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Notes from editor (not for publication):

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

####BEGIN HED####

We can do better than managing our decline

####END HED####

####BEGIN SUBHED####

We need a governor with the vision to cut through the
system, fundamentally change our priorities, and put the people
first. Amanda Janoo is the right person at the right time.

####END SUBHED####

TEXT BODY:

####BEGIN TEXT####

IT IS TIME to bring the imperial governorship of Phil Scott
to an end.

As his tenure has increased, he has warmed to the
Trumpian style of governance: preferring rule by executive orders
over collaboration with the Legislature, ignoring the
constitutional advise-and-consent role of the Senate, telling

12 Vermont towns that support their school budgets that they don't
13 understand the ramifications of their votes and holding the state
14 budget as hostage when the Legislature doesn't do what he
15 wants, to name a few examples.

16 His constant browbeating of the Legislature — he seems
17 to forget that they represent those of us who voted them into
18 office — has been effective. He has successfully pushed his
19 framing of issues and election outcomes into the forefront of
20 discussion as the Democrats struggle to hold onto their
21 convictions.

22 Over and over, centrist Dems roll over on command and
23 come up wagging their tails, but instead of a pat on the head they
24 get a kick in the ribs as he belittles their competency and
25 demands his way or the highway.

26 We don't need Democrat appeasement, moving to the
27 muddled middle making small tweaks to a failing system while
28 staunchly maintaining the validity of that system which ignores
29 the actual needs and interests of Vermonters in order to keep the
30 ball rolling for big business and the moneyed class.

31 We need a governor with the vision to cut through the
32 system, fundamentally change our priorities, and put the people
33 first.

34 * * *

35 AMANDA JANOO is the right person at the right time. She
36 recognizes that the governor's job is not "to manage decline," as
37 she puts it, but to rethink how we can actually generate housing
38 for all, healthcare for all, and equity in our tax system.

39 The governor has shown nothing but contempt for our
40 schools and our teachers. He is hell-bent on imposing a centrally
41 controlled education system that eviscerates local control and
42 makes the state the lone arbiter of how every town runs its
43 schools.

44 Amanda knows that not only will the massive school
45 consolidation underway not save money, it will take away

46 educational and community enrichment opportunities that small
47 local schools afford to their communities.

48 She understands the value of local control and
49 recognizes that Vermonters have the intelligence and
50 commitment to decide how their children deserve to be
51 educated. She knows that one of the biggest cost drivers to our
52 schools is the lack of universal health care and the ever-
53 increasing insurance costs to districts.

54 Governor Veto rejected a legislative tweak that would
55 have partially addressed the insurance elephant in the room.
56 Then he proposed his own tweak.

57 Amanda has a plan for universal primary and
58 preventative health care for all Vermonters. If you visit her
59 [website](#), you will see that this is more than just a grand
60 aspiration; she has clearly spelled out, for this and most all of her
61 platform proposals, what her proposal does, how it works, how
62 it's funded, and the overall view of why it is a good idea.

63 She also has detailed plans about homes for Vermonters,
64 keeping wealth in Vermont (rather than watching profits and
65 dollars drain out to corporate and out-of-state owners), building a
66 strong economy for our future, and revitalizing democracy.

67 Her plan for building a vital economy through a green
68 industrial policy is a stark contrast from Scott's determination to
69 keep the state open for corporate pillage.

70 At the end of the last legislative session, an
71 overwhelming bipartisan vote called for a moratorium on
72 building any data centers in Vermont until we can fully
73 understand the true costs of electric and water usage, as well as
74 the full environmental and human impact that such a giant center
75 would bring to the state.

76 True to form, Scott vetoed the bill, and now big tech is
77 eyeing the former site of the Vermont Yankee power plant in
78 Vernon as a potential site for a data center. If they move quickly,
79 they may be able to secure the location before we can begin to
80 understand the ramifications of the project.

81 The governor stayed true to the moneyed interests, while
82 ignoring ours.

83 * * *

84 AMANDA JANOO is an economist, a person with a wide-
85 ranging resume of jobs that have given her a good grounding for
86 running a state, building coalitions, and keeping track of how to
87 pay for what we build.

88 She is the the candidate that we have been waiting for,
89 and now we have a chance to put her into action.

####END TEXT####

BIO/COATTAIL:

####BEGIN BIO/COATTAIL####

90 **DAN DEWALT**, a frequent contributor to these pages and
91 one of the founders of this newspaper, writes that if he didn't love
92 his country, he "wouldn't spend so much time trying to get it to
93 live up to its purported principles."

####END BIO/COATTAIL####

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####END MAXISSUE####

LINKS:

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95

####END LINKS####

VIDEO:

####BEGIN VIDEO####

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####END VIDEO####

LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

###BEGIN LOGLINE###

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###END LOGLINE###