

Town News

AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY

Amy Lapointe, Library Director
14 Main St., Amherst NH
Phone 673-2288 Fax 672-6063
email: library@amherst.lib.nh.us
web http://www.amherst.lib.nh.us
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

Storytimes

All of our traditional Storytimes are drop in, we love to see you when you are able to attend. Storytimes are held the following days and times:

Toddler Time
Tuesdays at 10:00am | 2 and 3 year olds | Caregivers present

The Tuesday story time offers a variety of books, songs, finger plays and felt board activities for our young preschooler. Two or three stories geared to the younger child will be presented, and every 45-minute session concludes with a simple craft for child and caregiver to complete together.

Book Bunch
Thursdays at 10:00am and 1:00pm | 3 to 6 year olds
Our Book Bunch storytime is designed with the longer attention span of the older child in mind. These action-packed 45 minute programs include a wide variety of books, fingerplays, songs, and conclude with a theme-related craft.

Baby Listeners
Lapsit Storytime | Fridays at 10:30am | birth to 24 months | Caregivers present

Our "baby" group meets on Friday mornings and offers an opportunity for babies and their caregivers to gather for rhymes, songs and puppets. This 30-minute program emphasizes traditional rhymes that reinforce language patterns and provide for parent/child interaction. A simple book or two intended for this age is generally highlighted.



Book Clubs

Junior Book Club (grades 2-4) | for parents and kids | 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 6:30pm

We talk about the books we read, do fun activities - and eat snacks!

The Great Stone Face Club (grades 5-6) | 1st Wednesday of each month @ 6:30pm

Come read books from a "master list" of the newest kids' fiction. You can choose any book you'd like from the list—we don't all read the same thing at the same time. Then we "score" the books we read on a scale of 1-10. We meet to talk, talk, talk about our books, and to share the scores we've given. We can be very opinionated! Oh, and we snack while we talk! You can read one book a month, or read as many as you'd like.

Popcorn Eating Monsters Club (grades 7-8) | 3rd Wednesday of each month @ 6:30pm

We do more than just eat popcorn! Members get together to talk about the latest young adult fiction, host parties ("Yay, Hunger Games!"), help out with a few library chores, and eat snacks! Call Miss Sarah at 673-2288 or click here to email for more information.

Lego-My-Library (ages 5 and up)
Join us on the 3rd Friday of every month from 3:00pm-4:00pm

Here's your chance to come together with other Lego aficionados and spend the afternoon building, chatting, and just plain having fun. So come on down to the library to build with our huge supply of legos!

Paws for Reading
Come to the Children's Room to read to Leo and Anna on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. 15-minute appointments run from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

A therapy-dog program to encourage emerging readers, and/or to help more experienced readers consolidate their reading skills. Anna and Leo would love to hear you read! Please note: Registration is required. Call 673-2288 or come in to the Children's Room to sign up!

Amherst Town Library

Introduction to Genealogy and Family History: A Four Part Series

The Amherst Town Library is offering the four week course, "Introduction to Genealogy and Family History," during the month of June. This course for adults will meet on Tuesday evenings, June 3, 10, 17, and 24, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Johnson Meeting Room of the Library. Additionally, the instructor, Dr. Victor Bennison, will be available on Thursday evenings in the library for guided research with course participants. The content of the course will be connected, but you are welcome to attend only those classes where the subject area is of interest to you.

The course will cover all the information a person needs to know to get started researching their own or someone else's genealogy or family history, including current Internet and DNA technologies. Classes will consist of PowerPoint presentations, live computer demonstrations, and guided personal research. It is strongly recommended that students bring a laptop or iPad, though you can profit from the class without one. Wi-Fi access is available at the Library. The four parts of the class include: Family, Past and Present (June 3); Computers and Genealogical Software (June 10); The Internet: Gold Mines and Booby Traps (June 17); and, DNA: The Map of Humanity (June 24). For more detailed information on the content of each presentation, please click on the full calendar description for the specific class date noted on the Library's website or call the



Vick Bennison leads the course on Genealogy and Family History

Library at 673-2288.

Instructor Vick Bennison received a BA in mathematics from the University of Tulsa, an MA from the University of Illinois, Chicago, and an MS and PhD in Computer Science from the University of Chicago. He has taught at the University level, but spent almost 30 years as a software engineer for Bell Labs, Digital Equipment Corporation, and Fidelity Investments. He is now retired. He has been active in genealogy since the 1970's. In 1994, he published the book *The Loop Family in America*, the 500 page authoritative work on that one family, named Loop, or Lupp, or Leupp, originat-

ing in Germany and coming to the United States in the 1700's. He now maintains that work online, adding new information regularly. If you want to take a look at it, go to www.TheLoopFamilyInAmerica.org

This four week course for adults is free and open to the public. However, registration is REQUIRED for each presentation due to space limitations. You can register for this course by calling 673-2288, emailing library@amherstlibrary.org, or by visiting our website at www.amherstlibrary.org and selecting the "Community Services" tab, then click on drop down "Sign-Up for Programs."

Time to Get Ready – Start Thinking July 4th Floats

AMHERST – What do you get when you mix a confetti canon, a WWII veteran, an artist, a builder, a DJ and an assorted mix of family and friends? For years, that auspicious recipe meant memorable Amherst July 4th parade floats.

Our extended family had never been one to take on "a project" together. But once all of the kids had graduated out of the bike/carriage/wagon category in the parade, building a float became an annual event. The float quickly became a journey, not just a parade spectacle (and I use that word generously). Every step of the journey had some memorable moments. Each year around Memorial Day, we'd brainstorm the concept based on the parade's theme, and then divide the responsibilities—sometimes equitably and sometimes perhaps in a rather lopsided manner. Late in June, we would have a "decorating party," which included as much partying as it did work.

No matter what, the building, painting, decorating, costuming,



Great year to enter a float

and ultimately marching together in the Amherst 4th of July parade will forever be part of our family and friends' bit of Americana mem-

ories. Being part of a small-town Independence Day parade truly can make you part of that perfectly stereotypical American celebration. You are doing something that other groups, families and friends are doing in towns all across the country that same morning. You are also part of making our neighbors' and friends' July 4th memorable. It's really great to hear the laughter and "thank you's" from people lining the parade route and seeing all of those cute red-white-and-blue kids waving happy hello's.

This is a great year to enter a float in the parade. The theme, "From Sea to Shining Sea", offers families, neighborhoods, or friends an opportunity to join together to create your own memories. Need some help? I'll be happy to help you get started or answer any questions you have on the process. You can contact me, Jim Janson at jjanson@gmail.com. Start your own float journey this year. You'll be glad you did!

Amherst Antique Auto Parade on 4th of July

The town of Amherst invites owners of antique, classic, and special interest vehicles 25 years and older to participate in this year's 4th of July parade.

The parade steps off at 10am on Friday, July 4th. Car owners are asked to begin lining up on New Boston Road across from Wilkins School beginning at 8:30 am and not later than 9:30 am. Proof of insurance is requested and noted for town liability reasons. To address overheating issues- we will ask all the older pre-war cars to line up first and be right behind the fire trucks going first. Cars will receive a high visibility orange windshield letter so your name and car can be announced properly as you drive by the reviewing stand. Parking for all

the Antique cars is provided around the Amherst green after the parade and we encourage owners to park and stay for pictures, show off their vehicles, and accept their prizes.

There will be 6 prize categories with blue ribbons and your pictures in the next month's edition of the AMHERST CITIZEN. Period outfits, banners and kids are always encouraged! Pre-register if possible by sending email to coddingtontong@jae.com or calling 801-4389. If you cannot pre-register we will get your information when you arrive. For questions please contact either George Coddington at 801-4389 or Noel Ward at 566-0948. We look forward to good weather and a great turnout as always.

Television Academy Recognizes Kristin Leffler continued from page 1

ingness to include her and accept her and focus more on what she can do rather than what she cannot."

Kristen's interest in combining film with advocacy work began in earnest in college. She took a documentary class during her junior year in college. She was free to choose any topic and she knew that she wanted to cover disability rights. She had just returned from a study abroad program in Argentina where she learned a great deal about music as a community-building activity.

She had heard about the group, Flame, and decided to make a film about them allowing them to tell their story. "We do not hear the voices, thoughts and perspectives of people with disabilities enough in the media, and I wanted to give them a chance to share their experiences and shake up the damaging stereotypes that exist. I also wanted to emphasize the issue of unemployment among the disability community. The real problem, as one of the interviewees in my documentary states, is these 'attitudinal barriers' are still in place. As I made this documentary, my sister's frustration with her job search intensified, and in turn, so did this mission

for the film."

Kristin's goal in doing this film was to use documentary as a medium to change social perception. "Social perception builds our understanding of the world, and our understanding builds our individual decisions as well as laws and policies on a bigger level. Media's ability to shape perception is therefore an extremely powerful tool, and one that I strive to use for good."

Kristin credits Souhegan High School with preparing her academically for success in college as well as teaching her to be a more "thoughtful, compassionate and reflective person." She stated that "through programs like Advisory, Division I and Senior Project, Souhegan really emphasizes the importance of getting to know the people around you. I think I carried that sentiment with me to college and it helped me choose a major and career path that gives a voice to others." Kristin was heavily involved in Souhegan's Sabre Scribe student newspaper where she learned a lot about journalism and all the challenges it entails. She also took Ethics Seminar as a senior, about which she says, "helped me both broaden my world view and think more critically about my

own personal set of ethics. It helped me see the power human beings can have to make positive change in the world. That class still inspires me to this day when I think back on what we learned and what we accomplished as a group."

Upon graduation, Kristin will be traveling to Nome, Alaska for a year-long commitment at KMON radio as the director of their Story49 program. As director, she will be making radio documentaries about the stories of Western Alaskans including archiving the stories and legends of Alaskan natives. It is her goal to continue to use documentary film and media to tell the stories of others.

Kristin was presented with her award by Robert David Hall, a star of the CBS series "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation." A former professional musician himself, Hall had both of his legs amputated as the result of an auto accident and is an advocate for people with disabilities. For more information on the College Television Awards, visit emmysfoundation.org/college-television-awards.

For more information on "Following Flame," visit flamebanddoc.wordpress.com.

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