School Bells Are Ringing...!

AMHERST – This week Amherst and Mont Vernon children will be returning to our schools. Grades 9 through 12 will be having staggered starts at Souhegan High School... elementary schools will be welcoming students to Amherst Middle School, and Clark-Wilkins schools with safety protocols in place. Parents have been given the choice of in-school attendance, remote learning, or a combination of the two depending on their comfort levels with safety concerns. Buses will run according to schedules available here...

19th Amendment Passage

AMHERST – 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. The Amherst Heritage Commission has planned two town events for this special celebration...

Voting in the NH Primary

AMHERST – On Tuesday, September 8th, the polls will be open 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Souhegan High School. The Amherst Citizen will post results when available...

ZOOM: Gardening in a Changing World

AMHERST – The Amherst Garden Club Meeting October 1st features Lisa Wise presenting an overview of climate change and actions we can take in our own gardens...

NHIAA OK’s Return to Play Guidance for Fall

CONCORD – All fall sports will be permitted to begin practices September 8th, however decisions for first date for contests will be forthcoming...

Gov. Sununu Issues 8th Extension to Order

CONCORD – Governor Chris Sununu issued Executive Order 2020-17, the eighth extension of the State of Emergency declared in Executive Order 2020-04.
Amherst School Board

September Letter to the Editor:

Schools are open, buses are running, and kids are sitting in classrooms while teachers present lessons in front of them. In other words, it sounds like a normal September is underway for Amherst School District. If only it were that simple. After the more bizarre summer most of us can remember, Amherst schools returned to taxpayers as planned. However, after a lengthy discussion, remained in our UFB. In a normal year, this money would have been

1. Administrators of SAU 39 announced a plan to open schools in early August. The plan gives students, parents, and teachers the choice – based on their personal health, safety, and comfort – of returning to in-person learning five days a week or learning remotely.
2. The school year will be divided into approximately month-long segments, with parents and educators being asked prior to each segment if they will attend remotely or in the classroom.
3. Prior to each segment, the SAU will set a status for how “open” the schools will be for the upcoming session based on COVID-19 conditions in our community and state while following any guidance or orders issued by the governor.
4. This color-coded system ranges from red (100% remote learning) to orange (25% capacity) to yellow (70% open) to green (90 percent open), and blue (99 percent open, all systems near normal). We are currently operating in a yellow status, meaning schools are open to any student who wishes to return to campus.
5. Approximately 70 percent of students and teachers opted for in-person learning for the introductory two-week segment. Decisions on segment two, another two-week session, will be made after press time. The first lengthier session begins at the end of the month.

To make the above work, the district has put in place strict cleaning and safety procedures. These include:

- Mandatory masking for all students and teachers in orange and yellow status.
- Upgrades to the heating and air systems for air quality and air flow.
- Limited capacity on school busses with students wearing masks and occupying every other row.
- Intensive hourly, daily, and weekly cleaning in every building.
- Daily verification that teachers and students are symptom-free and feeling well before entering a building.
- New classroom arrangements limit the number of interactions each teacher and student has during the day.
- Children eat lunch in the class and spend recess with their cohorts outside.
- Teachers will be encouraged to use outdoor classrooms as much as possible.
- Strict quarantine plans for students or teachers who have symptoms, have had exposure, or are diagnosed with COVID-19.

Now you would not be wrong to ask the question, how much does this plan cost? In short, over $1.3 million for supplies and staffing, plus hundreds of thousands more for HVAC modifications that are being prioritized now rather than scheduled down the road in our master facilities plan.

To pay for this, we have petitioned the New Hampshire Department of Education (DOE) to utilize the unreserved fund balance (UFB) from the 2019-20 school year.** In April, Governor Chris Sununu foresaw many conditions in our community and state while following any guidance or orders issued by the governor. However, after a lengthy discussion, remained in our UFB. In a normal year, this money would have been

Vote For Justice in Hillsborough County

To the editor:

Many voters do not know the function and importance of their County Attorney. The Hillsborough County Attorney is the equivalent of what would be a District Attorney (DA) in larger cities prosecution offices. The County Attorney is responsible for prosecution of the most serious offenses within the county, including most felony offenses. Hillsborough County has the largest and most complex County Attorney's Office in New Hampshire. Any New Hampshire attorney is eligible to run for the position of County Attorney. However, as has been clearly demonstrated in recent years, not every New Hampshire attorney has the knowledge and experience necessary to do the job.

Michael Conlon met that minimum qualification in 2018. It soon became evident that he did not have the legal, organizational, and courtroom knowledge and experience to understand the complexities of the Hillsborough County Attorney’s Office.

Many senior law enforcement personnel, professional prosecutors, and defense attorneys attempted to assist him on multiple occasions, by offering advice, assistance, and recommendations. Finally, the State Attorney General called for Michael Conlon’s resignation due to his inability to fulfill the role. When Mr. Conlon refused to resign, the Attorney General was compelled to take over the direct supervision and management of the office in September, 2019.

The Hillsborough County Police Chiefs Association, in an unprecedented move, issued a vote of “No Confidence” in Mr. Conlon. Yet, he remained there and continues to hold that office.

Worse yet, he still meets that minimum qualification to run for the office again this Fall.

There exists a serious disconnect between the current Hillsborough County Attorney, law enforcement, and the other stakeholders in
option for a variety of reasons:
1. Overseeing the education of the children of this community is our elected purpose. Countless experts across the world have repeatedly stated this summer there is no proper substitute for in-person learning, no matter how robust the remote system is (and ours will be robust!).
2. Those same experts have said there are safe ways to open with proper protocols in place.
3. The social-emotional impact on kids in the last six months is unprecedented. Returning to schools can mitigate this.
4. New Hampshire continues to be in a good place in the battle with COVID-19. Had the numbers been more extreme, our plan would be different. If they numbers change, our plan is adaptable.
5. This plan satisfies the needs of most of the families in our district. Those who want to return to school can, while those who want or need to stay home for health reasons have that choice.
6. As the state and economy continue to open, parents need to return to work and not everyone can do so if schools are remote only.
7. There is no additional tax impact if we use the UFB funds. In the face of economic hardship, huge unemployment, and an uncertain fall and winter, we did not want to place another tax burden on the community.

We did not relish taking this decision out of taxpayers’ hands but we did so unanimously for the reasons listed above, plus dozens of others. Had the board not chosen this route, we would have brought the request to the public for a special meeting, which entails a warrant article asking for the money followed by public hearing, deliberative session, and an official vote. This process would have resulted in an additional tax impact and taken months to organize. And if it failed, we would likely have had to close schools and go fully remote for the duration of the year. As mentioned above, we did not think this the best option for our students or community.

There is no easy way to navigate the current state of our world but we made the best decisions we could make with the health, safety, and education of our community firmly in mind. Let’s hope that New Hampshire continues to put up the good fight against COVID-19 and that science comes to our aid sooner rather than later.

In the meantime, our next meetings are scheduled for September 14 – Amherst School Board at 4 p.m. and the SAU join-level board at 6:15 p.m. During the SAU meeting, we will be appointing community members to the SAU budget committee. If you are interested in assisting with the development of the SAU budget, email SAU board chair Stephen O’Keefe at tokske@biptve.com. The Amherst district will get a first look at the 2021-22 budget in October.

**At press time, the DOE and our district were still discussing the option for a variety of reasons:**
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**Tony Labranche is Running for State Representative from Amherst**

To the editor:

Earlier this year, I ran to be on the Souhegan Cooperative School Board (SCSB). With the support of my friends, family, and people throughout Amherst, I was able to draw attention to the issues I saw first hand with our schools. Since then, I have stayed involved in local and national politics and have become the Treasurer for the Amherst Democrats and was selected to be an alternate delegate to the DNC.

Although I did not get elected, I gained an incredible amount of experience and learned much about the issues in my town. I talked with people on the ground level and heard their concerns. I heard how much the people in this town are burdened by property taxes, medical care, the education of their children, their jobs, and more. From that point, I realized that I had more opportunities to serve this community. I did not achieve what I originally set out to do, but I am happy that I started working on a new goal.

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Amherst School Board
Elizabeth Kuzsma Chair
Terri Behm
Tom Gauthier Vice-Chair
Ellen Grudzien
Joshua Conklin

Hillsborough County.

The people of Hillsborough County deserve better and expect more of our Hillsborough County Attorney.

I retired as a Senior Justice in the New Hampshire State Circuit Court to run for Hillsborough County Attorney. I have actively sought out and spoken with defense bar members and police chiefs, listening and seeking their recommendations.

I do not pretend to have all of the answers, but I have built a forty-year law career, to include twenty years in civilian private practice, fifteen years as a State judge, and military experience as a US Marine Corps and later Army Guard/Reserve judge advocate.

I deployed three times to Iraq as a judge advocate. I served as a Liaison to the Iraqi General Counsel's Office for the Iraq Ministry of Defense to rebuild their military courts and establish the Rule of Law. I served for thirteen years as a State Human Rights Commissioner, with eight of those years as the Chair of the Commission.

I want to use all of that training, education, experience and insight on behalf of my fellow citizens of Hillsborough County. I would be deeply honored to serve as the next Hillsborough County Attorney and I respectfully ask for your vote.

Sincerely,
John J. Coughlin
Amherst

Peter Maresco Seeks Your Support in NH State Primary

To the editor:

My name is Peter Maresco and I am a candidate for State Representative in Hillsborough County District 22 representing Amherst. I was motivated to run after witnessing two consecutive budgets that proposed increases in both personal and business taxes and would have negatively impacted our community. I welcome the opportunity to represent our town in Concord to help maintain the New Hampshire way of life we all currently enjoy.

I was born and raised in the Bronx, then moved to Westchester County after marrying my wife, Lisa. We relocated to Amherst in 2000 in search of a better environment to raise our two children, Emily and Alex. After benefiting from the unique and wonderful New Hampshire way of life and having a great experience with the Amherst school system, it is clear we could not have made a better choice for our family. Given the opportunity to be your State Rep, I will work tirelessly to make sure that this wonderful environment remains intact for many years to come.

I recently retired from a 40-year career as a system engineer at BAE Systems. I received both a Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree in Electrical Engineering from Manhattan College in the Bronx. I also obtained an MBA in Financial Management from Iona College in New Rochelle, NY. Since I always was interested in education, I served for three years on the Amherst School Board and four years on the Souhegan School Board. Through my school board service, I have hopefully demonstrated my ability to listen to both sides of an issue and ask probing questions while maintaining focus on the best interests of our students and our town. I am asking for your support to help me take that same independent thinking approach to Concord to help protect the New Hampshire Advantage.

Sincerely,
Peter Maresco
Amherst

Tony Labranche is Running for State Representative from Amherst

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Earlier this year, I ran to be on the Souhegan Cooperative School Board (SCSB). With the support of my friends, family, and people throughout Amherst, I was able to draw attention to the issues I saw first hand with our schools. Since then, I have stayed involved in local and national politics and have become the Treasurer for the Amherst Democrats and was selected to be an alternate delegate to the DNC.

Although I did not get elected, I gained an incredible amount of experience and learned much about the issues in my town. I talked with people on the ground level and heard their concerns. I heard how much the people in this town are burdened by property taxes, medical care, the education of their children, their jobs, and more. From that point, I realized that I had more opportunities to serve this community. I did not achieve what I originally set out to do, so I started working on a new goal.

With the knowledge I had gained from running for SCSB, I have decided to run for State Representative. Together, I believe that we can make pragmatic change for Granite Staters and make genuine progress for our community. We need to take better care of our workers, our environment, our students and teachers, and even our very electoral system.

With your support, we can fight together for lower property taxes, proper funding of education, rank-choice voting, paid family and sick leave, protection of our environment, and the many other issues that harm our families, neighbors, and towns.

You can help support my campaign by visiting tonylabranche.com

Thank you,
Tony Labranche
Amherst

John J. Coughlin
Amherst

Amherst Citizen’s "e-newsletter"
Planning Board Denies Transfarmation 2 Application

AMHERST – At the July 23 Planning Board meeting, chair Arnie Rosenblatt explained that the public hearing was to determine whether the new Transfarmation application for the Jacobson farm on Christian Hill Road was sufficiently different from the first application. Rosenblatt explained if the Board decides the new application is not sufficiently or materially different, the application process ends.

After a lengthy ZOOM meeting discussion, the board voted against the motion to accept the changes as material in the Transfarmations 2 application presented by Carter Scott and Transformations, Inc. The planned residential development originally proposed under the Integrated Innovative Housing Ordinance (IIHO) contained 64 housing units which included tiny houses. Four tiny houses were removed from the plan.

Additionally, the road layout was changed to reduce the number of linear feet of roads. Pennichuck Water after conducting a pump test determined that public water would not be economically feasible. Concluding that 60 housing units would be best served by private wells. A traffic study by Stephen G. Pernaw and Co. determined that the traffic generated would not significantly alter traffic in Amherst.

Planning board members questioned Carter Scott on whether what he presented was sufficiently different from the original application.

Christy Houpis noted that the number of workforce housing units went from 17 to 26. When asked what the total number of bedrooms was in the new application, Scott said he didn’t have that information with him. Concerning the traffic study, Houpis commented that the original application didn’t even have a traffic study included and now you have added one.

Mike Dell Orfano noted that the application is proposing 26 workforce housing units which is, 50% more than the first application. Dell Farno also commented that the reduction in the number of roofs in the proposal reduces the number of impervious surfaces. Should the application move forward, Scott should emphasize the positive effect this has on the hydrogeology.

Brian Coogan asked Scott what he considers to be materially different in this plan. Scott replied that the changed number of units, location of buildings, roadways and water supply all comprise significant differences.

Scott explained to Marilyn Peterman that the workforce housing met only 2 of the criteria for workforce housing, price point and deed restriction. Arnie Rosenblatt asked about the farming aspect of the application. Scott commented that there seemed to be resistance to the farming aspect of the plan, so the second application doesn’t seek approval for farming. He said the present application is now considered a sustainable community not an agrihood.

Public comments via ZOOM.

Tony Yakovakis stated that removing 4 units isn't a large difference. And the total amount of land is still the same with private wells.

Tim Kachmar agreed that removing 4 tiny houses was not materially different. He believes that critical information was missing from the application. Tom Quinn said that adding a water study and traffic report are inconsequential. He said that none of these alterations to the proposal have anything to do with the reason the initial application was denied. The Board discussion ensued. Bill Stoughton stated that the Jacobson II plan is not materially different from the initial application. The application does not address concerns that led to the denial of the original application: namely, safety and traffic issues. The submitted traffic study shows an adverse effect from the traffic projected for the revised application.

Mike Dell Orfano believes the new application offers the town workforce housing which, meets the spirit of the law and is a significant contribution to this town’s fair share. He also thought the reduction in road area was material because it reduces the hydrogeological effects of road runoff. The reduced number of roofs reduces the impervious surfaces and thus the amount of runoff.

Dell Orfano considers the proposed development significantly better than what would have been done just as a grid subdivision, which he thinks would be a travesty. Transfarmations 2 should be allowed to proceed.

Marilyn Peterman said the new application changed the number of units, in particular the affordable housing units. The road changes from 1,200 to 800 feet, which is a material difference, with grades changing and the elimination of waivers – also a material difference. She noted again the increase in workforce housing from 17 to 26 units as a material difference. Peterman said private onsite wells, instead of public water supply, was a material difference. She stated the impact to the community is not usually considered a material difference.

Chris Yates explained that the proposed density of the site has been an issue for the community, this has not been addressed in this new application. He continued that the removal of the four tiny homes did not address the issue and he did not see it as a material change.

Cynthia Dokmo stated that she was a big fan of affordable housing and thinks that type of housing enhances the town but has the new application met the burden of proof that this new plan is materially different. It isn’t. Fewer houses being proposed, the units are slightly moved around on the site, and a proposed shorter road and the applicant did not address the total number of bedrooms proposed. Dokmo did not think the applicant had met the burden for those reasons.

Dwight Brew noted there were changes between the first and second plans; however, when he reviewed the two plans he does not view the second plan as being sufficiently different from the first application. He also doesn’t see that the concerns voiced the last time were addressed in this application, even with the additional supplied data.

Mike Dell Orfano moved to accept the changes as material in Transformations 2 over Transformations 1. Marilyn Peterman seconded.

Roll call: Mike Dell Orfano – aye; Brian Coogan – nay; Marilyn Peterman – aye; Cynthia Dokmo – nay; Dwight Brew – nay; and Bill Stoughton – nay. 2-4-0; motion defeated.

The second motion by Cynthia Dokmo moved that the applicant has not carried its burden of proving that second application is materially different from the first. Dwight Brew seconded.

Roll call: Mike Dell Orfano – nay; Brian Coogan – aye; Cynthia Dokmo – aye; Dwight Brew – aye; Bill Stoughton – aye, and Marilyn Peterman - nay. 4-2-0; motion carried.

Compiled from July 23, 2020 Planning Board ZOOM minutes.
AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY

Amy Lapointe, Library Director
14 Main St., Amherst NH 03031
Phone 673-2288  Fax 672-6063
email: library@amherstlibrary.org
web: http://www.amherstlibrary.org

Library HAS
REOPENED LIMITED
HOURS DURING
COVID-19 PANDEMIC
CRISIS

Click this image for details on the Library's Reopening

Welcome Back
WE'VE MISSED YOU.
We are excited to welcome you back to the library.

We're Reopening for Walk-Through Service!
TUESDAY, AUGUST 4TH | LIMITED HOURS

Keep up to date with News from the Amherst Town Library

< Click image to sign up for newsletters
Elections

New Hampshire State Primary Elections ~ September 8, 2020

Important Voting Information:
- Voter Registrations – Documents Required
- Voter Registrations – Party Affiliation/Changes
- Absentee Ballots – Options
- Forms & Documents Required
- Contact Information

Polls Open 6:00AM-8:00PM
Tuesday, September 8, 2020
Souhegan High School
412 Boston Post Rd.
Amherst, NH
Early Fall Recreation Programs

Soccer, Baseball, and School, oh my! It is a busy week coming up and we have plenty of opportunities to help you recreate, relax, and continue learning. Beach Yoga will have a NEW September Session and Homeschool Science Classes are now open for registration. Also, consider Outdoor Art Classes for ages 4-13 and the Compass of Writing for ages 11-14.

For Adults

Mountain Bike Trip
Enjoy the some of the best mountain biking in the country while spending time with fellow riders both on and off the trail. Accommodations will be at the Kingdom Farm Lodge where you will be able to relax, shower, and clean/fix your bike after a long days ride.

October 2-4

Barre and Pilates
Keep up with your physical and mental health and well-being and Zoom Barre and Pilates classes with Shannon. New Session Begins August 24th
Mondays from 6-7pm
Thursdays from 6-7pm
Saturdays from 9:30-10:30am

Beach Yoga
Strengthen and stretch in this class as you build your mind-body-spirit connection. The benefits of yoga and meditation include increased strength, flexibility and focus; and decreased stress and tension. This class includes gently flowing sun salutations, breath work, meditation and relaxation.

 Saturdays 8-9am

For Kids

Creative Arts Outside
Join us for an outdoor creative arts class at Buck Meadow! We have classes for ages 4-13. Class will focus on watercolor paint exploration. This includes watercolor glue paintings/salt watercolor paintings and watercolor painting not on paper! All art materials are included and provided. All creations are brought home at the end of the class.

Compass of Writing
Do you love to write? Are you working on the next best selling story, book, or play? Writing fiction or non-fiction is easy, fun, and so rewarding — both to the writer and the reader! Come learn the "compass" of good writing, with a touch of science! Ages 11-14

Amherst Citizen’s “e-newsletter”
Announcements

AAUW Southern New Hampshire Branch News

Fall Kick-off Meeting – Wednesday, September 30

AMHERST – The Southern NH Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold their Fall Kick-off Meeting on Wednesday, September 30, beginning at 7 pm. The meeting will be held on Zoom. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about the organization and what it does for the comfort of your own home.

The meeting will include a brief overview of the goals of AAUW and the focus of the local branch followed by a review of the programs and activities being considered for 2020-21. These will include an update on the book group that meets monthly and a report from the Program Committee. The Gendered Workforce is the theme of their first program scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, at 7 pm. Dr. Monica Galizzi, the Chair of the Department of Economics and a Senior Associate of the Center for Women & Work at the University of Massachusetts Lowell will speak. The program will be held on Zoom and be open to the public. The second and third programs in the series will focus on anti-racism and pay equity. When the COVID-19 concerns ease, social gatherings, field trips to see special exhibits at local museums, and attending theatrical performances will be considered.

Anyone interested in attending the branch meeting is asked to contact Membership Co-Chair Liz MacMillan at liz@macstewart.net for details. If interested in attending The Gendered Workforce program contact Co-Chair Johanna Tigert at johanna_tigert@uml.edu for details.

AAUW’s mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. The Southern New Hampshire Branch provides scholarships for young women who are pursuing college degrees with the intent to follow STEM careers after graduation. This year’s recipients were two young woman who graduated in June from Milford High School. Depending on fund raising, one or two graduates from Souhegan High School in 2021 will receive a scholarship.

AAUW is a non-partisan non-political organization that never endorses candidates or specific parties. The organization whose roots date back to the 1880s has two branches in NH. The Southern New Hampshire Branch, established in the 1970s, hosts a variety of programs concerning women’s education and equity issues that are open to the public. Members of the branch live in the following New Hampshire communities: Amherst, Dover, Exeter, Hanover, Hollis, Manchester, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, Nashua, and Wilton.

The Souhegan Valley Women’s Social & Newcomers Club
(aka Amherst Area Newcomers Club), is a non-profit, social group for women. We are open to anyone, whether you are new to the area or have been here for years. Joining Newcomers is a way to meet other recent arrivals & long-time residents. You will have opportunities to participate in social, educational, & community activities. Annual dues are $20.

We have monthly general events as well as 22 interest groups. Some of our interest groups are Book Groups, Bunco, Bible study, Charity, Crafts, Couples Group, Golf, Hiking, Game Night (Couples), Mah Jong, Movie Group, the Lunch Group, Poker, Mom/Grandma & Child Playgroup, 5K Walk/Run, & Pub Night. New interest groups are added yearly. We have some groups that meet at night & others during the day.

Our annual kick-off will be an outdoor event, on September 26, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Masks are required. If you would like to attend, email us at phnewcomers@gmail.com for the address. For more information or to obtain a membership form, check out our website at phnewcomers.com. Come join the fun!

Please send Engagement and Wedding announcements to Editor: news@amherstcitizen.com
Attach a .jpg image file at least 480KB or larger
The Amherst Citizen, PO Box 291, Amherst, NH 03031.
Also, enclose a S.A.S.E. for return of color or B&W photos if sending to us by U.S. Postal Service.
**Amherst Garden Club Presents: Gardening in a Changing World**

AMHERST – What impact does climate change have on plants and our gardens? Climate adaptation expert Lisa Wise will provide an overview of climate change and share actions we can take to both slow climate change and adapt to the impacts, with a focus on activities in our own gardens and backyards. You will learn about relevant resources and opportunities to engage in local community science and stewardship efforts.

Lisa Wise is the Climate Adaptation Program Manager with NH Sea Grant Extension. She works with New Hampshire communities to build awareness of and resilience to the impacts of a changing climate. Lisa works on projects with the NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup, conducts programming with coastal communities, and is a member of the Upper Valley Adaptation Workgroup. Recent climate adaptation programming has focused on outreach to conservation commissions about how they can address climate change impacts on natural resources, a Climate in the Classroom program, public engagement in municipal planning related to climate, and more. Prior to joining Extension in January 2017, Lisa worked on projects with Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Great Bay 2020 partners, the National Estuarine Research Reserve System Science Collaborative, and Infrastructure and Climate Network (ICNet). She completed both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of New Hampshire, focused on environmental conservation studies and coastal ecosystem management.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the garden club has been meeting online. The meeting will take place Thursday, October 1 on Zoom. The business meeting will start at 9:15 am, followed by Lisa’s presentation from 10:30-11:30. Contact the garden club at info@amherstgardenclub.org if you would like to attend any portion of the meeting.

**Votes for Women: Two Events to Honor Passage of the 19th Amendment**

AMHERST – This year is the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote. The Amherst Heritage Commission has planned two near-term town events for this special celebration.

Because the 19th amendment became the law of the land on August 26, 1920, we illuminated the Amherst Town Hall on Wednesday, August 26, 2020, from dusk to 12:00 midnight with the colors of the women’s suffrage movement of purple and gold. On Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 7:00PM, via ZOOM, the Amherst Heritage Commission and the Amherst Town Library will sponsor Liz Tentarelli, a well respected speaker on New Hampshire heritage, who will guide us on a journey on the long campaign for women’s right to vote, from the 1848 Women’s Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York to ratification of the 19th amendment in 1920. Who were the key players in New Hampshire and the nation? What issues and obstacles did they face? How did suffragettes benefit from World War I in the final push for passage of the women’s suffrage amendment? Who was left out when women got the right to vote? She will be using historic photos and documents that will enlighten all.

This presentation is part of the year long 100th Anniversary Celebration of the ratification and passage of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution. Please plan to log in and understand this struggle of “Forward Into Light”. Any questions can be addressed to Will Ludt, Chair, Amherst Heritage Commission, 603-801-0507 or Sarah Leonard, Amherst Town Library.

**Cub Scout Pack 613 Welcoming Boys and Girls!**

Amherst / Mont Vernon Cub Scout Pack 613, a family pack welcoming both boys and girls, is looking for new members to grow our unit. If you have a son or daughter in K-5th grade who is interested in cub scouts, please join us to start your adventure! Does your child enjoy camping, hiking, fishing, community service, and racing cars? These are just some of the fun activities we have planned for the year. While the Scouts are having fun doing things they enjoy, they also learn new things, discover and master new skills, gain self-confidence, and develop strong friendships.

On Sept. 16 the leaders of Pack 613 will be holding a virtual information night for potential new families to ask questions and learn more about scouting in Amherst and Mont Vernon. RSVP for the event at https://www.facebook.com/events/320421732398475. The online link will be shared only with the families who RSVP prior to the event.

Registration can be done online at https://beascout.scouting.org/list/?zip=03031&program%5B%5D=pack&unitID=320617 Please email us if you have any questions or would like more information Pack613General@gmail.com.
Students in the News


SMITHTOWN, RI (Bryant University is pleased to recognize the Class of 2020 who have completed their undergraduate studies to earn a Bryant University degree, one which has more value now than at any time in Bryant's history.

Hannah York of Amherst, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Applied Psychology.

Congratulations to RIT’s 2019–2020 Graduates!

ROCHESTER, NY - Rochester Institute of Technology honored some 4,000 degrees at all of its campuses in the 2019-2020 academic year. A virtual celebration was held May 8. The following residents received degrees: Eric Kolb of Mont Vernon received a BS in chemical engineering.

Kathryn Osterholtz Named to Union College Dean’s List

SCHENECTADY, NY - Kathryn Osterholtz, of Amherst was named to the 2020 Dean’s List at Union College.

Osterholtz is a member of the Class of 2021 majoring in Anthropology. Comprised annually, the Union College Dean’s List honors students who have a grade point average of 3.5 for the entire academic year and meet certain other requirements.

Local Residents Named to Simmons University Dean’s List

BOSTON, Mass. - The following local residents were named to the 2020 spring semester dean’s list at Simmons University in Boston.

Elizabeth Caulo, the child of Peter J. Caulo and Elizabeth G. Caulo of Amherst, N.H., is a 2016 graduate of Souhegan High School. Caulo, the child of Brian A. Lambert of Manchester, N.H., is a 2016 graduate of Souhegan High School.

Alex Cullen, the child of Brian J. Cullen and June L. Schmunk of Amherst, is a 2016 graduate of Souhegan High School.

A virtual celebration was held May 8. The following students for achieving Dean’s List honors in the Spring 2020 semester. Of the students who made the Dean’s List, 2,769 are from Maine, 1,333 are from 41 other states and 108 are from 43 countries other than the U.S.

From Amherst: Liam King.

Local Residents Receive Degree from Simmons University:...
NHIAA Approves Return to Play Guidance for Fall Sports

CONCORD – The NHIAA Council, comprised of Principals, Athletic Directors, Superintendents, Coaches, and a State School Board Member, met this morning and took action on the following items:

1. While the Council and the NHIAA do not decide if sports are offered, they did unanimously reaffirm the recognition of all the fall sports for the 2020-2021 school year.

2. By unanimous consent, the Council approved NHIAA Return to Play Guidance document (Click here to view). New to this document was a third phase which includes practices, training sessions, competitions, games, and tournaments/jamborees. Guidelines vetted and approved by Governor Sununu's Economic Re-Opening Task Force and the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services provided the foundation upon which the NHIAA's recommendations are based.

3. Finally, the Council approved a delay to the start of fall sports. All fall sports will be permitted to begin practices on Tuesday, September 8th. Decisions on the first date to play contests will be forthcoming.

We recognize that returning to interscholastic competition this fall will be individual school decisions. We hope, however, that the guidelines provided by the state of New Hampshire, the NHIAA, and the actions taken thus far by the NHIAA Council will help schools and districts make informed decisions about what is best for their student-athletes this coming fall.

Souhegan High School

Fall Athletics

All Fall sports will begin first practices on September 8th. Details concerning individual sports will be available soon. Paperwork must be turned in to Athletics before attendance at first practice. Links to all forms are accessible with this link.

There are Paperwork Drop Off envelopes located on the entry door to the main building (annex side) and on the bulletin board outside the athletic office. The forms can also be mailed to SHS PO Box 1152 Amherst 03031 or scanned to ppaull@sprise.com.

We are very excited to get the season rolling -- please make a commitment to yourself and your team to follow all safety protocols and to start the season right by getting our forms submitted. Go Saber Nation!

Souhegan student athletes have entered phase Two of the return to practice protocols.

Team | Day and Time | Site | Coach
--- | --- | --- | ---
B Soccer | Mon, Wed, Fri 5:30-7:30 PM | grass pitch | dsaxe@sprise.com
gsoccer
Cross Country | Tues&Fri 7:30-9:00 AM | back fields | gliwilson081@comcast.net
Fall Spirit | Mon&Wed 6:00-7:00 PM | front field | jbelt@sprise.com
Football | Mon&Wed 6:00-7:00 PM | turf | rbowkett@sprise.com
Field Hockey | Tuesday 9:00-11:00 AM | turf | kbraley@sprise.com
G Basketball | Mon&Thurs 6:30-7:30 PM | behind gym | mvetack@gmail.com
G Soccer | Friday 9:00-11:00 AM | turfpitch | shansberry@sau39.org
Mont Vernon

Story and A Stroll
We’re taking Storytime outside for September! Miss JoAnn is inviting all 0-5 year olds to meet for read aloud stories in the backyard of the library and then take the children for a stroll in the historic district. Registration required. Call 673-7888 or email dalandlibrary@comcast.net to sign the kids up. 4 week session begins Thursday, September 3rd. Get your walking shoes on and stroll with us!

Junior Book Clubs Zoom Edition
Miss JoAnn is moving all her After School Book Clubs to ZOOM! Sign up to read awesome books and do fun crafts! What group are you in?
Eager Readers: Grade 1-2, Bookers for Books: Grade 3-4, Page Turners: Grade 5-6! She even has a Teen Group. Registration opens Sept. 1st. Space is limited to 10 children per book club. Call the library at 673-7888 to sign up!

Black Books Matter
The Black Lives Matter movement has increased the interest in books by black authors. This newly created book club will explore fiction and non-fiction titles that are authored by black writers. The group will meet the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30pm by Zoom. Our first selection is the award winning “Nickel Boys” by Colson Whitehead and will meet on Thursday, October 8th. In the spirit of supporting black authors, we ask that you purchase a copy of this book for our first meeting. We hope that Inter Library Loan services will resume in September which will allow us to borrow multiple copies of this and future titles. The library does have one copy available and it is available on NH Overdrive with your library card. Registration recommended. Call the library at 673-7888 to sign up.

The Morning Book Discussion Group
The Morning Book Discussion Group meets the first Monday of the month at 10:00am to discuss a previously chosen title. Due to the holiday, the group will meet on Monday, Sept. 14th at 10:00am by Zoom to discuss Eliza Hamilton by Tilar J. Mazzeo. Please look on the library website Zoom invitation link. For more information call the library at 673-7888.

Tiny Town Library Podcast
The library just published another episode of Tiny Town Library Podcast. Find us on iTunes and Spotify and subscribe. Tune in for a slice of life in a small New England town as reported by the town librarians. Each library card will allow for 8 check outs per month. Don’t have a library card? Visit the online catalog at https://daland.biblionix.com/catalog/ and look for the “SIGN UP” button for an online library card.