From the Office of The Superintendent of Schools SAU 39

Finalists Chosen For Souhegan **Principal Position**

Two finalists for the Souhegan principalship have been sent forward for further consideration from the Search Committee to the broader Souhegan community. On Wednesday, May 27th, Sue M. Gee and Joseph P. Dillon will be interviewed by groups of students, parents, faculty and administrators throughout the day at the high



Sue Gee of Rockport, MA, currently serves as Superintendent of the Quabbin Regional School District in Barre, Massachusetts.

She also has served as Superintendent of Gill-Montague Schools in Turners Fall, Ma, and has been a middle and high school principal in Gloucester, MA and Arlington, VT respectively.

Joe Dillon of Hollis, NH, currently serves as Principal at Melrose High School, Melrose, MA and previously was the Principal of Groton-Dunstable Regional High School in Groton, MA. He has been a teacher and coach at Arlington High School in Arlington,

After further interviews and possible site visits, a nomination from Superintendent Mary Athey Jennings to the Souhegan Co-operative School District may be made as early as the first week

The position became available last month when the current SHS Principal Scott Prescott announced his resignation from the District for personal reasons.

> Mary Athey Jennings, Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools

From the Amherst School Board

Wilkins School Renovations **Policy**

The Amherst School Board and the Souhegan Cooperative School Board plan to provide information from their monthly meetings in alternate issues of *The Amherst Citizen*. Highlights from the May 7 Amherst School Board meeting include:

Dwight Brew, Amherst School Board Chairman for the past three years, was presented with an engraved gavel in appreciation for leading the board with integrity, dedication, and vision.

The Communication Committee, made up of Amherst School Board members, administrators, teachers, and citizens, is working on a communications plan that will allow the board to meet its annual goal of increasing communication with the townspeople about the schools' goals. The committee will be presenting the plan to the board in the near future.

The 2009 school renovation work at the Wilkins School has begun during the after school hours in order to assure being finished by school opening in the fall. The contractors are working in the area above the ceilings; each night they replace the ceiling tiles that they have moved so that there is no disruption to the school. Work will not begin at Clark School until the middle of June.

Nicole Heimarck, SAU Curriculum Coordinator, presented the accelerated math placement rubric showing how students are chosen for advanced placement in grades 6-11. Students who receive advanced placement are monitored closely for gaps in their knowledge, and instruction is provided as needed. Parental concerns about the long-term ramifications of placement were discussed.

Amherst School Board members signed the tuition agreement between Amherst and Mont Vernon School Districts that the voters approved in the March elections. This agreement allows the continued education of the Mont Vernon youngsters in the 7th and 8th grades at the Amherst Middle School through June 2021

Nicole Heimarck presented the Adequate Yearly Progress results from the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP), the testing program developed to meet No Child Left Behind requirements. Although whole school results were strong in reading and mathematics for both the Wilkins and Amherst Middle Schools, the educational disability groups did not meet the target performance. Because this is the second year in a row that the target was not met by the Wilkins educational disability group, the school has been designated as a school in need of improvement. Gerry St. Amand, Principal of the Clark-Wilkins Schools, Renea Sparks, Special Education Coordinator, and Nicole Heimarck discussed with the board the measures that were being taken to remedy the situation.

A presentation on scheduling changes at the Amherst Middle School given by Principal Porter Dodge was followed by a question and answer period by the board. The changes will take effect next

Agenda items for the next meeting, June 4, will include a report on the year-long goals (FY09) for Clark/Wilkins and Amherst Middle School, and reports on Middle School math scheduling. Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. at the Souhegan High School library/media center and are televised on Channel 21. Meeting minutes are

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School News

► Students in the News continued from page 9

proceedings will recognize more than 210 undergraduate and 115 graduate students who have earned their associates, bachelors, or masters degrees or an advanced graduate certificate at the university's college in Manchester.

The following UNH Manchester Amherst graduates have earned an associates, bachelors, or masters degree or certificate of advanced graduate studies between September 2008 and September 2009 and will be recognized at the May 21, 2009, commencement.

Graduates who have earned associate and bachelors degree:

Amherst:

Stephanie Marie Maniscalco, AA **General Studies** September 2008

Stephanie Meredith Anifant, BA **Communication Arts Cum Laude** December 2008

Christopher David Mazerall, AS May 2009

Jessica Ann Visinski, BA **Psychology** May 2009

Mont Vernon:

Anmorva Christa Nolan, BS **Computer Information Systems** Magna Cum Laude September 2008

Jacqueline M. Bailey **Business**

May 2009

Graduate from Amherst who has earned a masters degree is:

Nicole M. Heimarck, MED **Educational Admin&Supervision** May 2009

Brandeis University Announces Graduates

Marissa R. Goodman, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Jory Goodman formerly of Amherst graduated from Brandeis University, Waltham MA on Sunday, May 17th, magna cum laude with degrees in English and American literature and Hispanic studies. Marissa is a graduate of Souhegan High School. She will be attending Medical School in the

Local Residents Receive Degrees At 141st WPI Commencement

The following Amherstl residents graduated May 16 from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI).

Kenneth Jay Breeman III, son of Mr. Kenneth J. Breeman Jr of Amherst. New Hampshire, was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science with High Distinction.

Lawrence Eriss, of Amherst, New Hampshire, was awarded a Master of Science degree in Manufacturing Engineering.

U Conn Commencement

The University of Connecticut reports that Matthew Lyndon Anderson of Amherst received his bachelor of science degree in political science at the 2009 commence-

Amherst Students Named To NHTI Dean's List CONCORD— The following Am-

herst students have been named to

the Dean's List at NHTI, Concord's Community College in recognition of their academic achievement dur-

ing the Spring 2009 semester: AMHERST: Michael Doheny, Michael Henenberg, Danielle Jones

University of New Hampshire May 2009 Graduates

The following students from Amherst and Mont Vernon graduated from the University o New Hampshire in May of 2009.

Amherst:

Erin J. Berry (BS) Caitlin C. Bingham (BA) Matthew D. DiPirro (BA Summa Cum Laude Katherine E. Doran (BS) Summa Cum Laude Adam Elverson (BSMAED) Nicholas G. Felahi (BA) **Cum Laude** James L. Gagne (BSENSC) Jake D. Galli (BS) Ashley A. Hastings (BA) **Cum Laude** Nicole M. Heimarck (MED) Andrea L. Hohnecker (BS) Tyler B. Jackson (AAS) Kaily J. LaNeve (BA) Andrea E. Lemelin (BA) Katie Lynch (BS) Eric D. McKenzie (BSME) Lauren M. McMullen (BSCIVE) Matthew T. Parker (BS) Brian D. Rowley (BS) **Cum Laude** Annaliese Thomas (BA) Conor J. Thomas (BA) Daniel D. Ward (BS) Cody J. Wolk (BA)

Mont Vernon

Michelle N. Collura (BS) **Cum Laude** Sean E. Coughlin (BA) Cum Laude Eric M. Gendron (BSME) Cum Laude Francoise O. Morison (BS) Summa Cum Laude Amanda L. Soucy (AAS) Jillian M. Torigian (BS) Cum Laude

Amherst Students March In Commencement At Keene State College

KEENE - Keene State College has announced the names of 996 students who are candidates for graduation this month with associate's, bachelor's, or master's degrees. Also marching in the May 9 Commencement ceremony are students who either completed their graduation requirements in September or December 2008 or expect to complete their graduation requirements in September or December 2009.

James Michael Chevalier, BA Dana Jean Dougherty, BS Cum Laude Kristie Lee Pennington, AS Nicholas Stuart Sanborn, BA Janet Carol Von Handorf, MED Stephanie Ann Wirzburger, BM Magna Cum Laude Rosemary Wojtas, BA

Cornell University Announces 2009 Graduates

Magna Cum Laude

Cornell University is pleased to announce that Kathryn Wilich Woodbury of Amherst will be presented for graduation with the Class of 2009 during Commencement ceremonies in Ithaca, N.Y., May 24, 2009. Kathryn will receive a bachelor of science degree in policy analysis and management.

Going Public

Crazy Busy

I am hanging up the "Gone Writing" sign at the end of this column. School is crazy-busy with calendar collisions of letting go of 2009 and getting ready for 2010. Professional conversations reveal the warp speed of a school year. A suggestion to meet with some committee just one more time segues into planning for summer work days, and morphs into deciding to work on the issue during the faculty retreat in August. And bam—it's already another school year. I love it all, but it exhausts me.

I have taught for so many years that I am actually teaching friend's grandchildren—much, much older friends, of course. My inbox is joyously filled with wedding invitations, baby pictures, and Facebook missives from former students. I have even been invited to officiate at a former student's wedding next fall. I love all these connections, and find them to be unusually strong between Souhegan faculty and the students we have taught over the years. This time of year finds alumni dropping by so we can be proud of them all over again. And we are.

We are busy planning exams, mentoring Senior Projects, attending award banquets, and all sorts of end of year events, but we are also writing letters of recommendations for young adults applying for jobs at summer camps, internships, and first jobs. The kids return to ask us because we knew them well. We knew their best intentions and we knew when their growing up mistakes. Since we spent considerable time hanging out together and rooting for them, they continue to seek us out. Our faculty lunch tables are filled with stories from kids who have dropped by to say hello. This nostalgia is well-timed, as we are certainly eager to wave a summer goodbye to teenagers who are driving us absolutely nuts with a prolonged Spring fever. We need the reminder that they all do grow up eventually, not always as they cross the graduation stage.

If I wanted to, I could spend my entire summer attending workshops on a variety of topics. Our district invests a lot of time on our professional development, but this year, a year with no daughters planning weddings, and no travel on my horizon, I feel the call of the back porch, a pitcher of lemonade perched next to a few crime novels, and a time to finally tackle my own writing. See you in September.

> Peggy Silva is the writing coordinator and literacy coach at Souhegan High School

Souhegan Ethics Forum To Host Rock to Read Concert

Souhegan Ethics Forum is a student run organization that picks a local, national, or global issue each year to raise awareness and money for. This year Ethics Forum is hosting the "Rock to Read" benefit concert on June 5th, 2009 from 6:30-11pm at the Hampshire Hills Dome in Milford. Tickets are \$10 per person and all proceeds will go towards

Schools for Salone, an organization that raises money to rebuild schools in Sierra, Leone, Africa and UNICEF to help rehabilitate child soldiers. Bands featured are: The Mydas Ascension, Silent Distortion, The Asthmatics, Quick Decision, The Retakes and Offsuit. Please join us for this enjoyable night and be part of a global change!

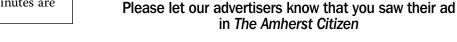
Kindergarten Visitors Day

Pine Hill Waldorf School will host an Early Childhood Visitors Day for June 3 from 8:15 to 10:30 am. Experience a typical morning in Waldorf kindergarten, including free play, circle and snack time. Reservations are appreciated, and may be made by calling 654-6003.

Pine Hill is now accepting nursery and kindergarten applications parents and children on Wednesday, for September 2009. Our early childhood programs serve children 5 to 6, and other nam-da full-day options. There are also limited openings in other grades. It is located on Abbot Hill Road in Wilton, 1.6 miles south of Route 101.









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