

THE AMHERST CITIZEN



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AMHERST, NEW HAMPSHIRE'S COMMUNITY NEWS

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Scholarship

Kimberly Cates Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a SHS graduating senior who intends to pursue medicine in college.

Letters page 2

Schools

State budget issues may adversely affect revenues for schools. Superintendent Jennings addresses the problem.

Schools page 11

Garden Tour

Country Gardens of Amherst is planned for July 16. A limited number of tickets will go on sale April 15th.

Town News page 10

Jazz Night

SHS welcomes saxophonist and vocalist Grace Kelly for a Night of jazz on April 21, at 6pm

Schools page 13



BRIEFS

Amherst Garden Club Annual Plant Sale - May 7



Amherst Garden Club members Susan Stefanec and Mary Hanrahan ready plants for the Annual Plant Sale to be held on Saturday, May 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Wilkins School in Amherst. There will be approximately 2000 perennial plants dug from local gardens available at the sale along with plants and bushes from local vendors. Master Gardeners and club members will be available to answer questions and make suggestions.

Amherst Lions Club Annual Pancake Breakfast, April 17

The 39th Annual Lions Club Pancake Breakfast is Sunday, April 17, at Wilkins School, 80 Boston Post Road. The all-you-can-eat breakfast will be served 8 a.m.-noon with tickets going for \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. In addition to pancakes, the Lions Club will service scrambled edits, sausage, juice, coffee, tea, and milk.

Tickets may be purchased at the door with all proceeds benefit local Lions charities. On hand will be members of the Amherst emergency response medical team, police and fire departments to demonstrate equipment paid for by many of the Lions Club fundraisers and activities.

Next Historical Society Meeting:

Please join the Historical Society of Amherst on February 14th at 7:30PM as we welcome Eric Hahn to discuss the history of the Amherst Fire Department. Mr. Hahn is a current member of the AFD and will present on topics such as past AFD members, development of fire-fighting apparatus in Amherst, fire reservoir management, and past engine houses. The program takes place in the vestry of Congregational Church of Amherst and is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided.

Kimberly Cates Memorial Scholarship Fund Established

Each year, the Kimberly L. Cates Memorial Scholarship, administered through the Souhegan Scholarship Foundation, will be awarded to a graduating senior from Souhegan High School who plans to pursue a college program in the field of medicine. The Scholarship is open to students from Mont Vernon or Amherst, and will be awarded as a monetary gift towards the recipient's college expenses. See Letters – page 2.

Historical Society of Amherst

Thursday, April 28, is Historical Society of Amherst day at Longhorn Steakhouse on Route 101A in Amherst. When members, families, or guests dine in or take out between 11 am and 9 pm on April 28th ten percent of the bill will be donated directly to the Historical Society of Amherst. Vouchers are available at the door—participants need only show up with an appetite for food and fun and mention the Historical Society of Amherst voucher. Details on page 4.

AJWC Easter Egg Hunt & Parade



Families and friends meet for Easter Parade and Egg Hunt on the common. This year the late date, April 16 will mean great weather and no snow!

The Easter Bunny is on its way to lead the Easter parade held on Saturday, April 16th at the Village Green. The parade will begin promptly at 10am at the Congregational Church. So show off your Easter style with a decorated bonnet or cap. There is sure to be a special surprise for the fanciest one on the Green. Following the parade there will be an Easter egg hunt for ages 0-8. Older children will

participate in a scavenger hunt to find yummy treats. Don't forget to bring a camera to capture all of the Easter fun!

Sponsored by the Amherst Junior Women's Club. Please contact Keri Allen at KAllen96@gmail.com or Kris McCool at kvmccool@comcast.net for more information.

Town of Amherst

2011 Mosquito Surveillance Begins

BY BRIAN GLEASON, AMHERST HEALTH OFFICER

Dragon Mosquito Control, Inc. crews will begin their annual war on mosquitoes starting the week April 18, 2011 in many parts of the state including Amherst. Arriving in clearly identified white pickup trucks wearing bright red shirts with the "Dragon Mosquito" logo and camouflage pants, crews will begin their second year of surveillance in many parts of the town to check water temperatures and look for signs of mosquito life. The goal is to prevent the spread of Eastern Equine Encephalitis

(EEE) and West Nile virus, the mosquito-borne diseases that causes encephalitis or brain infection.

If the susceptible water areas to be evaluated around town have a temperature of 45 degrees or higher, it could mean trouble. Mosquito eggs can start to hatch in water at that temperature. Even if the water isn't warm now, there's a danger it could have reached higher temperatures during the recent good weather, allowing some eggs to hatch. Amherst Health Officer Brian Gleason feels "we are optimistic that crew won't detect mosquito larvae this early in the season, but abnormal



Mosquito testing begins April 18.

weather patterns have made forecasting this year's mosquito season tricky".

According to Dragon Continued on page 4

"Moms On a Mission" Walk to End Breast Cancer

Seven Amherst "Moms On a Mission" have been training and fundraising since January, united in the fight against breast cancer as Team Breast Savers. During the weekend of May 14-15, 2011 they will be walking 39.3 miles in the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer in Boston along with thousands of other people. Their reasons for participating vary, though they share a common thread in hopes that their daughters (14 altogether) will never know what it's like to hear that someone they love has breast cancer.

"My inspiration for walking this year was due to the fact that so many friends and peers were diagnosed—I feel blessed that the disease hasn't picked me," states Mary Ellen Redway who also walked in 2010. "My mom is celebrating 5 years of living breast cancer free, so it's also to cele-



Back Row (L to R): Mary Ellen Redway, Sharon Rohlf, Cara Facques, Shelly Kayser; Front Row (L to R): Andrea Bentley-Melle, Karen Murphy, Kim Ahearn

brate her health." Shelly Kayser's motivation to walk is her mother-in-law, Maggie Kayser. "She was a breast cancer survivor for almost twenty years when cancer struck again. She died in December 2010 of breast cancer that had metastasized to her brain and other organs. I am also motivated by the number of people in our school community and community as a whole who have had or currently have breast cancer and am walking for them."

Kim Ahearn is walking to "help give my mother, my daughter and millions of women (and men) a secure future free of this disease that is all too prevalent. Without funding for research and access to care, we can't 'move forward'".

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Amherst PTA Production

"Music Man" is This Weekend!



Music Director Jim Emmond, Directors Dave Ostrowski and Kevin Linkroum.

AMHERST – The 59th Annual Amherst PTA Production of "The Music Man" is under way. Auditions were held Tuesday January 4th and Wednesday January 5 at Clark School in Amherst, with a tremendous turnout. Thank you to everyone who came out!

The first cast rehearsal was held on Sunday January 9th. Directors this year are local veteran actors Dave

Ostrowski and Kevin Linkroum, with Music Direction by Jim Emmond and Choreography by Liz Calabria of Kathy Blake Dance Studios. Advising the directors is seasoned actor, director and NHTA nominee for Best Director, Alan Kaplan. Producers are Jackie O'Dowd and Rita Piotrowski.

Continued on page 11

2011 CROP Hunger Walk – May 15th

MILFORD – May is almost here, and that means another Souhegan Valley Interfaith CROP Hunger Walk! The date is Sunday, May 15th. This will be the twenty-second year for the annual event. Last year's CROP Walk, on May 2nd, 2010, raised over \$39,000, with 374 Walkers, from age 5 – 86 participating. The money has been put to work bringing relief and development assistance to those in need around the world, and in our own community, through SHARE and Open Cupboard Pantry in Wilton.

The Chair of this year's walk is Fr. Don Keegan, Pastor of St. Patrick Church in Milford. He will be talking about the Walk with area clergy and helping to promote participation within the St. Patrick congregation. He and the CROP Walk Organizing Committee have set a goal of having



Mimi Havinga of Mont Vernon was 86 when she did the Short Walk last year, setting a new record for "eldest walker".

400 Walkers who will collectively raise over \$40,000 this year.

The Walk is for all ages. Strollers and dogs are welcome. The "full Walk" is

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