

Jenn Coffey has been very busy in a state she loves to call home

Jenn Coffey, 39

Home: Andover

Birthplace: Boston, Mass.

Family: Husband of over 19 years, Billy, and 17-year-old son, Jesse

High school: Carver High School

College/post grad degrees:

Nationally registered Emergency Medical Technician, intermediate and Licensed Nursing Assistant

Current job: Mother, wife,

state representative in Merrimack District 6; vice-chairman of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee; chairman of Banking and Business Regulation Division; Emergency Room Technician II at Concord Hospital; member of the Merrimack County Delegation

Volunteer activities: Volunteer for the town of Andover as an EMT, captain of Andover Emergency Medical Services; national director of Legislative Affairs for the Second Amendment Sisters; member and supporter of the Andover Service Club; senior advisor to Pro-Gun NH; vice president for the Ft. Constitution Arms Collectors; vice-chair of the Capital Area Friends of the NRA; certified CPR and first-aid instructor



By TED SIEFER
New Hampshire Union Leader

It's safe to say Jenn Coffey has been busy since she came to New Hampshire just over five years ago. She works as an emergency room technician at Concord Hospital, a volunteer emergency medical responder for the town of Andover, a Republican state representative, and the national legislative affairs director for the Second Amendment Sisters, a women's gun rights organization.

She and her husband moved from Massachusetts in part because the Granite State was more consonant with her political philosophy. "New Hampshire as a state still values its constitutional groundwork," said Coffey, 39. "And this is a State House that still has citizen legislators. You can't make a living off this. You don't get removed from the commu-

nity, from the district you represent."

Coffey left Plymouth, Mass., over concerns that the quality of life was deteriorating. A drive-by shooting was "the nail in the coffin," she said. "We really wanted to raise our son in a better environment. This is a great place to raise a family."

For Coffey, everything she loves and values about New Hampshire can be found in the town of Andover, where she lives with her husband and 17-year-old son. "I live in the last bastion of small-town Americana. When we moved in, the neighbors brought over a rhubarb pie," she said.

Still, Coffey says the state faces its share of challenges, in particular maintaining its attractive business climate. "There needs to be more deregulation," she said. "We are one of the most heavily regulated and licensed states in the union, and we need to be aware of our tax burden. We've seen too many businesses leave the state in recent years."

As if her work in the emergency room, as a volunteer EMT and as a lawmaker were not enough, Coffey's finishing off a book, which she plans to self-publish: "Knives, Lipstick and Liberty: One Woman's Journey." Reprinted with permission, New Hampshire Union Leader

She considers her last major achievement being awarded the 2010 National Freedom's Edge Award for championing the N.H. Knife Rights bill granting emergency medical technicians, workers in many professions and disciplines across the state as well as sportsmen what she calls "the ability to use the tools best suited for the job before them."

She said the state must "craft a responsible budget that meets the needs of our citizens while creating a positive and inviting environment for business in order to promote job growth."

Andover Serves!

Wanted: More Stories, Donations For Andover Military

By Sue Christiansen

Beacon volunteer

We want to hear from you! I really enjoy writing about Alex and the experiences that he and his buddies are having while they serve. But now I'd like to hear from you; our *Beacon* readers would like to hear from you. Please e-mail us at Military@AndoverBeacon.com or write a note and mail it to the *Beacon*. We'd love to hear your story and share it with our town.

I also want to remind you that items are being collected to send to our troops. There is a box in the Town Hall, and the Andover Lions Club has graciously offered to ship many of these boxes, all we have to do is fill them.

I spoke to Alex recently, and he said one of the guys really wants Apple Jacks cereal, so we have a box to go along with some other goodies. Imagine his surprise when Alex hands him his own box! Now, imagine the surprise of other troops when they get a package from Andover, New Hampshire and all the goodies we can stuff in.

I like to think about it this way: remember the commercial for a credit card that talks about the price of things and the thing that is priceless? How about this: One box of cereal, \$4; one deck of playing cards, \$1.99; three packages of granola bars, \$6; a soldier from home knowing he's being thought of. *Priceless!*

Let's do the best we can to make as many troops feel thought of. Remember you can always reach us at Military@AndoverBeacon.com with any questions, comments, and stories of when you served.

HONORED Will Henriques

William Henriques was awarded the Good Citizen Award from the Mercy Hathaway White chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Will lives in Andover and is a senior at Proctor.



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