

AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY

FALL 2010

PUBLIC LIBRARIES: A GREAT VALUE

BY AMY LAPOINTE, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

It is with enormous pride that I've heard the Town Library referred to as "The Jewel of Amherst." I feel passionately that a vibrant public library is the cornerstone of a community. An excellent public library, filled with relevant resources and services makes sense from both an economic and an ideological perspective.

At the Amherst Town Library our mission is to provide all community residents with materials and services for their information, education and entertainment needs: best-selling books & magazines for all ages, the latest DVDs & CDs, downloads for your Nook, Sony eReader, MP3 player or iPod, public computers & wireless Internet access, children's story hours & craft programs, concerts, lectures and demonstrations, research assistance, museum passes, meeting room space, notary service and more.



We like to talk about our "free" materials and services. But in reality, they are not free. They have tremendous value and communities that treasure and support their public libraries have an undeniable competitive edge when it comes to educating their children, increasing their property value, and enhancing their overall quality of life.

Every day over 16,000 U.S. public libraries deliver millions of dollars in resources and services to their patrons. How much do you "save" by having a high quality public library in Amherst?

DID YOU KNOW?

- Nearly 12,000 public libraries offer free Wi-Fi. That's more than Starbucks, Barnes & Noble or Borders.
- Two thirds of Americans have library cards, nearly as many as have credit cards. U.S. public libraries circulate as many materials every day as FedEx ships packages worldwide.
- Almost as many DVDs are borrowed from public libraries daily as are rented from Netflix.
- More public libraries offer free meeting rooms than there are conference centers, convention facilities and auditoriums combined.
- Every year, Americans visit the library more often than we go to the movies and six times more often than we attend professional sporting events.

[from *How Libraries Stack up: 2010*]

VALUE OF LIBRARY SERVICES (IN A YEAR)

11 BOOKS	\$17 ea.
1 MUSIC CD	\$15
3.5 MOVIES	\$4 ea.
1 AUDIOBOOK	\$30
2 INTERLIBRARY LOAN	\$25 ea.
1 PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	\$12.50
.5 HOUR COMPUTER USE	\$6 ea.
TOTAL: \$308.50	

NUMBERS BASED ON PER CAPITA AVERAGES, COSTS BASED ON NHLA LIBRARY USE VALUE CALCULATOR

Of course, this only represents a portion of our available services/ materials. If you want to calculate what you personally save, visit the library use value calculator on our website at:

www.amherst.lib.nh.us/value.htm

Would you like to receive more frequent library updates? Sign up for our bimonthly e-newsletter

EVENING PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

TUESDAYS AT 7PM UNLESS NOTED

September 21

Mountains and Tundra:
Alaska Travel Experience
Susan Kierstead's adventure travel slides

September 28

Wildlife from Yellowstone
National Park
Photographer John Rockwood

October 19 *6:30 PM

New Taste Traditions for Thanksgiving
Liz Barbour prepares turkey and side dishes

October 26

Lizzie Borden and the 40 Whacks
The Delvena Theatre Company presents a participatory mock trial

November 9

Picturing America
Discover great art with Prof. Martin Fox

January 11

Travel to the Amalfi Coast and Rome
Armchair travel with David and Nancy Dillon

January 18

Caesar: The Man from Venus
A living history presentation

January 25 *6:30 PM

Italian Trattoria:
Classic Flavors from an Italian Café
Liz Barbour prepares classic Italian fare

February 8

Boston Harbor Islands
Park Ranger, Donald Cann, and author John Galluzzo

February 15 *6:30 PM

Seafood and 'Eat Food' with Oonagh!

February 22

The Discovery of the Remains of the
Submarine USS 0-9
Return to the wreck site with David Switzer

March 8

Misreading the Mayans and
their Calendars
Historian R.P. Hale debunks the fraud

March 15

Shakespeare's Greatest Hits
A living history presentation

March 22

Rory Raven Presents the AMAZING!
Rory Raven will read your mind

Wednesday, **March 23**

Does Film Have a Future?
Ty Burr, Boston Globe film critic

March 29

Lafayette and the Farewell Tour
Alan R. Hoffman unravels General Lafayette

Wednesday, **April 6**

Gardens of Paris
A park and garden tour with Maureen Bovet

April 12 *6:30 PM

Sweet and Savory Crêpes:
Cooking and Tasting
Elizabeth Skipper makes mouth watering creations

Wednesday, **April 13 *6:30 PM**

How to Pastel Paint as Impressionists
A workshop with pastel artist Greg Maichack

To register for our free programs, please visit
the events calendar on our website or call 673-2288.

SUNDAYS AT 4 MUSIC SERIES

January 9: Benny and Beyond with Todd and Joe

Clarinetist and saxophonist Todd Brunel and pianist Joe Reid perform together in a concert crossover of classical and jazz music.

March 20: Long Time Courting

Innovative and fun four-part vocal arrangements and high energy Irish jigs and reels.

February 20: Back Bay Guitar Trio in Concert

Boston based trio consisting of three very experienced musicians play a mixture of popular jazz, well loved classical selections, and timeless songs.

April 3: April in Paris-Springtime and Romance with Sonny and Perley

Husband and wife team with a unique blend of Jazz, BossaNova, American Songbook Standards, and International Cabaret.

OUTER LANDSCAPE /
INNER LIKENESS

Wednesdays from 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Sept. 29, Oct. 13, Oct. 27, & Nov. 10

In this four-part series, presented by Nancy Baker, we will explore the difference between the environment that nature offers us and the settings we create for ourselves. This is an interdisciplinary experience, drawing on literature, philosophy, mythology, music and art. Major elements include Margaret Atwood's short story *Death by Landscape*, pastoral poetry, the mythology and philosophy that contrasts the natural and the civilized, Beethoven's 6th Symphony (Pastoral), the critical concept of the sublime, and the history of landscape painting. The format is interactive and no previous study of any of the disciplines or specific works is expected. All in-class and follow up materials will be provided. You are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions.

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

CALLING ALL READERS!

Junior Book Group
2nd, 3rd and 4th graders

Middle School Bookgroup,
Great Stone Face Reviewers
5th and 6th graders

Reading groups meet monthly
on Wednesday evenings.

Stay tuned for details!



**Halloween
Not-So-Scary Party
Wed. Oct. 27
3:30-4:30**

STORYTIMES

Baby Listeners

Tuesday at 10 am

Lapsit with caregiver. From birth - 24 mos.

Terrific 2's & 3's

Thursday at 10 am

Caregivers present. Includes a simple craft.

Book Bunch

Wednesday at 11:30 am

Stories for ages 4-6.

All groups meet once per week for
six-week sessions.

Sept. 14 – Oct. 21

Nov. 9 – Dec. 16

Jan. 11– Feb. 17

Mar. 8 – Apr. 14

May 3 – June 9

OPEN PLAYTIME

registration is not required

Just drop in to socialize with
other tots and caregivers and
enjoy our toys and books.

Friday mornings from 10-11
Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Oct. 29



SUMMER READING SPLASHDOWN

Once again the Amherst
Town Library's Summer
Reading Program was a huge
success! In keeping with the
water theme of this year's
program the children made a
record breaking "splash" by
logging in 6016 hours of read-
ing. The middle school and
up students "rode the wave"

of success by reading numer-
ous books and offering many
book reviews to share their
favorites. One hundred
twenty eight adults "watered
their minds" and submitted
742 entries for the weekly
raffles.

In celebration of summer
reading, the second annual
BBQ was held on the town
green on August 12 and ap-
proximately 250 people
joined in the festivities.
Grand prize winners were
announced and Miss Emily
and Miss Sue fulfilled their
promise to be slimed if the

goal of 5000 hours was
reached.

It was a fun-filled summer
at the library. If somehow
you missed it; remember
that oft repeated mantra—
"Wait until next year."
We'll look forward to hav-
ing you join us then!

NEW CARPET IN THE LOWER LEVEL

The flooring has just been
replaced in the lower level of
the library and we are thrilled
with the results. Little crawl-
ers will now have a nice clean
and bright surface on which
to enjoy the library.

The project was funded en-
tirely from gifts with ZERO
TAX IMPACT.

The Norwin S. and Elizabeth
N. Bean Foundation and the
Friends of the Amherst Town
Library made major contribu-
tions to get the drive started
and then we graciously col-
lected gifts from 134 other
individuals, families and or-
ganizations in the area.

**Our warmest thanks to
all who contributed.**

BOARDMAN

CONCERT

*The Library Board of Trustees
invites you to attend the annual
Boardman Concert on Sunday,
November 7 at 5 pm.*

*"Music at Eden's Edge", a Chamber
music ensemble will perform.*

*(Free) tickets will be required for
admission.*



AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY

14 Main Street
Amherst, NH 03031

603-673-2288
www.amherst.lib.nh.us

Hours

Mon-Thurs: 9:30 - 8:30 pm

Fri- Sat: 9:30 - 5:00 pm (summer: close @ 12:30)

Sunday: 1:00 - 5:00 pm (summer: closed)

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE WITH A
PERSONAL TOUCH.**

LOOKING FOR SOME MORE GOOD FRIENDS

If you enjoy the library and have been looking for a way to give back, why not join the Friends?

The Friends of the Amherst Town Library is looking for new members to support its mission of supporting the library through fundraising and running extra programs such as the Student Art Show, Professional Art Exhibit, Two Book Clubs, Holiday Decorations & Tree Lighting Ceremony Craft, Museum Trips, etc. New volunteers for these activities are always needed (and greatly appreciated!) Along with the quarterly newsletter, Friends members gain early admittance to our mega booksale, held annually in September at the Amherst Congregational Church.

The Friends is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that has been providing support services to the library since 1967. Your membership helps to offset some of the Library expenses for special programs such as Museum Passes, the Summer Program for Children, Adult Programming, and other worthwhile projects.

To join, please go to www.amherst.lib.nh.us/Friends.htm. You can join using PayPal or by printing out the membership form and mailing a check.

If you are interested in being on the board, or signing up as a "member on call" willing to receive emails about volunteer opportunities, please contact Kim Ayers, Chair at kimberlyayers@comcast.net.



Friends President Kim Ayers accepts the 2009 Sue Palmatier Award for Outstanding support by an FOL Group