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—Contributor.....David Schoales
—Contributor email.....schoalesd@gmail.com
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—Format.....Opinions - Letters to the Editor - Special
—Dateline.....
—Article Number:.....43897

Notes from editor (not for publication):

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

####BEGIN HED####

Janoo: Response to BMH crisis highlights her vision

####END HED####

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TEXT BODY:

####BEGIN TEXT####

Within a day of learning that over 150 people marched in our July 4 parade to protest the plan to close the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital Birthing Center, Amanda Janoo wrote a deeply personal and sharply political response that clearly demonstrates she is head and shoulders above all the other candidates for governor.

10 Her first comment was that a dear friend had just given
11 birth, and that birth coinciding with the BMH parade story led
12 her to question why maternity care is so undervalued.

13 “Every single one of us entered into this world because
14 someone gave birth with the support of a midwife, nurse or
15 doctor,” she wrote, yet Springfield and Morrisville lost their
16 birthing centers in the past year, and Brattleboro’s is on the
17 chopping block.

18 She knows these centers are not affordable because
19 investors take a cut out of every healthcare dollar: “We’ve built a
20 healthcare system that rewards what’s profitable, not what’s most
21 essential,” she wrote.

22 Our system, she continued, “incentivizes procedures that
23 can be billed, measured, and completed in a few hours[...] more
24 than the work of caring for people over time. [...] We have built a
25 healthcare system that rewards treating illness more than
26 supporting life.”

27 Amanda Janoo wants Vermont families to get the
28 preventive and primary care they need. She will build a free,
29 universal primary and preventive healthcare structure to
30 responsibly transition our system and prove that universal care
31 can save money and improve outcomes.

32 Bringing small-town doctors, nurses, and mental health
33 providers back to our communities will allow everyone to access
34 free healthcare locally. This isn’t a pie in the sky idea. It is
35 inspired by towns across Vermont, like Thetford, Tunbridge, and
36 Strafford, hiring their own town nurses to address many primary
37 care needs. Hartford, Putney, and Windsor are in the process.

38 Amanda Janoo has a deep background in economics and
39 community development. She will provide the leadership needed
40 to remove the current insurance and fee-for-service structure that
41 drives up costs, while paying primary-care providers a good
42 annual salary.

43 Gov. Phil Scott vetoed reference-based pricing for school
44 workers, one of the few policies that would have tackled our

45 affordability crisis. Aly Richards supports hospital transformation.
46 She speaks about universal primary care but says “other steps
47 need to be taken first.”

48 These are candidates who strive to do a better job only
49 by managing a failing system. Amanda Janoo will change the
50 system to give Vermonters the effective, efficient services we
51 need. This is why the Vermont State Employees’ Association
52 union endorsed her. This is why there is so much enthusiasm at
53 her rallies and forums.

54 And this is why she is the right person at the right time
55 for Vermont.

####END TEXT####

BIO/COATTAIL:

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LAST ISSUE IN WHICH THIS FILE CAN BE RUN:

####BEGIN MAXISSUE####

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LINKS:

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VIDEO:

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LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

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