

# Letters on Hamilton misleading

To the Editor:

I was upset by the well-coordinated and misleading letters from Phil Stevens, April Roggio, Mary Ann Ronconi, and Kevin Crosier in the Aug. 4 edition of *The Enterprise*.

Jim Hamilton's letter in the July 28 *Enterprise* was not in my opinion a statement of his vision for the town, a statement of his platform. Those are assumptions fabricated by Mr. Stevens, Ms. Roggio, and Mr. Crosier (hereafter referred to as "SRC") as a basis for criticism. I expect Mr. Hamilton will present his vision and platform to the voters of Berne in plenty of time to make a sound decision on Election Day.

If the SRC had bothered to more carefully read Mr. Hamilton's letter, or to honestly acknowledge his position on the matter, they would not have suggested that he opposed rezoning. As indicated in Mr. Hamilton's letter to *The Enterprise*, he worked with consultant Stolzenberg in making edits to the proposed ordinance and stated "the new (zoning) ordi-

nance is something of which we can all be proud."

If SRC had listened at the Jan. 26, 2005 town board meeting, they would have heard Mr. Hamilton state that the reason he voted against the ordinance was that it allowed a gasoline station in the midst of the hamlet, a hamlet dependent on individual wells for drinking water among other objections. His was a very sound logic that was responsive to the real concerns of those people who were being most directly threatened.

As an aside, a review of letters to the *Enterprise* editor reveals that Ms. Roggio originally opposed a gas station when it was proposed next to her house, and later supported it when it was moved down the street.

This is from her letter to the editor in the June 9, 2005 *Enterprise*: "I have never been a proponent of Stewart's — one of the first signs appeared on my lawn more than five years ago this summer. I vigorously dis-

agreed with the board's proposal at the time (sic, when Alan Zuk was supervisor) — to spot zone seven lots across the street from the Berne-Knox-Westerlo school, my house included. But I have supported Supervisor Crosier (and other board members) when they have proposed solutions, including mixed-zoning and rigorous design standards for the village..." Such solutions included moving the proposed site down the street next to Judge Bunzey's home.

Whether you are a Democrat, Republican, or Independent, a question is raised about judgment and motives when Phil Stevens, chairman of the Berne Republican Party, has supported and appears to continue to support, a publicly avowed and registered Democrat for town supervisor. Didn't the Berne Republicans have a good Republican to run for town supervisor instead of a registered Democrat?

**John Crouse**  
East Berne

# We Democrats distrust Mr. Crosier

To the Editor:

In Mrs. Crosier's letter to the *Enterprise* editor, published Aug. 18, she refers to the Berne Democrat Social Club as being threatened and feeling the need to silence true democracy. The real feeling of the Social Club is distrust.

Let us not forget that Mrs. Crosier's husband, Kevin Crosier, was elected as the Republican Town Supervisor of Berne in November, 2001. He did not seek the Democratic nomination for supervisor, but accepted the Republican nomination, ran against the Democratic candidate, and was elected on the Republican ticket.

Officers and members of the Democratic Party are distrustful of Mr. Crosier because of that. Even more troubling, Mr. Crosier has continued over the past years to pronounce his status as a registered Democrat.

At the Democratic caucus on July 12, Mr. Crosier declined nomination made from the floor by Mark Huth to compete for the Democratic candidate for supervisor in 2005. He began his

declination announcement with what appeared to be a political speech.

It was a very hot evening in a very crowded room, and many of the audience did not want to hear the Republican supervisor and registered Democrat give his political reasons for not seeking nomination from the Democratic caucus, so they loudly voiced their objections. The purpose of the caucus is to select nominees for candidates for town offices, not hear political speeches from elected Republicans.

It appears Mr. Crosier will again be the Republican candidate in 2005. At the Republican caucus on Aug. 22, those Republicans in attendance chose registered Democrat Kevin Crosier as the Republican candidate for town supervisor.

The actions of Mr. Phil Stevens, Berne Republican Party chair, and Mr. Kevin Crosier lead one to wonder about motives: What motivates Mr. Crosier to accept the Republican nomination, run against the Democratic candidate, and con-

tinue to publicly proclaim he is a registered Democrat? What motivates Mr. Stevens to support a registered Democrat as a Republican candidate for supervisor? One wonders what relationship they have, what interests they share, and how gullible they think the Berne voters are.

Based on his actions, not his words, Democrats do not trust Mr. Crosier as a true Democrat. Once again in 2005, he is opposing the Democrats' candidate for Berne town supervisor.

It is hypocritical to complain about treatment by the Democrats when Mr. Crosier continually seeks and accepts Republican endorsement. He should be honest with the voters and change his party affiliation.

In this small town, we all have friends and neighbors of different political party preference; what we don't trust is someone who says he is one thing while he practices the opposite.

**Roy Lamberton**  
President, Berne Democrat Social Club

# Black-leather instead of black-tie fund-raiser

To the Editor:

The rolling thunder some residents of the Hilltowns hear this Sunday may not be from the weather. Owners of Harley-Davidson motorcycles and other bikes will be participating in a benefit motorcycle ride that will wind through Voorheesville, Westerlo, and Knox.

The ride, sponsored by the Albany/Schenectady Harley Owners Group, is called HOGs for Hospice. The money raised will benefit The Community Hospice of Albany County, which helps provide comfort and care to patients and families dealing with terminal illnesses.

The bikers will leave Colonie starting at 9 a.m. and their scenic ride route has most of them passing through southern Albany County mid to late morning. Residents of the Hilltowns are unlikely to encounter all the bikers at once, however, since they'll be leaving in small groups over the course of two hours.

Among those being remembered, Sunday will be Angie

Shufelt, a Community Hospice nurse who, after winning considerable praise for her work with Hospice patients, was diagnosed with kidney cancer in October of 2002 and became a Hospice patient herself. She died the following year, before she was able to realize her goal of becoming a fully-licensed motorcycle operator.

"She had just purchased her own bike the year she was diagnosed and she was just learning to ride," says her husband, Pete. "She loved the motorcycle and she loved the work she did for Community Hospice. I wouldn't miss this for the world because I have such respect for Hospice because of what I saw her do to help others and then what I saw Hospice do to help her."

Pete will be remembering his late wife, but all bikers are being invited to ride in memory of a loved one who died and ribbons will be handed out prior to the ride on which they can write the names of their deceased friends and family members.

"Everyone's lost someone they've loved, and this is a great opportunity to remember them," said Sue Emanuele, a bereavement specialist with Community Hospice, who was a close friend of Angie and who figured instead of a "black tie" fund-raiser for Hospice it was time for a "black leather" fund-raiser involving bikers.

Registration for Sunday's ride will be between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. at Spitzie's Motorcycle Center at 1970 Central Ave. in Colonie, with bikers leaving once they've registered. The donation is \$15, with the cost of a professional photograph by Dino Petrocelli optional. Petrocelli has done photo shoots for Orange County Choppers and his work has appeared in national motorcycle magazines.

For more information, contact Tom Harper at 294-9994, ext. 104 or Linda Carrangi at 285-8166.

**Rob Puglisi**  
Manager of Communications  
The Community Hospice

# Back In Time...

1906 99 Years Ago 2005

Altamont Enterprise, Aug. 24, 1906

**Guilderland:** On the afternoon of the 21st inst., the barn on Judge Wm. Veeder's farm, about one mile from this village, was struck by lightning and the barn, wagonhouse, sheepshed and several other buildings, together with the crop of hay and grain, were burned to the ground. The property was covered by insurance in a New York company.

**Notice to Correspondents:** On account of the Albany County Fair to be held in Altamont the coming week, we suggest that all communications for the paper be sent in as early as possible to insure insertion, also to enable the editors and employees of the office to spend a portion of the week on the fair grounds

**Albany Co. Fair:** Less than a week to the opening of the Albany County Fair at Altamont and every effort is being made in preparation for the event.

A large list of entries has been received from the leading breeders of horses, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry, as well as from growers of fruit, farm, and garden produce, also in wagons, farm implements, domestic art and culinary, and educational departments, giving promise of a good showing, while the racing and special attractions will doubtless be of a high order, were we to judge from the number of horses entered, the stables represented, and the reputation of the parties furnishing the attractions. While every effort has been made to secure that which will educate, interest and amuse, the management will not allow any immoral or lewd exhibition, gambling or games of chance, making it a safe and proper place to bring your family.

Music by Gartland's Tenth Regiment and Collins' Albany City Bands.

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"We seek the truth and print it"



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