

Letters & Opinion

Friends of the Library Book Sale

To the editor:

The Friends of the Library Book Sale 2014 was a success! Gross proceeds from this year's sale surpassed \$8,800, which, in combination with other fundraisers and membership dues, will enable the Friends to make a substantial gift to the library. Last year's gifts included the new book display case for the children's room, the AED, media bags, after-hours book drop carts, and new stools for the "main stacks."

The Amherst Friends of the Library sale is considered one of the best in the area thanks to the sorting that is done all year long by Nancy and Vick Bennisson. The Bennissons have been doing this for over twenty-five years, lugging books from the library to their home, sorting them into categories, packing them in boxes, and taking them to the storage shed at Countryside Storage. In addition, they spend the day at the sale, helping with the books and acting as resources. Each year Vick picks out special books which he researches and sells separately from the rest. This year he did especially well—the customers flocked to his section when the doors opened.

Many thanks are also due to Raisanen Landscaping and all the volunteers, including board members, trustees, and community members who helped with the various tasks involved in the book sale—carrying, sorting, organizing and transporting books as well as setting up the sale and cleaning up. Souhegan High School students made a significant contribution, helping with the transporting, cleanup, and sorting. It was a wet clean-up this year and many of the volunteers, especially the students who were loading the trucks, were soggy by the end of the day on Saturday.

Also deserving of thanks are the people who donate books to the library during the year. Without them there would be no sale!

Gretchen Pyles and Nancy Head,
Co-Chairs, Amherst Friends of the
Library Book Sale

Jeanne Shaheen is a Real New Hampshire Senator

To the editor:

We will never know if, or to what extent, former Senator Scott Brown was involved in deep-sixing the bipartisan Shaheen-Portman energy bill. What we do know is that this itinerant, opportunistic politician has never been involved in N.H.'s politics, culture, or problems. At some time, he may have been vacationing and cavorting on a beach in Rye; however, he was never engaged in our state's environmental, economic, or education issues. It is, consequently, interesting that without real personal engagement, historical context, or institutional memory, he now purports to have all the answers. I guess we are supposed to ignore the fact that these "answers" are only blatant platitudes and generalities that could apply to any place or any state.

His opponent has devoted most of her adult life to the well being of our state and its citizens. No, unlike so many politicians, Sen. Shaheen does not latch on to the issue of the day or sponsor a bill to get her name in the paper or her face on TV. Sen. Shaheen does her homework. She works quietly and powerfully to advocate for her constituents and her state. That is her job and she gets that job done. Substance, not flash. That is the real New Hampshire way and Jeanne Shaheen is a real New Hampshire Senator.

Sincerely,
Linda T. Foster
Mont Vernon

Who Will I Vote For This Election?

To the editor:

At every turn, we are being bombarded with information for and against every candidate for office. I'm going to disregard the sound bites and look at what the two parties are doing right here in Amherst in order to make my decision. The Dems hold mostly private meetings & bar non-democrats from their public meetings. The Repubs hold a monthly meeting at Joey's diner & invite everyone. Kuster and Shaheen have never answered my emails & letters with anything other than a form letter. Ayotte has responded to me with letters written to the subject, and in a timely fashion and was more than happy to chat when I saw her at a Girl Scout function Kelly Ayotte has come to Amherst for public Q & A sessions at Joey's. Kuster & Shaheen have avoided the public, including debates for the upcoming election. The Rep. town chair Mark Vincent, welcomes discussion and enjoys people taking an interest in politics.

I'll vote for a party that's transparent, welcoming and open to debate. I'll dispose of the divisive mindset and vote to install open, responsive government. I think I'll vote Republican.

Anthony J. Nino Jr.
Amherst

More Letters – Pages 6 & 15

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.

Absentee Ballots

Election Day is Tuesday, November 4, 2014. The polls will be open from 6AM to 8PM at Souhegan High School.

Absentee ballots are available to registered voters of the town. NH law requires that you vote in person at the polls unless you declare one of the following absences:

- 1) You plan to be absent on election day from the town where you are domiciled.
- 2) You cannot appear in public because of observance of a religious commitment.
- 3) You are unable to vote due to a disability.
- 4) You cannot appear at any time during polling hours at the polling place because an employment obligation requires you to remain physically at work or to be in transit to or from work from the time the polls open until the time the polls close.

Any person who votes or attempts to vote using an absentee ballot who is not entitled to vote by absentee ballot shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. RSA 657:24

Absentee ballots may be requested in person at the town clerk's office from 9AM to 3PM, Monday through Friday and Tuesday night from 4:30 to 6:30 and up to 5PM on Monday, November 3, 2014. They must be returned by 5PM on Monday, November 3rd if returned in person or by 5PM on Election Day if received by mail. No absentee ballots will be accepted in hand at the polls. Absentee ballots may be requested by mail by submitting a request in writing with the signature of the requestor.

No Representation

To the editor:

Kids are back to school, nights are getting cooler, and my phone is ringing off the hook with political calls. Must be time to start paying attention to our choices in November.

Its unbelievable to me that Senator Shaheen, and Congresswomen Annie Kuster voted over 95% with President Obama. We send people to Washington to represent us, not the President. In addition to supporting the President, Annie Kuster was also a rubber stamp for Nancy Pelosi. As a result we have no representation in Washington.

Neither Senator Shaheen nor Congresswomen Kuster will hold Town Hall meetings! What a slap in the face to us back here in New Hampshire. Time to vote both of them out.

Governor Hassan has raised taxes and fees over 100 times. Every time she wants something, her answer is to burden us with more fees and taxes.. Walt Havenstein who has broad business experience, and has demonstrated himself as a leader, will stop the wasteful spending of Maggie Hassan, and not raise our taxes.

This is a very important election, if you want representation we need to vote these politicians out of office.

Alice Bury
Amherst

Send Annie Kuster Back to Congress in November

To the editor:

Annie Kuster is a hard-working, thoughtful congresswoman who has focused on the needs of New Hampshire. To help job seekers find employment, she has regularly hosted job fairs throughout the state in order to match those seekers with potential employers. In Washington, she has worked on legislation to end tax breaks for those American corporations who ship jobs abroad. At the same time, she's been involved in legislation that offers tax incentives to businesses who work with community colleges to develop up-to-date skill training opportunities for students.

Kuster has also been a strong supporter of our veterans as she works across the aisle to ensure legislation that helps our vets. She has worked to bring VA health clinics to Berlin and Colebrook, as well as to rectify the issues surrounding the backlog of vets who need VA attention. She worked to ensure fair legislation regarding sexual assault whistleblower protection in the armed forces.

Our New Hampshire students are benefitting from Annie's attention to tuition costs. In 2013 she was able to keep tuition rate hikes minimal for our NH students.

All in all, we in New Hampshire and the USA are better off from having Annie Kuster in Congress. I urge you to vote to send her back to Congress in November.

Nancy Iannuzzelli
Amherst

Thanks for Supporting My Silver Award Project

To the editor:

Thank you so much to all who donated to my Girl Scout Silver Award Project. For my project, I went to the Friends of the Amherst Town Library's Book Sale on September 13, 2014 and collected donations that I then used to buy books for kids at Nashua Children's Home, Anne-Marie House, and the Boys and Girls Club of Souhegan Valley. With the help of these donations, I raised \$90.00 that allowed me to buy 610 books. These books are being enjoyed by many kids in our area. I also lead a book discussion at the Boys and Girls Club and enjoyed talking with them about different kinds of books. Thank you again for helping to bring the joy of reading to kids in our area.

Sincerely,
Emma Pyles
Amherst

Representative Peter Hansen Seeks Re-election

To the editor:

Thanks to everyone who voted in our primary election, you cared enough to participate and we need that. A special thanks to those who supported me in that same election. I work diligently for and believe I'm doing the best for my constituents and our state. Your recent vote confirms that belief. Thank You so much.

The general election fast approaches on November 4th. When you enter the voting booth that day I ask that you recall my efforts during my last 2 terms and compare them to the dismal performance of the current majority party members. This term, they focused on:

increasing your taxes and fees for such things as oil clean-up, paint disposal, (let the guilty pay) business taxes, subsidizing commuter rail (shouldn't the users pay?) forcing Common Core standards on our schools, wasting your money legally challenging the settled rights of charter schools and their funding, unbelievably denying merit payments to our state employees for their cost savings ideas, and demanding the approval by the state of collective bargaining agreements.

But the more egregious efforts related to: bloating the budget and spending all 57 million dollars surplus handed them by the prior administration, interfering with local control by attempting to have your town clerk "appointed", totally ignoring and denying the existence of voter fraud and efforts to institute voter ID, decimating the owner/tenant relationship, and the worst offense to all NH residents and taxpayers - refusing to consider the proven social and economic benefits of right to work legislation.

My record is clear on these issues and if you believe as I believe that New Hampshire does not deserve more of the above please mark your ballot for Peter Hansen. Would you ask your friends and relatives to consider my record and cast their vote for me as well? NH and I need your vote and appreciate your consideration for re-election. Thank You.

Rep. Peter Hansen
Hills, Dist. 22
Amherst

Re-Elect Laurie Sanborn

To the editor:

I hope you will join me in voting for Representative Laurie Sanborn again to serve us in the NH House. I have had the pleasure and honor of knowing Laurie for the past two years, and have the highest respect for her work ethic, her policy positions and her leadership ability.

Laurie serves on the Ways and Means Committee and is founder and Chair of the non-partisan House Business Caucus. As Republican Policy Leader, she has been focused on economic and fiscal issues, working to bring common sense solutions and easing the regulatory burden on our state's small businesses, so they can create jobs and grow, right here in NH.

Laurie is able to work with everyone to build consensus and solve problems. I know she will continue to work tirelessly for the citizens of Amherst and will lead efforts to re-establish NH as the best place in America to live, work, learn and play.

When I experienced some problems with cancer last year and the medical insurance situation in New Hampshire, Laurie was there for me and was a voice in our state government. I know she will be there for you, too.

Please join me in supporting Laurie Sanborn and vote for her again on November 4.

Shelley Stama
Amherst

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"Fesh Catch" by Howard Muscott


Photo Art!

Our featured artist for October is Wildlife and Scenic Photographer Howard Muscott from Amherst, NH. His beautiful photographs will be on display in our gallery through October 31st. Come in and browse.

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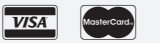
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