

Celebrations

Today's second section is dedicated to local Holiday events, gift giving, church services, groups celebrating the season!

**Holiday Celebrations** page 9

Memory Tree

Names of loved ones and family members, have been collected and placed on the Memory Tree in the Village. The Amherst Garden Club sent donations to SHARE.

**Town News** page 4

Schools

The 3rd Annual Amherst PTA Holiday Story Time was well supported this year. and considered a success.

**Schools** page 6

PRSRU, STD.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 10  
Amherst, NH

Postal Customer

ECR WSS

Celebrating The Holidays in Amherst

For me, there always seems to be a Secret Santa showing me the way to Christmas joy. It is unexpected and a welcome intervention in my life.

This year my secret Santa is a little twelve-year-old girl whose name is unknown to me. While cutting down a Christmas tree with my family, I tucked folded bills into my pocket. First mistake. As I was taking photos and playing with the grandkids, the bills must have slipped from my pocket. We dragged the tree to the cashier, enjoyed a cup of hot cocoa and when I went to pay for the tree I realized my money was gone. We quickly retraced our steps through the tree farm with no luck.

Other than being upset with my own carelessness, my daughter wrote a check to cover two trees. Cash or checks only, no debit or credit cards taken.

But while we were discussing the predicament, a young man with a family of his own, offered to pay for the tree and I could "send him a check later." Already, I'm feeling better for his kindness, but still kicking myself because that tree will cost me double the price.

Arriving home, we had a message from the tree farm. "A 12 year old girl found your money. Come by and ask for me, my name is Joy, we have your money." My second mistake? Being surprised when someone was honest and kind.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus! These two kind strangers have enriched my Christmas and their honesty and goodness will be paid forward.

**Team Earley Saves Cookie and Cocoa Warm-Up**

For as long as I can remember, the Warm-Up at the Congregational Church has been as large a part of the Tree Lighting events as well maybe, Santa Claus. I think it was Newcomers Club that started it and then different organizations in town have taken turns providing yummy cookies, something hot to drink and a chance to mingle with friends and neighbors.

This year, it was about to be scrapped for lack of a sponsor when Kathy and Ray Earley stepped

Continued on page 8 ►



Holiday Concert the Amherst Congregational Church.



Brownies sing at Tree Lighting in the rain.



Enriquez children crowd Santa's lap.

Amherst Town Library



COURTESY PHOTO

Elizabeth Skipper of The Everyday Epicure

Winter Salads: Cooking Demonstration And Tasting

AMHERST – Food, glorious food is part of the "It's All About Winter" adult evening series of programs at the Amherst Town Library this January. Cooking Instructor Elizabeth Skipper presents the program entitled, "Winter Salads:

Cooking Demonstration and Tasting," on Wednesday, January 6 at the Amherst Town Library from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Chef Skipper will discuss how and why to approach salad making differently.

Continued on page 4 ►

Amherst Garden Club January Meeting

AMHERST – Start the New Year off right by renewing your gardening spirit! On Thursday, January 7, the Amherst Garden Club will present Orchardist, teacher and Vermont Teal Farm forest garden manager, Alissa White.

Have you ever considered where the snow melts first in your garden, or how melting snow might help define a landscape project? Can kiwi be grown in New England? Surprising answers to these questions will be covered by Alissa White as she



Alissa White

talks about our unique landscape microclimates and permaculture in a presentation.

Continued on page 4 ►

BRIEFS

**Auditions Announced For Amherst PTA Production**

The Amherst PTA has announced that auditions for its 58th annual play, Children of Eden will be held Sunday, January 10th from 1 -3pm and Tuesday, January 12 from 6 -8pm both at Clark School, Foundry Street in Amherst. This musical version of the story of creation spanning 1000 years from Adam and Eve through Noah and his family surviving the flood provides a wonderful opportunity for families to participate together in this production. We will be looking for talented individuals, 4th grade and up.

**Newcomers Club Monthly Meeting**

The Amherst Area Newcomer's Club meets at "Cassidy's Grille" second Thursday of each month. They are located at #25 Route 101A in Amherst. For further information, call Helen J Urtamo at 672-6122 or Gail Beers 673-9544 or visit our website [www.nhnewcomers.com](http://www.nhnewcomers.com)

**Saturday Night Comedy Club**

Great Comedy on Saturday Nights at the Club Comedy at Amherst from the co-founder of the Comedy Connection. Doors open at 7p.m. and show starts at 8 p.m. Amherst Country Club, 72 Ponemah Rd, Amherst. For more information call 673-9908 or got to [www.amherstcountryclub.com](http://www.amherstcountryclub.com).

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Letters .....	2
Town News .....	3
Library .....	5
Schools.....	6
SportsFolio.....	7
Holiday Shopping & Events....	9
Church Services.....	13
Mont Vernon/Business .....	15
<b>Next Issue: January 12, 2010</b>	

Blue Hill Brass: Celebrating Amherst's 250th Anniversary



AMHERST – Plan on starting the New Year off with a wonderfully festive performance of the Blue Hill Brass celebrating the town of Amherst's 250th Anniversary! This special event, co-sponsored by the Amherst Town Library and the 250th Amherst Celebration Committee, is scheduled from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, January 10, at the Amherst Town Library, and is kicking off a year long series of town wide events

celebrating Amherst's 250th Anniversary. This concert is also the beginning of our fifth year of the very popular Sundays at 4 Music Series, featuring concerts on January 10, February 7, March 21 and April 18 at the library. All the performers are excited about weaving in Amherst history in their programs as we continue to celebrate Amherst's incorporation in 1760 throughout our 2010 Concert series.

The Blue Hill Brass has been delighting audiences for over twenty five years. Members of the group are some of Maine's most prominent and active musicians: Curt Brossmer and Allen Graffam, trumpets; Stephen Norris, trombone; and



COURTESY PHOTO

The Blue Hill Brass kicks off events in January.

Dt. Paul Greenstone, tuba. Group members have played with the foremost musical ensembles in Maine, including the Portland Symphony Orchestra; the Bangor Symphony Orchestra; the Al

Corey Orchestra; and the Maine Chamber Ensemble. Over the years, the group has performed extensively throughout New England at such venues as the Mt.

Continued on page 4 ►

Community Council Update

Souhegan Community Council Rejects Cell Phone Policy Proposed by Dean of Students

By SAIRA WEINZIMMER  
SHS COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MEMBER

AMHERST – The governing body of Souhegan, the Community Council is made up of forty-seven members: thirty representatives from the student body at Souhegan, and the seventeen from both the Souhegan staff and the Amherst and Mont Vernon community. Together, these individuals make decisions

about changes at the high school that not only affect Souhegan, but also have a direct impact on the community as a whole. This is one of the things that help to make Souhegan truly unique among schools—before an important change can be implemented, it must go through Community Council.

Over the last couple of months, Community Council has been considering two important proposals.

The first, brought by Dean of Students Bob Thompson, concerns the use of cell phones during school hours. According to the proposal, cell phones would have to be turned off throughout the whole school day, including breaks between classes. Teachers at Souhegan have noticed an increase in cell phone use during class time, and Thomson is concerned that this is starting to interfere with one of the Souhegan Six, the founding

rules by which Souhegan High School operates: "to respect and encourage the right to teach and learn at all times."

Many students were outraged when they heard that their cell phone privileges were in danger of being revoked. They feel that a cell phone rule such as this one would undermine everything Souhegan has been for so long—a school where

Continued on page 4 ►

Gift Drive by D'Auteuil's Angels

AMHERST – Drew D'Auteuil is a local Amherst boy who is 11 years old and in 5th grade. During the summer of 2009 Drew was diagnosed with Aplastic Anemia. He recently underwent a bone marrow transplant at Children's Hospital in Boston and will be there until after Christmas.

Drew has made many friends while spending his time at the hospital, but some of the kids are less fortunate and may not get presents on Christmas day. Every kid deserves a great Christmas and we are here to help!

D'Auteuil's Angels are collecting gifts and cash donations to purchase gifts for those children in his name.

Age groups: Boys and Girls ages 3-12

Suggested Gifts: (please ensure they are new, due to immune restrictions):

- Games (cards and board games)
- DVDs
- Books
- Art supplies
- Craft projects

Collection boxes for unwrapped gifts available until Dec 18th at: Amherst Middle School, Souhegan High School, and Amherst Town Library (library only from the 13th to the 18th)

Cash donations accepted until Dec 18th at: Moulton's, AMS office and The Homestead.

For more information contact Anna Protzmann 672-6206 or mypilsner91@gmail.com

D'Auteuil's Angels: Anna Protzmann, Allie Chapman, Ari Renna, Taelor Manning, Taylor Hennas.

New! Exclusive to *The Amherst Citizen*

Coupon Clipping Page

Just in time for Holiday Gift Giving... and savings!  
Turn to page 11 to see what local merchants have in store for you. But hurry, offers expire soon.  
Want to share these door-busting deals with friends and family? Visit: [www.amherstcitizen.com](http://www.amherstcitizen.com).