rolls; early in the



Page from Amherst, N.H. "Records Vol. 2" showing 1810 tax invoice of Village residents, starting with Col. Robert Means, who on a total valuation of \$5270 was assessed \$29.50 in town & county taxes, \$30.10 in school tax, and \$13.10 in ministerial tax. Third on the list (otherwise in rough geographical order but perhaps influenced by his stature) was Charles H. Atherton, who was assessed \$14.31 in town & county taxes, \$15.59 in school tax, and \$12.63 for ministerial tax, on a \$2555 total valuation of taxable property.

19th century, these were usually widows; later in the 19th century, there are some spinsters who inherited from their fathers. There are multiple cases where the husband is the taxpayer of record, even though the homestead is owned by the wife (probably to protect their home from potential creditors of the husband). Although non-resident men who owned real estate in the town of Amherst did not pay a poll tax here, they did have to pay property taxes.

In 1801, the minimum valuation of an adult man in Amherst was \$134 (or \$1.34, perhaps

in the "reduced" form - their use of the decimal point is confusing but I'm trying to be consistent through the years) for the poll; on which he paid taxes of: 32 cents for town & county; 40 cents school tax; 27 cents grammar school tax; and 22 cents bridge tax. In 1850, the minimum taxes in Amherst were: \$1.91 in town, state & county taxes; 44 cents for highway tax; and 54 cents for school tax, on a valuation of \$300 for one poll. In 1851, on the same poll valuation, the minimum taxes were: \$1.62 for town, state & county; 65 cents for highway; and 42 cents for school.

Col. Robert Means

In 1801, the Amherst citizen who paid the most taxes was Col. Robert Means (Sr., 1742-1823), who resided in the mansion he had built at the SE corner of the Common at 1 Pierce Lane and operated a general store next door since 1774. His 1801 tax invoice shows taxable property of: 5 acres tillage land, 10a mowing land, 20a pasturing land, and 2a orcharding land; 2 horses, 2/1 young horses, 4 oxen, 4 cows, 1 3-year-old [neat stock], 1 2-year-old, and 3 1-year-olds; wild land & buildings valued \$2200; stock in trade [merchandise of his general store] valued \$2000; money on hand or at interest \$1600; with a total valuation of \$4423. On all this property, he was assessed: school tax of \$13.27; town & county taxes \$10.62; grammar school tax \$8.85; and bridge tax \$7.09. Col. Means's total valuation was more than double that of the next two highest total valuations, which were \$2037 and \$1939 in 1801. Means remained the highest taxpayer until his death. In his last year as a taxpayer, the April 1822 tax invoice, Robert Means's total valuation of taxable property was \$4615 (which no longer included "stock in trade" as he had turned operation of the store over to his son David). The taxpayer with the second-highest valuation in 1822 was Chas. H. Atherton at \$4450 (in part from \$3000 in "money at interest"); third was Widow Nancy Ellis, a daughter of Col. Means, with total valuation of \$2325 (largely based on \$3000 "money at interest"); fourth was David Stewart with \$1675; and fifth was David McG. Means, son of Col. Means, with \$1530.

Even without taking into account his non-taxable assets - like, say, silver tea

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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 @amherstrecreation

NEW Programming

NEW Session of Tiny Toes Dance

Lets get groovy!
Our Tiny Toes Dance program is for girls and boys ages 3-5. In this 4 week program, students will get an intro to dance.

Who: Boys and Girls ages 3-5
What: Tiny Toes Dance
Where: Peabody Mill Environmental Center
When: 5/22, 5/29, 6/5, 6/12 from 10:15-11am
Fee: \$25R; \$30NR

NEW Earth Girls, Strong Girls

Explore the natural world while learning great skills! Learn to make: flower charms, lip balms, and plant journals. Also learn wilderness survival skills such as shelter making and map-reading.

Who: girls ages 7-10
Where: Peabody Mill Environmental Center
When: May 1, 8, 15, 22 from 3:45-5:30pm
Fee: \$50R; \$55NR

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 Baboosic Lake Swim Team

Join the Baboosic Lakers!
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 lev-

Amherst Recreation Programs and Events

el 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 Exploring Permaculture-Ages 16+

What is Permaculture? How can we learn from the natural world to bring more simplicity and higher yields to our lives? We will cultivate ideas in this 5-week class!

Who: 16+
Where: Peabody Mill Environmental Center
When: May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 6:30-8:30pm
Fee: \$120 per session

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 Morning Miles

Who: Adults
What: Loosely organized running group
When: Tuesday and Thursdays at Gam 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

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

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

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

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