

THE AMHERST CITIZEN



VOLUME 23 - NUMBER 17

MAY 12 - 25, 2015

AMHERST, NEW HAMPSHIRE'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

RIGHT STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 10
AMHERST, NH
EBCWSS

Postal Customer



SPRING RUG CLEANING

FREE PICKUP AND DELIVERY

280 Route 101, Bedford, NH • 472-8200 • www.mirsultanrugs.com • SPECIAL ENDS 5/30/15



BRIEFS

Amherst Observes Memorial Day, Friday, May 29th

The Amherst Memorial Day Committee invites you to participate in our Amherst Memorial Day Sunset Village Parade and Observance.

Always held on the last Friday, May 29th

Dignitaries will assemble at 5:30pm on Middle Street between the 2 large commons

6:00pm STEP OFF

7:00PM Post Parade Ceremonies

The Duval / Riccitelli Youth Citizen Award & the Bruce Tarpley Award will be presented

Spring Concert at Souhegan

The SHS Music Department will present its annual Spring Concert on Wednesday, May 13, at 7:00 pm in the SHS Theatre. The concert will feature Concert Choir, Acappella, Handbells and Concert Band. Souhegan HS welcomes the community to this free event.

Citizen of the Year Nominations

Nominations for the 41st Annual Amherst "Citizen of the Year" are now being accepted by the Amherst Lions Club. Selection of the "Citizen of the Year" is based on the nominee's contributions to the People and Town of Amherst which make Amherst a better place to live. The Nomination form can be found on page 4 and should be mailed to: The Amherst Lions Club, P.O. Box 1105, Amherst, NH 03031. The 2015 "Citizen of the Year" will be announced at the Fourth of July ceremony held on the Common.

Gardening Made Easier

At the evening meeting of the Amherst Garden Club on May 14 at 7:00 pm at Parkhurst Place, Anita Stevens of Bedford Fields will speak on "Gardening Made Easier."

Ponemah Bog Walk

On Saturday, May 16 at 9:00 AM Bog Walk at Audubon's Ponemah Bog on Rhodora Drive off Stearns Road in Amherst. The walk will be on a path and the boardwalk, presented by Jack Gleason, Audubon Steward for Ponemah. The subject will be bog formation and the identification and adaptation of the plants in this unique ecosystem. The prolific native rhododendron, Rhodora, should be in bloom as well as the bog cotton.

Boy Scout Troop 22's Annual Yard Sale

Boy Scout Troop 22's annual yard sale will be held on Saturday, May 30th from 7:30 am until 1:30 pm at the Meeting Place Plaza, 199 Route 101 in Amherst. Donated items will be accepted at the Meeting Place Plaza on Friday, May 29, 2014 from 3 pm to 8 pm. The proceeds from this annual fund raiser are used to purchase the equipment and supplies needed to sponsor activities for the boys to advance through the scouting ranks. Email yardsale@amhersttroop22.org to schedule an early pickup of your donated items.

Amherst Village Strategic Plan Input Session

Five Amherst Village Strategic Planning Committee working groups have been exploring potential strategic initiatives in: 1.) traffic & safety, 2.) community development, 3.) historic preservation, 4.) lighting & utilities, and 5.) recreation, attractions & events.

Come learn about, and offer your input on, these strategic alternatives for the Village (some can also be applied elsewhere in Amherst). Attend either of two public input sessions at the Clark School Multipurpose Room at 7pm on Tuesday, May 19th, or Thursday, May 21st 2015. The same presentation will be given on both days.

This is a strategic initiative of the Amherst Board of Selectmen (www.amherstnh.gov/villageplan). Project leader: Mike Akilian (makilian@amherstnh.gov).

Gov. Christie Visits Amherst



New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, accompanied by his wife, Mary Pat Christie, joined local Republicans for breakfast on Friday, May 8th at Joey's Diner on Route 101A. The Republican governor is visiting New Hampshire meeting with voters in a variety of locales as he tests the waters before announcing his intention to run for President of the United States.

Celebrate Amherst's Concord Coach on Sunday, May 17 at the Wigwam Museum

AMHERST - Calling History buffs of all ages! Visit the Museum and see this historical jewel. Jackie Marshall will speak about this Amherst icon's special history during presentations at 1:00 and 3:00 pm.

Restored in 1976, this coach transported visitors to and from the railroad station and Amherst Village for years. Learn about the heyday of this form of transportation and get up close and personal with the travelers' experience at the Historical Society of Amherst's Wigwam Museum, 17 Middle Street in Amherst Village.

The Historical Society of Amherst is offering this program as part of Hidden Treasures Weekend, which offers a chance to explore all



Learn about the history of Amherst's Concord Coach.

of the unique treasures located within the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area in MA and NH. The fun-filled, two-day regional celebration takes place

on Saturday, May 16th and Sunday, May 17th, 2015. Communities across the 994-square-mile Freedom's Way area, home to over 750,000 people, will offer free, public programs featuring a "hidden treasure" in their town.

During the two days of this weekend twenty-five communities within the heritage area will present free programs and activities to reveal exciting and unexpected stories about their past. Visit www.freedomsway.org/projects/treasures.html for more information and a full list of town events and programs offered in partnership with the National Park Service.

Watch Out for Invasive Species



Malia, Chloe and Colby pulling plants

AMHERST - It's a garlic mustard invasion and it could be coming to a yard near you. The garlic mustard plant crowds out native wildflowers, grows fast in full shade, has no native predators, and takes over the understory of forests.

Conservation Commission member Anne Krantz working along with Ellen Snyder from UNH Cooperative Extension Volunteer Service headed up a mustard garlic pull along Corduroy Road in Amherst in early May. This volunteer project is part of the land and trail management work done by the Conservation Commission.

The plant spreads by seeds. It is a biennial that reaches 2-3 1/2 feet in the second year. The plant needs to be pulled before July when they set seeds. Place in plastic bags and put in the trash.

This is work done best by young, strong backs. "It is so much work that I realized," said Krantz "obviously we didn't finish." Krantz continues, "If any scout or other service groups are looking for service hours to please contact me at annekrantz@comcast.net or call at 673-9684.

Amherst Garden Club



Garden Coach Anita Stevens

Gardening Made Easy

AMHERST - The May 14 evening meeting of The Amherst Garden Club will feature a local Garden Coach who also is the Nursery Manager at Bedford Fields, Anita Stevens. She has had a passion for gardening for many years and loves to share her knowledge in this area. Because she works she is also a good person to tell us how to make gardening easy, as our time for doing it becomes less and our bodies aging! If you are new at

gardening or experienced we are sure you will learn something new from Anita, as her enthusiasm is catchy.

The meeting starts at 7pm at Parkhurst Place, 11 Veterans Road, Amherst. There will be light refreshments and socializing with club members and the speaker after the presentation. This will be the last of the evening speakers until September. Guests are always welcome and free of charge.

Police Enforce Hands Free Law on July 1st

AMHERST - Be forewarned. New Hampshire's new hands free electronic device law will be in effect July 1st, 2015.

No use of hand held electronic devices capable of providing voice or data communication (cell phones, GPS, tablets, iPods, iPads, other devices that require data entry) while driving or temporarily halted in traffic for a stop sign or traffic signal or other momentary delays.

Bluetooth or other hands-free electronic devices will be allowed.

Teen drivers under the age of 18 will not be allowed to use any electronic devices (hand held or not) except to report an emergency. Anyone violating this will be subject to penalties and license suspension or revocation.

Amherst Police Chief Mark Reams says, "The Amherst Police Department has dedicated resources to target offenders and strictly enforce this new law beginning on day one."

He noted, "This hits close to home in our town with the tragic death of former Amherst Fire Department Chief John Bachman in December of 2013 and the death of Katie Hamilton in Brookline that same week."

In the past four years in NH, 116 fatal crashes were caused by distracted drivers. Using electronic devices is a major source of distraction. A poster is included on page 3 with more information and the schedule of fines.

Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 16



It's flag time. On Saturday, May 16th, Armed Forces Day, flags will be put on veterans graves at 2:00 pm starting on Foundry St. Meadow View. Everyone is welcome to join in this community effort. Contact Marie Grella e-mail mgf1225@aol.com

AMHERST CITIZEN FILE PHOTO

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Letters	2
Town News	4
Library	5, 8
Schools	9
Arts & Entertainment	11
SportsFolio	12
Business	14
Mont Vernon	15, 16

Next Issue: May 26, 2015



Mon.-Fri 8:30am-5pm • Sat. 10am-4pm

Is a New Kitchen on your To Do List This Spring?

GRANITE STATE Cabinetry

YOUR KITCHEN HEADQUARTERS

384 Rte. 101, Bedford, NH • (603) 472-4080 • www.gscabinetry.com



Join us for the Kitchen Tour on 5/31 tickets at: www.palacetheatre.org