

# Town News

## AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY

Amy Lapointe, Library Director  
14 Main St., Amherst NH  
Phone 673-2288 Fax 672-6063  
email: library@amherst.lib.nh.us  
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.

### Traditional Storytimes

Regular storytimes are underway!  
Our current session will run for 8 weeks through the end of February.  
No registration is required, 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 Heffley 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.

## It's About Conservation

# No Forked Tongues, Please

By Bruce B. Beckley  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



Do I stand back and sing with Doris Day, "Whatever will be, will be"? Does white man speak with forked tongue? Have I mis-read mixed signals? Do I vote to raise my opportunities for outdoor enjoyment and my taxes a little today – or – for lower taxes and to increase the enjoyment of the outdoor experience forever? Is opportunity forgone, truly opportunity lost? For that there is an obvious answer, YES.

Is open space any good for you anyway? You have read the pros and cons. You must decide and make your mark in the red, white and blue booth March 10th. That's when Warrant Article 24 to protect the natural space of the Martin property on Fellows Farm Road is voted upon. Four years ago in these same booths a super majority said, YES, we want to protect significant open spaces in Amherst and YES we are willing to take on the costs of a bond to do so.

Now we get to vote again. We vote whether (with Bedford) to keep 104 gorgeous acres free from subdivision - forever. Vote YES for diversified habitats and an environmental quality of life. Vote Yes for watershed protection, the rural character we appreciate and space for expanded personal recreation trails close to home. I hope the vote is YES and we are not speaking with forked tongues. It's good that the Ways & Means Committee first voted unanimously to support Article 24and now the Board of Selectmen have done so also.

Whenever the subject of spending money for natural space protection comes up, the question

is asked, "Why not protect more in the south end of town?" It's a very legitimate question.

If the town were divided between north and south halves area-wise, the line would approximately bisect Baboosic Lake Road near The Fells community and continue to Lyndeborough Road. South of that line there are approximately 500 acres managed by the Amherst Conservation Commission. That's about a quarter of the total town-owned conservation land. In addition, there are several hundred acres protected as open spaces around subdivisions. This seems to bear out the disparity across town of the conservation-managed acreage. Why?

There are several reasons: 1) larger parcels do lie in the north half of town, 2) More and larger land and easement donations have been made by north-half residents, and 3) the biggie, more owners in the north have been willing sellers. It takes two to tango and to effect a land transaction, a willing buyer and a willing seller.

Several offers have been extended to south-half owners by the ACC and the Open Space Committee only to fall on deaf ears, so far. A prime focus of both groups plus the Amherst Land Trust has been to protect parcels within the greenway from Grater Woods to Pond Parish and on to the Bragdon Farm. Sorry to report, no luck so far.

Please vote YES on Article 24 to all the qualities of 104 naturally beautiful acres from being subdivided for more homes.



David Howse will perform at the Amherst Town Library, Tuesday, February 17 at 7 p.m.

## A Great Cry Of Soul at the Library

of Soul," travel on a one-hour journey from the beginning days of the Negro spirituals through the gems of the Harlem Renaissance to the rarely performed classical art songs of Black American composers such as William Grant Still, Margaret Bonds, and Harry T. Burleigh.

Explore the musical and historical significance of both music and poetry, including works by black poets such as Langston Hughes. David weaves performance and commentary together to create a thought provoking evening. Tap into this powerful music that celebrates the triumph of the human spirit. Experience first-hand this passionate music through guided listening, call and response singing, and rhythmic clapping.

David Howse is a multifaceted artist skilled as a solo performer, innovative teacher and arts administrator. He has performed in venues

including Boston's Jordan Hall, Symphony Hall, the French Library and Cultural Center, and the Humbach Theaterhof in Germany. A resident of the Boston area, David holds degrees from Bradley University and New England Conservatory and is a member of the National Association of Negro Musicians. In addition to his private studio, David has served on the teaching faculties at the University of New Hampshire and the Franklin School for the Performing Arts. A graduate of the 2005 Emerging Leaders Program, David currently serves as the Director of Operations and Programs at the Boston Children's Chorus.

This event is free and open to the public. Please register for these events by calling 673-2288, emailing library@amherst.lib.nh.us or by visiting our website at www.amherst.lib.nh.us and selecting "Calendar of Events."

## Peabody Mill Environmental Center February Programs

Our snowshoe rentals have been very popular and we're gearing up for some great programs. Here is a list of programs that we have scheduled in January.

### Leave No Child Inside - An Evening in the Woods

Send your child to the PMEC to reconnect with nature! The Joe English reservation is an enchanting place at night. Your child will love outdoor activities such as star gazing, night hikes, and observing animal habitats. Once inside, children will enjoy snacks, games and crafts. Each child will come home with a nature themed craft. Children must be school aged. Please dress your child in appropriate outdoor clothing.  
Children grades K-8.  
When: Fridays - 2/13, 3/13  
Where: PMEC  
Time: 6:00-9:00PM  
Fee: \$20 Amherst Resident/night, \$30 Nonresident/night

### Animal Tracking-Snowshoe Hike

Learn some tracking basics and explore the Joe English woods looking for clues of where animals are in the winter. Snowshoes are available if needed. Instructor: PMEC Naturalist  
When: Saturdays - 2/14, 2/21, 3/14 & 3/21  
Where: PMEC  
Time: 2:00-3:00PM  
Fee: \$6 Amherst Resident, \$8 Nonresident  
\$15 Amherst Resident family (3+ people), \$20 Nonresident family (3+ people)

### Under the Moon Hikes

Join us for stories and a walk in the woods along easy paths that accommodate people of all ages. Let PMEC staff help you find your way around the night sky. Bring a flashlight to help you navigate uneven terrain.  
When: FULL MOON HIKES  
Friday, 3/13 at 7:00PM  
NEW MOON HIKES  
Friday, 2/27 at 7:00PM  
Friday, 3/27 at 7:00PM  
Where: PMEC or pre arranged site-Participant will be notified.  
Fee: \$6 Amherst Resident, \$8 Nonresident  
\$15 Amherst Resident family (3+ people), \$20 Nonresident family (3+ people)

### Leave No Child Inside School Vacation Day Programs

Are you wondering what your children will do on their school vacation days? Send them to the PMEC where they'll spend the day learning about and enjoying nature! Content topics vary from day to day depending on weather. Enjoy indoor & outdoor activities such as Hiking, Fishing, Animal Tracking, Nature Crafts, Songs, Stories, and Games! Bring snack, drink(s), and lunch (if staying all day). Dress your child in appropriate clothing including layers for outdoor activities. Please pack an extra set of clothing, shoes, and socks.  
When: Monday 2/16 (Teacher Inservice), Monday 2/23- Friday 2/27 (Winter Recess)  
Where: PMEC  
Time: Half Day 9:00AM-Noon or 1:00-4:00PM

Full Day 7:30AM-5:30PM  
Fee: \$20 Half Day Amherst Resident, \$30 Half Day Nonresident, \$40 Full Day Amherst Resident, \$50 Full Day Nonresident, \$175 Full Week Amherst Resident, \$185 Full Week Nonresident

### Snowshoe Rentals

Snowshoes are available in a variety of sizes for <30 lbs. to >220 lbs. If you can walk, you can snowshoe! Rent in person during PMEC hours of operation.  
When: Monday & Tuesday 9AM-1PM  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday 12:00-4:00PM  
Fee: \$6 per resident / \$8 per non-resident maximum four hour usage or \$20 for 24 hour rental  
\$15 Amherst Resident family (3+ people), \$20 Nonresident family (3+ people)

### GPS Rentals

Have you always wanted to use a GPS, but don't even know how they work? Rent a GPS unit! Basic instruction is available. Rent in person during PMEC hours of operation.  
When: Monday & Tuesday 9AM-1PM  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday 12:00-4:00PM  
Fee: \$10

If you have any questions, please feel free reply to this e-mail or call us at 673-1141 or the Amherst Recreation Department at 673-6248. Register online at www.amherstrec.org. All programs require pre-registration.

## "Model Forest" Tour at Joe English Reservation, February 28

The Forest Guild, a national organization of professional foresters, headquartered in Santa Fe, NM has designated over 1,200 acres of the Amherst Conservation Commission's forested lands as a "Model Forest". Amherst's forests have joined a select group of exemplary model forests nationwide. Join the Amherst Conservation Commission and the Forest Guild for a celebration of this designation with a walk through of a timber harvest area in the Joe English Reservation (dress appropriately; snowshoes may be necessary)

Peabody Mill Environmental Center  
Joe English Reservation, end of Brook Road  
Amherst, NH • Saturday, February 28, 2009;  
10:00am – 1:00 pm  
532-6118; 673-5467

### AGENDA:

10:00 – 10:15

Introduction & Brief History of ACC's Management Plan and Actions – Charlie Koch

10:15-10:30

Introduction & Award of Model Forest Designation – Bob Perschel (Forest Guild); John Harvey (ACC); Charlie Koch

10:30-1:00

Timber Harvest Tour – Joe English Reservation Bicentennial and Hemlock Trails

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# Isn't it time to just enjoy life?

Stop worrying about home maintenance costs and repairs.

Come visit Hillcrest Terrace Retirement Community and see for yourself how enjoyable retirement living can be. You'll have many beautiful apartment styles to choose from, plus you can take pleasure in maintenance-free living that's affordable. Assisted living options are also available. Isn't it time you stop worrying – *and just enjoy life?*

Call today for more information or to schedule a tour of our community.

Ask about Pearl Manor Assisted Living.

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Natural, beautiful, durable and healthy.

### BAMBOO

Bamboo flooring combines elegance, versatility, form and function, making this natural product an ideal flooring solution for you. The demand for Bamboo has been increasing for many years because of its unique beauty and elegance. Bamboo is now one of the preferred materials for interior designers. Trend-setting and aesthetically pleasing, Bamboo combines hard wearing capabilities and ecological considerations. Bamboo presents an unmistakably high quality surface appearance giving any space a great, fresh look! Bamboo is environmentally sound. Renewable, recyclable and biodegradable.

### CORK

Cork flooring is a healthy choice and good investment that will last for generations. Comprised of a renewable natural material, cork is environmentally friendly, as much as it promotes improved health and comfort. Cork floors create a warm, comfortable, resilient surface that is gentle underfoot, is anti-microbial, fire-resistant, and is inherently resistant to molds, mildews, and common pests such as termites.

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EVENINGS BY APPOINTMENT