

Bulletin Board

Amherst Garden Club Evening Meetings

Sue Alger will be the speaker at the evening meeting of the Amherst Garden Club on November 13 at Parkhurst Place, 11 Veterans Road in Amherst starting at 7:00 pm. She will speak on "Decorating with Succulents and Fall Bounty." The meeting, which will begin at 7:00 pm, is open to the public.

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.

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. Our website is www.amherstjuniors.org. Call Barb @ 508-783-3686 or Karen @305-3046 for more information. Join Us!

From the Ways & Means Committee –

The first of a series of "Did you Know?" articles about Amherst town services and equipment.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

ROADS MAINTENANCE

The Town of Amherst has 122 miles of roads, eight miles of which are gravel. Each year approximately four to seven miles of roads are scheduled for improvements / repairs using several different methods.

Reconstruction involves completely rebuilding the road by excavating down two or three feet, removing rocks and roots, and carefully working around existing buried utility lines and conduits. The new roads are engineered to provide proper drainage by adding a sub-base and base, rolling, and then paving with four inches of asphalt. Some old roads were never built with proper drainage and were just paved over dirt. The cost of reconstructed roads averages \$800,000 per mile.

Mill & Fill involves grinding up the surface to an average of 3 inches, depending on how the existing surface was constructed, and then repaving about 3 ½ inches over the remaining base. We often see this used on highways. The cost is about \$161,000 per mile but can vary greatly depending on the condition and construction of the existing road. Unfortunately, there is no way to predict the actual cost of this method until core samples are taken.

Asphalt Overlay is the typical paving method to put a smooth surface on top of a properly constructed road that has not already deteriorated. This is preventive maintenance and can significantly extend the life of a road. However, at \$120,000 per mile, it is not cost effective if done too late or over a weakened base because the new layer will begin to break up in a very short time.

Patching is used to fix a very small area of an otherwise sound road. This past spring and summer, DPW spread 108 tons of asphalt at a cost of just under \$12,000 to fill in pot holes and cover strips of deteriorated road surfaces.

Crack Sealing is the first and least expensive (\$3,000 per mile) method used in pavement preventive maintenance to keep a good road in good condition. Roads less than ten years old with a proper crown and minimal cracking are best served by this treatment since it prevents water from seeping into the road structure and causing more damage.

Roads are selected for improvement by the DPW and the list is continually re-prioritized to place the worst roads at the top. Work is funded both through bonds and / or the annual town budget. Last year slightly over 4 miles of town roads and sidewalks were either reconstructed or improved and this year about 5 miles are in progress or have been completed.

Town News

Who Are Nipmugs and The Questers?

BY KATRINA HOLMAN

When you see a newspaper article giving historical background on the latest suncatcher's motif, or an announcement inviting the public to a free talk on some historical topic, or a photo of another old portrait recently restored – and all sponsored by Nipmugs – are you curious about the group?

In Amherst, there are two chapters of The Questers, namely Amherst Villagers (#746 founded in 1975) and Nipmugs (#814 founded in 1976). The Questers, a non-profit organization founded in 1944, is dedicated to the study, conservation and preservation of historic artifacts, buildings and landmarks for the benefit of today and tomorrow. The Questers motto is: "It's fun to search and a joy to find." In our local chapters, Questers learn about antiques and various aspects of local history, meet experts in the field, share and view members' collections, and visit historic sites, museums and antique shops. The Amherst chapters each meet once a month from September to June, and two of those meetings, the third Wednesday in November and March, are joint meetings of the two chapters that are also programs to which the public is invited. We also support other non-profit organizations in their restoration and preservation work.

Nipmugs are a travel-happy bunch. For half of our monthly meetings we carpool as far away as historic museum houses in York, Maine and Ipswich, Mass. and Woodstock, Conn. or as close as historical societies in neighboring towns. We go to educate ourselves – and for the sheer enjoyment of experiencing the historical architecture and antique furnishings, tidbits about local history and regional customs, the gardens and landscaping, and the company. We especially love behind-the-scenes tours. Among Nipmugs members are antiques dealers, genealogists, master gardeners, supporters of Amherst Town Library, Historical Society and Heritage Commission, and community volunteers. Most of the twenty-three members live in Amherst but one resides in Hollis and another in Milford.

Supporting Preservation

Nipmugs are pleased and proud to contribute to the preservation and conservation of historic objects and buildings of local significance and to encourage an appreciation of our town's heritage. Our ongoing charitable fundraiser is the Historic Amherst series of suncatchers (glass window ornaments),



Nipmugs Questers at Castle Hill in Ipswich, originally the summer home of R. T. Crane Jr. (1873-1931) of Chicago, the plumbing industry magnate (yup, toilets too).

with a new limited-edition design produced each year by a New Hampshire craftsman. (Call Anne Krantz if you missed getting the 2014 edition, 26th in the series, or are seeking an older one.) In 2002, Nipmugs contributed \$1200 toward the restoration of the Town Library's glass canopy. In 2006, Nipmugs framed the historic photographs from the Historical Society's collection that now adorn the walls of Town Hall. In 2008, Nipmugs donated \$1725 to the Town Library for a subscription to America's Genealogy online database. April 2012 marked the completion of conservation of three historic portraits on paper, two crayon enlargements and one photograph (\$1545 and \$390 plus \$723 for framing), which now are on permanent display in the original part of the library.

Every other year, The Questers board awards grants to selected chapters for local preservation and restoration projects. At the 2014 Questers International Convention, \$120,000 was awarded to 35 projects across the U.S.A. and Canada. Among these was a grant of \$1700 to Nipmugs towards restoration of an old oil painting in the collection of the Historical Society of Amherst. This project was just completed this month and, wow, what a difference professional conservation makes! Next time you have a chance to visit the Chapel museum, be sure to inspect the portrait of Barnabas B. David, a gentleman who was important in Amherst's economic history. Now Nipmugs are seeking a new preservation project to fund!

Continued on page 5 ►

The start of the Holiday Season begins with the November 11th issue! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and visit www.amherstcitizen.com for frequent updates on events and celebrations.

JOSEPH RACZEK, O.D.

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The Memory Tree 2014

Sponsored by the Amherst Garden Club, the Memory Tree acts as a remembrance of a loved one to all who have made a donation. The tree, an Amherst tradition dating back to 1995, is located in the center of town speaking out with a twinkle to all who pass by. "Remember me, remember the times we shared." The Memory Tree will be lit on Friday, December 12, the weekend of the Tree Lighting Festival and will stay lit through the cold winter nights into January. Now is the time to send in your donation and names to be remembered.

We have donated the money raised each year to various projects around Amherst and the local area.

Donations this year will go to a local organization that supports our mission statement of providing education, resources and networking opportunities for our members to promote the love of gardening, civic landscaping and environmental responsibility.

Please call Trese Gilligan at 714-9182 if you have any questions. Donations (\$10.00 for individual name or \$25.00 for a family) may be sent to "The Memory Tree/Amherst Gardeners, PO Box 694, Amherst, NH. Thank you for your support. Stop by and see the tree and sign posted with the names of those being remembered.

MEMORY TREE 2014

Print YOUR NAME Clearly: _____

Name of person to be remembered.

- A. Family - i.e. The John Smith Family - \$25.00
B. Per Individual Name - i.e. John Smith - \$10.00
Select (Either A or B)

A. The _____ Family (\$25.00)
B. Last Name _____ First Name _____
Last Name _____ First Name _____
Last Name _____ First Name _____
Last Name _____ First Name _____
(\$10.00 per individual name)

Make checks payable to:

"The Memory Tree"/Amherst Garden Club
PO Box 694
Amherst, New Hampshire 03031

Deadline: Please return by December 1, 2014. Thank you.
Need more information? Contact Trese Gilligan at 714-9182

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DISTINCTIVE AMHERST HOME!

Charming Antique Colonial located on Middle Street just off the Village Green. This classic 1787 colonial is waiting for the next family who wants to call the village their home. With four bedrooms and two baths the house has been well maintained over the years and is very livable as is while you decide what updates you want to make. Directly across from the town skating rink you have everything right in front of you – a short walk to schools, churches and of course Moulton's. And now that the road construction is almost done, Middle Street returns to being the quiet road it has historically been! Amherst Village is alive and vibrant with young families as well as empty nesters. This is a great property **PRICED TO SELL**. Come See it NOW and be living here in time for Tree Lighting. **\$269,900**. Call David Deysher @ Historic & Distinctive Properties 654-8970 to set up a showing.



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