

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.

The Amherst Town Library  
Children’s Room will be very  
busy during February vaca-  
tion week, so please join us  
for all the fun!

Feeling the Beat, Feeling the Spirit with  
John Root - February 24th, 3-5pm. This  
program invites children to flex their bodies,  
voices, and imaginations. Children will help cre-  
ate and enact new verses to familiar music and move-  
ment songs to John’s instrumental accompaniment. All  
ages are welcome.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover– February 25th, 7-8pm.  
Bring your favorite stuffed animal, enjoy some great  
stories, a snack and make a craft. Your stuffed pal will  
stay over in the library and have his or her picture tak-  
en. Please come and pick up your animal the following  
day and get your picture. Registration is required.

The Book Bunch - February 25th, 3:45-4:45pm.Join  
us for a couple of fantastic read aloud books and a craft.  
This book club is meant for children ages 6 to 8. Regis-  
tration is not required.

Fashion Cuff for Teens and Tweens Workshop- Feb-  
ruary 26th, 3-4pm.Make a cute cuff that you can wear  
anywhere! Registration is required

Door, Roof, Floor: Dwelling in Poems & Art

The Amherst Town Library is pleased to continue its  
yearlong series of literature and arts conversations with  
“Door, Roof, Floor: Dwelling in Poems & Art,” beginning



Wednesday, March 3rd. This year-  
long series, funded by the Friends  
of the Amherst Town Library, in-  
vites you to live in houses both fa-  
miliar and strange, dark and light,  
near and far, through rich readings,  
lively conversations, and writing op-  
portunities. Poems and paintings,  
sometimes called “the sister arts,”  
have long inspired each other, sharing  
a space lively with color, form, line, and  
close attention to feeling and experience.

If you would like to escape the world of  
skimming, texting, and twittering for a little  
while, then come settle down and dwell in a po-  
em’s image or a painting’s story. During the series we  
will enjoy the voices of writers such as Rilke, Stevens,  
Auden, Williams, and Levertov, whose poems share an  
especially close relationship to artists such as Brueghel,  
Velazquez, Cezanne, Van Gogh, and Picasso. The se-  
ries continues on March 24th and April 14th with lively  
conversations about selected poems and paintings, and  
on April 21st with an opportunity to write art-inspired  
poems in a “wordplay workshop.” Join us for any or all  
at 1-2:30 p.m. or 7-8:30 p.m. in the Johnson Meeting  
Room. All materials will be provided by the library.

Facilitator Emily Archer, who holds a doctorate in  
American literature and is a published writer, has de-  
signed this series in consultation with Ruslyn Vear,  
Head of Reference.

Please register for this special series by calling 673-  
2288, emailing library@amherst.lib.nh.us or by visit-  
ing the website at www.amherst.lib.nh.us and click on  
the calendar icon labeled “Calendar of Events” on the  
homepage.

Amherst Town Library

Amherst Stories: Places, People, And Events

AMHERST – The Amherst  
Town Library is happy to present,  
“Amherst Stories: Places, People,  
and Events,” as the second program  
of the “Let’s Talk History” five-part  
adult evening series at the Library.  
Scheduled for Tuesday, March 16th  
at 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Main  
Reading Room of the Library, this  
presentation brings together the  
wonderful panel of Amherst resi-  
dents Bill Wichman, Jackie Mar-  
shall, Bill Veillette and Bob Rowe  
to share Amherst stories in histo-  
ry and engage in a much anticipat-  
ed lively and informative exchange  
with the audience.

Celebrating the 250th Anniver-  
sary of Amherst, this event will be-  
gin with Bill Wichman giving an  
introduction and reviewing Am-  
herst maps. He will reconstruct  
the changes in town lands over the  
history of the town, from “howling  
wilderness” in 1735 to the present.  
Jackie Marshall will present infor-  
mation about Amherst’s ethnic  
past. Were there Native Americans  
in our area? Did people in Amherst  
own slaves? What about the Irish  
on the Acre? Amherst may have

had more diversity than previously  
thought. Bob Rowe and Bill Veil-  
lette will tell the story of the wid-  
ow Anna Ayer’s murder and Daniel  
Farmer’s subsequent trial, convic-  
tion, and hanging in Amherst in  
1821-1822. Upwards of 3,000 peo-  
ple attended the trial and 10,000  
viewed the hanging, which was the  
last to occur in Amherst. After the  
presentation, the panel will enter-  
tain questions from the audience.

Bill Wichman moved to Am-  
herst in 1967. A retired system en-  
gineer, he edits the Newsletter for  
the Historical Society of Amherst.  
Jackie Marshall is a Professional  
Genealogist, Genealogy Chair of  
the Historical Society of Amherst  
and Assistant Museum Curator of  
the Wigwam and Chapel Muse-  
ums. She is a Regent of the Capt.  
Josiah Crosby Chapter, DAR. Bob  
Rowe is a forty year resident of New  
Hampshire, a retired attorney and  
former New Hampshire judge. He  
is currently an elected member of  
the New Hampshire House of Rep-  
resentatives for Amherst and Mil-  
ford. Mr. Rowe has written four  
books describing the Colonial and

Federal period in Amherst. Mr.  
Rowe and his wife Helen reside in  
Jones Tavern, the first tavern in  
Amherst Village and the site of in-  
quisitions of suspected Tory sym-  
pathizers during the Revolutionary  
War. Bill Veillette is a twelve year  
resident of Amherst. He is Treasur-  
er of the Amherst Historical Soci-  
ety and former Executive Director  
of the New Hampshire Historical  
Society. This panel presentation is  
a night to be remembered in Am-  
herst history!

We invite you to also join us for  
the remaining “Let’s Talk History”  
series programs at the Amherst  
Town Library including “Meet  
Henry David Thoreau” on March  
23 at 7 p.m.; “Vera Meyer Plays The  
Glass Harmonica” on April 13 at  
7 p.m.; and, concluding with “And  
Now...Mark Twain!” on April 20 at  
7 p.m. All programs are free and  
open to the public. You can register  
for this special evening of “Amherst  
Stories” and the rest of the series 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.”

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65

Sixty-five years of  
ACCOUNTABILITY

It’s About Conservation

Two Flavors Serve All

By BRUCE B. BECKLEY  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



How did you come to live in Amherst? I’d wager  
no more than a half dozen readers were born here.  
For some, friends or work associates suggested  
Amherst as a good place to raise a family. But for  
most of us, we are here because a realtor showed us  
a house we liked in an area that looked good and  
we made it home. And, Amherst did turn out to be  
a good place and we stayed.

Think of what makes our town a good place.  
Think of the factors in an equation we could call  
the quality of life: schools, library and arts, church-  
es, athletic programs, places of quiet, a natural  
good look, honest government. Now think of this  
year’s town meeting warrant.

Two articles, 23 and 24, relate to open spaces –  
one dedicated to space for team sports, the other to  
enable setting aside forever spaces for nature and  
individual enjoyment. These articles, and the open  
spaces they will enable the Town to acquire parcels  
that underlie so many components in the quality  
of life equation:

- School classes use Joe English, the Great Meadow, Pond Parish and Peabody Mill for field trips.
- Souhegan HS students study wetland communi-  
ties in the outdoor classroom donated by the  
Amherst Land Trust.
- Surface water quality and groundwater recharge  
benefit from the protected, unpaved surfaces  
along our streams and over aquifers supplying  
our wells.

- Open spaces of woods and meadows keep the natural good looks of the place - like we care for our town.
- Long-term tax assessments are reduced. Open spaces, whether natural or playing fields, don’t grow houses and require fewer community ser-  
vices.

Passage of Article 23 will give the Town the abili-  
ty to negotiate with owners of open space. It will  
show willing sellers the Town is serious in its ne-  
gotiations, negotiations that may be consummated  
without prolonged delay until the next town meet-  
ing.

Currently, the Open Space Advisory Commit-  
tee is talking with several potential sellers. It takes  
time. In the past month the owner of some beau-  
tiful property adjoining conservation land ap-  
proached us about protecting the family parcel af-  
ter eight years of on and off correspondence. With  
the resources of Article 24 we can negotiate in  
good faith within a reasonable time frame.

The natural good looks and qualities of open  
space form a foundation beneath so much of the  
Amherst quality of life. Please vote YES on Ar-  
ticle 23 March 9th. Article 23 for conservation open  
space and Article 24 for open space playing fields  
are endorsed by the Amherst Conservation Com-  
mission and the Open Space Advisory Commit-  
tee.

Friends Of The Amherst Town Library Offer Friday  
Afternoon Book Club

AMHERST - The Friday After-  
noon Book Club, organized by the  
Friends of the Amherst Town Li-  
brary, cordially invites new mem-  
bers and visitors to their February  
meeting on Friday, February 12,  
from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the  
Johnson Meeting Room downstairs  
at the Library.

Readers will discuss the novel,  
Bel Canto, by Ann Patchett. Set in

a South American country, terror-  
ists seize hostages at an embassy  
party and an unlikely assortment of  
people are thrown together, includ-  
ing American opera star Roxanne  
Coss, and Mr. Hosokawa, a Japa-  
nese CEO and her biggest fan. The  
international hostages and their  
captors forge unexpected bonds  
and the enfolding story remains a  
gentle reminder of the transcen-

dence of beauty and love. Bel Can-  
to earned an Orange Prize for Fic-  
tion and a PEN-Faulkner Award for  
Fiction.

The Friday Afternoon Book Club  
Meetings are scheduled the second  
Friday afternoon of every month  
through June 2010. For more infor-  
mation, call Beth Blodgett, member  
of the Friends of the Amherst Town  
Library at 673-2506.



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hot cocoa,  
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\$169/mo. for 36 months  
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and dealer charges. Security deposit waived.  
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Or as low as  
1.9% APR for 60 months  
Offer good on new 2010 Jetta models. Available  
through Volkswagen Credit on approved credit.

All offers end 3/01/10. See dealer for details.  
Stock #VJ10009.



Lease a 2010 CC  
\$268/mo. for 36 months  
\$2499 due at signing, excludes tax, title, options,  
and dealer charges. Security deposit waived.  
12,000 miles/year.

Or as low as  
1.9% APR for 60 months  
Offer good on new 2010 CC models. Available  
through Volkswagen Credit on approved credit.

All offers end 3/01/10. See dealer for details.  
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