Send a Message to Concord

To the editor:

I am writing in support of change. A common definition of insanity is to keep doing the same thing over and over again, and expect a different result. If party politics and hyper-partisanship is driving you insane, it may be time to take a new path at the polls.

For the past two years, I have watched with growing concern the three ring circus that passes for governance in the New Hampshire House of Representatives. The current leadership, including two members of our own delegation has fostered an adversarial environment that no longer serves the interests of the citizens they represent. Way too much time has been spent pursuing a national party agenda with overtones of Tea Party politics and libertarian philosophy. Too little time has been spent on issues that matter to us, the voters.

I urge everyone to think seriously about sending a message to Concord. We want people who represent our interests first! I urge you to vote for change. There are many fresh faces and new ideas among the list of new candidates. I urge your vote for Cynthia Dokmo, Shannon Chandley and Bob Heaton to represent Amherst, and Len Gerzon to represent the combined district of Amherst/Bedford.

Lets plant some new flowers and see how they grow.

Sincerely
Paul Spiess
Amherst

Chandley Demonstrates Knowledge of Our Community

To the editor:

When I think of the type of person that I want representing me in our state government, I think of someone who is morally and ethically grounded, hardworking, and fiscally responsible. I think of Shannon Chandley. Shannon has devoted herself to giving back to the community she lives in, gaining valuable experience that will benefit us all as our representative. Shannon values education, as seen in her volunteerism in our Amherst schools and her work with the University of Rhode Island. Shannon knows the difficulty of prioritizing needs when balancing a budget, as seen by her work on our Ways and Means Committee. And perhaps most important is Shannon's knowledge of our community, some of which is seen through her devotion to SHARE, the Girls Scouts, and the Amherst Junior Women's Club. Shannon is also a proven political leader in our community, as she has served us in this capacity already. During her previous term as our State Representative, Shannon had the support of people from both sides of the aisle because she listened to the voices of her constituents. I have confidence that Shannon will use her experience, and common sense to be a voice of reason on issues important to our community. Please join me in supporting Shannon Chandley for State Representative on November 6,.

Sincerely,
Mary Lou Mullens
Amherst

Why I Can Not Vote for President Obama

To the editor:

Our President's performance his first term in office:

lst President to preside over a cut to the credit rating of our country
lst President to spend a TRILLION DOLLARS on "Shovel Ready" jobs, and there were none.
lst President to terminate our ability to put a man in space.
lst President to appoint 45 Czars to replace elected officials
lst President to go on "Apology Tours, and also insulting some of our closest allies.
1st President to actively try to bankrupt an American industry (coal), while stopping our neighbor to the North from bringing affordable oil to our country.
I could go on and on. This is not the hope and change we anticipated.
We need to vote for Mitt Romney to save our country. Enough is enough!

Alice Bury
Amherst

Is Maybe Something Wrong in Our Democracy?

To the editor:

Polls tell us that as a result of their recent debate, Romney has surged, Obama sunk about 3% in the number of votes they're likely to get; in other words, about 6 million Americans changed their mind. It seems incredible.

OK, let's agree for the sake of my argument that Romney was on his game and Obama off on the night of Oct. 3. What needs to be explained is, how can 90 minutes on one night of assertions and promises make a difference-- promises, in some cases, that the past record makes unbelievable.

Both Romney and Obama have been in the public eye for years. We know what they've done and not done, also what they've supported and sometimes flip-flopped. Both have lately put many more assertions and promises on the record. Compared to this vast archive of what is already in the bucket, one night's debate isn't even as much as the proverbial extra drop, not even the grain of sand on the beach.

Moreover, their plans and programs differ enormously on matters such as taxation, abortion rights, deficit reduction, health care, etc. What they'll try do do, should they get the chance, affects us all.

What matters is the whole record. How can 6 million be so vulnerable to a one-night stand? Is maybe something wrong in our democracy?

David Perkins
Amherst

Heaton Pledges Not to Take a Pledge

To the editor:

My name is Bob Heaton and I am running for State Representative from Amherst as an Independent because I am tired of the destructive partisan politics that have been going on in Concord for too long.

Because I am an Independent, I will not be held hostage to a political platform, a party agenda or party leadership pressure. I pledge not to take a pledge on any specific issue. Legislation that addresses serious issues can be complex and involve many related issues that do not have black and white answers. I will listen to all aspects of an issue and make responsible decisions based on the needs of all our constituents. I will oppose legislation that merely transfers financial obligations from the state to the local property taxpayer.

I have lived in Amherst for over 61 years. I was educated in the Amherst School System and earned a BSEE degree at the University of NH. I have served the town of Amherst as Selectman for 6 years from 1999 to 2005, chairing the Board for three of those years. I served on the Ways & Means Committee prior to that and served on the Recreation Commission for over 20 years.

I have dedicated much of my life to public service in Amherst and ask for your support and vote on November 6th so that I can represent you with a much needed change in attitude.

Bob Heaton
Amherst

GE Benefits from Defense Spending

To the editor:

Governor Romney says he does not want us to borrow money from China, but he is proposing major increases in defense spending when our defense spending is already astronomical. Who gains from that? Well, let's see. Defense contractors would gain from that. But do they really need help? General Electric is a defense contractor making huge profits and not paying corporate income taxes. G.E. seems to be doing quite well with our current level of spending on defense.

If Republicans are worried about borrowing from China, why did they refuse to support a Medicare provision that would allow the government to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies for lower drug prices? Well, we don't want to decrease the drug companies enormous profits, do we?

If Republicans are worried about borrowing from China, why are they against Obama's position on ending tax-payer funded subsidies for oil companies? Exxon is making record profits and not paying corporate income taxes. But U.S. taxpayers need to keep subsidizing Exxon?

Governor Romney would repeal Obamacare which has provisions that keep health care costs down. We have the highest healthcare costs in the world but, with the exception of trauma care, we do not have the best health care in the world. If we want Medicare to stay solvent, we will have to reduce health care costs. What are Republicans suggesting? Let's just have people who have paid into Medicare for decades get vouchers and hope those will cover the ever-increasing cost of health care.

Obamacare allows people who want to be self-employed to get health insurance at affordable rates. Governor Romney encourages young people to start their own businesses. "Borrow money from your parents if you have to." But he will repeal Obamacare if he gets elected.

It seems that Republican concern for borrowing from China breaks along ideological lines. They are worried about borrowing from China when it comes to programs that help the poor and middle class. They are not worried about borrowing from China when corporations and the wealthy have something to gain.

Jo Deckert
Amherst

State of New Hampshire

Voter ID Law - Laws of 2012, Chapter 284
Explanatory Document

During the 2012 legislative session the legislature passed Senate Bill 289, also known as the "Voter ID" Law. The new law will phase-in a photo identification requirement over a period of time.

This explanatory document is required under the "Voter ID" law as part of the process of educating the public about the law's requirements and application and outlines the law's requirements for 2012.

What type of photo ID will I need in order to vote?

For any election *before* Sept. 1, 2013, you will be asked to provide one of the following:

- Driver's license issued by any state (even if expired);
- ID card issued by NH DMV (Division of Motor Vehicles);
- U.S. Armed Services ID card;
- U.S. Passport (even if expired);
- Valid photo ID card issued by either the federal government or a state, county or municipal government;
- Valid student ID card
- Other photo ID deemed legitimate by the supervisors of the checklist, the moderator, or the clerk; or
- Verification of identity by a supervisor of the checklist, the moderator or the clerk.

What if I do not have an approved photo ID?

Before November 1, 2012, any voter who does not present an approved photo ID will be informed of the new law and permitted to vote.

Between November 1, 2012 and September 1, 2013, any voter who does not present an approved photo ID will be permitted to vote after executing a "challenged voter affidavit."

A voter who does not have an approved photo ID may obtain a free photo ID for voting purposes only by presenting a voucher from their town/city clerk or the Secretary of State to any NH DMV office that issues identification.

Is there any post-election action required by me after I vote without an approved photo ID?

After November 1, 2012, if you filled out a "challenged voter affidavit" in order to vote on Election Day, you will receive a verification letter from the Secretary of State, requesting confirmation that you voted in the election. If you do not respond in writing to the Secretary of State within 30 days of the date it was mailed, the Attorney General will conduct an investigation to determine whether fraudulent voting occurred.

Where can I get more information? Your city or town clerk or the Secretary of State

SOS.NH.GOV **(603) 271-3242**

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT !
VOTE INDEPENDENT
VOTE DOKMO & HEATON
IT MATTERS
PAUL SPIESS, FISCAL AGENT

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

HAD ENOUGH TEA?
New Hampshire values for New Hampshire!
Vote for John Shonle
State Representative
Amherst District 22
Paid for by Shonle for Representative, John Shonle fiscal agent.

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

On November 6th:
RE-ELECT
Peter Hansen
for State Rep

- Independent Moderate Republican
- Successful Fortune 500 Executive and now Retired
- Vietnam Era Veteran - USN
- Lifelong Amherst Resident

WHO WILL Vote to Improve The NH Advantage By:
– Further reducing waste and government inefficiencies
– Continue to improve the atmosphere for all businesses
– Protecting local control and cost downshifts from state
– Reducing the unemployment rate of NH by attracting jobs
– Opposing deficit spending and frivolous bonding
– Expanding health insurance competition reducing your costs

Peter Hansen, Fiscal Agent, Amherst, NH