

Town News

Bulletin Board

The Bookside Café Now Open At Toadstool, Milford

The Bookside Café at the Toadstool Bookshop in the Lorden Plaza Milford is now open. An intimate part of the bookstore, the café welcomes book browsers as well as those just looking for a quick cup of coffee, tea, or pastries or a more substantial breakfast or lunch. Breakfast is available Monday through Friday beginning at 8 am and Saturday at 9 am. Among the breakfast sandwiches is "Green Eggs and Ham" with homemade pesto. Soups, salads, sandwiches and quiches are available for lunch. A popular lunch sandwich is the Veggie with tomato, spinach, onion, avocado, and sprouts with or without homemade hummus. Café closes at 4 pm.

Boy Scout Troop 22's Annual Yard Sale

Boy Scout Troop 22's annual yard sale will be held on Saturday, May 30th from 7:30 am until 1:30 pm at the Meeting Place Plaza, 199 Route 101 in Amherst. Donated items will be accepted at the Meeting Place Plaza on Friday, May 29 from 3 pm to 8 pm. The proceeds from this annual fund raiser are used to purchase the equipment and supplies needed to sponsor activities for the boys to advance through the scouting ranks. Email yardsale@amhersttroop22.org to schedule an early pickup of your donated items.

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

AJWC 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!

Amherst Lions Club 2015 Amherst Citizen of the Year Nomination Form

The Amherst Lions Club invites nominations for the 40th Amherst Citizen of the Year. The award will be presented at the Fourth of July celebration on the Common following the parade. All citizens of Amherst are invited to submit nominations for the individual(s) who best manifest good citizenship through volunteerism, participation, concern and actions to help make Amherst the great community that it is today.

Past Citizen of the Year honorees include: 1975 Roy E. Maston; 1976 Elizabeth Arnold; 1977 Barbara H. Landry; 1978 Robert Crouter; 1979 Dorothy Davis; 1980 Richard Crocker; 1981 Ann and Peter Bergin; 1982 Louise Ainsworth Marley; 1983 Marshall D. Strickland; 1984 Marion and Harding Sortevik; 1985 F. Tenney Clough; 1986 Louis Heaton; 1987 Elliot and Jean Lyon; 1988 Arnie Wight; 1989 Thomas Grella; 1990 Jean Pituck; 1991 Peg Jones; 1992 Jean Butler; 1993 Ann C. Bergin; 1994 Elizabeth (Pixie) Lown; 1995 Buck Buchanan; 1996 Dave Hanlon; 1997 Doug Kirkwood; 1998 Janet Woodbury; 1999 Bonnie and Harold Struss; 2000 Bob Schaumann; 2001 Helen Burns; 2002 Donald Young; 2003 Marie Grella; 2004 Charlie Duval; 2005 Bruce Beckley; 2006 Lee Slocum; 2007 Bill Wichman; 2008 Nancy Johnson Head; 2009 Vern and Christina Trudo; 2010 Carolyn Quinn; 2011 Charlie Vars; 2012 May Balsama; 2013 Tom Partridge; 2014 Marti Warren.

Nomination for Amherst Citizen of the Year – 2015

Nominee: _____
Address: _____
Qualifications: (Attachments encouraged)

Additional Comments: _____

Signature _____

Please mail this form to: Amherst Lions Club
PO Box 1105
Amherst, NH 03031

No later than June 19, 2015

Historic Amherst

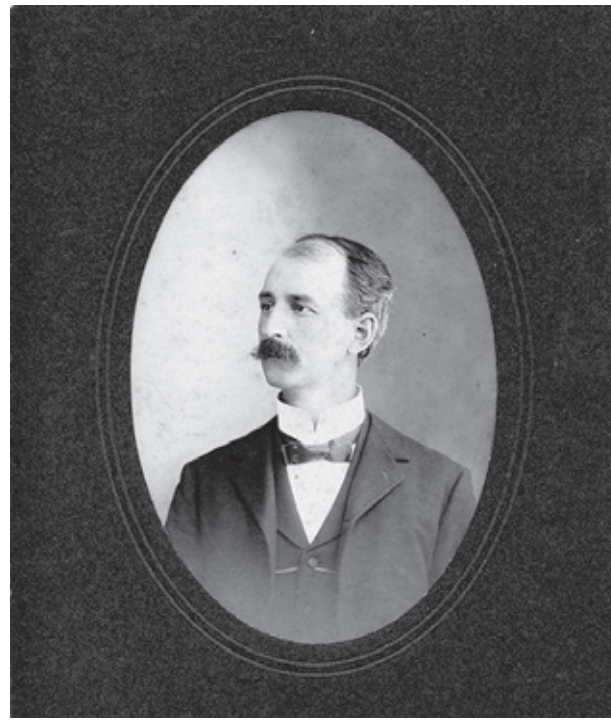
Charles H. Mackay, RR Station Agent & Storekeeper After Personal Tragedies in Amherst, Turned to Occult

BY KATRINA HOLMAN

When a second post office opened in Amherst in 1881 at the train station, Charles Herbert Mackay (1859-1953), the new young depot agent, was appointed its first postmaster. His prior job was telegraph operator in his hometown of Bridgton, Maine. He managed Amherst RR station (before 1866 called Danforth's Corner and after 1900 Ponemah) with telegraph and Danforth post office for about four years until the end of 1884. He was also active in the local music scene. Although he spent a few more years in Amherst attempting a mercantile business, his soul needed a career change. He became a published poet – and the founder of a theosophy!

Tragic Love No. 1

During his tenure as station master, Mackay owned no real estate nor livestock, and probably boarded at 107 Ponemah Road with farmer John A. & Chastina Boutelle as well as Mrs. B's parents, Porter & Mary Duncklee. (They had expanded the house in 1870 for summer boarders. The previous station agent, John R. Goss, a grandson-in-law of the Duncklees and nephew-in-law of the Boutelles, boarded with them.) In April 1883, Mackay was married to 17-year-old Carrie Lizzie (1865-1884), the Boutelles' only child. She was "the possessor of a rare sweet disposition." The young couple shared a love of music, for she was a good musician and he was an excellent cornet player. A baby, Lizzie Boutelle Mackay, arrived promptly nine months later, making four lineal generations living together. Tragically, Mrs. Mackay died the following day, 26 January 1884, of puerperal convulsions. At the end of that year, Mackay resigned from his positions in Amherst to remarry and move out of town, but left baby Lizzie to be raised by her maternal grandparents at Danforth's Corner in the SW part of Amherst. In the collection of the Historical Society of Amherst, N.H., there is a portrait photograph of Charles H. Mackay inscribed on reverse with his name and "To Lizzie from your father CHM May 01" – at which time she was 17. Lizzie Mackay remained in Amherst, in the house of her grandparents and great-grandparents. She wed in that house, in 1906, Arthur C. Rich-



Charles H. Mackay (1859-1953), c. 1901, who was Amherst RR station agent and postmaster from 1881 through 1884 and storekeeper in Amherst Village 1886 to 1889.

ardson, a 24-year-old farmer, and five of their seven children were born in the same house. On her marriage record, Lizzie gave her occupation as "music."

Tragic Love No. 2

On New Year's Day 1885, 25-year-old Charles Mackay, the new RR station agent at Wilmington, Mass., was married at Amherst to 23-year-old Anna Eva Sawyer, only child of Andrew F. Sawyer (1835-1921), mill owner and store proprietor, who since 1880 resided at "5B" Church Street (NE corner with Old Jailhouse Road) next to his store (house & store now gone) in Amherst Village. Like her father, Anna Eva was born in Amherst. She had a sunny disposition and was an accomplished young woman, having taught school with success at the age of 17 years and now being a piano teacher with pupils in Amherst, Milford, and Nashua, and also organist at the Baptist church. Curiously, a report of the joyful event was first published in a Manchester

newspaper: "The [wedding] ceremony transpired at 12:30 p.m. and was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents. Rev. Mr. Howard, the pastor of the Baptist church, officiated. The bride was handsomely attired in a dress of pale blue satin, *en train*, trimmed with white lace. She wore neither jewelry nor veil. Miss Leona A. M. Buzzelle of this city was bridesmaid, and her costume was a becoming one of pale pink albatross, *en train*, trimmed with cream lace. Mr. E. N. Eames of Wilmington was the groomsmen. The wedding party was large and brilliant. Immediately after the ceremony a reception was held, and following it a wedding dinner served in the Town Hall, the guests being conveyed thither in carriages and returned after the repast. [The distance was certainly short enough to walk – but this was in January and the road as yet unpaved!] The bridal gifts were extensive and valuable and were displayed. At 3:30 the wedded pair took their departure by train on their way to New York. After enjoying their bridal journey they will proceed to Portland, Me., where a wedding reception will be tendered them at the residence of the groom's father. They will make their home in Wilmington." (*Farmers' Cabinet*, 9 Jan. 1885; reprinted from correspondence in *Manchester Daily Mirror*, 2 Jan. 1885)

A year later, Mr. & Mrs. Mackay returned to Amherst and in Jan. 1886 he took over his father-in-law's grocery and dry goods store in the Village where one could buy boots and shoes, hardware, paints and oils, patent medicines, farming tools, crockery, glass ware, and grain. Mackay advertised: "With Reliable Goods, Honest Dealing and strict attention to Business we confidently hope for a liberal patronage." (His competition was the brick store.) The gilt-lettered sign said "C. H. Mackay & Co." where "& Co." probably was Sawyer, who continued to pay taxes on the stock in trade.

Eva Mackay again was "active in musical matters in Amherst and her individual efforts and presence [were] the genius of many benevolent entertainments in town." She became the chorister for Souhegan Grange. On 5 April 1888, Eva gave birth to her first

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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
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NEW Programming

NEW Summer Shape Up

Get stronger and fitter with an early morning Tabata workout and keep those calories burning all day long!

Who: Adults 18 and up (please call the office for questions about teens participating)

Where: Souhegan HS Fitness Center

When: 6-7am, Tuesdays and Thursdays

June 23- August 13

Fee: \$112.00 R, \$122.00 NR

NEW Story times at Baboosic Lake

Miss Sue from the Amherst Town Library will be returning again this summer to read some AMAZING books on Thursdays at 12noon

Amherst Recreation Programs and Events

(weather permitting). Fun for all ages!

Dates: June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and Aug 6

NEW High School Summer Soccer

Boys entering 9th grade through graduating 12th graders are invited to join this summer soccer league and play 10 season games with teams from both NH and Vermont. Summer Fee: \$68

NEW Summer Concert Series

Grab your family and head on down to the village green for some family fun this summer! Our FREE summer concert series will be taking place on Tuesdays evenings.

7/7	6:30-8:00pm	Studio 2: A Beatles Tribute Band
7/14	6:30-8:00pm	Robert Allwarden and Friends
7/21	6:30-8:00pm	Amherst Town Band
7/28	6:30-8:00pm	The Bel Aires: New England's Award Winning Doo Wop Vocal Quintet
8/4	6:00-7:00pm	UNH's Little Red Wagon Performing Company: Puppet Show "What's the com-

OCEAN?"	8/11 6:30-8:00pm	FolkSoul Band
	8/18 6:30-8:00pm	Amherst Town Band
8/25	Time TBA	Our Back to School Event

All programs are free of charge
Our rain location is Wilkins Elementary, 80 Boston Post Road

New Sessions of 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

Baboosic Lake Happenings

Beach Yoga

Start your weekend off with a relaxing and rejuvenating yoga class on the sand with a beautiful view of Baboosic Lake.

Please view our website for schedule and pricing option.

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-

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

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

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

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