

Letters To The Beacon

There's so much to love about small town New England, and one of my favorite things is watching the youth grow and breath life and adventure into the community.

This summer 17- year-old Henry Bendel tackled the challenge of teaching our town youngsters how to swim.



Gloriana Brown and Henry Bendel

I admit feeling nervous for him when over a dozen children, ages four to ten, gathered on day one. I wondered if even a seasoned teacher could handle a class that size in the water.

It didn't take long, though, to see that Henry has a teaching gift and that he

was well-prepared for this adventure. He expertly balanced structured learning with summer fun, and he modeled patience and compassion while expecting courage and discipline in the water. My daughter couldn't wait for swimming lessons each day, and she made huge strides in her swimming skills during the two weeks with Henry.

Hats off to our fantastic town and its outstanding teens, well-represented this summer by Henry Bendel.

Pam Brown

It was with great delight that I read the article by Harold Crane about the Cilleyville school in the last issue of the *Beacon*. I was in the fourth grade when Harold was graduating from school. His memory is great, and he brought back things I had forgotten about.

The old picture is also interesting from the perspective of how open the land was then compared to how grown up it is today. Just stand in that same place on the dirt road and look towards the school.

One other event that occurs to me happened after Harold graduated. I remember standing in the schoolyard and watching with fear and excitement as the large building next to the old Legion Hall burned to the ground.

Anyway, thanks to Harold for the

wonderful article and to the *Beacon* for printing it.

Ron Charles

I would like to thank all those who worked to come up with the 5% town budget reduction reported in the *Beacon*. I would like to think it is just the first step in a continuing effort.

Hopefully the next few years will produce further reductions and a spending mentality that continues to scrutinize each and every expense for its necessity, its return on investment, and its impact on the citizens, particularly during this recession.

Respectfully,

Ron Charles

The Franklin VFW Ladies Auxiliary marched in the Andover Fourth of July parade again this year, leading the parade with our VFW colors. It was hot, but lots of fun.

If you haven't been there, please plan to attend next year. It is everything that the Fourth of July should be everywhere. This entire small town turned out to greet neighbors, friends, and even strangers like myself, who were made to feel as if you belonged. The people were friendly, and greetings made you remember what we have been missing:

“the Small Town Customs that made America what she is.”

I left with a wonderful feeling of friendship and warmth, and it still brings a smile to my face today.

Tammy Belmain

President

Franklin Ladies Auxiliary #1698

My name is Sean Cox, and I'm running for State Representative for District 6, covering Andover, Salisbury, Boscawen, Northfield, Loudon, and Canterbury. My background is in Computer Engineering (RPI), with an MBA in Finance (NYU).

I believe we need legislators who are capable of analysis, problem solving, and understanding how to balance costs and benefits, i.e. living within our means, something that the current legislature has consistently failed to do.

Not only is the spending in the state out of control and needs to be curbed to make sure that our children and grandchildren can still afford to live here, but we are also about to make great changes in the New Hampshire political landscape as redistricting comes in the wake of the 2010 Census. The changes will impact not just state districts, but also our congressional ones and will be

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