

AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY

Amy Lapointe, Library Director
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web http://www.amherst.lib.nh.us
Mon-Thu, 9:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Fri & Sat, 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sun, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Open Play Time

Everyone is welcome to join us in Open Play Time on Tuesdays, December 16 and 30. You can drop in anytime from 10-12 to the Johnson Room.

We will have lots of toys out. This is a great way to socialize and meet some other families in town!

Guitar Hero Tournament

Think you can win the title of Guitar Hero Rocker? Want to end 2008 with a musical encore? Join us on Wednesday, December 31st from 1-4 in the Johnson Meeting Room. Open to all ages, you must sign up by skill level to be placed in tournament grid. Call 673-2288, e-mail Jackie at jbiger@amherst.lib.nh.us. Or sign up downstairs!

Traditional Storytimes

Our next session of storytimes will begin on Tuesday, January 6th and run for 8 weeks through the end of February. No registration is required for these sessions, please come when you can!

Babies-2 meet on Tuesdays at 10am
2 year olds meet on Tuesdays at 11:15am
3 year olds meet on Wednesdays at 11am
4 and up meet on Wednesdays at 3:30

Saturday, Jan. 31 at 10:30: Honk! Jr.

Join us for a sneak peek into this year's AMS musical: Honk! Jr. This 20 minute musical presentation will be followed by a fun craft. Great for the whole family! No registration is required.

All Day Craft: Wednesday, Feb. 11 from 10-5

Drop in the Children's Room anytime from 10-5 to make a Valentine for someone you love. No registration is required. All ages welcome!

School Vacation Week

We have planned an exciting variety of activities for February Vacation. Join us for some free family fun!

Tuesday, Feb. 24 from 2-4: Diary of a Wimpy Kid

Quiz Game and Diary-Making Event. (Or as Greg Hefley would say, it isn't a DIARY it is a JOURNAL) Join us for a fun quiz game (yes, there will be prizes) followed by a craft. Registration IS required for this event, open to 3rd graders and Up.

Wednesday, Feb. 25 from 10-4: Make a Museum!

The Johnson Meeting Room will be temporarily transformed into Amherst's own premiere collection of Children's Art. Join us anytime during the day to create your own masterpiece, right on the wall! NO registration is required, all ages welcome. The Gallery Hokey-Pokey will be open for 4 weeks and available for public viewing during library hours.



Thursday, Feb. 26 at 6:30: Movie Showing: Night at the Museum

Join us for a Family Movie Night in the library's own Gallery Hokey-Pokey (see above).

The movie will start promptly at 6:30, runs for 110min and is rated PG. No registration is required. Popcorn will be served. Please bring a pillow. PJ's are always welcome!

Friday, Feb 27 from 2-4: Hot Wheels Party

Do you love Hot Wheels? Join us anytime to drive your hot wheels on a giant map of Amherst! Race them on our special racetrack! Play a rousing game of Red Light, Green Light! Fun stories about cars will also be read periodically throughout the event.

Ten Ways to Bust Boredom

- Finding that the short days make nights longer? Want to entertain the children and grandchildren? Here is list of ten ways the Children's Room at the library can help bust boredom!
- 1) Check out some puzzles. We have many puzzles available for check-out just like a book.
 - 2) Learn about someone new. The Biography section in the Children's Room has a wide variety of interest and reading level. "Snowflake Bentley", the man who figured out how to photograph snowflakes is a great place to start!
 - 3) Bake Together! We have over 30 different shapes of cake pans available for check out, or maybe you are in the mood for some new recipes? Check out the books located at J641.5.
 - 4) Discover a new character. Have you met Fancy Nancy (Jane O'Connor) Pigeon (Mo Willems) or Bear (Karma Wilson)?
 - 5) Re-discover a character! Winnie-the-Pooh, Trixie Belden, Pippi Longstocking, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle, Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys are still here waiting for you!
 - 6) Make it a Movie Night. We have both VHS and DVDs to choose from!
 - 7) Pluto is no longer a planet. Find out what happened to change his status in our galaxy at J623.4.
 - 8) Make the car ride a bit easier on the whole family. Besides stocking up on books, you can pick from a great selection of audio books to listen while en route for the holidays.
 - 9) Easy on the pocketbook. All you need is a library card to check out anything from the library!
 - 10) Change of scenery. We have two cozy window seats, a couch, toys that are not your own (which can make them more fun) puppets, coloring supplies, game computers, and a staff that would love to have you visit.

It's About Conservation

How Far To Forever

By BRUCE B. BECKLEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



In an earlier life, I would arrive at my Plaza Tower office before the winter sun would rise out of a ruby-colored eastern sky. The first light would strike the AT&T antenna across the street where a peregrine falcon often waited to pick off an unwary squab for breakfast. On one such morning, a brilliant orange beacon reflected back from the otherwise invisible windows of the Pack Monadnock fire tower 20-plus miles away. Before quitting time arrived the sun would play out its act in reverse, setting behind the Uncanoonuc Mountains in a sky of mixed golden and red shades laced by contrails.

South of the Uncanoonucs there's a place in Amherst where the atmospheric light shows are played on a natural wide screen. No office desk to look across – just trees, fields, valleys and hills of the Monadnock Range. To the east the control tower at Pease airport penetrates the horizon; to the north are the double peaks of North and South Uncanoonuc; to the south hills with North American names like Wataic and Wachusett rise above the glacially formed peneplain. How distant is forever?

There is another forever – the forever of decades and centuries, the forever of keeping these open views of the sky and hills and watercourses undeveloped – void of manufactured boxes and blacktop. Wouldn't that be an achievement! How far to forever? Forever is as close as the voting booth in March.

Purchase of the 104-acre Martin property on Fellows Farm Road in conjunction with the Town of Bedford is supported by the Amherst and Bedford Conservation Commissions, the Amherst Open Space Advisory Committee and Planning Board. The land, a mixture of woods and hayfields, shelters a portion of the Pulpit Brook watercourse and connects other protected lands to the north and south. Purchase of the Martin property will be a big step towards preserving a natural greenway corridor for wildlife, recreation and water supply that can reach from Grater Woods in Merrimack through Pond Parish to Pulpit Rock in Bedford.

It always hurts to see any increase in our taxes. The time is never just right. In this case, there's a good overriding reason: It's Forever!



Martin property on Fellow Farm Road.



Girl Scouts from Amherst and Mont Vernon with leaders Tilea Toy, Irene Alton and Dorothee Daniel.

It's Girl Scout Cookie Time!

She may be the only 92-year-old to have her own MySpace page. She's a Capricorn from Savannah, Georgia, and you know her well. She's the Girl Scout Cookie, that American icon that comes around only once a year. Because we'd like her to linger longer, many of us stockpile these decadent delights in the freezer to prolong the excitement.

Last year in Swift Water Council, covering all of New Hampshire and eastern Vermont, Girl Scouts sold 1,235,304 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies. Thirty-four girls achieved "Cookie Diva" status, selling more than 1,000 boxes each. Thanks to donations from customers, businesses, and veterans' group, the council sent more than 12,000 boxes to U.S. servicemen and women through Operation Cookie.

Girl Scout Cookies are now offered in eight varieties, including a sugar-free version of the American classic chocolate chip cookie, and the brand-new caramel confection, Dulce de Leche. All of the favorites have returned: Thin Mints, Samoas, chocolate and peanut butter Tagalongs, Trefoil shortbreads, peanutty Do-si-dos, and last year's newcomer, Lemon Chalet Cremes. Girl Scout Cookies are kosher foods with zero grams of trans fat per serving.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program enables girls to attend camp, have endless enjoyable learning opportunities (Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains offers more than 100 programs for girls) and learn valuable leadership skills. Each box of cookies costs \$3.50. After the

baker is paid, the rest stays locally, going for camperships, hundreds of program opportunities for Girl Scouts, and the everyday expenses of running each troop and the council.

Call the Cookie Hotline: 627-4158 ext. 201, and leave a message including the name of your town, and someone will get back to you. Girl Scout Cookies will be delivered in the middle of February.

For more information, call 627-4158 or 888-474-9686, or visit www.swgirlscouts.org. The Swift Water Council merged with the Council of Vermont this month to form the Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, serving New Hampshire and Vermont. For more on this new council, see www.girlscoutsgwm.org.

Souhegan High School Winter 2009

Evening Enrichment Courses & Workshops

General Information: Check http://www.sprise.com/shs for a detailed schedule and courses descriptions.

To register: Call 673-9940 ext "317" during school hours or email mpaul@sprise.com to register. Course size is limited to space available. The courses will be filled with the first registered and payments before the first class will secure your seat. The cost of the course is based on the number of weeks the course meets and residence in the SHS School District.

All courses and workshops meet at Souhegan High School – 412 Boston Post Rd. Amherst, NH 03031.

Monday

SCRAPBOOKING WORKSHOP

Teacher: Laurie Kozak
Dates: 9/22, 9/29, 10/6
Time: 7:00 – 9:00pm
Cost: Each workshop \$15.00 for residents, \$20.00 for non-residents
Discount for all 3 workshops: \$40.00 for residents, \$55.00 for non-residents

A birth certificate shows you were born. A death certificate shows that you died. A photo album shows that you lived. YOUR albums are a continuous celebration of your life, preserving not only your history but also who you are. Imagine your stories lasting forever - imagine the lifetimes of enjoyment. The instructor

has been teaching scrapbooking for more than ten years.

There are three sections that can be taken separately or as a series. These are described below.

1. Power Sorting

This class is the answer to photo organization. Organize by album project, event, subject, or by whatever makes sense to you. The Power Sort Box holds 2,400 photos so bring with you all the photos you can find in your house. Don't be afraid to wheel it all in. We will purge and sort, and you'll be amazed! A \$40 materials fee is payable to the instructor. Pre-payment in this workshop will secure your materials.

2. Beginner Scrapbooking

Everyone has a story to tell, and this class will help you begin your story. We'll share stories and create a keepsake. You'll learn how easy it is to tell your story through photographs, memorabilia, and journaling. It is simple, fast, and fun! One session.

3. A Year Of Borders

One border for each major holiday plus some bonus borders will set you up for an entire year of scrapbooking! We'll have fun while creating and learning new scrapbook techniques. A \$5 materials fee is payable to the instructor. One session.

BODY SOUL RHYTHMS (YOGA/ DANCE)

Teacher: Gloria Brye
Dates: 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10
Time: 6:00-7:30pm
Cost: \$70.00 for residents, \$75.00 for non-residents

A unique approach to movement combining yoga and dance. It is sometimes wild and filled with abandon and sometimes quiet and graceful. Joyful and fun are words that have been used to describe this freeing experience. Benefits include discovering the unique dancer you already are as we put yoga poses to music (no partner necessary, no experience necessary). You will tone muscles, build flexibility, endurance and cardiovascular fitness. Instructor Gloria Brye has been integrating body, mind and soul experiences for over 12 years. In these classes she has a fun, energetic approach to yoga/dance and movement that allows you to reach for the deeper source of energy within as you revel in the celebration of life.

Tuesday

WATERCOLOR PAINTING

Teacher: Kevin Dadoly
Dates: 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, (No class 2/24) 3/3, 3/10
Time: 7:00-9:00pm
Cost: \$60.00 for residents and \$70.00 for non-residents

Join Kevin Dadoly as he instructs this popular studio course designed to enhance and challenge all levels of watercolor artists from the beginner to the exhibiting artist! Expect to explore all types of painting techniques, and subject matter, in an enjoyable and positive environment.

FRENCH CUISINE – PART II

Teacher: Elizabeth Skipper
Dates: 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, (No class 2/24) 3/3, 3/10
Time: 6:00 – 9:00pm
Cost: \$90.00 for residents, \$100.00 for non-residents plus a lab fee for ingredients. Pre-payment will secure your spot in a very limited class.

France is famous throughout the world for its food and wines. Whether it's haute cuisine, bistro, or home cooking, the French take their dining seriously.

We'll look at the gastronomic regions of France and prepare typical dishes such as quiche Lorraine, ratatouille, coq au vin, hollandaise sauce, cheese soufflé, and mousse au chocolat. Learn the fundamentals of French technique, and you will know how to cook. Class is primarily demonstration, with some hands-on. As always, there will be lots of tips and tricks sprinkled throughout. Printed recipes are provided.

The instructor is Elizabeth Skipper, an accomplished personal chef and culinary teacher, of The Everyday Epicure.

Wednesday

MANGIA! ITALIAN COOKING

Teacher: Regina Sullivan
Dates: 1/28, 2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 3/4, 3/11
Time: 6:00pm-8:30pm
Cost: Each class \$20.00 for residents, \$25.00 for non-residents
Discount for all 6 classes: \$90.00 for residents, \$100.00 for non-residents

Join me in the kitchen for a fun, hands-on Italian Cooking experience. Choose 1 or more nights. Special rate if you sign up for all six! Bring your own take away containers, just in case there are any leftovers.

Week 1: Learn to make fried calamari, Italian bread sticks and for dessert: Fried Pumpkin Ravioli

Week 2: Learn to make stuffed artichokes. While those are steaming we will make homemade ricotta cheese and use that to fill homemade cannoli shells for dessert!

Week 3: Learn to make homemade orrechietti pasta with broccoli rabe and sausages, and for dessert homemade peach or strawberry gelato

Week 3: Learn to make antipasti including homemade wedding soup,

fresh mozzarella cheese, and Bruschetta.

Week 4: Learn to make minestrone soup and while that is simmering we will make homemade Italian sausages to bring home.

Week 5: Learn to make a variety of risottos and for dessert: Biscotti!

Week 6: Learn to make homemade spinach and cheese ravioli, served with sage-butter sauce
Lab fee \$30 for 6 weeks OR \$6.00 for individual nights.

Thursday

YOGA: MOVING INTO PEACE

Teacher: John Silva
Dates: 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, (No class 2/26) 3/5, 3/12
Times: 7:00 – 8:30-pm
Cost: \$70.00 for residents, \$80.00 for non-residents

We will focus primarily on yoga postures and breath work, with some seated meditation and occasional free-form movement. Each week we will emphasize one or two postures in detail. We will empower body, mind, and spirit toward peace. Each class will last 90 minutes, the last part of which will be a relaxation period. This course is appropriate for all levels of experience, especially beginners. Participants should bring a yoga mat or large towel, a cushion or yoga wedge, and throw or blanket for relaxation