

Six Marching bands included several favorites and two new groups this year...



Scouts, soldiers, auxiliaries and DAR members marched...





From historic to the newest fire companies and equipment...



Colorful floats interpreting this year's theme...



Gov. Jeb Bush, candidate for President with Amherst children...

"New Hampshire's Firsts"

Amherst's July 4th – Thanks to All!

n spite of the construction in town and at the high school, the Fourth of July celebration came off without a major glitch thanks to everyone who coped well with the necessary changes. The weather was perfect until the very end, the spectators enthusiastic, and the politicians in good form.

It takes the combined efforts of many, many people to make a successful celebration. Special thanks go to Jack Reed, Jack's volunteers, and the Granite State Credit Union for the spectacular fireworks display on July 3. it was thought to be one of the biggest crowds yet at the high school with large numbers of people enjoying the balloon rides provided by RE/MAX, the Roaming Railroad rides underwritten by Bot-L-Gas, face painting by Krickey the Clown, and music by the Japanese drummers, the Newhouse Band, and the Amherst Town Band.

The committee is aware of the extra work that the celebration caused the town and school departments due to the construction work in progress and appreciates the efforts that they made to overcome the problems that resulted. Many thanks to all of them!

Thanks also to those who worked on floats, marched in the parade, manned booths on the village green, brought their animals for the children to enjoy, partici-

pated in the art show, demonstrated their special crafts, helped with the organization of the parade or village green, or helped with the parking at Wilkins. Many thanks, too, to all the spectators who managed the changes in the parade route and were generous in the feedback they gave to committee members.

The committee is also grateful for the financial support from the Granite State Credit Union, RE/MAX, Bot-L-Gas, Moulton's Store, Jake's Ice Cream, and Shaw's Supermarket that supplemented town and committee funds.

The committee raises approximately half of the cost of the Fourth of July celebration. This dedicated group starts months ahead of the event to organize the various activities that take place during the celebration. They are an extraordinary group of people who work hard to make the 4th a memorable community event. This year we are losing four longtime members to retirement: Bob Schaumann, Liz Oveholt, Mary Mahar, and Liz Morgan. Their contributions have been invaluable in keeping the Fourth of July the unique Amherst celebration that it is.

Each one has been a fantastic member of the committee. Warm thanks to them

> Nancy Head, Chair, Fourth of July Committee



Presidential Candidates Lindsey Graham, Rick Perry, Lincoln Chafee also marched...



Governor Maggie Hassan and U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte

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benefit the community.

This citizen's vision and direction also helped to revive the Amherst land trust, demonstrating the many different ways the efforts of a non-profit could support and complement the work of the municipal Conservation and Recreation Commissions.

This citizen played a huge role to establish the Amherst Recreation Revolving Fund. And because of that fund, the commission runs 99% of its programs at no cost to the taxpayer.

Always one to respect and plan for the future... this individual has a life-long presence among Amherst youth. According to many, this individual is a role model of integrity, hard work and passion. You might have seen this citizen as a Boy

Scout leader, or a Souhegan Cooperative School Board member, or a member of the Safety Routes to School committee, or perhaps as a coach for Amherst's track and field program. It is said he teaches athletes,

that is it not about winning. but developing a life-long enthusiasm for being active. It is his formula of patience, calmness under pressure, kid-friendly attitude and knowledge of fitness that impresses the athletes of all ages... even teenagers and parents.

In short, this citizen's contributions continue to make Amherst a better, healthier, stronger place to live and raise a family.

The 2015 Citizen of the Year Mr. George Bower!





Antique Auto Parade, always a favorite, included cars and trucks in a number of categories - Best Overall, Best Pre-WWII, Best Pre-1968, Best Convertable, Best Performance, and Most Unusual, Exotic or Interesting. A car show followed with ribbons awarded to category winners... "thank you very much"!







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