Amherst Garden Club is Fundraising!

AMHERST -- Come visit Amherst Garden Club members on Saturday, May 15 as they tie on garden aprons to sell plants at the Amherst Garden Center on Route 101. It’s a perfect time to purchase vegetable plants, perennials, annuals or shrubs as the nursery will be bursting with plants. This is the club’s biggest fundraiser, raising money that goes back to the town to replace trees, for 11 civic gardens, grants, and scholarships ...

May Fun with Miss Sarah & Zoom Family Storytime

AMHERST -- Come join Miss Sarah and Princess Lovely for a fun-filled family program! For ages 3-6; younger siblings are always welcome. Tuesdays at 10:30 am, May 4, 11, 18, and 25. Registration is required ...

Deliberative Sessions for Town and Schools this Week

AMHERST -- Deliberative Sessions for Town and School FY22 budgets originally scheduled for February have been rescheduled to May 3, 4 and 5. Click link below for safety protocols and warrants ...

Digital e-papers Now Online:

APRIL 2020
MAY 2020
JUNE 2020
JULY 2020
AUGUST 2020
SEPTEMBER 2020
OCTOBER 2020
NOVEMBER 2020
DECEMBER 2020
JANUARY 2021
FEBRUARY 2021
MARCH 2021
APRIL 2021

NEW! View/Download PDF Files

Amherst Citizen’s “e-newsletter”
Amherst School Board Joint Facilities Advisory Committee Update

To the editor:
April saw the unofficial kick-off to the public relations campaign for the Clark/Wilkins and Amherst School projects that will appear on the 2022 Amherst ballot. An update on the work for the group follows, and you can get more information in real time at JFAC’s next public meeting May 15 at 6 p.m.

Public Relations Committee

The PR committee began April by populating the JFAC Facebook page with a variety of content about the proposed school projects. This includes sharing resources with information on the project to asking and fielding questions from followers. Over the coming months this page will become increasingly busy with further educational materials, video and conversation on the project.

The committee also unveiled the debut piece in its video series. This short segment discusses why JFAC was formed, what the group proposed to Amherst School Board (ASB) and the resources available to learn more about the proposed projects.

In future editions starting later this month, videos will be produced that talk about why the projects have been proposed, what the educational needs and benefits will be, and HOW it’s going to impact taxpayers. If you haven’t done so already, follow the Facebook page (Facebook.com/JointFacilities) and the YouTube channels for JFAC and SAU 39.

The next video will highlight what is being placed on the ballot and the other options that were considered by JFAC.

Clark School Exploration Committee

April was a VERY busy month for the Clark School exploration committee under the JFAC umbrella. Throughout the month, committee members held more than a dozen virtual meetings to engage myriad groups of people regarding the future of Clark School. In the current plan, we would build one pre-K through fifth grade school, leaving Clark available for long-term usage.

The Clark subcommittee met with town landlords, village residents, and members of various community groups to discuss the school plan and what the future holds for Clark. A preliminary survey was also conducted and will be reported on at the May JFAC meeting.

Facilities Project Team

April 19 was the deadline for the architect RFP (request for proposal) and three proposals were received for the joint school projects. The facilities project team reviewed the proposals and conducted interviews with a panel featuring members of JFAC, ASB and SAU 39. The findings will be presented to ASB during the May meeting.

Pre-site and civil work is taking place at Wilkins to ensure the lower level is suitable for construction. The chair and vice-chair of JFAC, accompanied by the SAU 39 Director of Facilities also presented an update to the Board of Selectmen at their April meeting. This will continue to be an ongoing conversation as the project continues.

For further updates, visit -JFAC.SAU39.org and Facebook.com/JointFacilities.

HB 92 Suppresses Voter Turnout

Let’s Make Gerrymandering a Relic of the Past

To the editor:

Now that the results of the 2020 Census have been released, it is time to begin the redistricting process. In the recent past, redistricting has been a partisan affair with the party in power drawing the district lines in ways that enhance their future electoral success. This is called Gerrymandering and it is time for that to end. Political candidates should not choose their voters. American voters should choose their representatives.

Amherst residents can have an impact on the redistricting process. Warrant Article 34: Resolution for Fair Nonpartisan Redistricting will be considered at the 2021 Amherst Town Meeting. Please attend the deliberative session at 7:00pm on Wednesday, May 5 at Souhegan High School and voice your support for Warrant Article 34. Then, be sure to vote for Article 34 on Tuesday, June 8, also at Souhegan High School.

Let us make the history of Gerrymandering a relic of the past and move forward with a fair, open, transparent, and nonpartisan redistricting process, one that allows for public engagement and time for the public to provide feedback on the proposed redistricting plan, including all the data and information used to redistrict the districts. We believe that an open and transparent redistricting process can help ensure that public elected servants actually represent the citizens of New Hampshire.

Stephen & Barbara Pugh
Amherst
Support Warrant Article 34 for Fair Nonpartisan Redistricting

To the editor:

After the U.S. Census every 10 years, states reapportion the population into voting districts for the NH House and Senate, the Executive Council, County Commission and for the U.S. House. When redistricting is fair, maps are drawn to consider how many in the town, what towns are in what school districts, whether towns have a shared economic source like a mill, or a shared geographic area. And they must be contiguous.

When redistricting is NOT fair, it becomes gerrymandering, a manipulation of those maps for partisan gain. Gerrymandering tries to give an advantage to the party in power by “packing” towns which lean one way together, such as New Hampshire’s Executive Council District 2, which snakes through blue-leaning towns from rural Hinsdale to urban Portsmouth, leaving the adjoining districts redder.

That district and several Senate and House districts were gerrymandered in 2011. As usual, a bipartisan Special Committee was to draw the maps, but it was really created for show. The reality was that the maps were drawn by a handful of people, all behind closed doors and using a software program which still has never been publicly scrutinized. During required public hearings in 2011, there were no maps shown at the meetings. For the NH House maps, it wasn’t until one week prior to the full House vote that most legislators in either party had the opportunity to see the maps -- to analyze the districts for 400 state reps! How much time did the public have to review the House map? 24 hours. The NH House has embarked on a redistricting process for the next 10 years and has again formed a bipartisan Special Committee. A repeat of what occurred in 2011 should not take place.

The new Special Committee on Redistricting has a clean slate, and an opportunity to do it right. I think we would all agree that a redistricting process that is sufficiently accountable to voters must be open, transparent, allow public engagement and time for the public to provide feedback for the proposed redistricting plan. I believe that an open and transparent redistricting process can help ensure that public servants are elected who actually serve citizens. It is a given that sunlight inspires confidence in redistricting processes and outcomes recognized as fair.

A Warrant Article Resolution for Fair Nonpartisan Redistricting has been approved for a vote at the Amherst May Deliberative Session. Please support the resolution, which has already been passed in 49 NH cities and towns to head off any further gerrymandering. In addition to your support at the Deliberative Session, you can call or write your state representatives, your state senator, and Governor Sununu, and demand that our redistricting process be fair, nonpartisan and transparent.

The travesty of 2011 should never be allowed to happen again.

Bill Maddocks
Amherst

Tracie Adams Seeks Election to Planning Board

To the editor:

As a current alternate on the Amherst Planning Board, I am honored to announce my candidacy for election to a 1-year term as a full voting member. My name is Tracie Adams and I have lived in Amherst with my family since 2014. We fell in love with the rural character, quintessential New England charm, and excellent schools in Amherst. As a military family who lived in many great towns, we immediately recognized that Amherst was a real gem. Both of our children have now graduated from Souhegan High School and are thriving at local colleges. Amherst is truly our home.

I attended planning board meetings for over a year before considering seeking a position on the planning board. My experience working in healthcare for 30 years developed the necessary skills to evaluate and analyze problems and then communicate my findings compassionately but honestly and directly. I was appointed to the planning board as an alternate by the Board of Selectmen.

Over the last year, I have become keenly aware of how planning decisions made today influence the future of our town. Planning Board members are challenged to balance the rights of landowners to develop their property with the laws, ordinances, and vision for Amherst that our citizens have created. As a member of the Master Plan Steering Committee, I recognize how critically important it is to develop a Master Plan that provides a clear vision that will represent our citizens and shape the future of our amazing community.

I would be thankful for the opportunity to continue serving you as a member of the Planning Board. I respectfully ask for your vote.

Sincerely,
Tracie Adams
Amherst

Stoughton Seeks Seat on Amherst Planning Board

To the editor:

My name is Bill Stoughton. I’m running for a seat on the Amherst Planning Board, and I’d like to introduce myself.

I am retired after a career including service as a naval officer, and work as a nuclear engineer and lawyer. I currently serve as an alternate member of the Amherst Conservation Commission. Last year I was appointed to the Planning Board, where I have worked to protect the Town’s water resources and open space. If I am fortunate enough to receive your support, I will continue this work as we shift to an elected board.

I approach my work on the Planning Board with four objectives: Be prepared – Applications are often complex with highly technical reports that must be carefully reviewed to identify potential problems for the Town. This is not a job for the unprepared. Listen – Nobody knows an area as well as those who live in it. It is the Planning Board’s job to listen to, understand, and learn from residents’ concerns.

Know and fairly apply the rules – Developers and residents alike deserve members who understand, and fairly and consistently apply the applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations.

Maintain the rural character of Amherst – This overarching purpose is present throughout our ordinances and Master Plan. Planning Board members must be sure we adhere to this direction from our residents as we review and decide on applications and do our other work.

Serving Amherst is a true privilege and one that I’d like to continue through my work on the Planning Board. I respectfully ask for your vote on June 8, 2021.

Bill Stoughton
Amherst
Parisi is Candidate for Amherst School Board

To the editor:

My name is Victoria Parisi, and I am excited to run for the one open position on the Amherst School Board. I believe that we can support students, faculty, and community in a way that is educationally exceptional and fiscally responsible. I will bring a balanced and measured voice to the board. I support smart, long term financial planning that will benefit students, the school district, and residents.

My husband and I believe that participating in our local community is one of the most vital ways to impact the lives of our children who are in fifth and sixth grades. I have been civicly engaged since moving here in 2012 with a focus on the schools. I began my journey as the Staff Appreciation Chair of the Amherst PTA. From there, I bring with me relevant leadership experience as I served four years as the PTA President. I have served three years on the Amherst School District Ways and Means committee and am Chair of the committee this year. Additionally, I am currently serving as the Vice-Chair of the SAU 39 School Board appointed Joint Facilities Advisory Committee and Girl Scout troop leader. My husband serves as Trustee of the Trust Fund, Amherst Ways and Means committee member, and Amherst Historical Society Treasurer.

We are committed and honored to be serving Amherst. I am ready to take my experience in town and get to work as a member of the Amherst School Board to represent the local people in our community.

Clear Performance Indicators
- Our community deserves clear, straight forward answers regarding the performance and finances of our school district. Our district has work to do in this area. We have a vision, it is time to align that vision to measurable goals available for all to see.

Excellence for ALL Learners
- For several years, our district has acknowledged that while we serve learners who are performing below growth targets and help them rise, we aren’t seeing the growth from their mid to top level peers.
- Amherst draws families to town for our excellent schools, and our standards need to reflect those expectations as we must protect that reputation.
- We have a dedicated staff of exceptional teachers and faculty with the best interests of the students at the center of all that they do. It is imperative to maintain an environment that continues to attract and retain the most inspiring teachers.

Budget and Expenses
- The budget needs to be tight to benefit residents as taxpayers.
- I believe the facilities have aging systems and repairs that are coming that will cost the taxpayers significant funds year over year, along with a lack of classroom space to fulfill our high standard of education. Now is the time to execute a long-term plan for the future of our students and facilities.

As with all points of discussion, there are multiple sides to every debate. If elected, I will work diligently to take in information from all parties, research issues, deliberate thoughtfully, and take decisive steps to support what is best for students and residents overall and with a long-term goal in mind.

I ask for your support in the way of a vote on June 8th as well as sharing your support for me with others in town.

Victoria Parisi
Amherst

Victoria Parisi – Candidate for the Amherst School Board

To the editor:

In my mind, there is no one more qualified to fulfill the vacancy on the Amherst School Board than Victoria Parisi. I have had the pleasure of working with Victoria when she chaired two important educational committees — the Souhegan 2.0 Subcommittee and the Clark School Exploration Subcommittee. In both instances, I was struck by the excellent skills that Victoria possesses in both leading a meeting and contributing to the discussion. Over the last several years, she has also been a member of the Amherst School District Ways and Means Committee; giving her firsthand experience in the development of the budget. She clearly does her homework and especially values the voices of others in her decision making process. She is thoughtful, smart and cares deeply about the educational system in Amherst.

I have been in awe of her ability to juggle so many responsibilities both to her family and to the various leadership roles she has taken on in our community. Both the Amherst School Board and the community of Amherst would be hard pressed to find someone more capable and dedicated than Victoria. Please support Victoria in her run for the Amherst School Board on June 8, 2021.

Jeanne Ludl
Amherst
LIBRARY

What's Up in The Children's Room During Stay-at-Home 2021

AMHERST – We can still have lots of fun while we practice social distancing! Watch our Storytime series on YouTube, join a book club on ZOOM, be a Minecraft on Facebook, mega opportunities await us online ...

READ MORE

HISTORIC AMHERST

Part 2 – Trouble with Inoculation in 1780 and 1792

AMHERST – How did small-pox affect our town of Amherst, New Hampshire? Inoculation and/or vaccination were mentioned in Amherst Town Records on three occasions: 1780, 1792/3, and 1840 ...

READ MORE

FUNDRAISING

Going Undercover for Joshua's Park

AMHERST – The Park is open and hot in the summer. So let's provide shelter and safety from the sun—not to mention cool pods to gather and relax in. The "Undercover Fundraising Team" is launching a campaign to raise $20,000 ...

READ MORE

CONSERVATION

Conserving Our Town Lands: Acts of Green

AMHERST – Since 1968 the ACC (a group of Town volunteers) protects and manages the town's biodiversity and natural resources, and promotes the public use of natural open space for low-impact outdoor recreation that is consistent with conservation....

READ MORE

PLEASE NOTE: AMHERST TAX INFORMATION IS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: https://pay.eb2gov.com/amherstnh
Children's Programming at the Amherst Town Library

JOIN US VIRTUALLY!

ZOOM FAMILY STORYTIME
Tuesdays at 10:00am, May 4, 11, 18, 25
Come join Miss Sarah and Princess Lovely for a fun-filled family program!
For ages 3-6, younger siblings are always welcome.
Registration is required. An email with the ZOOM link and a materials list for the craft will be sent before each program.
Click to visit our calendar and register.

ZOOM MINECRAFT CLUB
Tuesdays from 3:45 - 4:45pm, May 4, 11, 18, 25
Come and join Miss Sarah for ZOOM Minecraft Club on Tuesday afternoons!
As always, there will be a CHALLENGE—Miss Sarah will have a new challenge for you at the beginning of each meeting. You will need a device that can run the ZOOM program.
For kids ages 7 and up. Registration is required. An email with the ZOOM link will be sent before each program.
Click to visit our calendar and register.

BOOK BUNCH! Zoom Book Club for Grades 3 and 4
Each month we read one of Miss Sarah’s favorite CHAPTER BOOKS, and then ZOOM together to talk about them. Before the meeting, pick up an ACTIVITY KIT at the library, and we’ll all have fun doing a book-related project together during our meeting!
May’s book: RA the Mighty: Cat Detective by A.B. Greenfield
For kids in grades 3 and 4.
Meets the fourth Thursday of the month, 4:00-5:00pm.
Next Meeting Date: May 27
Registration is required. Click to register.

YOUTUBE VIDEOS
PROJECT: FUN!
Join Miss Lisa for a new FUN! project every month. She’ll be diving into our collection of non-fiction books to find cool projects we can all enjoy.
Materials for the project will be available while supplies last here at the library the Tuesday before each how-to video is released. Projects may involve art, science, cooking, or maybe a bit of all three! Videos will be available for viewing on the Amherst Town Library’s YouTube Channel.
For kids ages 5-8. No registration required.
Next video will be released on May 28.
Click to visit our YouTube Channel.

Coming Soon...

CHILDREN’S SUMMER READING 2021
Tails and Tales
Animals will be the theme this summer as the Children’s Room rolls out its summer reading program.
Current plans include some outdoor-in-person programs: craft kits, picture hunts and “Storywalk” that you’ve all come to love; and both walk-in and lobby pick-up options for kids to chart their reading progress (and earn prizes) over the summer. Stay tuned for more details.

More Library Programs
at: www.amherstcitizen.com/library.html

Amherst Citizen’s “e-newsletter”
Conserving Our Town Lands

Acts of Green

AMHERST – The Town of Amherst is fortunate to have a diversity of open space which supports different habitats and wildlife. The Amherst Conservation Commission (ACC) is authorized through NH legislation, Chapter 36-A of the New Hampshire revised statutes “to assure the proper utilization and protection of the natural resources and for the protection of watershed resources.” To that end, since 1968 the ACC (a group of Town volunteers) protects and manages the town’s biodiversity and natural resources, and promotes the public use of natural open space for low-impact outdoor recreation that is consistent with conservation.

Protecting these natural resources is a cause that a majority of NH residents support, regardless of political orientation. To hunters, hikers, bikers, birders, wildlife watchers, anglers, gardeners, and, forest stewards, the conservation ethic represents cross-cutting values we hold close. These values lead us to protect and build upon our conservation heritage, for present and future generations.

The ACC has conserved approximately 2,600 acres of land in our Town, which benefits both wildlife and people. These 2,600 acres represent diverse habitats including pine and oak forests, wetlands, rivers and streams, aquifers and grasslands. Land is not conserved haphazardly but based on a set of conservation principles. As an example, the ACC works to promote habitat connectivity; that is, the degree to which the landscape helps or hinders animal movement and other ecological processes, such as seed dispersal. Improving habitat connectivity provides safe pathways for wildlife on the ground, and means wildlife will always be able to get where they need to go.

To assure that Town conservation lands remain healthy and clean, the ACC has developed and continuously updates a set of management plans based on environmental science principles and practices. Keeping lands and forests healthy and clean cannot be done by the Conservation Commission alone, it takes interested citizens to do their part. There are a lot of ways individuals and their families can help keep lands clean and healthy or can conserve lands!

Below are just a few examples:

- **Build a Pollinator Garden:** From bees to bats and butterflies to beetles, pollinators play a pivotal role in our ecosystem. Bees are among our most important pollinators, with bee populations providing nearly one-third of our food supply and allowing wild plants to produce the foods that form the base of the natural food web. Providing the fundamental elements of wildlife habitat — food, water, cover, and places to raise young — is critical to restoring monarch butterfly habitat. By incorporating specific garden elements like native milkweed and other native wildflowers (for feeding), gardeners can create habitat in their backyards. These gardens help preserve open space in our town.

- **Fight water pollution:** Even with town and state regulations, there can be problems from industry or heavy rain run-off. If you see pollution going into the Town’s rivers or streams, or overflowing the sewers, say something to Town officials. Often times, we are not aware that our own behavior can contribute to water pollution. Indirect sources which threaten the water supply come from construction site erosion, faulty septic systems, leaking automotive fluids, agricultural and residential fertilizers and pesticides, road salt and other diffuse sources. Dispose of these materials in an environmentally safe way. A clean water supply helps all of us in Town assure that we have water, should there be a drought.

- **Save water at home:** avoid flushing toilets unnecessarily, check for leaks, do not let water run when brushing teeth, shaving, or washing dishes, take shorter showers, mulch your garden, use a drip irrigation system, do not water in the heat of day, mow lawn at a higher-level setting, and/or use a canteen instead of purchasing a throw-away plastic bottle with water.

- **Learn more about Amherst Warrant Article # 22: Open Space Acquisition Bond.** This article, to be voted upon by the town on June 8, 2021, would authorize the Town to appropriate up to $6M to purchase land and easements for conservation purposes to protect and limit the kinds of future use. This warrant article has the support of the Board of Selectmen and the Town’s Ways and Means Committee.

For more information about gardens for pollinators, water or land conservation check out the links below:

- [https://www.nwf.org/Educational-Resources/Wildlife-Guide/Pollinators](https://www.nwf.org/Educational-Resources/Wildlife-Guide/Pollinators)
- [https://amherstgardenclub.org/the-amherst-garden-club/](https://amherstgardenclub.org/the-amherst-garden-club/)
- [https://www.nwf.org/Get-Involved/Live-Green/Water-Conservation](https://www.nwf.org/Get-Involved/Live-Green/Water-Conservation)

Read about the issues and the process used for gifts of land to the Conservation Commission. Useful books to read on this subject are available at the Amherst Library and can be purchased at the web sites linked below:


Conservation Options - A Landowner's Guide Land Trust Alliance, Washington, DC

Using Science to Conserve Biodiversity, Manage Open Space and Promote Outdoor Recreation

Contact Us: Amherst Conservation Commission
2 Main Street, Town Hall, Amherst NH 03031
[https://www.amherstconservation.com](https://www.amherstconservation.com)
Recreation

**Active Seniors**
- Bird Walk with the ACC
- Forest Bathing-Meditation in Nature
- Stearns-Davis Community Garden
- Weekly Walks in the Woods

**Baboosic Lake Happenings**
- Baboosic Lake Swim Team
- Baboosic Lake Town Beach Information, Beach/Boat Passes, and Boat Storage 2021
- Swim Lessons

**Pre-School Programs**
- "I Love Nature!" Series for ages 3-6
- Creative Arts: Ages 3-10
- Start Smart Baseball/Softball
- Tiny Toes Dance
- Tot Soccer

**Activities for All Ages**
- Baboosic Lake Town Beach Information, Beach/Boat Passes, and Boat Storage 2021
- Stearns-Davis Community Garden

**Active Classes**
- Forest Bathing-Meditation in Nature
- Stearns-Davis Community Garden

**Adult Sports and Fitness**
- Strength and Power Group Exercise Classes
- Weekly Walks in the Woods

**Baboosic Lake Happenings**
- Baboosic Lake Swim Team
- Baboosic Lake Town Beach Information, Beach/Boat Passes, and Boat Storage 2021
- Swim Lessons

**Camps**
- Camp Babuck
- CIT's Counselor in Training Program
- Mini Camp at Outdoor Discovery
- Outdoor Discovery Summer Camp

**Comps, Specialty**
- Cheer Camp
- Eagles Basketball Camp
- Girls Empowerment Week
- Next Level Basketball Camp for Boys (age 3-5)
- Tweens Without Screens

**Outdoor/Environmental Ed @ PMEC**
- Virtual Field Trip to PMEC - For Educators & School Groups

**Producers for Homeschoolers**
- "I Love Nature!" Series for ages 3-6
- Homeschool Science Classes

**School Vacation Programs**
- Safe Sitter® Babysitting Training Course (Ages 11-15)

**STEM/STEAM Programs**
- Homeschool Science Classes

---

**Youth Classes**
- Creative Arts: Ages 3-10
- Homeschool Science Classes
- Red Cross CPR & First Aid Course
- Safe Sitter® Babysitting Training Course (Ages 11-15)

**Youth Health & Fitness**
- Cheerleading
- Tiny Toes Dance

**Youth Seasonal Sports**
- Amherst Rec Lacrosse
- Baboosic Lake Swim Team
- Baseball: Spring
- Cheer Camp
- Cheerleading
- Softball: Spring
- Start Smart Baseball/Softball
- Tennis Lessons for Youth
- Tot Soccer
Trouble with Inoculation in 1780 and 1792

...But Eventually, Free Vaccination for All

BY KATRINA HOLMAN

This is a follow-on to last month’s column, “The Beginning of ‘Vaccine’ and the Amherst Physician Who Helped.”

As you, faithful reader, learned about pest houses and inoculation hospitals for small-pox in 19th century New England, did you wonder: How many of these were in our town of Amherst, New Hampshire? Inoculation and/or vaccination were mentioned in Amherst Town Records on three occasions: 1780, 1792, and 1840.

The first stage: In January 1764, not long after the incorporation of Amherst but still 12 years before the Declaration of Independence, the Town of Boston in the Massachusetts Bay Colony published an outburst of small-pox, and more than a dozen families/houses — which terrified the folks in the Province of New Hampshire, especially those in populous Portsmouth. So much so that His Excellency the Governor, Council, and Representatives of the Province of New Hampshire, convened in General Assembly, passed “an Act providing in Case of Sickness, such as the Plague, SMALL-POX, pestilential or malignant Fevers, or other contagious sickness, the infliction whereof may probably be communicated to others.” This act authorized Selectmen of N.H. towns “to make effectual provision in the best manner they can for the preservation of the inhabitants, by removing such sick or infected persons to a separate house, and by providing of nurses, tendance and other assistance, and necesserily calling them” at the charge of the parties themselves, their parents or masters (if able) or otherwise at the charge of the town, or place wherein they belong.” The act empowered the sheriff of the province or a constable of the town, using a warrant made out by any justice of the peace, to enforce the new law. (There was also regulation for dealing with sick persons arriving by sea to a port or harbor.) Right away the Selectmen of Portsmouth arranged that all persons coming from Boston were to be given a health examination at a designated tavern in Portsmouth, and “any who refuse to submit to (this) rule and order” were to be “immediately taken up and confined!” Furthermore, any such travelers and visitors, who had not yet had small-pox in particular were to quarantine themselves; and inhabitants were required to report all visitors from Boston to the Selectmen. (New Hampshire Gazette of Portsmouth, 27 Jan. 1764.)

Meanwhile, in Massachusetts, the Great and General Court (Governor, Council and House of Representatives) passed “an act to prevent the spreading of the Small-Pox and other infectious Sickness, and to prevent the concealing of the same” with included a stiff penalty for disobedience. It stated “that no person shall presume to inoculate or be inoculated in Boston without the leave of the major part of the Selectmen in writing.” But this was emergency legislation, to be in effect for two months only, or “until that 30 Families are known to be visited with that distemper [small-pox] at one time, unless before that time the Selectmen shall give public notice that they have no hope to stop the progress of said distemper…” (Boston Evening Post, 25, January 1764.) In response, a long letter to newspaper publishers disagreed with the law, claiming general discontent because it denied people their liberty of self-preservation: “The Small-Pox taken in the natural way is a very dangerous disease, and has in times past proved very fatal; but since the discovery of Inoculation the severity and danger of it has undeservedly been very much lessened.” The writer went on: “The damage which the town in general will sustain in their trade by the town’s being shut up this summer will vastly exceed the highest additional charge of the poor having the Small-Pox in the winter.” (Boston Evening Post, 30 Jan. 1764.) In the following issue, there was a rebuff, praising the great care and pains the Selectmen were taking.

The Massachusetts Governor and Council, concerned that “many of the inhabitants [of Boston] were removed through fear of the Small-Pox and that such as remained, and were liable to it, were refrained from inoculating,” held a session on 6 February in which they met with Boston’s Selectmen, and then arranged for multiple houses to be converted into an inoculation hospital at Point Shirley on the outskirts of Boston, now part of Winthrop. (Boston Gazette, 13 Feb. 1764.) Within two weeks later the Governor had additionally “conceded that the Barracks of Castle Williams shall be improved for the purpose of inoculation from this time until the middle of May next. There are in the Barracks 48 rooms, each of which will contain ten patients conveniently, and are now opened to ALL PHYSICIANS having patients to inoculate [in classes of ten each].” (Boston Gazette, 27 Feb. 1764.)

A committee was appointed to devise regulations for the hospitals.

In mid-March, even though there were still 10 families in different parts of Boston affected, the Selectmen of Boston removed the guards from their houses, no longer enforcing social isolation (as we would now call it), and allowed inoculation after that. At the same time in N.H., the Selectmen of Portsmouth reported that “whereas the Small-Pox is become general in Boston and we apprehend there is great Danger of this Distemper being communicated to other towns, and as this town is more exposed than any other,” they had built a fence across the main road at the entrance to Portsmouth, where they had “erected a small building in order to smoke all persons from Boston, with all their bundles, letters, etc.” with someone on duty from 5.00 am till 10.00 pm. Those who complied would receive a certificate; those who did not would be arrested and jailed immediately. (N.H. Gazette, 16 March 1764.)

In mid-April, “Numbers of Persons are daily coming into [Boston], as also to the Hospitals at Point Shirley and Castle Williams to receive the Small Pox by inoculation: besides those who some from the neighboring towns, there are several from the Province of New Hampshire, the Colonies of Connecticut, and Rhode Island. It is judged that between 3 and 4000 Persons have gone safely through that Distemper, in the time since Liberty was granted for Inoculation, which is five Weeks; and it is observable there has been little or no infection [spread] from those who have had the disease [by inoculation].” (Boston Post-Boy, 16 April 1764; picked up by N.H. Gazette, 19 April 1764.)

Anti-Inoculation in 1780

In Amherst, the warrant for the March 1780 town meeting included: “4th To see if the Town will take some method to prevent the spreading of the Small-Pox in this Town and act thereon as they shall see fit.” The (male) citizens and their five elected (male) leaders present responded: “Voted — That their Selectmen Desire the Doctors to Desist from [Inoculating with the Small Pox and they would incur the Displeasure of the Town if they Didn’t Desist.” (Amherst Town Records Vol. 1, original p. 260.)

The dissonance between the neutral wording of the original warrant and the ardent response of the voters – who apparently viewed inoculation as a method of spreading the dread disease rather than a method of prevention — speaks volumes about the distrust of inoculation in the Town of Amherst near the end of the Colonial period. Impossible to know from the brief account if the specific local physicians and their specific treatment methods were at fault; or perhaps the town simply wasn’t large enough to sustain the expense of setting up a dedicated hospital for containment during recovery.

NEXT PAGE
It was only two years earlier, in July 1778, that the N.H. Gazette of Portsmouth had reported: “The Success of Inoculation in this place and neighbouring towns is almost incredible, upwards of 1,100 persons of all ages and both sexes have been inoculated by the Physicians of this town within the short space of three months, and only two unfavourable circumstances have happened…” “What makes the townfolk’s prevailing attitude surprising (to me, anyway) is that Amherst was the county seat, irland certainly but not exactly the boondocks, with a regular influx of outsiders. But those inhabitants of Amherst who believed that inoculation was less than taking the chance of random exposure to small-pox, and had the time and the money for boarding at an inoculation hospital, had had years of opportunity out-of-town not so far away.

Inoculation Trouble in 1792

In 1792, the Selectmen called a special town meeting in October, in response to a petition “to know the minds of the inhabitants of said Town” on whether “any concern to be had by inoculating a pest house to accommodate persons that have or may have the small-pox.” The warrant articles were:

1) “to see if the Town will direct or give their consent or appoint by committee or any other way that they shall think best that a suitable house or houses may be erected or hired for the use and purpose of such persons as shall be taken ill by inoculating either the natural way or by inoculation, for the safety and benefit of the inhabitants of said Town of Amherst”;

2) “and if it shall best be thought to choose a committee to see that such house or houses be in such place or places and under such regulations as shall be for the safety and benefit of the Town and that no cost arise to the Town of Amherst”;

3) “to see of the Town will prosecute Robert Fletcher Esq, and others whom it is presumed has brought the small-pox into town by inoculation without the consent of the Town and if thought best choose or appoint a committee for that purpose.”

[Talk about public shaming!]

At that October special meeting, the citizenry “voted Not to permit a hospital or pest house for the accommodation of the small-pox in the Town of Amherst.” (No further information in the record.) Then meeting was adjourned to Nov. 1792, when the Town “voted to choose a committee to enquire into the conduct of Robert Fletcher Esq, and others in bringing the small-pox into the Town by inoculation and to prevent others doing the same if in their powers and report to the Town of doing the next town meeting.” Those chosen for the committee were: Daniel Campbell, Deacon Samuel Wilkins, Samuel Dana, Esq. (moderator of this town meeting), Nathan Kendall, and Joshua Lovewell (Town Clerk) (Amherst Town Records Vol. 2, page 19.)

In March 1793 at the regular annual town meeting (on its second day), the committee chosen to inquire into the conduct of those who brought the small-pox into Amherst gave their report. They were “of the opinion that Robert Fletcher and others who had the small-pox in this town the fall past were highly reprehensible.” “But,” the committee said, “when we consider their peculiar suffering, that one sorrowful instance of mortality happened among them, and others were severely visited with the disorder, besides the greater [sic] expense than usual – we think it would be adding affliction to the afflicted if they should be further noticed in the matter and therefore recommend to the Town to pass over the offense without any further marks of resentment than to let others know that a similar error will not be passed with the like lenity.” (Amherst Town Records Vol. 2, p. 26.)

Robert Fletcher (3d, 1762-1809) was a local businessman, who in Dec. 1783 had bought the house now standing at 14 Middle Street on its original site, the Brick School lot. He had been commissioned Justice of the Peace in 1790, the same year as Samuel Dana, a lawyer, was; Joshua Atherton, a lawyer, was made JP the following year, and Daniel Campbell in 1792. In Feb. 1791, Fletcher was one of the founders of the Amurac Academy along with his fellow JP’s and committee member Kendall and Wilkins et al. In sum, a respectable citizen. An 18-month-old daughter of Robert Fletcher died of the small-pox in Nov. 1792. Fletcher had moved to Amherst in 1790 because he had lost his fortune. However successful they were at first, they usually terminated in failure. … He terminated his business career by shooting himself at Montreal [where a lumber business had failed].” (The newspapers that reported his death did not mention the shooting.)

Despite reported successes with inoculation more than a decade earlier, in Aug 1792 there was a smallpox outbreak in smallpox in Boston that had the residents in a tizzy: a huge crowd turned out at the special town meeting by petition (N.H. Gazette, 16 Aug. 1792). And in New Hampshire, around the time of the ambiguous and perplexing Amherst incident: “The small-pox is daily breaking out in some part or other of this state…” (N.H. Spy, Portsmouth, 1 Dec 1792.)

A mere four years later: the monumental discovery (in England) of “vaccination” whereby humans could be infected with the non-fatal cow-pox to prevent the often-deadly smallpox.

Vaccine expert Dr. Matthias Spalding (1769-1866) settled in Amherst in 1806. Another local source for vaccines was Dr. Ambrose Seaton, who had grown up in Amherst living on Old Manchester Road; he was a graduate of a Degree of Doctor of Medicine from Dartmouth College in 1825; and was appointed Surgeon’s mate for 5th Regiment of N.H. Militia in 1827. In 1826-1830, he ran a drug store in Amherst Village. Ambrose Seaton, Druggist and Apothecary advertised fresh supply of medicines, and “also a supply of fresh and pure VACCINE VIRUS, and would be happy to inoculate all those, who would adopt the precaution against the danger of the smallpox, or infectious disease.” (Farmers’ Cabinet, 1 March 1828.) He left town and died in Kentucky in 1886 aged 61.

Free Vaccinations for All 1840

The New Hampshire Legislature on 27 June 1835 passed an act for the prevention of the small-pox, with the objective of getting every person vaccinated at the expense of their town. It took Amherst four-and-a-half years to officially adopt it.

Perhaps the citizens of Amherst were finally included in the reports from Boston. For the year 1839, the Boston Medical Association reported that there were 248 cases of small-pox in Boston known to physicians out of an estimated population of 80,000: 145 cases of varioloid or slight disease; 52 cases of small-pox or severe disease but not fatal; 22 fatal cases of small-pox; and 29 cases of character not stated. (Farmers’ Cabinet, 20 Dec. 1839.)

But just that Dr. Gale received compensation reported that “within a few months past, nearly 100 persons have died in [Boston] of small-pox, and that about 1000 have had the disease.” (Farmers’ Cabinet, 21 Feb. 1840.)

Amherst held a special town meeting in January 1840, which (Amherst Town Records Vol. 3, p. 225-226):

“Resolved that the Selectmen employ an agent in Boston for the purpose of sending for Readability, to see as many as all the inhabitants of the town who have not had the kine pox or small pox and to revaccinate all those inhabitants who may wish and where it will in the opinion greater security against the small-pox, that the agent(s) keep a list of persons they vaccinate and the time when and number of visits made to each patient and report the same in writing to the Board of Selectmen … which report the Selectmen shall lay before the Town at the meeting next after said report shall be made.”

“Resolved that after the performance of the above services the Selectmen be authorized to pay the Agent or Agents a sum not exceeding 10 cents for each person vaccinated.”

The town report for the year ending March 1841 (the Town’s first typeset annual report) shows that these phthis were paid for vaccinations: to Amory Gale, $19.50; to Matthias Spalding, $30.92; and to F. P. Fitch, $40.67, for a total of $91.04. (During the same reporting year, Amherst physicians were paid $43.50 for docoting town paupers.) According to the 1840 census, the total population of Amherst was 1,165.

Dr. Amory Gale lived and practiced medicine in Amherst from 1834-1839 at 13 Church Street in the Village. His practice was succeeded by Dr. Francis P. Fitch (1806-1874) in October 1839 in the same house until 1865. The town meeting report for vaccinations suggests that the Selectmen had quietly implemented free vaccinations at least a year before the matter was voted on at town meeting.

Sources:

The Amherst Town Records are multi-year oversize handwritten hand-bound volumes in which successive Town Clerks recorded the minutes/decisions of Town Meetings and other town decisions taken by the Selectmen, like the laying-out of roads, starting in 1760. The early volumes are on microfilm, viewable at Amherst Town Library. For most of the quoted passages, I searched the spelling for Readability, I found no list of vaccinatced persons in the Town Hall vault and it was not recorded in the official records vault.

Katrina Holman welcomes comments to HistoricAmherstNH@juno.com.
**Going Undercover for Joshua’s Park**

AMHERST – Joshua’s Park is a real treasure in the Town of Amherst. Used and enjoyed by so many children, parents, grandparents, and gardeners, it is time to make the park even better! Want to be a part?

Here’s our project: Add shade structures and shade trees to the Park. The Park is open and hot in the summer. So let’s provide shelter and safety from the sun—not to mention cool pods to gather and relax in. The “Undercover Fundraising Team” (aka the fundraising committee) is launching a campaign to raise $20,000, enough to buy and install three shade structures—two in the playground, one by the community garden patio—as well as shade trees, picnic tables, and benches.

This will give everyone what so many parents have asked for: A welcome space to rest, enjoy a snack or picnic lunch and socialize safely out of the heat. We’re saving money, too, because the Amherst Recreation Department will build the tables and install the structures for us. We have the eager backing by the Amherst Recreation Department, The Amherst Land Trust and the Amherst Community Foundation.

![Amherst Community Foundation]

The Amherst Community Foundation is our fundraising partner. All donations from you to the Foundation will be earmarked for this venture. All funds raised in excess of the goal will go directly towards making more improvements at the Park!

This is a fantastic chance to get in on making Amherst a better place. Please join us in the excitement. Your donation will help make this need a reality!

[www.amherstfoundation.org/going-undercover](http://www.amherstfoundation.org/going-undercover)
**Community**

**GARDEN CLUB**

“How to Interpret a Forest’s History” with Tom Wessels

AMHERST – This interactive presentation will guide us to a fuller understanding of our home ground. After a short introduction to reading forested landscapes, Tom will interpret photos we submit of landscape features we would like explained …

READ MORE

**PEOPLE**

Gold Award Girl Scout helps Amherst with trails video

AMHERST – A local teen is on the road to entrepreneurial success with a new e-commerce company that has resulted in customers from all over the U.S. and products that are catching on with the younger set …

READ MORE

**CANDIDATES NIGHT**

AAUW’s Ninth Annual Amherst Candidates Night

AMHERST – Tuesday, May 25, 2021 the Southern New Hampshire Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold the Ninth Annual Amherst Candidates Night via Zoom 7 pm to 9 pm …

READ MORE

**NH POLITICS**

Leaders Reject D.C. Infringement on 2nd Amendment Rights

CONCORD – Jason Osborne (R-Auburn) and Daryl Abbas (R-Salem) released statements after the Criminal Justice Committee passed SB154, prohibiting the state from enforcing a Presidential Executive Order that restricts or regulates the right of the people to keep and bear arms, on a vote of 11-10 …

READ MORE
Amherst Garden Club Presents:

“How to Interpret a Forest’s History” with Tom Wessels

VIRTUAL PROGRAM • Thursday, May 6th, 10:30 AM

AMHERST – Ecologist Tom Wessels has spent more than twenty years interpreting New England’s landscape and teaching others to see “the forest for the trees.” An intrepid sleuth and articulate tutor, Tom will teach us how to interpret the landscape the way one might solve a mystery. What exactly is the meaning of all those stone walls in the middle of the forest? Why are pine trees dominant in one patch of forest and maples in another? How do you tell the age of a beaver pond and determine if beavers still live there?

This interactive presentation will guide us to a fuller understanding of our home ground. After a short introduction to reading forested landscapes, Tom will interpret photos we submit of landscape features we would like explained — oddly growing trees, unusual scouring on a tree trunk, or a patch of young saplings amid dense forest, for example. Through Tom we’ll learn to see the forest in a new light. No walk in the woods will ever be the same!

Tom Wessels is Professor Emeritus at Antioch University where he founded the master’s degree program in Conservation Biology. As a terrestrial ecologist he has interests in forest, desert, arctic, and alpine ecosystems, plus a strong interest in evolutionary ecology, complex systems, and sustainability. He is author of numerous books, including the highly acclaimed Reading the Forested Landscape: A Natural History of New England. His latest, New England’s Roadside Ecotony: Explore 30 of the Regions Unique Natural Areas, will be available during spring of 2021.

During the pandemic, the garden club has been meeting online. Our business meeting will begin at 9:15 am, followed by Tom’s presentation at 10:30 am. Contact the garden club at info@amherstgardencub.org if you would like to attend the business meeting, presentation, or both. You can also let us know if you have photos for Tom to interpret, time permitting.

Amherst Garden Club Day at Amherst Garden Center

Open to the public May 15, 2021

AMHERST – Come visit Amherst Garden Club members on Saturday, May 15 as we tie on our garden aprons to sell plants at the Amherst Garden Center on Route 101. It’s a perfect time to purchase vegetable plants, perennials, annuals or shrubs as the nursery will be bursting with plants. A percentage of the sales will go into the club’s Plant Sale 2021 earnings. Owner, John Cochran, graciously invited the club to participate after last year’s plant sale was cancelled, and an online sale coming up the week before Mother’s Day will be a first for the club this year. The plant sale is the club’s biggest fundraiser, raising money that goes back to the town in the form of replacing trees, plants for 11 civic gardens, horticultural speakers (open to the public), community grants, and scholarships.

The morning starts at 8:30am and the public is encouraged to come with questions for the garden club members. They will be happy to guide and assist everyone in finding the right plants for their landscapes. Also during the day, Peggy Wallace will be selling her beautiful glass garden ornaments. Flyers will be available from UNH Extension on a variety of gardening issues. Please save the date for all your garden shopping and help the Amherst Garden Club during this pandemic year.

Checking a garden book, are members: L-R: Anne Kranz, Mary Salmon, Claudia Everest
Gold Award Girl Scout Helps Amherst with Trails Video
Rachel Mazur of Amherst spent nearly two years catching every season for project

AMHERST – Who hasn’t wanted to get outdoors and breathe fresh air during the COVID-19 lockdown? Gold Award Girl Scout Rachel Mazur has made it easier to figure out the best path to take for anyone wanting to walk, bike, Nordic ski, and just enjoy the many trails within Amherst by creating a video that explores the 11 rail trails here.

Mazur, 18, of Amherst, earned Girl Scout’s highest honor for a 12th grader, the Gold Award, with her project, Amherst Conservation Trails Video, spending nearly two years shooting video in every season and under varying conditions, then learning how to edit video to create the final product. It is now posted on the Amherst Conservation Commission’s website at https://www.amherstconservation.com/get-outdoors-maps/

Mazur said she’s aware that people are spending much less time outdoors than in the past, so she wanted to educate high school students about trail conservation and inspire them to go outside. Once the COVID-19 pandemic took hold, she realized that she could reach a much wider audience of people eager to get outdoors.

Amherst Conservation Commissioner Jared Hardner, a neighbor friend of Mazur, told the Girl Scout Ambassador that the commission was setting up a new website and could use a video. He became her project advisor, helping her determine what was needed and how to present the idea to the commission.

“When I previewed Rachel’s video at our public meeting, it was the first time I saw the entire membership of the commission agree on something, and with cheery smiles all around,” said Hardner. “Rachel delivered on her commitments as a volunteer, fulfilled her goal, and certainly made a genuine contribution to our new website. On a frequent basis I stop to talk with trail users on our conservation lands, and I often get good feedback on the trails page of our website — and Rachel’s video is a component of that positive user experience. We are grateful for her efforts.”

Mazur’s family has long enjoyed a trail near her home, whether by foot, fat-tire bike, or cross-country ski. They’ve also hiked some mountains when she was younger. The experience of exploring all of Amherst’s trails showed her that she can change her mood for the better by getting outdoors.

“The biggest thing I learned about myself is that exploring the trails in Amherst really helps me relax, and is great for my mental health,” she said. “I now know that if I am ever feeling stressed, tired, or even sad; a walk in the woods makes me feel so much better.”

Mazur hopes others will also benefit from the trail experience after seeing her video.

She has been a Girl Scout since kindergarten, and said she feels very grateful for her troop, working together on highest awards, going on camping weekends, and traveling to places like the Seacoast Science Center and to Boston. She will graduate this spring from Souhegan High School. She is narrowing down her choice of college, but expects to stay near the Boston area for a future in business or fashion design.

The Gold Award is earned by girls in grades 9-12 who demonstrate extraordinary leadership in developing sustainable solutions to local, national, and global challenges.

Rachel Mazur has answered the call to drive lasting, impactful change, and her Gold Award is a testament to her remarkable dedication to improving her community and the world. The Gold Award is the mark of the truly remarkable!

Amherst Man Expands Personal Training Business During Covid Pandemic Offers 38 Years Fitness Industry Experience

AMHERST - Tim and Annmarie Whitcomb love southern New Hampshire so much, they chose to make their home 8 years ago in Amherst along with their young twins, now attending Wilkins School.

Whitcomb has worked in the fitness industry for over 38 years, and jumped at an opportunity in 1995 that brought him to New Hampshire to take over the Nashua Athletic Club. From there his dream came to fruition by opening his own fitness facility called Focus on Fitness on Second Street in Manchester.

Membership grew quickly and with additional staff and services being offered, a name change to “Elite Personal Training and Fitness 24 Hour” seemed appropriate and timely.

In 2011, Whitcomb was on the move again and to better serve his Bedford and Amherst members, opened an all-new, custom built, fully outfitted gym with the latest cardio and exercise equipment at 384 Route 101, Bedford just five minutes from the Amherst-Bedford town line.

Each member had 24 hour security entry access and private dressing/shower locker rooms.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, he took advantage of a unique opportunity and opened a second 24 hour Elite Personal Training and Fitness center November 2020 loaded with equipment and extra space for strength training and group classes, just off 101at 43 Constitution Drive, also in Bedford near the Fire and Police complex. Membership is exchangeable at both gyms and serviced by 10 personal trainers.

“We offer high-end service in a low-volume atmosphere,” said Whitcomb, explaining his gyms are safe, clean and spacious. “Area residents and commuting business people have always felt comfortable with us, and we continue to emphasize the message that it is important to build a healthy, safe and strong immunity in everyone’s lifestyle.”

Elite’s clientele ranges in age from senior citizens to high-school students and everywhere between. In addition to personal training, they offer group classes such as boot camps, sculpting, cardio strength, and chisel and burn sessions.

The pandemic has changed the way people think about exercise, according to Whitcomb, and said many had started exercising at home during the past year of social distancing and quarantine. They now want to get into a healthy routine, and thankfully, Elite has much to offer.

For more information call 603-471-0724 or visit elitefitnessnh.com.
Elections

Candidates Running for Office
Town of Amherst and School Districts (SAU39)

## Town Elections
June 8th 2021
Amherst, NH
* Incumbent
** Currently an appointed member

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Candidates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Selectmen – 3 Yrs</td>
<td>John D’angelo*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Raymond N. Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Danielle Pray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Town Treasurer – 3 Yrs</td>
<td>Elizabeth Overholt*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Cemetery Trustee – 3 Yrs</td>
<td>Lisa Eastland*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Library Trustees – 3 Yrs</td>
<td>Nancy T. Baker*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michael Enriquez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Zoning Board Members – 3 Yrs</td>
<td>Timothy Kachmar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Douglas H. Kirkwood*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tracy Lee McInnis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Trustee of The Trust Funds – 3 Yrs</td>
<td>Lori Mix*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Planning Board Members – 3 Yrs</td>
<td>William R. “Bill” Stoughton**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Craig Urquhart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christopher “Chris” Yates**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Planning Board Members – 2 Yrs</td>
<td>Peter Hansen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Kula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas Quinn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arnold Rosenblatt**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas Silvia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Planning Board Members – 1 Yr</td>
<td>Tracie Adams**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eugene C. Ancitl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christy C. Houpis**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## School Elections
June 8th 2021
Amherst & Mont Vernon, NH
* Incumbent
** Currently an appointed member

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Candidates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Amherst School District Board Member – 3 Yrs</td>
<td>Victoria Parisi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jason White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Souhegan Cooperative School Board Member (Amherst) – 3 Yrs</td>
<td>Tony Labranche</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Glover*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Mont Vernon School Board Members – 3 Yrs</td>
<td>Sarah Lawrence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peter Eckhoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Mont Vernon School District Moderator – 1 Yr</td>
<td>Peter King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Mont Vernon School District Clerk – 1 Yr</td>
<td>Autumn Grdina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Mont Vernon School District Treasurer – 1 Yr</td>
<td>Lyn Jennings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## AAUW Southern NH Branch News

Ninth Annual Amherst Candidates Night – New Date

On Tuesday, May 25, 2021 the Southern New Hampshire Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold the Ninth Annual Amherst Candidates Night via Zoom from 7 pm to 9 pm. Election Day is Tuesday, June 8, 2021. Anyone with questions may contact Liz Overholt at liz@theoverholt.com or 673-5171.

The filing period for both town and school Amherst offices did not change. The last day of the filing period was Friday, January 29th.

Deliberative and Town Election dates postponed to May & June

Pursuant to the NH Governor’s Emergency Order #63, the Amherst Board of Selectmen have postponed the Amherst Deliberative Session and Town Elections.

The Deliberative Session previously scheduled for Wednesday February 3, 2021 has been moved to Wednesday May 5, 2021. The Town Election previously scheduled for Tuesday March 9, 2021 has been moved to Tuesday June 8, 2021.

Regarding The 4th Of July Celebration For 2021:

The Town of Amherst is currently awaiting additional guidance from local, state and federal authorities as to whether plans will be permitted to move forward regarding Fourth of July festivities.

An announcement will be made with a decision by May 2021 (reserving the right to change as circumstances require).
Deliberative Meetings

Souhegan Cooperative School District

MONDAY, MAY 3, 2021 • 7:00 P.M.
Souhegan High School Auditorium
412 Boston Post Rd, Amherst, NH 03031

For Safety Protocols and link to Souhegan Cooperative School Deliberative Session

Amherst School District

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2021 • 7:00 P.M.
Souhegan High School Auditorium
412 Boston Post Rd, Amherst, NH 03031

For Safety Protocols and link to Amherst School District Deliberative Session

Town of Amherst

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021 • 7:00 P.M.
Souhegan High School Auditorium
412 Boston Post Rd, Amherst, NH 03031

Link to Town of Amherst Deliberative Session

Mont Vernon School District

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021 • 7:00 P.M.
Mont Vernon Village School
Harwood Rd, Mont Vernon, NH 03057

For Safety Protocols and link to Mont Vernon School District Deliberative Session

Election Day – Tuesday, June 8, 2021
New Hampshire Senate Democratic Office
Senate Unanimously Passes Legislation Promoting Transparency for Law Enforcement

CONCORD – Today, the Senate unanimously voted Ought to Pass on HB 471, relative to police disciplinary hearings and authorizing the Department of Justice to maintain an exculpatory evidence schedule. After the vote, Senate Judiciary Committee Members Senator Jay Kahn (D-Kahn) and Senator Becky Whitley (D-Hopkinton) issued the following statement:

“The amended version of HB 471 supported by the Senate today represents the remarkable collaborative efforts of the NH Department of Justice, media representatives, the ACLU, and New Hampshire law enforcement to promote transparency and accountability. We commend them for their work in resolving a long-standing dispute about the public’s right to access the exculpatory evidence schedule, otherwise known as the “LEACT List.” This legislation is consistent with the recommendations of the LEACT Commission and supports the critical conversations around transparency and public information that are key components to a functional democracy.”

Chapter 159-E
Presidential Executive Orders Relating to The Right to Keep And Bear Arms

159-E:1 Presidential Executive Orders Relating to the Right to Keep and Bear Arms. Pursuant to the general court’s authority under Part II, Article 5 of the New Hampshire constitution, no person acting under color of state law or as an agent of the state may take any action, expend any funds, or exercise any power of the state of New Hampshire to enforce any Executive Order of the President of the United States, issued after January 20, 2021, that has the purpose or effect of restricting, limiting, encumbering, regulating, or placing conditions upon the right of the people to keep and bear arms pursuant to the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and Part I, Art. 2-a and Art. 24 of the New Hampshire constitution. This provision expressly extends protection to firearms, firearms components, firearms magazines and loading devices, ammunition, firearms supplies, knives, and any other weapons or armaments not prohibited by state law.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Republican Leaders Reject Washington Infringement on 2nd Amendment Rights

Concord, NH - House Majority Leader Jason Osborne (R-Auburn) and Chairman of House Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee Daryl Abbas (R-Salem) released the following statements after the Criminal Justice Committee passed SB154, prohibiting the state from enforcing a Presidential Executive Order that restricts or regulates the rights of the people to keep and bear arms, on a vote of 11-10.

In a press release the following statements were made:

House Majority Leader Jason Osborne commented “After much discussion in Washington over the last few months about Executive Orders that would severely restrict our Second Amendments rights, it is abundantly clear that something has to be done. These potential Executive Orders, or any laws enacted by Congress, would impede New Hampshire citizens' basic rights to defend themselves.” He continued, “New Hampshire’s firearms laws are clear, and as a result, we are consistently ranked as one of the safest states in the nation. This Bill would do nothing to change our current laws, it would simply say that New Hampshire rejects Washington edicts and we will not be enforcing them.”

Chairman Daryl Abbas said, “New Hampshire should not be required to enforce federal laws and executive orders from the President of the United States that restrict the rights to bear arms that are inconsistent with New Hampshire’s laws and traditions.” “If these out of state federal politicians enact policies infringing on our second amendment rights here in New Hampshire, that is their agenda and they should take responsibility for enforcing their agendas especially when the people of New Hampshire have historically rejected these types of infringements.”

In a Statement from Zandra Rice Hawkins, director of GunSense NH, a project of Granite State Progress she commented “Even when they don’t make the headlines, senseless gun tragedies take lives every day and leave lasting trauma in communities, especially communities of color. We all have the right to be safe in our homes, schools, and communities. The Biden Administration and leaders in Congress are working urgently to save lives, and it is frustrating that Chris Sununu and his Republican majors in the State House continue to hold New Hampshire back. SB 154 is unconstitutional, could cause New Hampshire to lose hundreds of thousands of dollars in federal grants and aid, and is designed to block, stop, or delay common sense gun violence prevention efforts. We need to close background check loopholes, stop the proliferation of ghost guns, reign in firearms and accessories that contribute to the death toll in mass shootings, and develop a real plan to address the public health pandemic that is gun violence. SB 154 would be worse than the status quo, blocking any and all efforts led at the national level. It could also prevent New Hampshire from working with the DOJ, FBI, or AFT on major issues like the violent insurrection at the capitol or the growing armed militia and white supremacist activity in the Granite State.”
Obituary

James Moore Eldridge, Sr., age 91, of Amherst, died peaceably at home

AMHERST – James, who went by Jim, was born in Bentonville, AR on 26 February 1930 to Granville Erasmus and Kathryn (Moore) Eldridge. He was a graduate of Bentonville AR High School. Following graduation, he attended the University of Arkansas receiving a BS Degree in Industrial Management in 1952.

He went to work for Western Electric, a subsidiary of AT&T, in Burlington, North Carolina, staying there until the fall of 1957, when he was transferred to the new Teletype plant in Little Rock, AR.


While in NC, he married his high school sweetheart, Genevieve Sue Morgan in August 1952. They were married for 67 years and had three children. She preceded him in death in March 2020.

During retirement his interests and activities included church ministry, family history and traveling.

Family members include daughter Genevieve and husband David Moore, Magnolia, DE; daughter Susan Eldridge, Amherst, NH; and son, James Eldridge, Jr. and wife Kimberly, Lyndeborough, NH; eight grandchildren, Erin Wright, Katye Moore, Gloriana Moore, James Eldridge and wife Maria, Daniel Eldridge and wife Storm, Matthew Eldridge and wife Sara, Abigail and husband Dylan Lundy and Gracie Eldridge; four great grandchildren, Brooklyn, Audrey, Alex and Atlas.

Funeral services are private. In lieu of flowers, donations in Jim’s memory may be made to his hospice provider through Amedisys Foundation, 8 Commerce Dr, Suite 101, Bedford, NH 03110 or to your favorite mission organization. Arrangements are in the care of Smith & Heald Funeral Home, 63 Elm Street, Milford, NH. To share a memory or offer a condolence, please go to www.smith-heald.com.
Landrum to explore history of forests to inform today’s management

ORONO, Maine — When Madeleine (Madi) Landrum hiked the Appalachian and Pacific Crest trails in 2018, she saw thousands of acres of trees devastated by drought-induced wildfires and invasive pests.

“Seeing how damaged the forests were in these gorgeous natural places, I felt that I needed to do something,” says the University of Maine ecology and environmental sciences Ph.D. student.

For Landrum, that includes reconstructing local fire and pollen records to better understand how Wabanaki people used low-intensity fire as an agricultural and forest management tool.

She’ll be reaching out to Penobscot and Passamaquoddy citizens to share in the collaborative project, which could yield additional evidence of long-term indigenous habitation and food production in areas throughout what’s now called Maine.

Reintroducing those practices also would clear underbrush which fuels uncontrolled fires, she says, as well as reduce the tick population that’s negatively impacting the health of people and moose.

Recently, Landrum was awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship for her proposal to reconstruct this prehistory. The three-year fellowship includes an annual stipend, tuition and professional development opportunities.

As the project takes shape, rising temperatures and drought are fueling an increase in the frequency and intensity of forest fires in the Northeast. This past summer, she says 900 fires were recorded in Maine.

Drought-induced fires endanger logging and tourism, both of which are important to the economy.

Maki Landrum grew up in Mont Vernon, NH

Landrum hopes to collect sediment cores from small ponds and forest hollows in sites with Penobscot and Passamaquoddy place names and oral histories — including Mount Desert Island, which is a historical hunting ground; Schodic Peninsula, which translates to “the burnt place” in the Passamaquoddy language; and the Hurundo Site, which is the longest inhabited archaeological site in the area.

One sediment test will be for the presence of pollen types associated with agriculture, which will help indicate whether fire was used to clear land for crops. Landrum will synthesize her findings with existing archaeological, climate and pollen records to assess relationships between population and cultural shifts, climate, vegetation, and fire histories from the local to regional scales.

Since earning her undergraduate degree in environmental biology from Cazenovia College in New York, Landrum has worked in Colorado with the Southwest Conservation Corps, in North Carolina at a plant nursery and at the Highlands Biological Foundation and Station, and in New York at a wilderness survival camp.

She chose UMaine because of its strong interdisciplinary EES program and because she’d be advised by Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology.

“She’s the kind of mentor I want to learn from,” says Landrum. “She makes a positive impact by studying the past.”

Gill says that people have been in Maine from the moment the glaciers melted here, over 13,000 years ago. “The prehistoric perspective is valuable for conservation and management but, too often, the people in those ecosystems are an afterthought, or are left out of the picture entirely,” she says. “Madeleine’s research will help us to weave a much richer, more complete tapestry about the history of our forests, and we’re excited to work with Wabanaki peoples to tell those stories.”

As the end of the semester approaches, first-year graduate students and undergraduate seniors planning to attend graduate school are encouraged to consider developing applications for the NSF GRFP program. The annual submission deadline is in October and more information is on the program website. UMaine’s Graduate School and Office of Research Development holds annual NSF GRFP workshops. Interested students are encouraged to contact Danielle O’Neill, research development specialist, danielle.oneill@maine.edu, for more information.

We’re NH’s #1 Realty by Volume

The Meeting Place, 399 Route 104, Amherst
603-674-1775
www.wernelli.com

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.

Dr. Joseph Raczek
Dr. Sarah Radny
GENERAL OPTOMETRY
500 Nashua Road
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 675-1221

We are a fully equipped practice with state-of-the-art technology and equipment for your comfortable and convenient experience.
**Brenna Desborough of Amherst**

Contributes to Children’s Book

ALLENTOWN, PA - A group of students from Cedar Crest College under the supervision and support of Dr. Ivonne Miranda, assistant professor of education, and Jill Odegard, professor of art and department chair, are the authors and illustrators of a personal narrative children’s book. The writing and illustrations capture the diversity of experiences that exists among students. These books will be donated to a collaborating school and used as mentor texts by teachers and students. Brenna Desborough of Amherst was one of the contributing students.

**Local Assumption Students Inducted Into Sociology International Honor Society**

WORCESTER, MA - The Assumption Department of Sociology & Criminology has announced that 16 students have become a members of Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Honor Society in Sociology. Local students include:

John Mastergeorge of Amherst

"Induction into Assumption’s chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta recognizes students’ commitment to their academic pursuits and making contributions to the field of sociology," said Angela Krasnak-Parks, Ph.D., department chair and associate professor of sociology and criminology. “We are pleased to honor these students and we look forward to witnessing how they will reflect the Society’s purpose “to investigate humanity for the purpose of service.”

Tara LePage of Amherst Named to Assumption’s Rowing Team

WORCESTER, MA - The Assumption Department of Athletics has announced that Tara LePage of Amherst, has been named to the 2021 Rowing team. The team is slated to participate in three competitions in April. “At Assumption University, our student-athletes are committed first to academic excellence and then to their sport,” said Head Rowing Coach Aline Gumula. “Our team is a strong group of competitors who work tirelessly, both in their sport and in the classroom, to achieve their goals. They are focused on building upon the foundation of talent, leadership, and academic and athletic excellence in competing among the elite athletes in our fellow Northeast-10 schools.”

Assumption announced the full return to competition March 11 for all spring sports programs with a number of safety protocols, including COVID-19 testing for student-athletes. Resuming participation in NE10 competition is contingent upon student-athletes’ compliance with COVID-19 health and safety protocols in place by Assumption and NE10 Conference.

**SHS Music Department Announces Spring Concert**

AMHERST – The SHS Music Department will proudly present our Spring Concert in the Park on Wednesday May 26th at 6:00pm. The concert will feature music from SHS Jazz, Concert Band and Choirs. Weather permitting, the concert will be held outside behind the SHS Annex. So, bring your lawn chairs, blankets and picnics and enjoy the show. The concert is free and open to the public. All COVID safety protocols will be in place and concert goers should distance by family.

**Unfortunately, there is no rain date scheduled for this concert.**

**Keene State Theatre and Dance Presents Re[Member]: An Evening of Dance May 6-8**

KEENE – The Keene State College Department of Theatre and Dance presents Re[Member]: An Evening of Dance May 6-8, in the Main Theatre of the Redfern Arts Center. Evening of Dance is an annual tradition that heralds the spring season. This showcase of original dance work by students, faculty, and guest artists, communicates and inspires through a breadth of styles in contemporary modern dance.

Directed by Cynthia McLaughlin, Keene State Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Dance, Re[Member]: An Evening of Dance asks us to examine what this current moment is asking us to assemble and to deconstruct. What in our bodies, our lives, our communities needs to be remembered or dismembered? What have we forgotten? The concert will feature six new dance pieces to include works created by KSC faculty members and choreographers Cynthia McLaughlin and Sarah Lass, KSC senior students Grace Lonergan, Lindsay Gibbons, and Samantha Witham, and a site-based piece by guest artist/ choreographer Ellen Oliver. The evening program features performances by seventeen KSC dancers.

Performances take place at 7:30 p.m. each evening in the Redfern Arts Center’s Main Theatre, with a 2:00 p.m. matinee scheduled for Saturday, May 8. Tickets are available starting on April 22. Tickets are free and in-person seats are offered only to the Keene State College Community. At Keene State, a current COVID-19 testing wristband is required for entry into the building, and masks are required at all times. Reserved seating only; all patrons will be seated alone. The general public can access the performances as a free Livestream performance. Tickets will be available on March 16. Call the Redfern Box Office, 603-358-2168 or online at keene.edu/arts/redfern.

**The University System of New Hampshire Announces Third Consecutive Tuition Freeze for In-State Students**

CONCORD, N.H.—Recognizing the financial challenges faced by many Granite State families due to the pandemic, the University System of New Hampshire (USNH) will freeze tuition for in-state students for the 2021-2022 academic year. This is the third straight year USNH has kept tuition the same for New Hampshire residents.

"Ensuring that public higher education is accessible and affordable for students is a top priority for our institutions as we continue working to serve New Hampshire and to make our colleges and universities the first choice for New Hampshire students," said Cathy Provencer, USNH Vice Chancellor. “This has been an incredibly challenging year in so many ways, and we continue to work to lessen the financial burden on our students and their families, many of whom have suffered job losses, business closures and other impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.” Provencer noted that the ability to freeze in-state tuition for a third year was made possible due to the support of the New Hampshire congressional delegation, our Governor and state legislators. "In the face of financial losses and unanticipated COVID-related expenses for the University System of New Hampshire, this tuition freeze would likely not have happened without their support," added Provencer.

USNH institutions have also committed to providing significant increases in financial aid to students, reducing the overall cost of attendance. Since fall 2016, aid to USNH students has increased from $119M to $161M per year. Granite State College, USNH’s adult serving college with courses primarily delivered online, is recognized as the most affordable bachelor’s degree in New Hampshire.

The University of New Hampshire campuses in Durham and Manchester, Plymouth State University, and Keene State College continue to offer the groundbreaking financial aid program, Granite Guarantee, which makes college affordable for more than 2000 Granite Staters by covering the full cost of in-state tuition for all who qualify. First year through senior year students, along with Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH) graduates who transfer to USNH institutions, benefit from the Granite Guarantee. For more information visit the Granite Guarantee web page at: www.usnh.edu/our-institutions/granite-guar
Artist Roberto Lugo Brings His Joy to The Currier Museum

Ceramicist celebrates his Afro-Latino heritage in a new exhibition

MANCHESTER – The Currier Museum of Art is proud to open an exhibition by artist Roberto Lugo. Now works explore the artist’s cultural identity as tied to family, place, and legacy. Lugo pays homage to his Puerto Rican heritage with the exhibition’s title, *Te trago mi la lala*. He celebrates the joy of creating within a family and community. Inspired both by his family’s agricultural heritage and his own youth in Philadelphia’s Kensington neighborhood, Lugo examines the core ideas of resourcefulness and self-sufficiency shared by those living in both rural and urban settings. Lugo also recognizes these qualities in Manchester, a postindustrial city in a largely rural state.

Roberto Lugo is a Philadelphia-based potter, painter, social activist, muralist, author, poet, and educator. Calling himself the “ghetto potter,” Lugo creates ceramics that subvert traditional forms and techniques by reimagining them with a 21st-century street sensibility inspired by urban graffiti and hip-hop culture. For his exhibition at the Currier Museum, Lugo chose to display his art in conversation with objects from the museum’s collection that speak to traditional art-making in this region. “The Currier Museum has a long history of collecting and displaying studio ceramics, and Roberto Lugo is undoubtedly one of the most significant voices working today,” says Samantha Cataldi, the museum’s curator of contemporary art. “We are honored to partner with Roberto on this highly personal exhibition and to celebrate the joy of creating within a family and community.”

Lugo’s exhibition includes pieces from his early career and objects made by his family. We are excited for the public to experience this free installation and find their own connections to these important themes of community, value, and legacy.”

Roberto Lugo will provide a virtual talk on Tuesday, May 11 at 5 pm. The talk is free and open to the public. Register at currier.org. Lugo will be in residence at the Currier Museum with fellow ceramicist Margaret Kinkade in July when the pair will lead ceramics workshops with the community. More information on this will be announced. In-gallery interpretation for Te trago mi la lala – bring your joy will be provided in both Spanish and English.

---

Fresh Perspectives: Works by NH Artists Peter Milton, Varujan Boghosian, Robert Hughes & More

Exhibition on view in the Tower Gallery at NHAC

Now through August 31, 2021
Open Wednesday — Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MILFORD — New Hampshire Antiqua Co-op presents Fresh Perspectives: Works by NH Artists Peter Milton, Varujan Boghosian, Robert Hughes & More, an exhibition and sale of works featuring paintings, prints, sculptures, assemblages. Also on view are works by Robert Hauser—a contemporary Peterborough, New Hampshire, artist known for his assemblages—as well as sculptures and prints from the private collection of Peter Milton.

Peter Milton (b. 1963) is a renowned New Hampshire artist and internationally recognized printmaker who currently resides in the Monadnock region. His etchings and engravings display an extraordinary degree of photo-realistic themes that incorporate evocative memory and myth. His career works also include paintings and sculptures; this exhibition features many of his early paintings. Milton has held teaching, visiting and artist-in-residence positions at major U.S. colleges and universities, and he has received numerous awards and honors throughout his career. Milton’s work is in major museums, including the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Museum of Modern Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The National Gallery of Art, The Tate Gallery in London, and the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris.

Varujan Boghosian (1926-2020) was a revered New Hampshire artist known for his sculptures, assemblages and collages. His approach incorporated unexpected juxtapositions of found objects and ephemera into his works, drawing inspiration from a variety of sources including literature, art history and music. Boghosian was a former professor of art at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. His artwork is widely acclaimed and can be viewed in museums across the country, including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Art Institute of Chicago, Currier Museum, Whitney Museum of American Art and Philadelphia Museum of Art. Both Boghosian and Milton studied at Yale University under the pioneering color-theory artist Joseph Albers.

Robert Hughes (1915-2004), a distinguished New Hampshire artist and honoree Rhode Island School of Design alumnus, devoted his 43-year teaching career to New Hampshire’s public schools. In 1991, Hughes was honored with the Living Treasure Award from the State of New Hampshire as he continued to sculpt in stone, plaster and wood as well as inscribe and teach thousands of public school students. His work can be found in many public and private collections, including the New Hampshire State Library and the Currier Museum of Art.

Fresh Perspectives: Works by NH Artists Peter Milton, Varujan Boghosian, Robert Hughes & More is on view now through August 31, 2021 in the Tower Gallery at New Hampshire Antiqua Co-op.

New Hampshire Antiqua Co-op is a destination shop for fine art, period furniture, folk art, Americana, silver, collectibles, porcelain, jewelry, books, vintage decor, unique antique finds and more. NHAC is one of the largest group antique shops in the state. Established in 1983 by the Haakler family, the shop features more than 200 dealers and 2,000 consignors. The shop is located at 323 Elm Street in Milford, New Hampshire, and is open Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information or to contact us, please call (603) 673-8499 or visit online at www.mhantiquacoop.com.
Mont Vernon

Daland Memorial Library

Spring Storytime starts May 6th! Miss JoAnn will be in the backyard of the library for Storytime on Thursday mornings at 11:00am in May. This program is open to birth through age 5 children, but older siblings are welcome to join the fun. Registration required. Sign up by calling the library at 673-7988. See you under the tent!

Mont Vernon

Plant Sale
Sponsored by the Friends of the Daland Memorial Library

The Library Trustees, along with the staff, are excited to announce the reopening of the Daland Memorial Library as of Tuesday, April 20th. The Library will be open Tuesday-Thursday 10am-8pm, Friday 2pm-6pm, and Saturday 10am-1pm. Due to the space constraints of the building, Walk Through Service will be provided with a maximum capacity of 3 patrons at one time. Social distancing rules will apply and masks are required in the building. Curbside Pickup will remain open daily as an alternative service to entering the main building. In this phase, there will be no in-person public meetings, no indoor programs, no indoor seating, or access to the public computer. The back yard remains open for outdoor programs, outdoor meetings, and free WiFi as weather permits. We thank the community for their patience and support as we move through the planned phases towards fully reopening. The health and well-being of the community, patrons, and library staff are top priority for the Library Trustees. We look forward to welcoming you back to the library.

Sign Up for the Mont Vernon Monthly Flyer

The Flyer - Mont Vernon's email newsletter

May 2021

The Flyer goes out the 1st week of each month. Subscriptions are required by noon on the final Saturday of each month. If you’re a town-organized group that wants to get the word to more than 100 Mont Vernon households by June 1st, send your subscription by noon on May 21 to MontVernonnews@comcast.net. Words only — 75 word max per piece, please.

To subscribe to the Flyer, send your email address to the link listed at the end of the town website (http://www.montvernon.org).

IN THIS ISSUE: Annual meetings set; Daland Library is open; stones still wanted for wall; Town Hall feedback sought; do you know the Obena?

Annual meetings are coming up

Voting day will be June 6 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Village School. Ballot voting will be held for all open town and school officers, as well as for the budgets and warrant articles for both the Mont Vernon and Souhegan school districts, which operate under the law known as S32. Town government operates under the boardtrust system, so budget and warrant articles will be approved at town meeting.

Town meeting meeting: 2021

The Town meeting is set for June 12, time and place to be announced. Meetings on the budget and warrant articles will be May 10 at 7:00 pm over Zoom.

As soon as the budget is set all the hearing, it will be linked from the front page of this town website.

School District meetings 2021:

The District meeting the first session of the annual school district meetings, when items are advertised and amended, will take place in:

- Monday, May 3, 2021 – 7:00 pm – Souhegan Cooperative School District at High School

Online voting only is available by registering at the following link: montv.mn/jf

- Wednesday, May 5, 2021 – Mont Vernon School District at the Village School

The school board meeting will be at 7:00 pm and the deliberative session will immediately follow at 7:30 pm. Online voting only is available by registering at the following link: sauc2323.org/

No one voting online will have their ability to vote or provide input to the meeting. You must be present to participate.

If you are unable to attend meeting, please call (603) 673-3803 or email svameets@mv.org

Daland Memorial Library news

This Library Trustees, along with the staff, are excited to announce the reopening of the Daland Memorial Library as of Tuesday, April 20th. The Library will be open Tuesday-Thursday 10am-8pm, Friday 2pm-6pm, and Saturday 10am-1pm. Due to the space constraints of the building, Walk Through Service will be provided with a maximum capacity of_C_ patrons at one time. Social distancing rules will apply and masks are required in the building.

Curbside Pickup will remain open daily as an alternative service to entering the main building. In this phase, there will be no in-person public meetings, no indoor programs, no indoor seating, or access to the public computer.

The back yard remains open for outdoor programs, outdoor meetings, and free WiFi as weather permits. We thank the community for their patience and support as we move through the planned phases towards fully reopening. The health and well-being of the community, patrons, and library staff are top priority for the Library Trustees. We look forward to welcoming you back to the library.

Do you have something you’d like to submit for the next flyer?
Send to: montvernonnews@comcast.net

MAY 2021