

# THE AMHERST CITIZEN

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NEW HAMPSHIRE'S CITIZEN NEWSPAPER

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## Merry Christmas/Happy Hanukkah

...with Best Wishes for a Healthy, Safe and Happy New Year!

### Amherst's Tree Lighting Festival – 2011



McKenna Lawrence, Jeanmarie Leighton and Isabella Darling from Girl Scouts Troop #22637 at the Tree Lighting in Amherst...



Roasting chestnuts on an open fire by Boy Scouts Troop #22



Lions Club of Amherst spaghetti dinner was a sell out...



Children visit with Santa at the Central Fire Station...



Christmas Concert at the Congregational Church of Amherst...



Cookies, cocoa and Christmas cheer at the Team Early Warmup...

#### Amherst Town Library



"Ebb Tide" by Neil F. Wetherbee, Sr.

### International Landscape Photographer Shows at Amherst Library

AMHERST – Neil F. Wetherbee, Sr. of Amherst, NH will be exhibiting his work at the Amherst Town Library for the month of December through the first part of January. Neil initially took up photography as a hobby in 1968 and since then he has received numerous awards for his work. Neil has earned the title EFIAP, "Excellence" by the Federation International

al de l'Arte Photographique, the title PPSA, "Proficiency" by the Photographic Society of America and the title CA, "Copley Artist" from the Copley Society of Boston where he is also a life member. Most of the artist's work consists of landscapes and seascapes and he considers himself a mood photographer who appreciates the beauty of simplicity.

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### Mountain Climber Craig John: Everest And More

AMHERST - January begins a new programming series at the Amherst Town Library entitled The Human Spirit: Adventures and Challenges. International climber and mountain guide Craig John of Portland, Maine, will kick off this series on Tuesday, January 10th from 7 to 8:30 PM with a presentation on his ascent of the seldom-climbed North Ridge of Mt. Everest while covering some of his other expeditions to mountains such as Kilimanjaro, Denali, and Cho Oyu, to name a few.

Craig will talk about what it took to accomplish his goal of climbing Everest as well as what it was like to finally stand there.

We all experience challenges in our lives that seem insurmountable at times. The difficulties a person has to overcome in an extreme environment are not all that different from the personal challenges of everyday life. Drawing from decades of leadership experience, professional mountain guide Craig John will

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### Congressman Ron Paul Stumps in Amherst



Republican candidate for President of the United States, Texas Congressman Ron Paul with Amherst Republican committee chairman, Mark Vincent, outside Joey's Diner.

By CLIFF ANN WALES

AMHERST – On Wednesday, December 14th Congressman Dr. Ron Paul joined a standing room only crowd of supporters for breakfast at Joey's Diner. His visit was part of "Breakfast with the Candidates" series sponsored by the Amherst Republican Committee. After greeting the diners personally, Dr. Paul was

then introduced by Mark Vincent, chair of the Amherst Republican Committee, to make remarks and answer questions.

Congressman Paul presented his position on a variety of issues. He is an advocate of the gold standard. He says the recent financial crisis is a result of going off the gold standard.

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### SHS Robotics Team Brings Internationally Known Comedians to Amherst

By DAN FRENETTE

AMHERST - Each year, the Souhegan High School Robotics Team (aka Team Entropy), must accumulate about \$30,000 in order to compete in the annual First Robotics Championship. This year, the robotics team is composed of four sub-teams – mechanical engineering, graphics animation, C++ programming, and electrical wiring and engineering. Though work-

ing autonomously, these four teams must come together to fund, design, construct, and operate a robot over the span of about eight months. Entropy spends the first four months of this time teaching freshman members, experimenting with different methods of engineering, and generally working hand-in-hand with professionals and scientists to solve "real world" engineering problems. In January, the NASA-Funded or-

ganization First issues the specifications of the competition, requirements for the robot, and everything else the teams need to get building.

With all that said, the simultaneous processes of fundraising, designing, and construction are very taxing on the students. Moreover, the efforts of the team and mentors only come to fruition when an amalgam of financial pragmatism and diligence is reached. How-

ever, over the course of the last few years, the team has developed a few different methods for raising such an exorbitant amount of money. Traditionally, the most successful of these is the Robotics Comedy Night. This year is the 11th annual Comedy Night for Entropy, and will take place on the 14th of January.

The comedy night program (PG rated) includes

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