

Town News

► Amherst's Native Son Who Gave His Hometown a Clock

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(History of Northampton, Mass. by Russell & Pomeroy, 1898.) Although a resident of Boston, Perkins Nichols in 1808 petitioned the General Assembly of Rhode Island and was granted a lottery to raise \$10,000 to "defray the cost of searching after coal." He was one of the entrepreneurial shareholders, and the first proprietors' clerk, when the Rhode Island Coal Company was incorporated Feb. 1809 to mine coal deposits near Bristol Ferry in Narragansett Bay, about 20 miles southeast of Providence. The coal turned out not to be suitable for home use nor industrial furnaces but could be used for local brick manufacture, and years later for copper smelting. Today there are miles of abandoned coal mines that contain an estimated 400 million gallons of fresh water which is used to irrigate a golf course above ground. In 1811, Perkins Nichols of Boston was granted a patent on an improved augur for mining.

New York Debts

Perkins Nichols moved to New York City with his family in 1813, where he initially continued as a wholesale merchant. He was also a major land investor, but by August 1816 he was an insolvent debtor! Late in 1817 and early 1818, the sheriffs of two counties seized four parcels (15a + 12a + 20a in 9th ward of NYC, on or near Kingsbridge Road; the fourth with works in Westchester county near Yonkers) and offered them at auction. His financial difficulties continued. In March 1833 he petitioned the City of New York for "an extension of the time for redemption of land for taxes" – he got the extension but had to promise to pay back taxes from 1822 through 1829. In the 1820s, his occupation was broker.

NYC Marble Cemeteries

Perkins Nichols left a lasting legacy in his final hometown. The first nonsectarian cemetery in NYC, the New York Marble Cemetery, in which burials were in family vaults, was established in 1830 by Perkins Nichols, incorporated Feb. 1831. He straight-away re-interred two of his children there in his own new vault in March 1831, a son who had died at age 9 in New York in 1816 and his eldest who had died as a young married woman. In Nov. 1831, he buried his wife there. It's a small green oasis today (well, no doubt white today, but green in season), surrounded on three sides by high brick walls of buildings, with a fancy wrought iron gate at the head of an alley off Second Street. While construction was still ongoing at the first cemetery, Nichols contracted to develop marble vaults for a similar cemetery a block distant, called the New York

City Marble Cemetery, which was incorporated in 1832. (It was in this second marble cemetery that President James Monroe was first laid to rest in July 1831, in his son-in-law's vault. Reporting on the burial, the newspaper called it "the new Marble Cemetery of Perkins Nichols, Esq., on Second street.") The vaults were constructed of Tuckahoe marble, quarried in New York state. Although I have found no source to say so explicitly, I suspect that Nichols developed these cemeteries because he had a financial interest in the marble. In May 1838, Nichols appeared before a Street Committee of the NYC Board of Aldermen to tell them about the Kingsbridge road "near [his] marble quarry." According to a history of Westchester county (by Thomas Sharf, 1886), Perkins Nicholls had a marble-sawing mill at Dyckman's Cut and another at the King's Bridge just south of Yonkers. *The History of the Town of King's Bridge Now Part of the 24th Ward of NYC* by T. E. Edall (1887) also mentions him as proprietor of a marble-sawing mill. Nichols attempted to get approval from the City to expand one of the cemeteries, getting testimony from doctors and such, but a law had been passed in 1833 against further burials in lower Manhattan. It seems he also invested in marble in a completely different part of the country. The Belden's Falls marble quarry two miles north of the village of Middlebury, Vermont, was purchased together with the water power by Col. Perkins of Boston and Perkins Nichols of New York, but both were "too far advanced in life to engage personally in the business" and after some examination of the quarry by a scientific gentleman no further work was done. (*The History of Middlebury in the County of Addison, Vermont* by Samuel Swift, 1859.)

Shortly after New York passed the Bankrupt Act in 1841, Perkins Nichols, commission merchant, was among the first men to apply for bankruptcy in U.S. District Court – N.Y. Southern District. He remained a commission merchant until the end, changing business locations frequently in the 1840s, living without family in a boarding house in Ward 3 (1855 census).

SELECTED SOURCES:

Perkins Nichols is included in *The Pickering Genealogy* by Ellery & Bowditch, 1897, which does not have birth nor death dates but does make the connections to Amherst, Boston and New York. His age is wrong on his N. Y. death record. (Not too surprising, considering that his wife and all but one of his children, a married daughter, predeceased him. Death records are only as accurate as the informant.)

► Amherst Recreation Programs and Events

Fee: \$95R; \$120NR

13-15 year olds: Babe Ruth

Games and practices will take place on a 90 foot diamond with home games at Souhegan High School

Babe Ruth games generally play on Wednesdays and Saturdays, not to conflict with the Middle School Schedule

Who: 13-15 yr old boys
What: Babe Ruth
When: Tentative start date of 42015
Fee: \$100R; \$125NR

NEW Softball for Youth

Come join girls ages 5-16 on the softball diamond. Whether you want the experience of an instructional league or are ready for some fun and competition there is a spot for you on one of our many teams.

All instructional, minor/major and juniors teams will play teams surrounding towns.

Softball age is based on the participant's age on December 31, 2014. ***Registration by Friday March 6 to avoid a \$25.00 late fee. Teams will be formed and uniforms ordered Friday March 27***

5&6 year olds: T-Ball

Introduces the player to organized softball

Who: 5&6 year old girls
What: T-ball (Softball)
Where: The back of Wilkins Elementary School
When: 52015-6/13/2015
Fee: \$40R; \$65NR

7 & 8 yr olds: Instructional

Fundamentals of softball reinforced. Games will be played with surrounding towns

Who: 7 & 8 yr old girls
What: Instructional softball
When: Tentative start date of 42015
Fee: \$45R; \$70NR

9-12 year olds: Minor/Major League

Team placement will be based on screening. All players will screen. Games will be played with surrounding towns

Who: 9-12 yr old girls
What: Minors/Majors
When: Tentative start date of 42015
Fee: \$90R; \$117NR

13-15 year olds: Juniors

Play games with surrounding towns. Games generally play on Wednesdays and Saturdays, not to conflict with the Middle School Schedule.

Who: 13-15 yr old girls
What: Junior League
When: Tentative start date of 42015
Fee: \$90R; \$117NR

Softball Clinic at AMS

Come get a jump on the Softball Season with a 4 week skills, drills

and activities program geared to develop your softball abilities. This program runs Mondays through March at the Amherst Middle School. Be prepared each week to participate for an hour and a half of softball.

Who: 5th-8th grade
Where: Amherst Middle School Gym
When: Mondays March 9th -30th from 6-7:30pm (see website for more details)
Fee: \$25R; \$35NR

Homeschool Science Programs

Amherst Recreation offers environmental and science programs to home school students throughout the school year at the Peabody Mill Environmental Center!

Who: Home school students ages 3-14
Where: Peabody Mill Environmental Center (PMEC)
When: February 17th from 1-3pm (3-5yr olds from 1-2pm)
Fee: \$5 for 3-5 yr olds, \$10 for 6-14 yr olds

Please visit www.amherstrec.org for activity descriptions

February Vacation Day Camp

February School Vacation will be here before you know it! What better way for your children to spend it than take part in a fun-filled week at camp. This February, The Amherst Recreation Department will be running a day camp from Feb. 23-27 for children in grades K-5. Each day of the week will be geared towards a specific theme. Campers will become mad-scientists for the day, explore the adventures of the great outdoors, and even create their own Winter Wonderslands!

Who: Grades K-5
What: February Vacation Day Camp
When: February 23-27, 2015; 8:30am-4pm
Extended care available from 7:30am-5:30pm
Where: Peabody Mill Environmental Center
Fee (after 1/15/15): Res: \$45 per day, or \$175 for the week; NonRes: \$50/\$185
Extended care Fee: \$10 extended care fee per child, per day

Pre-School Programming

Toddler Trails and Tails
During this 4 week program we will explore a nature based theme through a story, a simple craft, movement and song, and an outside adventure! Instructor Nicole Colvin-Griffin brings 20+ years of experience in creating programs and teaching children of diverse ages. This program needs a minimum of 4 participants to run.

Who: 3-5 yr olds
What: Toddler Trails and Tails

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Where: Peabody Mill Environmental Center
When: March 3, 10, 17, 24 from 10:30-11:30am
Fee: \$35R; \$40NR

Exploring Nature Together

Join us for a parent/caretaker and child (ages 3-6) adventure! This is a hands-on class with seasonal themes will be followed by outside fun, with themes that will include: NH Animals and Plants, Habitats, Animal Tracks, and more!
This program needs a minimum of 4 participants to run.

Who: ages 3-6
What: Exploring Nature Together; A Parent Child Class
Where: Peabody Mill Environmental Center
When: March 3, 10, 24; 1-2pm
Fee: \$25

Adult Programming

Cooking with Paula Garvey – Simple Comfort Food

February is the perfect time for warm, satisfying meals. I will demonstrate how to make a versatile bread stuffing from scratch to be used in Stuffed Mushrooms-perfect for a starter, a side or a simple lunch.

This menu is ideal for Valentine's Day, for what better way is there to show your love than with a homemade plate of deliciousness!

The Menu:
• Stuffed Mushrooms with Garlic and Bacon

• Lamb Tagine with Couscous
• Traditional Bread and Butter Pudding

Who: adults 18+
What: Cooking demonstration
Where: Amherst Middle School- Life Skills room
When: 2/11/15; 7-8:30pm
Fee: \$20R; \$25NR

Weekly Walks in Amherst
Let's get out and explore some of Amherst's best kept secrets. The Amherst Parks and Recreation Staff will meet you at the selected trail-head on Tuesdays at 10am. Once the snow flies we will bring snow shoes for hikers. Please wear orange during hunting season. If it is raining...please call the Recreation office for cancellations after 9am.

Who: General Public
When: Tuesdays @ 10am
Fee: Free

Adult Basketball and Adult Volleyball

Pick up games at AMS have begun. The registration fee covers the entire school year. See our website for details and to register.

Game Days

Amherst Recreation offers a fun afternoon of table or card games for

adults.

Thursdays 1:00-3:30pm @ the Amherst Fire Department Training Room.

No registration required, It's free!

Family Programming

Birthday Parties at PMECC!

Create amazing birthday memories this year with a Birthday Party for your child age 3-12 at the Peabody Mill Environmental Center!

We have several themes to choose from or we can work together to tailor one just for your Birthday Girl or Boy. Please visit www.amherstrec.org for more details.

Snowshoeing at PMECC

The snow is here! Head on up to PMECC for a fun-filled afternoon of snowshoeing. Snow shoe rentals will be available Saturdays, starting December 6, 2014 from Noon to 4pm.
Fee: \$6R; \$8NR

Trips

Irish Cabaret

Join Best of Times in 2015 for one of our hallmark programs...our St. Patrick's day celebration program. A show not to be missed!

Who: Adults 18+
What: Tony Kenny's Irish Cabaret day trip
When: Wednesday, March 11, 2015. Arrival time 11:30am; departure time TBA
Where: Venus De Milo Swansea, MA. Pickup location TBA
Fee: \$85 per person (includes transportation, show, and luncheon)

NEW Cherry Blossom Festival & Washington D.C. Sightseeing Trip(April 9-12)

Join the Amherst, Merrimack, and Milford Recreation Departments for a trip of a lifetime! Experience the history and attractions of this great American City.

Trip Includes:
5 meals
Coach Bus transportation
Native Washington D.C. tour guide
Overnight stay at the embassy Suites
Who: Amherst, Merrimack, & Milford Residents
What: Sightseeing Trip
Where: Washington D.C.
When: April 9-12, 2015
Fee: \$559 pp Double
\$549 pp Triple
\$689 pp Single
\$459 Child w/ 2 Adults

Coming soon: youth baseball clinics, preschool playgroup, track and field, archery and summer camps!

We add programs weekly, so check our website often...

And make time in your life for Recreation!

Church Services

First Baptist Church of Amherst

25 1/2 Middle Street
Pastor: Mike Sacco
Church Office: 673-4063
Website: www.amherstfirstbaptist.com

Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
For the children
Nursery: to age 3;
Super Church: ages 4 thru grade 4;
Puppet Ministry: grades 5 through 7

Amherst Christian Church

Corner of Patricia at 134 Hollis Rd. Amherst
Phone: 672-1541
Website: amherstchristianchurch.org

Sunday Discipleship classes 9-10
Children's class (Grades 1-6) 10-10:30
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Small groups: 9 a.m.

Small groups and youth meet evenings.
Women's ministries meet Thursday, 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Children's church for ages 2 thru 5th grade during service
Childcare provided for infants
Office Hours: Tues – Fri, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Congregational Church of Amherst UCC

11 Church Street
Senior Pastor Richard Leavitt
Associate Pastor Maureen Frescott
Church office: 673-3231
Web site: www.ccamherst.org

The church is located at 11 Church Street in Amherst Village. For more information, go to ccamherst.org or call the church office at 673-3231.

Sunday worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship time follows the service.

Sunday School (Sept. - May) Children 2 and older attend the first part of the worship service and then go to their classes. Nursery care is provided for those under

2. Please join us on Sunday mornings and for other activities!

Christ's Church of Amherst

58 Merrimack Road
Amherst
673-8292
www.ccnh.org
Pastor Darin Shaw

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m. with Nursery Care up to age 3 years and Children's program 3 years to grade 5.

Messiah Lutheran Church

Rev. Tom Teichmann, Pastor
303 Route 101
PO Box 488
Amherst,
673-2011 (office)
673-7707 (meeting and fax)
messiahnh@comcast.net
Worship 9:30 am
Sunday School (Sept-May) 10:45 am

St Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Craftsman Lane, Amherst
Pastor Peter Korthals
821-9891
pastor@stpaul-amherst.org

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church welcomes you to join us each Sunday for our worship service. Our Sunday Service begins at 9:30 a.m. with our Sunday School at 10:55 and adult Bible study at 11:00. Nursery service is available. Please be our guest as we celebrate the Lord and all he has done for us. Pastor Peter Korthals 821-9891 pastor@stpaul-amherst.org

St Luke Anglican Church

St. Lukes Anglican Church
3 Limbo Lane, Amherst
Rev. Dr. Alexander H. Webb
Church office: 672-6054
Website: www.st-luke.amherst.nh.us

All welcome and invited to attend Sunday Worship and Celebration of Holy Eucharist using the Traditional 1928 Book of Common Prayer weekly at 8:30 and 10:00 AM
Church School at 10:00 AM
Refreshment & fellowship following the service.
Weekly Bible Studies:
Tuesday Evening Soup & Study, 5:45-7:00PM
Saturday Morning 11:00 AM ~ Noon.

Church of Our Saviour, Episcopal

10 Amherst Street
Milford
Phone: 673-3309
E-mail: office@coosmilford.org
Website: www.coosmilford.org
Interim Rector: Rev. Hays Junkin

Sundays – 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist - 10 a.m. Choral Eucharist
Wednesdays – 11:30 a.m. Lectionary and Lunch
Eucharist followed by bring-your-own-lunch (coffee provided) and a discussion of the week's lessons.
We strive to live the message of Christ, in which all are welcome.

Mont Vernon Congregational Church

United Church of Christ
4 South Main Street
Mont Vernon
Church Office: 673-3500 (open Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.)
Web site: www.montvernonchurch.org
E-mail: montvernonchurch@montvernonchurch.org
Pastor: Rev. Judie Bryant – office hours Tuesday and Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., or at other times by appointment.

Join us for Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m. Sunday School is available for chil-

dren aged 6 and old. Child Care provided for children under 6. All are invited to coffee hour in the Round Room following worship.

House of Prayer every Wednesday from 6:30 to 7 p.m. – everyone is welcome.

Saint Patrick Catholic Community of Milford

Website: www.ccnh.org
Phone: 673-1311
Website: saintpatrickmilfordnh.org

First Church Of Christ, Scientist

103 South St., Milford
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Meeting: 8 p.m.- Child care available.

Christian Science Reading Room
87 Union Square, Milford
Mon. through Fri. 11a.m. - 3 p.m.
Sat. 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Wed. 7 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.
First Sun. of the Month 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Telephone – 673-5274
Email – readingroom@csmilfordnh.org
Website – www.csmilfordnh.org

Unitarian Universalist Congregation

20 Elm St.
Milford
Rev. Barbara McKusick Liscord, minister.
Johanna Seale, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
www.uucm.org or call 673-1870.
Office Hours
Tues 10:30-5, Wed & Thu 1-5 and Fri 10:30-2:30

UUCM is a liberal religious community and a voice for social justice drawn from diverse traditions. Rev. Barbara McKusick

Liscord, Minister; Cyn Fennelly, Director of Lifespan Religious Education. Sunday services begin at 10:30 AM. Childcare (infant to two years) and children's programming is available. Fellowship hour follows each service at 11:45 AM.

Worship Service –February 15, 2015
Love Your Enemies
Rev. Barbara McKusick Liscord
Martin Luther King said, "I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear." Yet, "love" is a lot to ask when speaking of our enemies - someone who has done us harm or some group we fear will do us harm. Continuing our year of theological themes, this Sunday's worship serves February's theme of Love as a core theological principle of our faith.

We are located at 20 Elm St. just past the oval. For more information, visit www.uucm.org or call 673-1870.

Please call ahead to ensure availability. Building is secured; ring bell for entry.

St. John Neumann Catholic

708 Milford Road - Rt 101A
Merrimack
880-4689
www.sjnnh.org
Fr. Chris M. Martel

Weekend Mass: Saturday 5:30pm
Sunday 8:00am & 10:00am
6:00pm Labor Day through Memorial Day
Weekday Mass: 12:15pm
Holy Days: 5:30pm vigil, 12:15pm and 7:00pm

Household of Faith

30 Merrimack Rd.
Amherst
www.hofonline.org
Household of Faith is launching a new Saturday evening service at 6:00pm. The Saturday service is in addition to regular Sunday services at 9:00 and 11:00am.