

# Schools

## The Derryfield School

# “The Secret Garden” Musical



Sarah Porat of Amherst (left), Erica Raff of Bedford, and Katherine Schwope of Mont Vernon in a scene from “The Secret Garden” musical at The Derryfield School.

BY KATRINA HOLMAN  
MANCHESTER – This year’s upper school musical of The Derryfield School was “The Secret Garden” based on the novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett, presented in three performances on the weekend of Feb. 12.  
Freshmen Kathryn Schwope of Mont Vernon, and Meg Huckaby and Sarah Porat of Amherst performed in the Ensemble as Girls, former playmates of the main character, Mary Lennox, an orphaned girl recently arrived in England to live with her grief-stricken uncle and his bedridden young son. Junior Rachel Moss of Amherst played Rose Lennox, Mary’s mother. Mary’s dreams of her childhood in India serve as flashbacks to tell the early part of the story, before her parents, their household and community perished in a cholera epidemic. Lonely Mary nurses a neglected garden back to

life, and thereby also restores the health and happiness of her uncle and cousin.  
Katherine and Meg, both seasoned actors with lots of community theater productions on their resumé’s, noted that this play was a new experience for them and most of the cast, quite a different type of show from the more-flashy musicals they had previously performed in. This was their first time on the Derryfield stage, and they loved the way the show came together so well and the good energy of the performances.  
Sarah had appeared in musicals on this stage during her three years at the Derryfield Middle School and when she attended the two-week Summer Theater Camp at Derryfield for three years. For her, “The Secret Garden” was a great way to be part of a big event in the school community.

# SHS Community Council’s Search for a Safe Learning Environment

BY SAIRA WEINZIMMER  
As one of the most controversial and important topics at Souhegan, the issue of security has been debated frequently over the years. Each time the decision has been the same: to leave Souhegan free of security cameras. Now the issue has once more been raised—this time brought by a group of community members who feel the level of theft, bullying, and drug use at Souhegan necessitates higher security measures. What began as a request for security cameras has now morphed into a much larger question: is Souhegan High School a safe learning environment?  
The group brought their concerns to the Souhegan School Board last November, along with statistical data to support their position about theft, bullying, and drug abuse. The question emerged as to whether the Community Council, Souhegan’s student-led governing body and the venue where such issues would usually be discussed, is equipped for such a wide-reaching issue as security. After some discussion, however, the decision was made to allow the Community Council to lead the debate, working closely with the School Board to gather information from experts in order to make an informed decision that addresses the problems.  
The Community Council has taken on the security issue with enthusiasm, and has developed a process for making recommendations to the School Board. After discussions with Bob Thompson, Dean of Students at Souhegan, and Officer John Smith, Souhegan’s Student Resource Officer (SRO), the Community Council decided to form three committees that will each focus on a different aspect of security. This approach is an effort to look at all sides of the issue and to be as comprehensive as possible. The first committee will concentrate on surveying the Souhegan community, to get feedback concerning the ways people feel unsafe and explore possible solutions; the second will review the 2006 security audit, and examine past Souhegan security information; and the third will look into the security measures of other schools. After gathering information independently, the three committees will share their insights with the whole Community Council, and the Council will make a final recommendation to the School Board in April. “We are committed to doing a thorough job so we can write an effective and informed recommendation to the school board,” said Justin DeWaele, Community Council moderator.  
The security issue has been raised several times before at Souhegan, usually concerning the use of surveillance cameras throughout the school. So far, the verdict has been to keep Souhegan camera-free, and many Souhegan students and staff members are determined to keep it that way. “I think cameras would be wrong,” said Valerie Wisneski, a junior at Souhegan. “If Souhegan is a community of learners, born of ‘respect, trust and courage,’ wouldn’t security cameras void the trust part?” In years past, the main concerns have been that the cameras would be too expensive, ineffective, and most importantly, run counter to the spirit of Souhegan. However, there is more than one way to achieve security, and the Community Council is determined to explore all ideas to come up with a solution which will ensure that everyone at Souhegan feels safe.

# Amherst Garden Club Offers Annual Scholarship

AMHERST - The Amherst Garden Club is offering two \$1,500 scholarship awards to qualified students this spring. The scholarship is available to residents of Amherst or Mont Vernon who will be attending an institute of higher learning to study horticulture, botany, plant science, landscape design, environmental science as it relates directly to horticulture, or another related field. The club believes it has the opportunity to impact our planet in a beneficial way by educating individuals and encouraging them to choose environmentally conscious

careers.  
Applications are available now from student services at Souhegan High School. Amherst and Mont Vernon students at Bishop Guertin High School, High Mowing, Derryfield or other high schools, should contact Marti Warren directly at 673-7054 for an application.  
Completed applications should be submitted to the high school student services office by April 2 or mailed to the Amherst Garden Club, Attn: Scholarship Committee, PO Box 694, Amherst, NH 03031 by April 9, 2010.

## Students in the News

**Local Students Earn Highest Honors At Skidmore College**  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY - The following local students earned highest honors for the fall semester at Skidmore College:  
Alexandra McGuire, Class of 2011. She is the daughter of Charles and Rebecca McGuire of Amherst.  
Timothy Nichols, Class of 2012. He is the son of Bradford and Susan Nichols of Amherst. Highest honors are awarded for a quality point ratio of 3.670 or more from a possible 4.0.  
**Students Named to Rivier College Dean’s List**  
NASHUA — The following Amherst students were named to the Rivier College Dean’s list for the fall 2009 semester: Angela Avery, Marilou Kuffner, Brandon Lee, Amanda Potter and Kate Schulze.  
**Local Student Graduates from Prescott College**  
Prescott College is pleased to announce that Tara Alperin, a resident of Amherst was awarded a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology & Integrative Arts with an emphasis in Dance on December 13, 2009.

**Amherst Resident Named to Dean’s List at Florida Institute of Technology**  
Philip Caputo, a resident of Amherst was among the students from Florida Institute of Technology in Melbourne who were named to the Dean’s List for the fall semester, which ended in December. Caputo is a Aviation Management, Flight major. To be included on the Dean’s List, a student must complete 12 or more graded credits in a semester with a semester grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.4.  
**Local Resident Named to Mount Ida College’s Dean’s List**  
Amey Grella, a resident of Amherst has been named to the Dean’s List for the 2009 fall semester at Mount Ida College in Newton, Massachusetts. To make the Dean’s List, students must have a grade point average of 3.33 or above.  
**Bryant University Student Named to Dean’s List**  
The fall semester Dean’s List at Bryant University includes the following area resident: Benjamin Lawrence, a sophomore in Business Administration, of Amherst.

**Connecticut College Announces Dean’s List**  
The following Amherst students have achieved Dean’s Honors, a recognition for students who have earned a grade point average of at least 3.3, or Dean’s High Honors, a recognition for students who have earned a grade point average of at least 3.7, for the 2009 fall semester at Connecticut College.  
Leah Demarest, class of 2013 at Connecticut College has been named to the Dean’s High Honors for the 2009 fall semester.  
Alexander Soffron, class of 2012 at Connecticut College has been named to the Dean’s Honors for the 2009 fall semester.  
**Scott Named To Dean’s List at SUNY Oneonta**  
Katelyn Scott, a resident of Amherst was among 1,357 students who earned Dean’s List honors from the State University of New York College at Oneonta for the Fall 2009 semester. To qualify for the Dean’s List, undergraduate students must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher while carrying a course load of 12 semester hours or more.

**Applewild School Announces Honor Roll**  
Applewild School’s Head of School, Christopher Williamson,

and Head of Upper School, Erica Hager are pleased to announce the following students’ honor roll status for the first semester.  
The following student of Amherst: 7th grader Benjamin Janoschek, Effort High Honors and Academic High Honors. In order to qualify for academic high honors, a student must obtain an overall semester average of A- or better with all grades of B or higher. To qualify for academic honors, a student must obtain an overall semester average of B or better with no C’s.  
**Local Residents Named to Simmons College Dean’s List**  
The following Amherst residents were named to the 2009 fall semester dean’s list at Simmons College in Boston.  
Laura Mazerall, who is a junior at Simmons. Her major is nursing.  
Rachel Elliott, who is a senior at Simmons. Her major is communications.  
To qualify for dean’s list status, undergraduate students must obtain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, based on 12 or more credit hours of work in classes using the letter grade system.

**Bryant Student-Athletes Named To Fall Academic Honor Roll**  
SMITHFIELD, RI - The following Bryant University student-athletes has been named to the 2009 Northeast Conference Fall Academic Honor Roll: Benjamin Lawrence, a sophomore of Amherst (Souhegan High School), Men’s Soccer.

**Local Residents Named to Stonehill College’s Fall Dean’s List**  
EASTON, MA - Stonehill College recently named the following local residents to its Dean’s List for the fall 2009 semester.  
Amherst resident Lauren E. McNamara, a member of the class of 2010.  
Amherst resident Caroline R. Sheldon, a member of the class of 2012.  
Amherst resident Sarah E. Wilson, a member of the class of 2010.  
To qualify for the Dean’s List at Stonehill, students must have a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better and must have completed successfully all courses for which they were registered.

**Amherst Students Named to Colby College Dean’s List**  
WATERVILLE, ME – John C. O’Brien was named to the dean’s list at Colby College in Waterville, Maine, for his outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the 2009-10 year. He is the son of Edward and Andrea O’Brien of Amherst. He is majoring in economics. He graduated from Souhegan High School. Students whose grade point averages were 3.6 or higher were named to the Dean’s List.

**Students Named to Dean’s List at the University of Vermont**  
BURLINGTON, VT - The following students have been named to the dean’s list for the fall 2009 semester at the University of Vermont:  
Timothy Andreasen of Amherst a first-year student Business Administration major in the School of Business Administration; Amber Attalla of Amherst a junior Psychology major in the College of Arts & Sciences; Christiana Nilson of Amherst a junior History major in the College of Arts & Sciences. To be named to the dean’s lists, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

**Worcester Polytechnic Institute Announces Fall 2009 Dean’s List**

WORCESTER, MA - James Davison, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jay W. Davison of Amherst was named to the Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) Dean’s List for academic excellence for the fall 2009 semester. Davison is a sophomore majoring in Chemical Engineering. The criteria for the WPI Dean’s List differ from most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI defines the Dean’s List by the amount of work completed at the “A” level in courses and projects.

**Local Student is on Skidmore’s Thoroughbred Society**  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY - Alexandra McGuire, Class of 2011 was recently named to the Skidmore College Thoroughbred Society for the Fall 2009 semester. The Thoroughbred Society recognizes Skidmore College varsity student-athletes who have achieved a grade point average of 3.67 or higher in the previous semester.  
She is the daughter of Charles and Rebecca McGuire of Amherst.

**Local Students Earn Dean’s List Recognition at Norwich University**  
NORTHFIELD, Vt. - The following students from your readership area have been recognized on the Dean’s List at Norwich University for the Fall 2009 semester: Kierra Johnson from Amherst and Shannon Sickler from Amherst.

**RSEC Announces 2nd Quarter Honor Roll**  
AMHERST – Regional Services and Education Center, Inc. (RSEC), a non-profit educational collaborative that provides comprehensive educational programs and services to southern New Hampshire, is pleased to announce the academic merit, honors and high honors recipients for its alternative high school program in Amherst:  
The 2nd Quarter 2009-2010 recipient from Mont Vernon is: Andrew Ostlund  
For more information on RSEC and its alternative educational programming, please contact Judy Koch, Executive Director at (603) 886-8500 or visit the web site at www.rsec.org.

**St. Lawrence University Announces Dean’s List**  
CANTON, NY - Sarah E. Bayer ’12 of Mont Vernon has been selected for inclusion on the Dean’s List for academic achievement during the fall semester at St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York. To be eligible for the Dean’s List at St. Lawrence University, a student must have completed at least four semester units and have an academic average of 3.6 (based on a perfect 4.0 scale) for the semester.  
Bayer graduated from Souhegan High School in Amherst. She is majoring in Philosophy. The SLU Rotaract Club is among the activities that Bayer has participated in on campus.

**Area Student Named to Hartwick College Dean’s List**  
ONEONTA, NY - Hartwick College senior Benjamin April, of Amherst, son of Teresa and Richard April, has been named to the fall term Dean’s List at Hartwick.  
Inclusion on Hartwick’s Dean’s List is an indication of excellent academic work, including the completion of a full course load with at least a 3.5 grade point average based on a 4.0 scale.  
Ben April is majoring in Music Education. At Hartwick, he has participated in the Honors Program, Musical Educators’ National Conference, and Awakening Orientation Program Staff. April is a graduate of Souhegan High School.

**Local Student Named To Ohio Wesleyan Dean’s List**

DELAWARE, OHIO - Ohio Wesleyan University is pleased to announce that Ryan A. Clark was named to the Dean’s List for the Fall 2009 semester. He is the son of David and Susan Clark.  
To qualify, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale in at least three unit courses.

**Amherst Resident Receives Academic Honors**  
BOSTON, Mass. - Northeastern University is pleased to recognize those students who distinguish themselves academically during the course of the school year. Amherst resident Caroline Smith, a Northeastern University student majoring in Biology, was recently named to the University’s dean’s list for the spring semester, which ended in December 2009.  
To achieve the dean’s list distinction, students must carry a full program of at least four courses, have a quality point average of 3.25 or greater out of a possible 4.0 and carry no single grade lower than a C during the course of their college career. In addition to achieving distinction through the dean’s list, Caroline Smith is an honors student, part of a burgeoning program at Northeastern, which offers high caliber students the chance to further hone their studies and interests, live in special interest on-campus housing, and participate in one or two honors courses each term.

**Local Student on Spring Arbor University Dean’s List**  
SPRING ARBOR, MI - Spring Arbor University is pleased to announce Janette Rondeau from Amherst who is on the Fall 2009 Dean’s List. The Dean’s List recognizes full-time students who have received a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for the semester. Rondeau is a freshman majoring in Advertising/Public Relations. She is the daughter of Dan and Susan Rondeau.

**Local Students Named to Dean’s List at Saint Anselm College**  
MANCHESTER - Rev. Augustine Kelly, O.S.B., dean of the college, announced that the following local students were named to the Dean’s List for the first semester at Saint Anselm College in Manchester.  
Amanda M. Peters of Amherst who is an International Relations major and a member of the class of 2011.  
Danielle E. Tocci of Mont Vernon who is a Business major and a member of the class of 2010.  
To be eligible for this honor, a student must compile a grade point average of 3.0 or better.

**Local Students Named to Honors Lists**  
RINDGE - The following student received honors for the fall semester at Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, New Hampshire:  
Alexandra Chouramanis of Mont Vernon was named to the Dean’s Honors List. Chouramanis, a senior majoring in Biology, earned Dean’s Honors List status by maintaining a term grade point average of at least 3.65 on a scale of four.

**Rachel Barker Named to Hofstra University’s Dean’s List**  
HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. - Rachel Barker of Amherst has been named to the Fall Semester Dean’s list at Hofstra University. Barker is currently studying Public Relations at Hofstra.

**Local Student Named to Dean’s List**  
BOSTON, Mass. -- Alison Hanckel of Amherst was named to the University of Massachusetts Boston Dean’s List for the Fall 2009 semester. To qualify for this academic honor, the student must maintain at least a 3.5 GPA.

# \*\*Community Forum\*\*

## What is our vision for Mathematics Education in SAU 39?

Parents, students and staff from the communities of Amherst and Mont Vernon, please join members of the Math Program Review Committee for an evening of information and conversation as, together, we examine a vision that will guide and inspire the future of Math education across the schools of SAU 39

**Event: Community/Parent Forum**  
**Program in Review: Mathematics**  
**When: Tuesday, March 2, 2010**  
**6:00-8:00 PM**  
**Where: Souhegan High School, Main Building Cafeteria**

*For no fee childcare will be provided by the Souhegan High School's National Honor's Society. If you intend to utilize the free child care provided by NHS, please contact Marina Capen at mcap-en@sprise.com*  
If you have questions about the content of the forum please contact Nicole Heimark, Director of Curriculum and Professional Development for SAU 39 673-2690 or visit our website www.sprise.com