

# Town News

## Bulletin Board

### Amherst Garden Club Evening Meetings

Are you interested in learning more about gardening but are unable to attend daytime meetings? New this year will be evening meetings open to present and new members as well as interested visitors. Meetings will be held the second Thursday of each month at Parkhurst Place, 11 Veterans Rd., Amherst, at 7:00 PM and are open to the public.

Members who find they can only attend evening meetings will have the opportunity to be involved in club activities such as the plant sale and civic gardening and will receive the newsletter.

### Amherst Farmers Market Through Mid October

The Amherst Farmers Market is open Thursday, from 3-6 p.m. in the parking lot of Bedford Fields - Amherst, formerly known as Ponemah Farms Garden Center, at 42 Route 101A.

### DISCUSSION GROUP at TOADSTOOL BOOKSHOP

On the first Thursday of each month, the discussion group meets from 7PM to 8:30PM. We share ideas on philosophy, current affairs and familiar truths. For more information contact: Norah at 673 - 6948.

### Open to All Southern New Hampshire Women

The Amherst Area Newcomers Club has been an active social organization in the area for 45 years.

The club is open to all women in the Souhegan Valley, regardless of how long she has lived in the area. We hold monthly general events on a wide variety of topics along with smaller special interest groups which cater to socializing with others of similar interests. The club is a great way to meet new people, get to know the area if you're new, or cultivate a new passion. We currently host interest groups for crafts, knitting, bunco, walking, charity, lunch, poker, healthy eating and golf.

For information and a calendar of events visit: [NHNewcomers.com](http://NHNewcomers.com)

### Amherst Juniors Open for New Members!

Our mission is civic needs, educational advancement and those less fortunate. Our goals are achieved with the assistance and generosity of businesses, organizations and individuals.

We are in need of women with motivation and dedication to join us in growing our mission even further within our surrounding communities.

Please email us at [memberships@amherstjuniors.org](mailto:memberships@amherstjuniors.org). Our website is [www.amherstjuniors.org](http://www.amherstjuniors.org). Call Barb @ 508-783-3686 or Karen @305-3046 for more information. Join Us!

### Photographers Forum Camera Club Competition

Photographers Forum camera club will resume its meetings on Monday, September 15 at 7:15 p.m. at Bishop Guertin High School in Nashua. This is a competition night with three categories: Assigned: "Colors of Summer" Challenge: "Summer in Motion" and Open. All prints should be submitted at 7:00. We are an informal club offering educational programs for all ability levels and the opportunity to meet people with similar interests. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. Dues are \$35 a year for individuals, \$60 for dual families and \$15 for full-time students. For more information go to [www.photographersforum.org](http://www.photographersforum.org) and [www.facebook.com/photographersforumcameraclub](http://www.facebook.com/photographersforumcameraclub)

## Craftworkers' Guild Opens the Harvest Craft Shop, October 2- October 13

BEDFORD - The Craftworkers' Guild announces this year's Harvest Craft Shop, which will take place from Thursday, October 2 through Monday, October 13 at the historic Kendall House, Bedford. Just in time for fall foliage tourist visits with family and friends, the seasonal shop will be open daily from 10am to 4pm.

More than 60 Guild member artists and craftspeople are participating in this year's Harvest Craft Shop. "Each yearly fair offers a fresh look as members continually expand and offer new and timely products. Our Harvest Craft Shop offers something for every taste from traditional New England crafts to very contemporary pieces," says Carol Davis, president of the Craftworkers' Guild.

We are thrilled to offer our customers a wide variety of high quality crafts. Work presented in the Harvest Craft Shop is juried by the

Guild to maintain a high standard of unique, best quality offerings. Many items are one-of-a-kind and include photography, fine art and prints, cards, gourmet treats, shaker boxes, woodworking and scroll saw art, fiber and fabric, sewn and knitted specialties, stained and fused glass art, jewelry in several medias, doll clothes and more.

In addition, the Guild will host an Autumn Fest Night on Thursday, October 9 from 4 to 8 pm with special offerings and treats available on that night only. The Guild will also hold Gourmet and Goodie week-ends with homemade items for sale in the Harvest Shop on October 4-5 and October 11-12.

The Harvest Craft Shop takes place in the historic Kendall House at 5 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, NH, located behind the Bedford Public Library. Parking is free and plentiful. Visit our website [www.craftworkersguild.org](http://www.craftworkersguild.org)

## Tree & Stump Removal

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## PARKHURST PLACE

11 Veterans Road, Amherst, NH 03031

### Features:

- Beautiful Country setting
- Non-profit independent living community for Seniors
- Large function and activity rooms
- Library with fireplace
- Community garden
- Scenic walking trails
- Screened gazebo
- Carports with storage

One bedroom apartments are now available, with heat and hot water included.

For more information and current special incentives, contact Vera at Stewart Property Management, P. O. Box 10540, Bedford, NH 03110 (603) 641-2163

TDD Access

## Historic Amherst

# Recommended Historic and Historical Reading

BY KATRINA HOLMAN

A new school year has begun. The kiddos are back in class, no doubt learning valuable things and busy with homework. So I thought this would be a good time to offer you, local history enthusiast, some extra-credit assignments. Here are some publications that I have enjoyed and found eye-opening regarding local conditions in the 19th century.

*The Life and Adventures of Seth Wyman: Embodying the Principal Events of a Life Spent in Robbery, Theft, Gambling, Passing Counterfeit Money, &c., &c.* "written by himself," published posthumously 1843 by J. H. Cate, printer of Manchester, N.H., 310 pages (online books.google.com). The author was Seth Wyman ("Jr.", actually the 5th, 1784-1843) of Goffstown, whose criminal escapades in shoplifting, burglary, passing counterfeit bills, and seduction, took him to Boston and Maine - and Amherst, N.H. He made his first visit to Amherst to get some deeds registered on behalf of his father (1808), and took the opportunity to shoplift cloth from "Col. M.'s" store (which we know was Col. Means at 1 Pierce Lane); and later several more visits to Amherst were hosted by the county "gaol." (I recounted how adultery first landed him in Amherst's jail in my 9 Sep. '14 column.) This book includes the best info I've found on the interior layout of Amherst's stone jail. Other commentators have suggested that he must have been exaggerating - but significant details can be verified by historic sources. (He neglects to mention that, as a result of his imprisonment in Charlestown, Mass. in 1818, his wife and six children were domiciled at the Boston almshouse and while he occupied the state prison in Concord, N.H., from 1820-1823, his wife and children resided in the County poor house.) Seth was clearly a born raconteur and this is a rollicking fun read.

*Excelsior: Journals of the Hutchinson Family Singers, 1842-1846.* Edited and annotated by Dale Cockrell. Sociology of Music Series no. 5, 1989, Pendragon Press, Stuyvesant, N.Y. The most popular entertainers of the mid-19th century were a young quartet of singers from Milford, N.N., whose grandfather Andrew Leavitt resided in Amherst. These journals document how they got started in their singing careers, as Abby turned 13, traveling from place to place in horse-drawn wagon and staying at inns, arranging concerts as they went, in New Hampshire and New York and Philadelphia and, by train, Baltimore. In Feb. 1844, they visited President Tyler's house in Washington, D.C., and sang for those gathered there. Their public concert in that city was attended by both Senators for N.H., Levi Woodbury and C. G. Atherton (born in Amherst) and they visited with Daniel Webster (1782-1852). From the excellent historical annotations, you can learn all sorts of interesting tidbits - such as the cost of feeding your horse at taverns, pedlars and hawkers in NYC, the bill of fare and cost of various dishes offered by a restaurant in Philadelphia, the musical competition. This book is rather hard to come by - the Milford library has several copies but you may have to find a comfy spot there to read it. (See this column, 25 March 2014, for the singers ties to Amherst.)

"Civil War Diary of Newton Timothy Hartshorn" [(1842-1922)], Feb.-June 1862 (transcription with drawings online [ancestrallychallenged.com/nhamherst/NTHdiary.htm](http://ancestrallychallenged.com/nhamherst/NTHdiary.htm) (no hyphens) by Derek S. Hartshorn, the diarist's great-grandson, 2008, who also entered autobiographical details in [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com), South Sandisfield Cemetery, Mass.). The diarist was



born in Amherst, N.H. In Oct. 1861 he joined the U.S. Engineer Corps, so one gets a different perspective of the war than that of an infantry soldier. He went on to become a Boston artist, especially of crayon portraits, best known for painting a portrait of President U. S. Grant.

*Our Nig, or, Sketches from the Life of a Free Black* was printed in 1859 in Boston, Mass.; the copyright was filed in District Court of Massachusetts by "H. E. Wilson" and therefore authorship is attributed to Harriet/Hattie E. (Adams) Wilson (1825/7-1900), who was born a free person of color in Milford, N.H., daughter of a poor white woman and a free black man. Although Prof. Gates, who rediscovered and republished the book in 1983, called it a novel, scholarship immediately focused on verifying autobiographical details. I would classify this as a memoir, that genre that purports to be non-fiction but tends to stray into fiction for the sake of the narrative (in this case also changing all the people's names). The introduction to Penguin's 2005 edition by P. Gabrielle Foreman, associate professor of English & American Studies at Occidental College, and Reginald H. Pitts, historical researcher and genealogist, provides details of the author's life. Besides what the story itself reveals about blacks in this area in the 19th century, the pro-

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## Amherst Recreation Department

4 Cross Rd, Amherst, NH 03031  
603 673-6248  
Peabody Mill Environmental Center  
66 Brook Road  
603 673-1141  
[www.amherstrec.org](http://www.amherstrec.org)

As fall schedules have settled in and the leaves are starting to turn, we find ourselves offering a wider range of programming, especially for adults.

Find your "community" and joins something that interests you!

### Family Programming

#### NEW Crotched Mountain Ski and Ride Passes

The Amherst Recreation Department is now selling Crotched Mountain Season passes at a discounted club price to Crotched Mountain Ski and Ride. These passes are for the 2014-2015 season. Save big by purchasing with the ARD. Proceeds from pass sales go to help fund our Thursday Night Lights Ski Program. Please see our website at [www.amherstrec.org](http://www.amherstrec.org) for details and passwords under "ALL AGES."

#### Wet and Wild Fun Run/Hike

The Amherst Recreation Track and Field team will host two dates for their Youth Fitness Challenges. Bring the whole family down for a great experience at beautiful Freestyle Farm! Please see our website for more details.

Who: Any aged 6 and up  
When: Sunday September 28  
Registration begins at 9:30.  
More details are available on our website

Where: Freestyle Farm LLC, 188 Mack Hill Road  
Fee: \$8.00 for preregistration, \$10.00 on site, and free for ARD Cross Country members

#### NEW Fall Family Fun Days

Come to PMEC for our new monthly event! Make a craft, learn a

# Fall Programs and Events

skill or just have fun with organized games! We will feature new themes and plans every month.

September 27th - Interpretive Trees: Come hike some trails on the Joe English Reservation and learn to identify different trees here in NH. We will be collecting different leaves to preserve and take home to help identify trees in your own backyard!

Who: Families and Individuals  
When: 9/27 1:00-3:00pm  
Cost: \$4.00 per person, with a family maximum of \$20.00  
Where: PMEC, 66 Brook Road

#### NEW Family Studio Night

It's all about creativity and Imagination at Family Studio Nights at Amherst Middle School! Art Teacher Brandie Pettus will lead these hands-on studio-based workshops where grown-ups and children work together to craft amazingly fun works of art! Grown-ups and children ages 3 to 103 will explore a variety of media and techniques and spend some artsy time together! We may dance, we may share stories, we may listen to funky music-but we'll definitely have FUN!

Who: Families ages 3-103  
When: 11/13 6:00-8:00pm  
Where: Amherst Middle School Art Room #2  
Fee: \$20.00 for a family up to 4 members, \$2.00 additional member

#### Youth Programming

#### NEW Thursday Night Lights

There is nothing like getting out of school and heading to the mountain for an afternoon/evening of skiing and snowboarding. Students will be picked up from Wilkins Elementary School and driven to Crotched Mountain Ski and Ride in Bennington NH. Students will have

the opportunity to rent equipment, take a lesson and have some free skiing time before heading back to Wilkins School by 8:30pm.

Who: Grades 1-8  
When: Thursdays, 1/8 - 2/12 (2/19 will be a makeup date for this program if needed).  
Transportation to and from Crotched Mountain for 6 weeks.)

Your lift ticket, rentals and lessons are purchased through Crotched Mountain at a discounted rate. Go to [www.amherstrec.org](http://www.amherstrec.org) and click on Thursday Night Lights for more information.

#### Prices for Lift tickets/Lessons/Rentals

Lift only: \$109 - Includes 7 mid-week lift tickets (6 used in the program and 1 on your own)  
5 weeks of Lessons and add on's: \$50  
Ski or Snowboard Rentals: \$50  
Registration Deadline: October 13, 2014

#### Spanish Workshop

Parents and kids alike love to spend time with Senora Rowley, and learn so much along the way! This before school program runs for 10 weeks and will give your child the advantage of learning the basics of a second language at just the right age.

Who: Beginner to Intermediate  
When: Wednesdays 8-8:30am 10/1-12/10 Room #5  
Advanced (or with approval) Thursdays 8-8:30am 10/2-12/11 Room #4  
Where: Wilkins School  
Fee: \$75.00 Res/\$85.00 Non-Res

#### Kids CAN Cook!

Paula Garvey is back to share her love of cooking with students. She will celebrate the season with a traditional fall favorite- Apple Crum-

ble made with locally grown apples!

Who: 5th-8th Graders  
When: Thursday 10/16  
Where: AMS Life Skills Room  
Fee: \$20 Res/\$25 Non-Res

#### Art at Wilkins: Fall into Art

Back to school time is back to ART time!

Come and join Mrs. Pettus as she shares projects that focus on the bright colors and sights of fall: birch trees, pumpkins, colorful leaves and more! If the day is nice, we can go outside and draw from nature and we'll explore collage, pastels, paint and more!

Who: 1st-4th Graders  
When: Thursdays 10/9-10/30 3:05-4:30  
Where: Wilkins Elementary School Art Room #3  
Fee: \$55.00 Res/\$65.00

#### NEW Yoga for Kids- LAST CALL

Encourage children to turn off their devices and tune in to themselves with yoga. Yoga can help children develop a healthy mind-body connection that improves self-awareness, confidence and concentration. This class will include yoga poses, games, meditation and relaxation.

Who: 1st-4th Graders  
When: Wednesdays 9/24-10/22  
Students picked up directly after school, but the class begins at 3:30 to accommodate participants from other schools.  
Where: Wilkins School  
Fee: \$45.00Res/\$50.00 Non-Res

#### After-school Spanish at AMS

For students who want more depth or students who may need extra practice, Senora Rowley fits the needs of each of her students. This is a 10 week program.

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## Announcing Landscapes with a Difference Open Studio weekend - September 27/28



Come visit the art studio of Elizabeth Craumer where you will find her working on a pastel painting, and on Sunday you may even find students at work. Betsy teaches adult classes several times a week in her studio classroom.

Stop in at 9 Checkerberry Lane off Smith Road and Liberty Hill in Bedford from 10am - 4pm. Check out her website at [www.betsycraumerart.com](http://www.betsycraumerart.com).

## FREE CHILD CHECK SCREENING

Children ages 2.5 to 5 years

For

Amherst and Mont Vernon Residents

Screenings are conducted by trained professionals in the areas of early learning, motor, vision, hearing and speech.

October 10th, 2014

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Clark School

14 Foundry Street

Please call Karen Rimol, Preschool Coordinator  
@ [krimol@sprise.com](mailto:krimol@sprise.com) or 672-2343 to schedule a screening