

## Bee Editorial

# Take the summer to decide which candidates will fall

**E**lection season is right around the corner, and several candidates are beginning to throw their respective hats in the ring for a number of positions that are on the Nov. 6 ballot.

We at The Amherst Bee have been receiving an influx of e-mails, press releases and phone calls from campaign managers and the candidates themselves requesting “space” and “time” for their messages to be heard.

And while we too find it a little crazy deciphering some of these messages and the “new ideas” contained therein, we know it’s time to get serious and find out who’s who in the political polls for 2007.

Just this past week, the Democrats vying to be president gathered together for a YouTube conference, where citizens e-mailed “real” questions, such as would the candidates work for minimum wage.

For an average citizen, there are several ways to “get out” there and meet the candidates. First, take advantage of all your media resources, especially the Internet. Many of these candidates have taken to the Web, creating their own pages where they regularly list appearances and speeches. This is an opportunity for you, the voter, to meet and greet these candidates.

Of course, we are not suggesting anything along the lines of stalking a candidate, but if you have serious concerns and questions, then why not go directly to the source who is claiming he or she is in the race to make your life better.

Secondly, attend all the meetings you can that involve these candidates. This way you can get a taste of how they interact in a position of authority, if they already hold one. What is the decision-making method? Does the candidate

take a general interest in public concerns? These are questions you need to ask about those running for office — people who want to more or less run your life in a political sense.

It may be surprising to some residents, but most endorsements have already been made and fundraising events taken place. Meanwhile, campaigning is under way at every festival in the candidates’ jurisdiction.

This year is shaping up to have all the major players: the incumbent, the “nonpolitician” and the professional business candidate. Each come with a different perspective. Which one best represents your needs?

If the statement, “No better time than the present” ever held true, it’s in politics. If you are one of many who think summer is flying by, just wait for the fall when primaries are held, campaign signs decorate the town and debates are held. It’ll be Nov. 6 before you know it.

## Spindle items



**JESSICA FINCH**

Associate Editor

• **I DO** — Some of you may remember when I wrote about my upcoming “wedding season” of eight ceremonies. This weekend I reached the halfway point.

After a bridal shower in Syracuse for my best friend, Sara, I drove with two friends to Alexandria Bay for the wedding of Brian Davis and Cassie Radley. Davis is the Amherst varsity baseball coach and teacher at Windermere Boulevard Elementary.

It was a perfect day for an outdoor ceremony along the St. Lawrence River.

The two were picture perfect with the sun and water as a beautiful backdrop.

Next on the list — Cheektowaga Bee Editor Keaton DePriest, also an Amherst resident. He will say I do on Aug. 4 with fiancée Caitlin Briggs.

• **PAY IT FORWARD** — It was a special treat when my parents would give me money for candy at the EMW sports park in Elma. I was always nervous about having enough for my item of choice. I would count and recount as I waited in line. I remember one time being short but was bailed out by a nearby patron. A few weeks ago I stood behind a young boy in his baseball uniform waiting in line at a convenience store with a bottle of Gatorade. When it was his turn the clerk told him he didn’t have enough money. He said he thought it was \$1.50 but learned that was the price for each when buying two. Without hesitation I pulled out a dollar and handed it to him. He thanked me. I knew he needed the sports

drink on such a hot day. My memory flashed back to the times I was in his shoes. I just hope that one day he will do the same for a young person who forgot about the tax or just happened to come up a bit short.

by **ELIZABETH TAUFU**  
Reporter

• **A TUNE FORGOTTEN** — A while back I interviewed Amherst Symphony Orchestra trombonist Neil Stillman for our Someone You Should Know column. While setting up the interview, I could sense his hesitation to discuss matters of his history in music with me, seeing as I am 68 years his junior. Little did he know, I had an edge. I started playing the trombone at age 9 and played almost every day until my second year of college. I spent one year as a music performance major, but I eventually burned out and forgot why I had started to play in the first place. I turned to English, graduated

and started working in journalism.

While interviewing Mr. Stillman the subject of my musical past came up and his enthusiasm for the interview grew. He offered me a spot in a trombone quartet that meets weekly. After a few months, we finally nailed down a time that would work.

With my first rehearsal set, I broke out my trombone, which had been sitting in its case for two years (much to my mother’s chagrin, because it cost, as she puts it, more than a small car) and began practicing and was amazed at how much physical pain I was in. Five days later, I found myself on the familiar side of a music stand having a better time playing music than I had had in years.

While my childhood dreams of orchestral glory are no longer in the forefront of my mind, it was refreshing to remember how playing music used to make me feel before I considered it work or an unwanted burden in my life. I look forward to holding on to that.

## Out of the Past

### 125 Years Ago July 27, 1882

The State of Iowa recently adopted a constitutional amendment that prohibits forever within its borders the manufacture or sale of intoxicating drinks, including beer and wine.

Mr. Detmer Wehrle’s building, which is nearly completed, is a handsome edifice and a decided ornament to Main Street. It rather throws some of our old-fashioned buildings into the background.

Tuesday, as workmen were breaking stone in the creek for the new bridge, a chip took Mino Minar under the eye, causing a painful wound.

It is with pleasure that we direct attention to the conspicuous advertisement of J. Eshelman & Co., Clarence Centre, feeling satisfied that our readers will benefit from carefully reading same. They deal in first class goods of every particular, including the most popular brands of fertilizers, guano, agricultural salt and selected lump coal for threshers.

Last Saturday, a part of our young men went to Pendleton on a fishing excursion. They returned home with quite a load.

A local base-ball club is being talked about.

“A local newspaper reported that corn was in the *status quo*. An old farmer, after reading the item, rushed out to the field to see what new kind of bug was attacking his crop.”

“In England, a drunkard walked up to a grenadier, grabbed him by the belt and said, ‘I likewise am a soldier — a soldier of heaven.’ Replied the grenadier, ‘You’re quite a long way

from your barracks.”

### 100 Years Ago July 25, 1907

Mr. and Mrs. F.H. Dirstine entertained the Mejah Pedro Club at a moonlight pedro party.

St. Mary’s Church at Swornville will hold its eighth annual picnic on August 20.

### 75 Years Ago July 28, 1932

Old Home Day, which for a score of years and ten has been a part of our community life, has the 1932 celebration this coming Saturday.

Business places are warned to be on the alert for counterfeiters. Early Tuesday morning, a man pulled into the Texaco service station at Main and Kensington for the purchase of gasoline. After the tank was filled, the man handed the attendant a five dollar bill for payment. The discovery that the bill was counterfeit was not made until some time later.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Horey were in Cleveland for the week-end. Mr. Milton Mugler left Monday on a business trip to Baltimore.

Mrs. Anna Marion Dehlinger, wife of the late Joseph Dehlinger, entered into rest at her home at 500 Mill Street on Wednesday, July 27, 1932.

**Bee Editorial:** “A good community hobby is the fire department. The fire department is worth any citizen’s time. It should be cultivated, trained and equipped in accordance with the highest standards.”

### 50 Years Ago July 25, 1957

The Town Board voted Thursday to rescind its motion to support the Erie County Planning Board’s designs for the Powerline Expressway. Instead, they selected new plans for the proposed interchanges at Main Street, Niagara Falls Boulevard and Millersport Highway from 17 diagrams.

Nancy Marchand, who is earning quite a name for herself in television, movies and the theatre, is spending the summer with her parents at their home in Eggertsville.

Elmer R. Kreher, of Snyder, died on Sunday, July 21, 1957. He was founder and general manager of the E.R. Kreher & Son Corp., which operates the candy concession at Sattler’s Department Store.

### 25 Years Ago July 21, 1982

The University at Buffalo Police Department is offering a \$100 reward for information leading to the recovery of a typewriter, movie projector and film strip viewer stolen July 11 from the Newman Center on Frontier Road.

Stanley F. Zerkowski, a seminarian from St. Pius X Church in Getzville, had the opportunity to meet Pope John Paul II during a Mass at the Vatican.

The long struggle to move an historic 1812 log and mortar building from Maple Road near Miller-sport Highway ended Monday when the town board voted to have it demolished and buried.