

House Tour

Preparations continue for the Dec. 6 House Tour. Read about the Robert Means, Jr./Barnabas David House in the Village.

Town News page 7

Schools

Souhegan Fall Theatre Show next Friday and Saturday, November 21, 22 *Broadway Babylon*. Tickets at: www.sprise.com/shs or at the door.

Schools page 14

Arts

Three pages full of exhibits and performances including *The Nutcracker*; November 28-30 at the Palace Theatre.

Arts page 11

Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 11, 2008. Today, we salute our veterans who have preserved our freedom.



BRIEFS

Veillette Featured Speaker at D.A.R. Meeting

The Captain Josiah Crosby Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will have a non-business meeting on Monday, November 17th, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jean Treadwell in Amherst. Our speaker will be New Hampshire State Historical Society Executive Director Bill Veillette who will tell us about the architecture and past residents of the Col. Means House in Amherst village. A warm welcome is extended to any one who would like to attend, especially to women interested in joining DAR. Beginning this year the chapter will be adding occasional evening meetings. At this meeting there will be a collection box for the Amherst Veteran's Hospital in Manchester. They would like men's and women's toiletry items and paperback books. Call Jackie Marshall for more information and directions 673-8029.

AJWC Prepares for 9th Annual Turkey Trot

The 9th Annual Amherst Junior Women's Turkey Trot will be held Friday, November 28th, in the Amherst Village. The proceeds will benefit area charities such as Nashua Children's Home, Families in Transition, David's House, just to name a few. Come walk or run off your Thanksgiving dinner with our 5K, or One Mile Fun Run. Don't miss your chance to get a commemorative T-shirt, given to the first 100 entrants! Register on-line NOW at Coolrunning.com, or look for the registration forms at the Amherst Town Library, Runner's Alley, and Sportshoe Center. Prizes, refreshments, professional timing, and lots of fun!! E-mail Mary Lou Mullens at AmherstTurkeyTrot@comcast.net with any questions.

PTA Reminder!

The PTA's November General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 18th at 7:30 p.m. in the Wilkins Library. Special guest Nancy Head will speak about the next phase of construction at all three schools and answer questions from parents. Our General Meetings also feature reports from the school principals and information about our various committees and volunteer opportunities. All members of the community are welcome to attend.

Local Election Results

84% of the registered voters in Amherst cast ballots in the presidential election on November 4th. Barack Obama received 3,822 (51%) votes and John McCain received 3,536 (47%).

354 voters registered on election day, making 8,941 registered voters in Amherst. Including 1,076 absentee ballots, 7,469 (84%) ballots were cast in the election.

In the race for governor, incumbent Democrat, John Lynch (4,771) defeated the Republican challenger, Joseph Kenney (2,285). The remaining offices on the ballot were won by Republicans with one exception, Democrat Shannon Chandley won one of the eight seats for State Representative.

Election results on page 6.

Medical Ride Service Begins in Souhegan Valley

Beginning on October 1st, rides to medical appointments will be available to people living in the Souhegan Valley towns of Amherst, Brookline, Hollis and Milford. The door-to-door service will be provided by the Nashua Transit System and will be offered on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. For information call 880-0100.

Amherst Heritage Committee

The Amherst Heritage Committee is soliciting proposals from qualified Historical Preservationist firms for assistance with the 9/09 completion of an Area Wide Form for the town of Amherst.

Proposal details may be obtained through Mary Mahar at marysmahar@yahoo.com.

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Next Issue: November 24, 2008

Three Local Girls Earn Girl Scouting's Highest Award

CONCORD--Thanks to the leadership of three area Girl Scouts, local schools have new first aid curriculum, a new governing body, and a blueprint to follow for an extracurricular program about the court system.

Brittany Daniels of Mont Vernon, and Elizabeth Urbanik and Brittany Leknes of Amherst -- all of Senior Girl Scout Troop 01695 -- received their Gold Awards in a ceremony at the New Hampshire State House on November 8, 2008.

The Gold Award is the highest award girls can achieve in Girl Scouting, and



Brittany Leknes



Elizabeth Urbanik



Brittany Daniels

represents many hours of preparation and accomplishment. Girls age 14-18 must earn the Girl Scout Gold Leadership Award, which involves completing three Senior Girl Scout interest projects, a focus book, and doing 30

hours in a leadership role. They must also earn the Gold Career Award and the Girl Scout Gold 4Bs (Become, Belong, Believe and Build) Challenge.

The final requirement is to design, implement and complete a Girl Scout Gold Award project that includes at least 65 hours of work.

The project should build on that girl's unique skills and experience, meet an expressed need in the community, and serve people beyond Girl Scouting.

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Halloween in Amherst



Clark School students parade around the school yard in Halloween costumes. More photos on page 10.

Parents Want Band and Chorus Schedule Changed at AMS

By Cliff Ann Wales

Amherst Middle School has always enjoyed an excellent reputation for its chorus and band programs. The large number of students grades 5th through 8th committed to the program is a testament to the teachers and the commitment on the part of the town.

However, at the November 6th Amherst School Board meeting a large contingent of parents and students filled the meeting room at Town Hall waiting for their chance in public time to complain about the band and chorus program.

Susan Abis told the board members that the music program is part of the core curriculum at Amherst Middle School and in No Child Left Behind. She said that the drop out rate in

chorus and band is up and pointed out that music reinforces excellence in children. A study she cited done by NAMM, Association for Music manufacturers and Retailers show a strong correlation between a quality music program and overall academic achievement. She described the scheduling at AMS at the pullout method; students miss a special a week to go to band or chorus. She said that 5th grade band students miss 20% of their weekly specials (art, music, life skills, tech ed, computers and health). The same is also true of 5th-8th grade bands and choruses.

Lisa Hansen, a student teacher and a 2004 graduate of Souhegan High School, said her passion in life is music, which started

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Master Planning Notes

Master Plan: Assessing Our Goals and A Draft to Read

RICHARD HART, PLANNING BOARD MEMBER

We move ahead with a Master Plan for Amherst, but questions remain. Goals for each of the 8 Master Plan elements have been developed. A first draft of the Master Plan, based on these goals, will be available before the next meeting. The goals and the draft Master Plan will be the focus of the next Master Plan meeting, on Nov. 19th. That meeting is open to all Amherst citizens.

At the October 16th meeting the current goals were discussed, but additional discussion was still thought necessary by members of the steering committee. Arnie Rosenblatt wants to discuss clustered housing and mixed use developments, which he said had not yet been thoroughly debated. There was also an effort

to reduce the number and complexity of the goals. That effort resulted in a slightly shorter list of goals. More reductions and changes may be desired, especially in the elements with the longest lists, including transportation, recreation, and public facilities. Element goals are outlined below.

Land Use

Land use goals reflect goals of other elements. They describe how we want land in town to be used and how zoning regulations should reflect out goals. Two land use themes sum up many of our goals: protecting open space and preservation of our rural and historic character.

Historic and Cultural Resources

The thrust of the historic and cultural resources

Continued on page 7 ►

PMEC Completes Addition to Building



COURTESY PHOTO

Guests of honor at the PMEC ribbon cutting were Jan Woodbury and Tin Bacon for all their contributions to PMEC. Selectmen Brad Galinson and Reed Panasiti look on.

Woodbury and Bacon Were Honored at PMEC Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

By Cliff Ann Wales

The road to Peabody Mill Environmental Center starts off as a back road and ends as a dirt road which helps prepare you for the restorative woodland setting of PMEC. Perhaps you and your family are familiar with this town facility and all it offers, if not you may want to check out all the programs and edu-

cation going on at the end of Brook Road. The newly completed addition to their building which was once the home of Tin and Chuck Bacon is nestled among tall trees, gardens, a pond and trails through the Joe English reservation.

On October 19th a "Grapevine Cutting Ceremony" was

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SHELLEY OSBORNE COURTESY PHOTO

Learn about vintage costume jewelry, such as these wonderful exemplars, on Nov. 19!

Vintage Jewelry Presentation

By Katrina Holman

AMHERST - On Wednesday, November 19 at 9:30 am, Shelley Osborne, a long-time collector and purveyor of vintage jewelry, is presenting an enlightening and educational show-and-tell seminar explaining the ins and outs of buying and preserving vintage costume jewelry. Shelley's hour-long talk will cover such topics as "what makes one piece of

jewelry more valuable than another" and "does vintage jewelry require special care," and it will include a mini history of costume jewelry through the eras. She will discuss many styles and types of jewelry from different eras, including late 19th and early 20th century, retro moderne, 1930s to 1960s signed and unsigned, as well as French, and the world of

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9th Annual Junior Women's

Turkey Trot

Friday, November 28th
Amherst Village Green

Come Walk or Run off your Thanksgiving Dinner at our 5k, or One Mile Fun Run

First 100 entrants get a commemorative T-Shirt Register On-Line Now at www.Coolrunning.com or fill in the form on page 4 and mail in.

Amherst Town Library, Runners Alley and Sportshoe Center have Registration Forms.

Prizes, refreshments, professional timing and lots of fun!!

Email Mary Lou Mullens at AmherstTurkeyTrot@comcast.net with questions All proceeds go to local charities.