

Letters & Opinion

Volunteers Help Make Book Sale a Success

To the editor:

We would like to thank the many volunteers who contributed to the success of the Friends of the Library Book Sale held on September 13 at the Amherst Congregational Church.

First and foremost, go thanks to Nancy and Vick Bennison who carry donated books from the library to their home year round, sort them, and store them.

These extraordinary volunteers are the heart of the library sale which provides funds for special library projects and free museum passes, recycles used books inexpensively, and provides free leftover books to charities.

Blanche Wichman, in charge of the children's books, is another volunteer who puts in time beyond the sale. The sorting that Blanche and her volunteers do each year adds considerably to the uniqueness and success of the sale.

Helping to move books on Friday and Saturday, clean up at the end of the sale by putting away chairs and tables, and carry boxes of leftover books back to the storage shed were students from Souhegan High School under the direction of the Community Service Director, Maggie Paul. The Friends are tremendously grateful to all of them for this much needed help.

Hauling the books from storage to the church, a task that threatened to end the sale a few years ago, were inmates from the Hillsborough County Jail. Many, many thanks to the Hillsborough County Department of Correction for this community support.

Also making the sale work were the many volunteers from the Friends who helped organize the books on the Friday before the sale, provided food and drink for the workers, took responsibility for having signs made and put up, arranged for the disposition of left-over books, cashiered and bagged books at the sale, helped Vick Bennison with his special books, set up and manned the table on the village green, drove the trucks that transported the books, and did all of the rest of the chores necessary to make the sale a success.

And, of course, thanks, too, to the people who make the generous donations of books to the library. Anyone who has books that they would like to see recycled to benefit the library may drop them off at the circulation desk any time between now and a week before the next sale.

*Nancy Head, Gretchen Pyles, Judy Claborn
Co-Chairs, Friends of the Library Book Sale*

It's a Privilege to Endorse Belvin for State Rep

To the editor:

Bill Belvin is again running for a seat in our New Hampshire Legislature. He had served three terms already from 1994 to 2000, when his fellow legislators were so impressed by his performance that they made him chairman of the important - and controversial - Education Committee, in only his second term.

We have known Bill for more than 30 years as an astute, intelligent and dedicated hard worker, and it is our privilege to endorse his candidacy again.

*Martin and Ingrid Michaelis
Dick Martini
Amherst*

New Hampshire is a Special Place

To the editor:

Your vote for me on November 4th allowing my return to the New Hampshire House of Representatives will be greatly appreciated. New Hampshire is a special place and I will work hard to keep it the most livable state in America.

During the years that I have been in the legislature, especially on the Judiciary Committee, I have been active and successful in achieving major court reform that benefits all citizens. Another area of importance is citizen access to government. I have been able to make changes in the Right-to-Know law that greatly increases the public access to meetings, minutes and documents.

If you agree with me that the subjects of court reform, public access to government, and a fiscally responsible government are important, would you please give me your vote.

*Sincerely
Robert H. Rowe
N. H. House Representative*

Letters to The Editor:

The Amherst Citizen is eager to serve as a community forum. We welcome your letters, opinions, and commentaries and make every effort to run them in their entirety. We do reserve the right to edit. The views and opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the position of the staff of *The Amherst Citizen*.

Please direct your letters, views and commentary to the Editor, *The Amherst Citizen*, P.O. Box 291, Amherst, NH 03031-0291, or e-mail your submission to: news@amherstcitizen.com. We will attempt to run your letter as submitted (space permitting) providing it is signed and phone number is included.

Support for Chandley

To the editor:

We are writing to voice our support for Shannon Chandley who is seeking a seat in the New Hampshire House of Representatives. During the years we have known Shannon, we have witnessed her dedication as a parent of four wonderful children and as an effective volunteer in our community. On issues that affect our district and our State we know Shannon is a strong advocate of fiscally responsible government. Additionally, Shannon has a vision of how to grow jobs in New Hampshire by connecting our colleges and universities to private and public sector employers thereby keeping our beloved State economically prosperous for years to come. Although from time to time we, as a married couple, have differed in our allegiance to political candidates of opposing political parties, on Shannon's candidacy we wholeheartedly agree. Shannon Chandley will represent Milford and Amherst with a fair and open-mind and in a thoughtful, intelligent, hard-working and trustworthy manner. We strongly encourage you to join us and vote for Shannon on November 4th.

*Mary McKenzie and John Schulte
Amherst*

“The Time for Post-Partisan Leadership Has Arrived.”

To the editor:

As I write this letter, it is September 29th and the US House of Representatives has just rejected the Wall Street bail out plan. The Dow is falling and tough times are clearly ahead. It is important for your readers to know that there is one Democrat in the race for House District 6 who has the distinction of having been appointed and entrusted by both Governors Benson AND Lynch to the NH Assessing Standards Board to help oversee the property tax. One candidate in the field has been vetted by the NH Executive Council 3 times. One candidate has actually served as an advisor to Governor Lynch; performing a zero based budget analysis, auditing the NH Department of Education, Technical College System, and the State Lottery to write a balanced budget. One candidate running can bring 23 years of current, corporate management experience, a degree in Economics, an MBA, and strong ties to the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce business community to the table.

To find out more about Len Gerzon's "Bringing People Together" campaign please visit my website at lengerzonfornh.com. Real leadership listens then delivers results. Tell me what you think needs to be done in Concord on my blog. I ask for your vote on November 4th and the privilege to work for Milford and Amherst, in difficult times, to solve problems.

*Len Gerzon
Amherst*

“We have an expectation that our vote will be honored by the people we elect.”

To the editor:

The Board of Selectmen and the folks on the Heritage Commission would like us to think that all "good" causes are necessary and therefore all "good" causes are to be paid for by the people of Amherst....come hell or high water. They continue to fail to realize that in our free and democratic country, we have the right to vote for the things that we want to fund, AND we have an expectation that our vote will be honored by the people we elect.

Reconfiguring the area in front of town hall was first proposed as an improvement/beautification project. The word "safety" was only attached when we turned down the \$50,000 warrant article that would have funded the project. The Board of Selectmen has admitted that there has never been a safety report of any kind. "Safety" has become a convenient term used to justify an expenditure that cannot be justified in any other way.

To fund this project, the Board will be using money that was paid to the town through vehicle registration fees and ear-marked for recreation. They call it unanticipated money because they did not know the amount of the fee, however, they did know the money was coming to the town. First, is our opinion that this money is NOT unanticipated funds, and therefore, in using it, they will be breaking the law that regulates revenues that flows into town hall. The Board has a different interpretation of this law. But in all questions legal, should they not be leaning on the side of caution? Or better yet, call the state and get the answer first hand? Secondly, we strongly feel that when we the people said no to the warrant article, we were saying no to using any money that is "ours" whether it is raised by taxes or fees.

In light of the terrible economic times we are now facing, it becomes even more important that our government use judgment worthy of their position. If the recreation commission has decided that they could do without this \$50,000, then lets use this money for something VITAL for the town, which this project IS NOT.

We once again urge the Board to take the difficult, yet responsible step in dropping this project. It was a "good" idea. A lot of hard working folks on the Heritage Commission have spent many hours trying to complete it. But this worthwhile project should be dropped if no other funds can be found.

Finally, we urge anyone who disapproves of \$50,000 being used to fund this project that the town already voted down, to call the town hall, or a selectman, or e-mail your disapproval.

*Libby Crocker
Amherst Citizens Association*

I Want To Keep New Hampshire, New Hampshire

To the editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those Amherst and Milford citizens who voted in the September primary election for their vote of confidence in once again nominating me as one of their Amherst/Milford Representatives.

While the national economy is currently taking center stage, we in New Hampshire must also be aware that we have our own fiscal crisis that needs to be addressed. A change in the majority party in the legislature two years ago brought us a new philosophy – borrow and spend.

In the past two years the Democrat-controlled legislature increased the state budget 17.5%. The governor called this "responsible." Even though revenues are up, excessive spending has the state facing a budget deficit projected to be as high as \$400,000,000 for the biennium. On the last session day this year, facing a (then) \$100,000,000 deficit for the year, the governor called for a special session of the legislature to address the projected shortfall. The majority's solution to balancing the budget was to give authority to bond \$80,000,000 of the \$100,000,000 shortfall, essentially putting the debt on a credit card and then claiming that the budget was balanced. This was on top of another \$60,000,000 of highway operating cost that had already been bonded in the initial budget that was passed in 2007. That's \$140,000,000 we essentially passed on as debt to our children and their children. So much for "I'm voting for the kids"!

New Hampshire has a fiscal crisis of its own and the November election will determine whether we continue the same borrow and spend politics of the past two years or address our fiscal crisis in a fiscally conservative and truly responsible manner. We who love what New Hampshire is all about have everything to lose by being complacent and ignoring this crisis. For myself, I want to keep New Hampshire, New Hampshire.

*Respectfully submitted,
Rep. Gary Daniels
Milford*

She Cares About People

To the editor:

I am writing to appeal to you for your vote in support of Shannon Chandley for state representative in the upcoming November election. I have known Shannon for seven years and can say with every confidence that she would excel in her representation of Hillsborough County District 6. It goes without saying, for those who know Shannon, that she is a wonderful and caring wife and mother. She has demonstrated her enthusiasm for our Amherst/Milford community by becoming extensively involved in committees and organizations focused on the betterment of our local society. Her passion for her message is without question. She holds dear the pursuit of many goals for our state and local neighborhoods, including, but not limited to: a cleaner environment through the use of alternative energy sources; maintenance of our low tax burden; support of our returning veterans and the improvement of educational and career training opportunities for youth and adults.

All of this is reason enough to vote for Shannon, but the biggest motivating factor for me in wanting Shannon as my representative is that Shannon really cares. One of her great loves is reading, contemplating, and sharing ideas about the "goings on" in our government - local, state, and nationwide. She is ever proposing ways to improve our condition and to maintain all of the things we already enjoy as residents of Amherst/Milford. Her level of caring for those less fortunate is inspirational. Her concern for the environment is evident in the way she lives her life in her own home. She simply cares about people and I can think of no one better to be a voice for us in Concord.

*Most Sincerely,
Kelly Conway
Amherst*

Among the Best and Brightest for Amherst and Milford

To the editor:

Len Gerzon has the background, experience, and skills to be an outstanding State Representative. He just won a ballot spot in a contested primary, and will be facing a full field November 4. Len has been a resident in town for 15 years, and in the last few of them I have come to know and respect Len's professional abilities and expertise. At the same time I have learned that Len Gerzon is a person of intellect, experience, and creativity who treasures the New Hampshire life we hold so dear. He will bring energy and enthusiasm toward solving the needs of our district and our state.

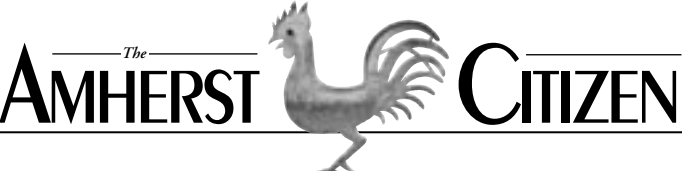
Recently, Len Gerzon has served as a town Chair on the Advisory Board of the Peabody Mill Environmental Center. The PMEC is a community center charged with developing a science curriculum that will be offered to our school children.

Len is running for State Rep because he wants to utilize his experience in bringing people together to get things done in our state government. He has been involved in writing laws with the NH Assessing Standards Board, where he currently serves as Vice Chair.

He is a fiscal conservative who believes that tax burdens in NH must be kept to a minimum for our families, but at the same time he is aware that we need to raise the revenue for vital services. Len is opposed to a state income or sales tax because he is aware that we do at present have other options. In his own words, "we should look at cutting spending first, but otherwise fund a budget that serves New Hampshire's long term interests best."

Please join me in voting for Len Gerzon for State Rep November 4.

*Howard Morse
Amherst*




Cliff Ann Wales
Publisher & Editor

Jim Wales
Advertising & Production

Published 22 times a year on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each Month, on the last Tuesday July and August, and the 1st and 3rd Tuesday in December. (Dates may vary near Holidays or elections.)

Subscriptions: \$15.00 per year (prepaid)
P.O. Box 291, Amherst, NH 03031-0291
Phone: 672-9444 Fax: 672-8153 e-Mail: news@amherstcitizen.



THE AMHERST CITIZEN
Schedule of Issues

— 2008 —

October 14
October 28
November 11

November 25
December 2
December 16

— 2009 —

January 13
January 27
February 10
February 24

March 10
March 24
April 14
April 28

*Dates are subject to change.
Watch future issues for schedule updates.

Phone: 672-9444 Fax: 672-8153
e-Mail: news@amherstcitizen.com

NEXT ISSUE:
Tues., October 28, 2008
Deadline: 5 p.m.
Wednesday, October 22

How to contact us:
Phone: 672-9444
FAX: 672-8153
Mail: PO Box 291
Amherst, NH 03031
eMail:
News: news@amherstcitizen.com
Ads: ads@amherstcitizen.com
on the World Wide Web:
www.amherstcitizen.com

THE AMHERST CITIZEN
Newsstand Copies

Available at one of these locations:

☐ Moulton's Market, Amherst

☐ Amherst Town Library

☐ The Cider Mill, Amherst

☐ General Store, Mont Vernon

☐ Merrill's Convenience, Milford

☐ Penguin Mart, Milford

☐ Shaw's Market, Milford

☐ Silva Mart, Milford

☐ Stop & Shop, Milford

☐ Harvest Market, Bedford

☐ Harvest Market, Hollis

© 2008 The Amherst Citizen.
All rights reserved.

The Amherst Citizen assumes no financial responsibility for errors in advertisements except as produced by the newspaper and provided it is notified within 48 hours of publication, then which the newspaper will reprint that portion of the ad where the error occurs in the next issue. Photographs or artwork submitted become our property and will not be returned unless requested in advance. *The Amherst Citizen* reserves the right to reject and not to print any advertisement or article it believes to be offensive, defamatory or in otherwise bad taste, and not in keeping with the focus of this newspaper. Articles, ads, photographs, artwork, and any other material herein, may not be reproduced by any means without the written permission of the publisher.