

# Town News

## Jack Frost Night at PIV

It was a cold February night in the village when the students, siblings and parents of the Preschool in the Village came together for Jack Frost Night. A roaring bond fire, hot cocoa and popcorn, drumming and a special trail leading to Jack Frost and freeze pops were highlights

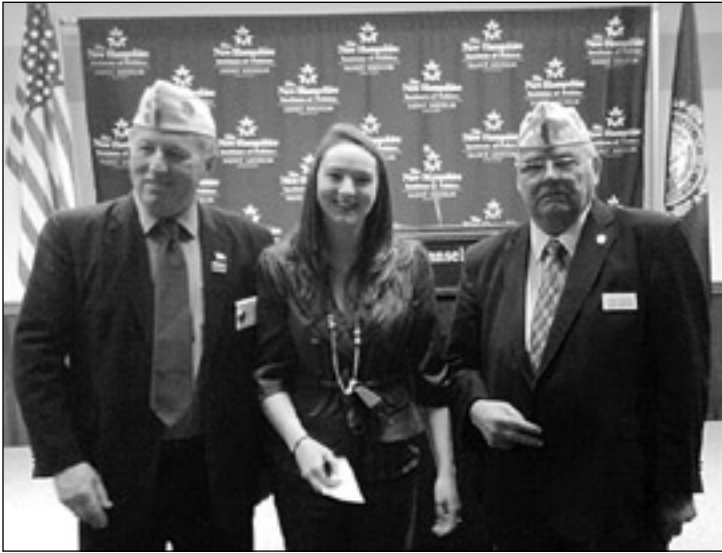


Emma and Cory Kennedy

of the night. The giant “Snow Hill” was also loads of winter fun for older siblings and students. A fun night was had by all.

The Preschool in the Village serves 90 children in Amherst and surrounding communities. We are in the process of enrollment for the 2010-2011 school year. Call at 672-3168, stop by for a tour or visit our website at [www.preschoolinthevillage.org](http://www.preschoolinthevillage.org)

## American Legion Oratorical Contest



On Saturday, February 6th, Katy Devine of Amherst won the American Legion High School Oratorical Contest held at the NH Institute of Politics at Saint Anselm's College. Katy's Oratorical was on the 19th Amendment which prohibits each state and the federal government from denying any citizen the right to vote because of that citizen's sex. Katy will be representing the State of New Hampshire in the national finals being held on April 9th through the 11th in Indianapolis. Katy is a senior at Bishop Guertin High School.

## Peabody Mill Environmental Center

# Leave No Child Inside - School Vacation Day Programs

Are you wondering what your children will do on their school vacation days? Send them to PMEC where they'll spend the day enjoying nature! Dress your child in weather appropriate and pack an extra set of clothing, shoes, and socks.

When: 2/22 - 2/26 Winter Recess

Where: PMEC

Time: Half Day 9:00AM-Noon or 1:00-4:00PM, Full Day 7:30AM-5:30PM

## February Vacation Program - Circus Day

Here's your chance to run away and join the circus and still be home in time for dinner! Participants will learn juggling and balance tricks, including such circus specialties as plate-spinning! Students will also learn how to create and make magic tricks; apply their own clown make-up, and much more! The day will finish with a special circus performance for family and friends from 3:30 PM to 4:00 PM, in which participants will be able to show off newly mastered performance skills! Participants should bring their own lunch, snack and drink.

Who: Children grades K-4

Where: Clark School Multipurpose Room

When: Monday 2/22, Time: 9:00am-4:00pm

## Kids Culinary Arts presents...February Vacation Day Cooking Programs

### Monday, February 22nd - The Healthy Bakery

The Healthy Bakery focuses on healthy choices and baking skills. This course uses baking as the cooking style to demonstrate how healthy and delicious baked goods can be prepared. Your budding baker will be exposed to traditional baking ingredients as well as healthy alternatives. Each baker will come away with new ideas about how delicious healthy baked goods can be.

# Religious Events

## World Day of Prayer at Congregational Church of Amherst

The women of Congregational Church of Amherst-UCC, invite you to join them on Friday, March 5 at 11 a.m. for worship, followed by a delicious lunch. Child care and luncheon will be available at no charge. World Day of Prayer (WDP) is a worldwide ecumenical movement of women of many faith traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. Each year a different country serves as the writer of the WDP worship service. This year the committee of Cameroon developed the theme, “Let everything that has breath praise God.” The 2010 service will begin at the first sunrise on March 5, in the Pacific

region, and follow the Earth's orbit, shining its light on the continent of Africa and the rest of the world. The women of Cameroon invite everyone to “Africa in miniature,” a country in which climate and culture are rich with diversity, and where people are bound together by a love for music, family and faith. Join the women of Congregational Church of Amherst as they learn a little about the lives of these wonderful women through pictures, listening to their music and singing their songs, while at the same time understanding and appreciating their culture. The women of Amherst Congregational Church hope you can join them for this special worship service.

## One Million Families Gain Hope For Their Financial Future

Financial Peace University (FPU), the 13-week program taught by Dave Ramsey, has helped more than one million families positively change their financial future. This life-changing program teaches families and individuals how to handle their money through common-sense principles and small group accountability. FPU is available for churches, companies, military bases, financial literacy programs, Spanish speaking organizations and community groups. FPU classes will be held in Amherst at: Amherst Christian Church located at 134 Hollis Road in Amherst. The classes will begin Thursday, March 04 at 7:00 PM. Contact Chris Dacey at 672-1541 for more information or to register. Souhegan Christian Church located at 5 Route 101A Unit#2 in Amherst. The classes will begin Thursday, March 04 at 7:00 PM. Contact Stephanie Lyons at 672-6759 for more information or to register.

As they work on a Total Money Makeover, the average family pays off \$5,300 in debt and saves \$2,700 in

the first 91 days after beginning FPU and is completely out of debt, except for the mortgage, in 18 to 24 months. “We’ve actually relieved ourselves of over \$50,000 worth of debt in two years just from using these principles,” said Russ Lee, former FPU participant.

Dave Ramsey began teaching FPU classes in 1994 every night around Nashville, Tennessee. In 1997, FPU was made available on video across the country with thousands of classes around the nation today.

“FPU classes are changing lives across the country every day,” says Louis Falzetti, executive vice president of Financial Peace University. “There is something for everyone in this program whether you are barely making ends meet, just trying to plan for retirement, or seeking to build wealth. No matter what your financial situation, you will find FPU to be the best motivational tool available across the nation to help you attain financial peace.”

Visit [www.daveramsey.com](http://www.daveramsey.com) to locate the nearest class.

## Church of Our Saviour's Alpha Series

MILFORD – Although the Alpha introductory dinner has come and gone, the course itself is just getting underway. If you are interested in learning more about the basics of the Christian faith in a non-threatening, friendly setting, you are invited to sign up for our Wednesday evening series this week. Registrations can be taken by phone at 673-3309, or you may e-mail the Alpha course director at [cmwoodhull@gmail.com](mailto:cmwoodhull@gmail.com).

Here's the schedule for the weeks to come. Childcare is provided each evening:

- |              |                                |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| • Feb. 24    | Why Did Jesus Die?             |
| • Mar. 3     | How Can I Be Sure of My Faith? |
| • Mar. 10    | Why & How Read the Bible?      |
| • Mar. 17    | Why & How Do I Pray?           |
| • Mar. 24    | How Does God Guide Us?         |
| • Apr. 16-17 | GETAWAY WEEKEND                |
| • Apr. 21    | How Can I Resist Evil?         |
| • Apr. 28    | How & Why Tell Others?         |
| • May 5      | Does God Heal Today?           |
| • May 12     | What About the Church?         |
| • May 19     | Celebration Dinner             |

The schedule for each evening's program is the same: Dinner at 6:30; worship and video presentation at 7:15; dessert and conversation follows. Each session adjourns at 9:00.

For further information, see the church's Alpha web page: [www.coosmilford.org/alpha.html](http://www.coosmilford.org/alpha.html).

# Obituary

## HUBERT J. WITT

Hubert “Bud” Witt, 88, a 34 year resident of Amherst, NH, died Saturday, February 13th in Libertyville, IL, surrounded by his loving family after having lived a wonderful life. Bud was born on December 18th, 1921 in New Ulm, MN. After attending Eau Claire Teacher's College in Eau Claire, WI, he joined the US Navy. During WWII, he earned his wings as a naval aviator and was assigned as a Primary Flight Instructor at the Naval Air Station, Olathe KS. There he taught young pilots the barrel roll and like acrobatics in a Stearman PT-17 biplane.

While stationed at Olathe, Bud met his beloved wife of 55 years, Edith “Elaine” Brown of Atwood, KS.

As other men and women came home from WWII, Bud remained in the Navy, becoming a member of the Weather Recon Squadron: VPW-1, nicknamed the “Typhoon Chasers”. After intense training, in 1946, he and his crew of 11 were assigned to duty in the Central Pacific. In June of that year, flying a PB4Y-2 “Privateer” (B-24), they flew into a category 3 typhoon, becoming one of the first such crews ever to do so.

Shortly thereafter, Bud was decommissioned from the Navy. He and Elaine moved to Denver, CO, started their family, and he joined the Kendall Co. for whom he worked his entire career in sales. As his ca-

reer progressed, Bud moved his family from coast to coast, finally ending in 1976 in Amherst where he commuted to Boston until his retirement as a National Sales Manager for the Kendall Co. in the early 1980s.

In his retirement, Bud loved fishing, photography, cabinetry, taking care of his home and gardening. His red and yellow tuberous begonias, in the summer, were a neighborhood favorite. Also, he and his beloved Elaine traveled the world; they cruised to many exotic and wonderful places.

He was predeceased by his wife, Elaine and two sisters, Betty and Anne.

Family members include two daughters, Karen and Molly; two sons, Ed and Joe; four grandchildren, Maryanne, Ashley, Lauren and Jeremy; and his brother, Bill.

There are no visiting hours. A mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on Friday, February 19th at 10:00 am in Saint Patrick's Church, 34 Amherst Street, Milford. Burial with military honors will be held in Meadowview Cemetery, Amherst, in the spring. In lieu of flowers, donations in Bud's memory may be made to [www.honorflights.org](http://www.honorflights.org). Smith & Heald Funeral Home, 63 Elm Street, Milford, is handling arrangements. To leave an online condolence, please go to [www.smith-heald.com](http://www.smith-heald.com)

## Street Survival Course Raises Teens Driving Skills

Jenna didn't think the rain made driving much different. She'd had her license for three weeks and had driven in the rain once during driver's ed and even took her driving test on a rainy day. Sure, it was windy and raining hard, but it was just water, right? So, as she and her best friend Lori zipped down a dark two-lane road at 10 mph over the speed limit she felt completely in control. Until she zoomed around a curve to find a big tree branch, right in her lane, halfway through the bend. Jenna gasped. She hit the brakes but the car skidded on the wet road. It spun around, slid across the road and rolled over down an embankment into some trees.

The EMTs were able to get Jenna out of the crumpled car and rushed her to the hospital where she needed 67 stitches on her face, her shattered teeth removed, and left with a neck brace and a cast on her left leg. A week later, she stood on crutches at Lori's funeral.

Young drivers and automobiles can be a deadly combination. While driver's ed and parental instruction teach teens the rules of the road, basic steering skills, and how to parallel park—the key requirements for passing the state driving test—they fall frighteningly short of teaching kids how to handle real emergencies on the road.

Simple driving errors and inexperience behind the wheel are the #1 causes of death among teens in New Hampshire and across the nation. According to the Fatality Analysis Reporting System, six teens died every month behind the wheel in New Hampshire in 2008, and that does not include more than five people every month who died as passengers in the vehicle, occupants of other vehicles or non-occupants on the road. That was 139 people, an 8 percent increase over 2007, with New Hampshire one of three states that had an increase in teen-related traffic deaths.

So how can you help your young driver learn some of the skills needed to help keep them alive behind the wheel? One option comes to

New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon on April 24, the Tire Rack Street Survival course, a national program operated in association with the BMW CCA Foundation. The 1-day course teaches teens the skills they need to stay alive behind the wheel. Unlike the classroom theory and basic maneuvers of traditional driver ed programs, Street Survival improves driver competence through experiences that reflect real-world driving situations, teaching teens how to control a vehicle rather than just operate one.

Students receive a mix of classroom and hands-on-the-wheel training about handling everyday driving hazards, obstacles and emergencies. On a large, obstruction-free parking lot, wetted down for the occasion, students learn emergency braking techniques, how to control unintended skids, and how to avoid accidents entirely. They learn in their own vehicles, not specially prepared ones, so their newfound skills can be directly translated to their daily driving. Street Survival is an affordable and effective way to help ensure your son or daughter is prepared to handle driving situations that could have potentially tragic consequences. See the box for details and send your teen to Loudon on April 24.

TO LEARN MORE OR SIGN UP:

The next Street Survival course in New Hampshire takes place at New Hampshire Motor Speedway on April 24. The course is open exclusively to licensed drivers from Amherst, Milford and Mont Vernon aged 16 to 21. Forms, schedules and more information can be found online at [www.streetssurvival.org](http://www.streetssurvival.org). The cost is \$75 per student and some insurance companies may offer premium discounts to graduates. Sign up can be done at <http://www.streetssurvival.org/school-information.php?ID=228>.

Video from past schools can be seen at <http://www.streetssurvival.org/media-center.php>

## Amherst Resident Running For Cancer Research In The Boston Marathon

BOSTON – On April 19, Matthew Monks from Amherst will be running in the 114th Boston Marathon® to help conquer cancer as a member of the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge (DFMC) team.

Monks, along with DFMC teammates from across the United States and other countries, will run Massachusetts' historic 26.2-mile marathon route from Hopkinton to Boston with a goal to raise \$4.4 million for cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

By raising a minimum of \$3,250, DFMC runners are helping to fund the Claudia Adams Barr Program in Innovative Basic Cancer Research at Dana-Farber.

Since the DFMC's inception in 1990, runners on the team have raised more than \$43 million for the Barr Program. Dana-Farber trustees and Jacksonville Jaguars principal owners J. Wayne and Delores

Barr Weaver founded the Barr Program in 1987 to honor Mrs. Weaver's mother, Claudia Adams Barr, who lost her battle with cancer 30 years earlier.

In 1990, Dana-Farber was among the first charity organizations to be recognized by the Boston Athletic Association (B.A.A.). The DFMC team offers its members training guidance from Jack Fultz, the 1976 Boston Marathon men's champion, plus team training runs, extensive fundraising support, and volunteer opportunities for non-runners. DFMC runners who are not time-qualified for the Boston Marathon receive an invitational entry into the race.

To contribute to the DFMC or to support a runner, go online to [www.RunDFMC.org](http://www.RunDFMC.org) or contact the DFMC office at (617) 632-1970 or [dfmc@dfci.harvard.edu](mailto:dfmc@dfci.harvard.edu).