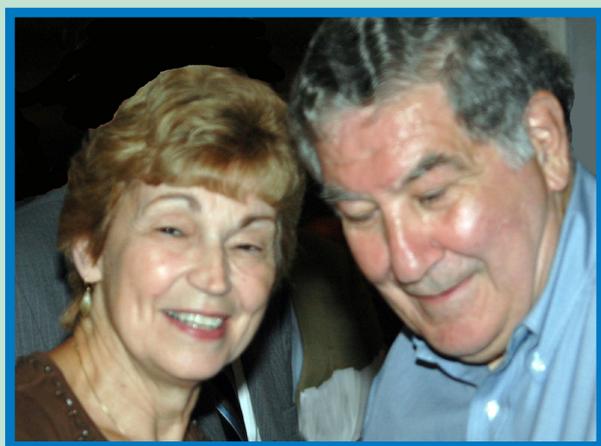




Capitol Report

From New Hampshire Senator Lou D'Allesandro • Fall 2009

Make this a happy holiday by sharing



Pat and Lou D'Allesandro at the Senator's birthday party in July

Now is the time of year to stop and give thanks — and to think of those among us who are struggling. Economic difficulties have touched the lives of everyone I know. Many people have lost jobs, homes and chunks of retirement savings. Many who haven't lost their jobs or homes fear they may soon.

Food banks and homeless shelters are experiencing unmatched demands for their services this year at the same time their donations are slipping.

My wife, Pat, and I are very, very lucky. We have a beautiful, healthy family and a safe, comfortable home. We give thanks this season for our many blessings.

I challenge all of us this holiday season to share our blessings with someone less fortunate. Even though times are tighter for everyone, let's all dig a bit deeper to help someone else.. Share a portion of what you have — be it money, food or time volunteering — to make sure this is a happy holiday for all of us. ★

Stimulate economy, create new jobs with private capital

Economic recovery is moving slowly in New Hampshire with very few new jobs being created. During the last legislative session, I sponsored SB179, which called for economic recovery and job creation through the limited expansion of gaming.

The bill was laid on the table. However, the subject matter was

included in the Senate-passed budget but was not accepted in the committee of conference. This concept must be brought back in a timely matter, as the economy needs a shot in the arm.

Private funds would be invested at sites identified in the bill and would create jobs. Three-quarters

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Do you have a comment?

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D'Allesandro continues fight for working families

The record of legislation introduced by Sen. Lou D'Allesandro and passed into law this year once again reinforces the widely held view at the State House that no one is more vigorous in protecting the interests of working families.

D'Allesandro again stood up for the families of firefighters and police officers killed in the line of duty with new benefits to assist their children in completing their education. This year, D'Allesandro authored a new law to provide scholarships for college room and board for the children of those killed in the line of duty, a companion to a previous law he authored providing free tuition to those children.

And for state employees who die in the line of duty, D'Allesandro also wrote a new law protecting the interests of a surviving spouse to retirement benefits.

D'Allesandro supported a new law to provide greater protection and warning to workers who face layoffs or termination when a plant shuts down temporarily or permanently.

He also wrote new laws expanding health insurance coverage for children and increasing the number of people who can qualify for less expensive group insurance instead of having to pay significantly higher premiums for individual coverage. ★

Help

Continued from page 1

of a billion dollars in construction activity would take place. The state would receive tax revenue in the form of business profits tax, business enterprise tax, rooms and meals taxes, and the local municipality would receive an increase in real estate taxes. This, in turn, would reduce local and county property taxes, thus providing property tax relief for all.

Over 1,000 new jobs would be created. These would be good-paying jobs at a time when job creation is at a standstill. The private capital that would be invested in these facilities is a key ingredient that truly provides economic recovery for New Hampshire.

The bill that was left on the table called for a local acceptance vote, state supervision and provided the opportunity to restore a strong horse racing program in New Hampshire.

In an effort to ensure the safety and security of our citizens, a number of safeguards were built into the bill. These include a thorough investigation by the attorney general's office of any applicant, who would pay in full for that investigation.

Why are we missing out on this opportunity for private investment that would create recovery

for our state? Why aren't the people of New Hampshire being heard? As we know, poll after poll indicates that a majority of the population supports expanded gaming as a new revenue source.

We are not a referendum state, and, as a result, the only way the people can be heard is through the legislative process. On a number of occasions people in Salem, Seabrook and Belmont have approved non-binding referendums that support the expansion of gaming in their communities.

With unemployment at its highest level in years, the opportunity to create new jobs has been supported at the local level, but the Legislature is not hearing their voices. January presents another opportunity to bring this plan forward, hopefully with a positive result.

In 1963, then-Governor John King signed the lottery bill, which reinstated the first lottery since the 19th century. Protests abounded, yet today we have seen the positive results of this action.

New Hampshire has proven that it can do things well. Given the opportunity, expanded gaming will provide new jobs, increase revenue for the state, provide property tax relief at the local and county level, and encourage private investment that will play a role in stimulating our economy. ★

NH higher education group honors D'Allesandro

The New Hampshire College and University Council has honored state Sen. Lou D'Allesandro with its New Hampshire Higher Education Partnership Award.

D'Allesandro, a former president of Daniel Webster College and chairman of the New England Board of Higher Education, was honored on the same night as his friend and mentor, former N.H. Gov. Walter Peterson. Peterson was awarded the New Hampshire Friend of Higher Education Award.

"It's a good thing to be thought of in a

positive light by your peers," said D'Allesandro, who represents District 20 in the New Hampshire Senate, where he has been an outspoken advocate of higher education as the key to providing economic opportunity for all. "To be honored with Walter Peterson, who's just a wonderful human being, honors me more than I deserve."

"It's a great opportunity for higher education — public and private — to celebrate the leadership of two public servants," said Thomas Horgan, president and CEO of the New Hampshire College and University Council. ★

From left, N.H. Sens. John Gallus, Bob Letourneau, Maggie Hassan, Kathy Sgambati, Harold Janeway and Lou D'Allesandro visit the Northern Correctional Facility to view the site as part of a plan to reorganize the Corrections Department.



Domestic Violence Unit opens in new space

The Hillsborough County Domestic Violence Unit is now operating out of newly renovated space within the Manchester District Court, thanks to the efforts of Sen. Lou D'Allesandro.

D'Allesandro was the prime sponsor of a bill to allow the Domestic Violence Unit to set up shop in the District Court rent free, which enabled it to put its scarce resources to work on its mission, instead of administrative costs.

"This move would not have happened without your involvement, input and dedication to ensuring that the voice of the Domestic Violence Unit was heard throughout the halls of state government," Hillsborough County Attorney Marguerite Wageling told D'Allesandro in a letter advising that the new office was now up and running. ★

Honorary degree awarded

Sen. Lou D'Allesandro was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters by Franklin Pierce University as part of its commencement exercises this year.

A former Daniel Webster College president and chairman of the New England Board of Higher Education, D'Allesandro now serves as an adjunct professor at St. Anselm College in the Institute of Politics.

In the Senate, D'Allesandro is recognized as an outspoken advocate of higher education and has consistently introduced legislation to expand college access. ★

It's back to school for Lou! Sen. D'Allesandro is again continuing his tradition of visiting every school in his district, as he has each year since he was elected to the New Hampshire Senate in 1998. D'Allesandro is a college professor and former college president who has been a longtime advocate of education. ★



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Water line extended to Lynchville, Danis Park

An assured clean water supply and improved fire protection will be enjoyed by 231 families living along the Piscataquog River, thanks to the federal stimulus package and the Manchester Water Works board, presided over by Sen. Lou D’Allesandro.

The \$2.5 million project, currently under construction, will extend the municipal water line to the Lynchville/Danis park neighborhoods, which had previously relied on private wells. Frequent flooding often made many of those private wells unusable and created environmental problems because it caused failure of septic systems in the Goffstown neighborhood.

Part of this area of Goffstown has long been served by the Manchester Water Works. This project will extend the main, which currently dead-

ends on Danis Park Road, down the rest of that road and reach Dumont Park Road, Chatel Avenue and another main that dead-ends on Lynchville Park Road. Mains will also be extended off this new loop to serve Hamblin, Chip, Ambrose, Bay and Cove streets and Sunny and Russell Avenues.

Federal stimulus money along with a bond issue from the Town of Goffstown provided the financing for this project.

“This is another example of how the President’s stimulus package is making a real difference in people’s lives,” said D’Allesandro, who is president of the Water Works Board of Commissioners and also represents the Lynchville and Danis Park neighborhoods in the N.H. Senate. ★

Need help? Call **211** to get connected and get answers. The TYY number for hearing impaired is 3-634-3388. This free and confidential statewide assistance service program can provide help with housing, food, fuel, medicine or some other critical need this winter. ★