

# Letters & Opinion

## Thank You From the Scouts of Amherst and Mont Vernon

To the editor:

On behalf of the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of Amherst and Mont Vernon, I would like to say a huge thank you to all of those who so generously donated food and household items for this year's Scouting for Food program. I would also like to thank the Girl Scouts who participated, the many wonderful Scout leaders, and also the parent volunteers who assisted in our efforts. Thanks to you, our Scouts collected approximately 3000 items that will help benefit those in need. I know that many food pantries, including SHARE, depend on the Scouting for Food program to help keep their shelves stocked at this time of year.

If you were unable to leave a donation for the Scouts but would still like to donate, we encourage you to take your donation directly to SHARE in Milford. Every donation is truly appreciated.

Thanks again to all of you who helped make this year's Scouting for Food Program a huge success!!!

*Cherina Cohen  
Scouting for Food Coordinator*

## Campaigning Was Enjoyable

To the editor:

My deeply felt thanks goes out to all those who supported me in my campaign for State Rep. The support came from many, many friends, Amherst residents, and voters and was incredibly rewarding. Close friends became closer friends; new acquaintances became new friends. While canvassing door to door, at the soccer fields, and in the after school car line at Wilkins school I had wonderful interactions with residents that otherwise I would never have met. I am so glad I took this on. I actually enjoyed campaigning and had fun. I keep going over in my mind what more I could have done so that I didn't disappoint all those who offered their time, money, and encouragement.

I learned so much about how NH works (or in some cases doesn't work) and am motivated to become active in the process as a regular citizen particularly in the health and human services areas.

I knew from the beginning that it would be a long shot; but it was a great experience and all of you made it worthwhile.

Again, many thanks to everyone

*Steve Morgan  
Amherst*

## "We're Not Broke" at Wilton Town Hall Theatre

To the editor:

There will be a free showing of the 2012 documentary film "We're Not Broke" on Sunday, December 2 at 4:45 at Wilton Town Hall Theatre. The film is about tax fairness. Postcards for Senators Shaheen and Ayotte will be available to be filled out and will be hand-delivered to the senators' Washington offices. For more information about the film, go to We'reNotBroke.com.

Admission is free. Donations are welcome.

Sponsored by NH Green Coalition and Women Making a Difference.

*Jo Deckert  
Amherst*



SHS students were performing their Community Service Project.

## We Are Very Grateful

To the editor:

Many thanks to the graduating class of 2015 for the extra ordinary work performed at our home on November 14th for their Community Service project. This group split, moved and stacked three (3) cords of fire wood for us. Each student alternated working on one of the two log splitters and each participated in loading and unloading four (4) large trailer loads. We also had an all female leaf collecting team operating backpack air blowers. This effort would have taken my wife and I perhaps a month. All work was completed between 10:00am and 1:30 pm. We are very grateful for their work.

*Ken Miller  
Amherst  
U.S. Navy (retired)*

## AJWC Thanks Dance Donors

To the editor:

The Amherst Junior Women's Club would like to thank the many volunteers and raffle prize donors who made the recent Amherst Middle School dance a huge success. The dance on November 16th raised approximately \$1,500 for the school.

Corporate raffle donations included ski passes from Pats Peak and Crotched Mountain and gift certificates from The Toadstool Bookshops, Conway Arena and Rollerkingdom.

The following club members donated raffle items: embroidered blanket from Sue Lynch, iTunes gift cards from Michelle Biddle, sports apparel from Shannon Chandley and a movie night gift basket from Kathy Earley.

Thank you also to our club volunteers: Barbara Baum, Jen Thibeault, Christa Roth, Susannah Humphrey, Jessica Weisberg, Melissa Damiano, Gina Aselin, Kathy Wason, Lisa Caulton, Sharon Campbell, Shelley Lacaille and Kelly Manz.

With funds raised from the dance held earlier this year, we were able to construct an outdoor classroom at middle school. We haven't decided yet how funds from the recent dance will be used, but we look forward to making a purchase that will benefit the most number of students.

*Christina Zlotnick & Kathy Earley  
Amherst Junior Women's Club  
AMS Dance Committee*

## Holiday Toy Store Needs Your Help

The Holiday Toy Store is in its 25th year of serving families with financial need from Brookline, Mont Vernon, Milford, and Amherst. This special event will be held on December 11th and 12th at the Veterans' of Foreign Wars Hall - Harley Sanford Post, 14 Perkins Street in Milford. At the Holiday Toy Store, families in need will have the opportunity to choose holiday gifts, free of charge, for their children ages newborn through fifteen years old. This is a community effort, which brings non-profit organizations, businesses, churches and individuals together to enrich the lives of others less fortunate. In the spirit of the season, we are asking for your generosity in supporting this effort with either a monetary donation or by dropping of a new, unwrapped toy. We appreciate your tax-deductible monetary donation made by December 3rd. Checks should be made out to "Holiday Toy Store" and can be mailed to P. O. Box 6, Amherst, NH 03031. New toy donations are collected at the community locations listed below. For further questions about the Holiday Toy Store or for information regarding eligibility and registration to participate in receiving gifts, you can contact Lisa Emerson at 930-3565.

### Drop off locations:

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| <p><b>AMHERST:</b><br/>Black Forest Café<br/>Amherst Library<br/>Wal-Mart<br/>Moultons<br/>Amherst Middle School<br/>Clark and Wilkins Schools<br/>Spinal Corrective Center</p> <p><b>BROOKLINE:</b><br/>Brookline Library<br/>Brookline Sunoco<br/>Richard Maghakian Memorial School<br/>Capt. Samuel Douglas Academy</p> <p><b>MONT VERNON:</b><br/>Mont Vernon Village School</p> | <p><b>MILFORD:</b><br/>Milford Town Hall<br/>Wadleigh Memorial Library<br/>Stop n Shop<br/>People's United Bank, Lorden Plaza<br/>People's United Bank, Rt101/Elm St.<br/>Hampshire Hills<br/>SHARE<br/>St. Mary's Bank<br/>Shaw's<br/>Milford Middle School<br/>Heron Pond Elementary School<br/>Jacques Memorial Elementary School</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Festive Tree Lighting To Be Held on Friday, December 7

Lions Spaghetti Supper Follows at Congregational Church

To the editor:

The Amherst Tree Lighting Festival is always held on the Second Sunday's weekend of December. This year, it falls on December 7, 8, and 9th.

It is a weekend when our town organizations, churches and clubs work hard to enliven our beautiful village with ceremonies, suppers, breakfasts, visits with Santa, children's events, open houses, and concerts!

The weekend begins with the Friday Evening 6:30 p.m. Village Tree Lighting Ceremony, on the WWI Common across from Moulton's, during which all the December holidays, that are celebrated by Amherst residents, are acknowledged. Traditionally, at dusk, single, white candle lights appear in the windows of each village home. Spotlights call attention to the wreath bedecked doorways of village homes. The crowd gathers and "oohs and ahhs" as the colorful village tree is lit by Santa Claus and his elves. The Memory Tree is also lit; songs and readings about Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, The Winter Solstice, and the First Snow are sung and read. Those in the Foreign, Military, and Civil Service to our town, state and country, who cannot be home for the holidays, have their names read aloud in thanksgiving for their service.

The Tree Lighting ceremony is immediately followed by the Lions Club Community Spaghetti Supper, just down the street at the Congregational Church; walk on over! On the 2 weekend days after the Tree Lighting Ceremony & Supper, we have Santa Saturday and Concerts Sunday! A full schedule will appear in the Amherst Citizen Newspaper. For more information, contact Ann Bergin (ACBergin@aol.com).

We receive many offers to help; because each group runs its own event, please contact the event's sponsoring group to offer assistance.

*Thanks,  
Ann Bergin  
Amherst*

## Tax Cuts Versus Stimulus - Which Creates More Jobs?

To the editor:

As our elected leaders in Washington D.C. renew discussions on ways to avoid the "Fiscal Cliff", debates on the effectiveness of low tax marginal rates or increased government spending on the economy will again come to the fore. Both sides will argue that their preferred approach is more effective. Which is true? Fortunately, we can examine the results of the first terms of two presidents to gain some insight.

Both President Reagan and President Obama entered office facing a severe recession. Both faced stagnant economies, negative growth rates, and unemployment rates of more than 10 percent. In fact, in many respects the economic circumstances in the early 1980's were worse than today, as both inflation and interest rates were significantly higher. President Reagan opted to reduce tax rates, while President Obama chose a different strategy of significant increases in government spending. Both options increase the long term deficit, but which creates more jobs?

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, President Reagan entered office with a work force of about 108 million workers. At the end of his first term the work force has grown to around 114 million, or about 6 million workers. According to the Office of Management of Budget, the "cost" of his tax cuts was about \$150 billion (inflation adjusted to current dollars) over the same time period. Thus, the "cost", in terms of increasing the deficit, was about \$25,000 for every job created.

On the other hand, President Obama entered office with a work force of about 154 million workers. Today, at the end of his first term, the work force has grown to about 155 million, or around 1 million workers. The cost of his stimulus program was about \$800 billion. Thus, the "cost" to the taxpayer of each job created was about \$800,000.

Why the difference? How can tax cuts create jobs significantly more efficiently than government stimulus? The answer lies in human nature. A government bureaucrat in Washington D.C. is not spending his own money. If he makes a mistake, say by giving government money to a business that goes bankrupt, he still has a job tomorrow. On the other hand, tax cuts give the millions of consumers across the country more money to spend on hundreds of millions of economic transactions. While some may make bad decisions and waste their money, on the whole, people spend their own money much more sensibly than they spend somebody else's money. They generally choose to spend their own money on the products and services that give them the most value for their dollar. Thus, the best businesses prosper and grow, which strengthens the economy and create more jobs.

*Russ Hodgkins  
Amherst*

### Department of Public Works Amherst Transfer Station Hours

Tuesdays: 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Thursdays: 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Friday: 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
Saturdays: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

[www.amherstcitizen.com](http://www.amherstcitizen.com)

## 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.



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— 2012 —  
December 4      December 18  
— 2013 —  
January 8  
January 22      April 9  
February 12      April 23  
February 26      May 14  
March 7\*      May 28  
March 26      June 11\*

\*Issue dates may be subject to change.  
Watch future issues for schedule updates.  
Phone: 672-9444 Fax: 672-8153  
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### NEXT ISSUE:

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### THE AMHERST CITIZEN Newsstand Copies

Available at one of these locations:

- Moulton's Market, Amherst
- Amherst Town Library
- The Cider Mill, Amherst
- Homestead Grocery, Amherst
- Merrill's Convenience, Milford
- Shaw's Market, Milford
- Stop & Shop, Milford
- Harvest Market, Hollis
- Harvest Market, Bedford
- Hannaford SuperMarket, Bedford

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