

Town News

AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY

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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.

Children's Programming at the Amherst Town Library

DREAM BIG...READ! Summer Reading is Coming!

Summer vacation is coming....and this year's Summer Reading Program is just around the corner!

Miss Sarah and Miss Sue will be visiting the elementary schools any day now, to give them a sneak preview of the fun we have planned.

There will be Dream Big...Read booklets for keeping track of the time you spend reading, prizes to earn, crafts to make, raffles to enter, movies to watch, magicians, musicians, a pet show---the list goes on and on!

Summer calendar handouts will be sent home with every student on the day that we visit---keep them handy so you don't miss any of the fun. (Extra copies of the calendar are available in the Children's Room.)

Registration begins Monday, June 25---feel free to come and sign up for your booklet any time on that day, or any day after that. Check our online calendar for special events, and feel free to call us (673-2288) or email us (shydorn@amherst.lib.nh.us or sruggiero@amherst.lib.nh.us) for more information.

Amherst Town Library Adult Summer Reading Program

Readers of all ages are invited to "Dream Big and Read" this summer at the Amherst Town Library. The 2012 Summer Reading Program will kick off on Monday, June 25 and will feature a variety of activities for kids, teens, and adults. We'll have concerts, presentations, classes, raffles, and more! The program will run for seven weeks, and if the kids hit their reading goal for the summer, will culminate on Thursday, August 9 with an Ice Cream social on the Town Green!



Kids

The theme of this summer's reading program is Dream Big, Read! -- a celebration of the many ways you can be inspired by the books at your local library. Every Wednesday morning we'll have "Whoopie! It's Wednesday" program featuring a number of great local entertainers. As in previous years, there will be storytimes, crafts, and movie matinees. In addition, as thanks to all of the supportive parents of participants, we'll have a parents' raffle with some great prizes!

Teens

Teens will have opportunities to join the fun! Like past years, for every book read, teens will receive a "book buck" which can be redeemed for books or put into a weekly raffle for prizes! We'll have three Wii tournaments on July 7th, 18th, and 25th at 3 o'clock. Last but not least, there'll be two fun book-related events in July. Stay tuned for details.

Adults

We'll have several fun and informative programs in July including a trip to China and a presentation on woodworking. For anyone interested in getting free eBooks from the library for their iPad, Nook, or Kindle, there will be three hands-on classes on June 26th, August 2nd and 9th. As always, there will be a weekly raffle with some great prizes, don't miss your chance to win, just read a book or audiobook and enter!

Summer can be a busy time with vacation and activities but reading can be a great addition to the schedule. Get started on the road to fun by visiting the Amherst Town Library and joining the library-wide Summer Reading Program!

Visit our website <http://www.amherst.lib.nh.us> or call the library 673-2288 to sign up for programs or for more information about the Summer Reading Program.

E-Book Classes for iPads, Kindles, and Nooks

Have an e-book reader and want to use it to get free library books but don't know how? Come to the Amherst Town Library this summer and take a hands-on class and learn! As part of our Dream Big! Read! Summer reading program, we'll have three different classes for three different types of devices. Come with your device, and if you like, a laptop and we will show you how to set up your account and get you ready to read library e-books. For those with Kindles, the class will take place on Tuesday, June 26th at 2:00 PM. For those with iPads and iPhones, the class will be on Thursday, August 2nd at 2:00 PM and those with Nooks and other devices, the class will take place on Thursday, August 9th at 2:00 PM. Come ready to learn and we'll teach you.

We invite you to mark your calendars and sign up for the rest of the Dream Big! Read! summer reading events for adults (there are several programs, e-book classes, and weekly raffles!): "E-book Classes" on Tuesday, June 26, Thursday, August 2, and Thursday, August 9 [classes start at 2:00 p.m.]; "Travel to China : From Preparation to Immersion" on Tuesday, July 10 at 6:30 p.m.; "My Grandfather's Lathe: Basic Wood-

working with Stephen Carey" on Tuesday, July 17 at 7:00 p.m.; and, "The Lighthouses of Seacoast New Hampshire and Southern Maine", on Tuesday, July 27 at 7:00 p.m. Presentations at the library are free and open to the public. However, registration is REQUIRED for our adult programs due to space limitations. Please register for this event and all the upcoming summer reading program events for adults 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."

Clubs, Civic Organizations, Non-Profits please submit your publicity to *The Amherst Citizen*: news@amherstcitizen.com

It's About Conservation

Thumbs Up and Down on Skatutakee

By BRUCE B. BECKLEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



Why should we be in such desperate haste to succeed, and in such desperate enterprises? If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer.

-- Thoreau

Why do you go walking? Is it to hear the sounds of falling water, or birds, or the sound of quiet? Is it to reach a viewpoint? Maybe it's to find Nature in a new setting? Recently we visited a new (to us) area for all of the above reasons. Let me tell you about it.

Our walk started at the Harris Center for Conservation Education in nearby Hancock. The Center, in addition to bringing nature and environmental studies to 2,400 students in 27 area schools, protects through fee ownership and easements 18,000 acres of the Supersanctuary. The goal is to protect 30,000 acres.

The trail to 2,002-foot Skatutakee Mountain provides a moderate walk past massive glacially-deposited boulders and scooped-out vernal pools. As you climb from one switchback to the next, you will see the forest change from one that is primarily hardwoods and tall white pines to one with boreal red spruce on the north-facing slope.

The view from the summit ledges opens up before you, stretching from Joe English Hill in the east to Mount Monadnock. From Skatutakee the Thumbs Up Trail leads on to Thumb Mountain where stone benches above open ledges provide a rewarding lunch spot with a view to the south. The return walk via the Thumbs Down Trail is graced by pond-side views, the sounds of falling water, and different areas of forest woodlot man-

agement. Blooms of starflowers, trillium, blueberries, and mountain holly added to the enjoyment of the walk.

The Harris Center is a prime example of how concerned landowners, town governments, and school districts can work together with conservation-minded donors to provide and protect forever a rich natural heritage.

We do live in a world of change, don't we. Since the Big Bang there always have been evolutionary changes. Today change comes into our lives and our children's lives at electronic speeds. As the time gets shorter between one gadget and the introduction of the next digital device, attention spans seem to grow shorter.

In contrast to this human world (predicament?), Nature can maintain a predictable constancy for us. So it is with falling waters and merry breezes teasing tall pines. So it is with the smells of good earth and the colors of flowers and emerging leaves. So it is with spring flowing into summer. I hope you and your children have been out walking into the natural wealth around us this spring -- without cell phones, iPad, or whatever -- for at least an hour or so. Nanki-Poo was right to sing in *The Mikado*:

*The flowers that bloom in the spring, Tra-la,
Breathe promise of merry sunshine,
As we merrily dance and we sing, Tra-la,
We welcome the hope that they bring, Tra-la,
Of a summer of roses and wine.
And that's what we mean when we say
That a thing is welcome as flowers that bloom
in the spring.
Tra-la-la-la...*

June Art Exhibit at the Library

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From wedding portraits and fashion models to architecture and nature he strives to find the angle and the lighting that brings out the beauty that each subject radiates. Aaron blends natural and artificial light to add impact, bring detail out of shadows, or light the front

of a couple while the sun lights the back. On exhibit at the Amherst Town Library is a look into a small part of Aaron's photographic journey. Through his use of bright, vibrant color in his color photographs to the highly textured contrast in his black and white photographs,

we can sense two very specific emotional responses.... The slight smile and the gentle nod....

The Friends of the Library will be hosting "An Afternoon with the Artist" with Aaron Duarte on Sunday June 3rd from 2 to 4 at the Library.

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