

Letters & Opinion

New Hampshire is A Beacon of Freedom in The Northeast

To the editor:

Here in New Hampshire, we take pride in our “Live Free or Die” way of life, and we take our rights and liberties very seriously. We embrace self-reliance and rugged individualism, all while doing what we can to help neighbors in need.

I am proud that the Republican majority in Concord has been making strides in the past several months to restore the liberties—both economic and personal—that has made New Hampshire a beacon of freedom in the Northeast.

But the only way to maintain our newly forged path back to limited government, low taxes, and economic prosperity is to elect Representatives to the legislature who share our values and will have the courage to stand up for those values each day they serve in office.

Voters in the towns of New Boston, Temple, Wilton, Lyndeborough and Mont Vernon have an opportunity to do just that on May 17th. Hillsborough district four has an excellent record of electing wise and prudent representatives like Speaker O’Brien and Bob Mead. I hope that they will send Peter Kucmas to Concord to continue that tradition.

Peter holds New Hampshire ideals of limited constitutional government, a strong education system, and strong families. Peter knows that these principles not only make New Hampshire a great place to live, but they also make it a great place to do business—and that is what we need to grow our economy and provide good jobs for New Hampshire residents. He will do an excellent job upholding our values, managing our spending, and keeping New Hampshire the beacon of liberty and limited government in the Northeast.

I urge my fellow citizens in Hillsborough District Four: Get to the polls on May 17th and vote for Peter Kucmas for State Representative!

*Sincerely,
Carolyn McKinney
Amherst*

AMS Needs You Officer Knox!

To the editor

The SRO position in the Amherst middle school is a must. This roll is successfully filled by one of Amherst finest police officers, officer Knox. He not only ensures the safety of us middle schoolers but also plays an active role in teaching D.A.R.E “Drug Abuse Resistance Education” class to the seventh graders. He also teaches computer ethics to the eighth graders. He is that smiling face you see your first day in the middle school. He welcomes all with sincere interest in whatever your problem might be. Officer Knox is a true hero. I don’t know a kid in the middle school that does not appreciate his dedication and hard work. He is not only our SRO he is a dedicated staff member, friend, councilor, and police officer. I believe that Amherst Middle School needs officer Knox. I think that if we got rid of him it would be the biggest mistake Amherst will ever make!

*Tim Starrett
8th grader at Amherst Middle School*

Belvin Office Hours

To the editor:

The next “Office Hours” for Rep. Bill Belvin, Hillsborough 6, Amherst and Milford will be Saturday May 14 ...unless its really pouring rain. As promised when I ran for the NH House in November, 2010, I make myself available to the public at convenient times and locations several times per year for questions and issues of importance to voters. This next edition will start in Milford from 9 to 11 AM at the corner of the Milford Rotary Park facing the Oval; and then I’ll be in Amherst from Noon until 2 PM at the usual location where public signs are posted at the Amherst Transfer Station.

The NH Senate is in the process of building it’s version of the NH State Budget for the next biennium (Fiscal Years 12 & 13) so I imagine that will be a topic of interest. Of greatest importance to me is job creation and putting in place policies to encourage enterprise and a more vigorous NH economy for all NH residents.

*Respectfully,
Bill Belvin
Hillsborough District 6,
Amherst, Milford*

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.

Marathon Runner Raises Funds for Cancer Research

To the editor:

I am training to run across the state of New Hampshire. Yes, you heard that right. Yes, 218 miles. Fortunately I have broken it up into eight days. This breaks down to a marathon a day for 8 days. Have I gone crazy? Am I going through my mid-life crisis a little late? I am almost 62! Well, you’re thinking, that’s stating the obvious! With all the tragedies affecting all of us in our own way, I have been very lucky, and decided that it’s time that I give something back.

For the past few years I have been training people to do a marathon for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. I have been listening to their stories of why they are running. Most had either lost someone or someone now has either Leukemia or Lymphoma. So, I have joined the Society’s Team in Training (TNT) program to raise funds with them. The Society’s mission is to cure leukemia and its related cancers – lymphoma, multiple myeloma and Hodgkin’s disease, and to improve the quality of life of the patients and their families. This is done through research, public and professional education, patient financial aid and services, and community services. Leukemia is the number one deadly disease in children, yet it affects 10 times as many adults. Leukemia and lymphoma are the leading fatal cancers in men under 35. Raising funds to fight this disease is a personal and special effort I am proud to undertake. I am doing this in Memory of Kim, my friend’s daughter who has passed because of Leukemia, and two of my co-workers daughters, Ally and Deanna, who are now in remission. Training for this marathon will be the biggest physical challenge of my life. But it is miniscule when compared to the challenges that each patient faces every day when battling Leukemia, Lymphoma, Hodgkin’s and other blood related cancers.

My goal is primarily to raise \$25,000 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society by the end of June. I think my chances are pretty good, even if I have to walk and/or crawl (whatever it takes to get to that finish line)!

You can help me achieve these goals by a) running with me or b) donating, so that I can reach my financial goals (this second choice is most popular). Please, I ask that you refrain from forming your own betting pools against me finishing (unless the bets get donated to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society).

The research you will be supporting is working. Thirty-five years ago, only 5% of children diagnosed with leukemia survived. Today 85% of children with Leukemia and 76% of those with Hodgkin’s’ disease will live. The Society ranks in the Top Ten of all charities for having the highest percentage of raised funds going directly to benefit research and patient services by Money Magazine.

To donate or find out more about the run, log onto my website at www.runacrossnh.com or send your tax-deductible contribution to me at, Dave Salvas, PO Box 492, Amherst, NH 03031 and make the checks payable to “Leukemia & Lymphoma Society” Together, we can help to find cures for these diseases, and help patients and families along the way.

If you think running a marathon a day is tough, Try Chemotherapy!

*Dave Salvas
Amherst*

Special Election Candidate for State Representative

To the editor:

I am running for state representative in the special election that will be held Tuesday, May 17 in Hillsborough District 4: Lyndeborough, Mont Vernon, New Boston, Temple and Wilton. This election is being held because former Representative Bob Mead (R-Mont Vernon) resigned his seat the day after he was sworn in so he could take a position as Speaker Bill O’Brien’s Chief of Staff.

If I am elected, I will represent the towns in this district to the best of my ability. That includes attending sessions and committee hearings and being available to help with any issues people have with state government.

I will stand up for the middle class, fighting to prevent state costs from being down shifted to the local property tax payer, that children receive a quality education and that our most vulnerable citizens and their families are protected.

I will be a moderate voice in Concord for the citizens of Hillsborough 4. Please vote for me on May 17.

*Sincerely,
Jennifer Daler, Temple
Party affiliation: Democrat*

House Leadership on Passage of SB 129

CONCORD – The House recently voted 243-111 to pass SB 129, which would require voters to present valid photo ID at the polls. House leaders released the following statements:

“This is an important common-sense reform to protect the integrity of New Hampshire’s elections. All eligible individuals should feel empowered to exercise their constitutional right to vote—but the public deserves to know exactly who is voting. SB 129 ensures voters are who they say they are and that the ‘one man, one vote’ principle is preserved,” said House Speaker William O’Brien (R-Mont Vernon).

“Requiring identification to vote for the purpose of ensuring fair and

ethical elections is long overdue. SB 129 ensures that no person will be turned away if they do not have an ID with them but will be provided with a provisional ballot and that those who do not have a valid ID they may obtain a non-driver photo ID free of charge from the Department of Motor Vehicles. With the bills the Democrats passed in recent years, they have compromised the integrity of state elections. With this bill, Republicans have ensured that we will have a clean and fair vote,” said House Majority Leader D.J. Bettencourt (R-Salem).

(Following the vote, SB 129 was referred to House Finance.)



Team “Boettcher’s At Heart” Rides For a Cure to Diabetes

To the editor:

This is the 16th year that the Team, “Boettcher’s At Heart” will be biking the ADA “Tour de Cure” bike ride. We will be participating in the Kennebunk Tour (50K) on June 12th in Kennebunk, Maine. Last year our team raised \$10,500.00 towards education and research for the American Diabetes Association.

Our motivation to ride and fundraise is because three of our team members have diabetes. We started riding in 1995 after my brother’s youngest daughter; Karley (3 yrs.) was diagnosed with Type 1 Juvenile Diabetes. Many years later his oldest daughter, Katie (15 yrs.) was also diagnosed with Type 1 Juvenile Diabetes. Three years ago, my husband Ben was diagnosed with Type 2.

Over the years we have witnessed advancements in research and treatment for this disease. We all know someone with diabetes. This is our family’s attempt at making a difference in the lives of our family members and others.

This year our fundraising goal is \$11,000.00. You can help us achieve this goal by sponsoring our team. Go online at: <http://main.diabetes.org/goto/boettchersatheart>, or send a check made out to the American Diabetes Association, PO Box 10310, Portland, ME 04101. Please designate our team name if you send a check.

*2011 “Tour de Cure” Bike Event
Linda Boettcher Lambert
Amherst*

Commentary

Progress on “Zero Tolerance for Litter in Amherst

By GEORGE CODDINGTON

At the March 28 meeting, our board of Selectmen initially approved a Town Litter Slogan “Clean and Appealing”. This is a composite of several slogan ideas presented by students at SHS as shown in a recent issue. There is agreement to move ahead and develop the anti-litter signage with a town logo, slogan and the littering fine. I was pleased to see decisive leadership in action.

The board indicated there may be money in the budget for this action. The plan is to complete the sign design with DPW, approvals, then begin the process of getting them made and installed on the town roads coming into Amherst. The State roads will need further effort to get through the approval process. Then the process will become enforcement of the law as posted. As difficult as it is to catch the thoughtless people who deposit their personal trash all over Amherst roads, my hope is that some deterrence will be realized and there will be more awareness of the problem caused by a few.

I thank the Board for their ongoing support as well as many other citizens, SHS, and this paper. Clean and appealing works.

The
CLOTHES CLOSET
WOMEN'S FASHION BOUTIQUE
Shaw's Lorden Plaza,
Milford 673-3198

Our spring collections are at their best right now. Hurry in!!

The
AMHERST CITIZEN

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Watch future issues for schedule updates.

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