

The Hollis Democrats Mission is to work for good government in our town, state and country through voter education and activism. Our newsletter seeks to educate, inform and provide ways to participate in activities that improve our community.

May 2017

Hollis Democrats

HOLLIS, NEW HAMPSHIRE

- *Aware & Active* -

April's Protest, Progress, and Pasta Meeting

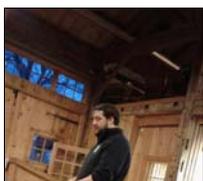
The Hollis Democratic Town Committee held their monthly meeting April, 25th at the Lawrence Barn in Hollis NH. The meeting began with sharing a delicious pasta dinner compliments of Lucia's Tavola. Thank you Chef Mark and thank you to all who donated to our "Dollars for Democrats" box.



After a short business meeting the program "Protest and Progress" began with Anne diCicco introducing the speakers.

Laura Lynch who fought against the Kinder Morgan Pipeline and most recently was a lead opposing voice in the Concord Steam Plant Conversion told her personal story of being unfairly targeted by a fossil fuel company and how their planned infrastructure would affect her health and way of life. She urged everyone to find their voice and speak out, she also invited all to attend the "People's Climate Rally" in Concord on April 29th.

The rally was a huge success with both Senators Shaheen and Hassen speaking eloquently about the need to protect our environment. [More pictures from "People's Climate Rally" can be found here](#) and [more on the work Laura is doing can be found here.](#)



Dan Westervelt of Toxics Action shared his story and his path into community organizing, Dan

Up Next: May 29th Meeting Taco Tuesday!



Turning protest and progress into power, and winning elections will be the topic at our next meeting, **Tuesday, May 29th**. Taco Tuesday starts at **6:30PM** at the Lawrence Barn.

Taco Bar compliments of Tipo Tacos, donations accepted in our "Dollars for Democrats" box. Checks payable to Hollis Democratic Town Committee.

Bring a friend!

Judy's Soapbox



Unfortunately I was not able to attend the April meeting (and won't be at the May

was an integral part of the Bernie Sanders NH campaign as well as the Marchand for Governor campaign, both candidates who championed environmental rights and clean energy technology. Dan naturally gravitated to the work being done by Toxics Action, as much of it is done on the local level, in small towns and communities.

Dan spoke in detail about the work Toxics Action is doing here in NH and how their group is a great resource for towns and communities who find themselves fighting against man made pollutants in our air, water and ecosystems.

Toxics Action Center's mission is to work side-by-side with communities, providing you the skills and resources needed to prevent or clean up pollution at the local level.

Since 1987, Toxics Action has organized over 750 communities across New England to put together plans and strategies to effectively solve the problems they face. Training neighbors not only to defend their health and safety, but to think strategically and come together for proactive, positive change. In our 29 year history, we have helped win hundreds of campaigns to protect the health of citizens and neighborhoods across the region.

Toxics Action organized community leaders from Hollis and across NH in the fight against the Kinder Morgan NED pipeline. With their help these community leaders gathered over 10k signatures petitioning then Governor Maggie Hassan to intervene on behalf of the rights of the citizens of New Hampshire.

[More about the work Toxics Action is currently involved is available here.](#)



John Gage finished the evening by sharing his personal story about how his love of science led him to the conclusion that the damage fossil fuels are doing to our people and planet is not sustainable and should not be tolerable. John was compelled to move outside of

his comfort zone and become a very active member of The Citizens' Climate Lobby.

Citizens' Climate Lobby is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change.

John writes in the update he prepared for our

meeting), but I've heard a lot of great things about the evening, and I would like to give a shout out to Anne diCicco for organizing such a wonderful event. Thanks, Anne!

While I've spent many an hour this past month shouting at CNN on my TV, I want to focus for a few moments on some of the good things that have happened recently. While we still have so much still to accomplish, this is energizing... this is hope!

NH Democratic Party Chair Issues Statement on Full-Day Kindergarten Vote

"Governor Sununu was pushed to support fully funded full-day kindergarten on the campaign trail and broke that promise with his budget proposal and appointment of Frank Edelblut as Education Commissioner. Today, Democrats held him accountable for his broken promise by finally providing every child in the state full-day kindergarten instead of ceding to his half-baked budget proposal. Democrats carried the bill across the finish line in the House, with every single Democratic House member voting for the legislation while a majority of Republican members voted against it. Sununu's inability to lead almost cost us full-day kindergarten. Today was another example of why we need Democrats in the State House." - NH Democratic Party Chair, Ray Buckley

NH House Votes to Strengthen Rape Shield Law

On May 4th, the NH House of Representatives voted 328-30 to pass [SB-9](#), which strengthens the Rape Shield Law, ensuring that rape shield protections include the victim's past, thoughts or expressions related to sexual issues, and use of contraceptives, and that these protections apply

group.

“There has been a noticeable increase in climate-related activism since the November election. One of the national organizations that has benefited from that is Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL). Last year a CCL chapter was formed to cover Southern-Central New Hampshire, and it has grown from 12 to 200 citizens since November! This year a fourth NH chapter has been created for the Seacoast region. Nationally, CCL membership has more than doubled to over 60,000 in less than a year.”

[The full update is available here.](#)

Support Democratic Candidates in Upcoming Special Election

With crucial pieces of legislation still up for a vote this session and the future of Medicaid Expansion on the line in 2018, every vote in the State House matters.

In just a few weeks voters will head to the polls in Carroll District 6 and Hillsborough District 44 for two House special elections. ***New Hampshire can be the first state in the country to flip a seat from red to blue!***

Together, we can set the tone for the 2018 midterms and send a message to President Trump and Governor Sununu.

[If you can, please help us by contributing \\$25, \\$50, \\$100 or whatever you can afford towards our efforts to win these seats. If you would like to volunteer for canvassing or phone banking, please contact Nick Taylor at \[ntaylor@nhdp.org\]\(mailto:ntaylor@nhdp.org\).](#)

Save the Date!

throughout the entire criminal justice process.

“Today’s vote to strengthen New Hampshire’s Rape Shield Law is critically important for victims of sexual violence. Only 16% of rapes are currently reported to police, largely because victims fear retaliation and the public scrutiny they would endure by coming forward. Ensuring that victims’ privacy rights are protected will allow people to come forward and seek justice without fear of their private life being broadcast to the world.” - House Democratic Leader Steve Shurtleff (D-Penacook)

Some Good News from the 2017 Appropriations Bill

While this only takes us through the end of fiscal year 2017, the US House approved a \$2 billion increase for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and a 1.9% increase for NASA. It also saved funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the National Endowment for the Arts.



NH Progressive Summit: Saturday, June 17, 2017 Manchester Community

Granite State progressives proudly stand together to advance the American values of equal opportunity, mutual responsibility, effective government, and the hope for a stronger, better

Tuesday, June 27th



Steve Marchand, Democratic candidate for NH Governor in 2018, will be coming to Hollis to speak with us at our June meeting, so block off **Tuesday, June 27th** on your calendar now!

Upcoming Events

- Kat McGhee will be hosting a meet and greet at her home on Hayden Road on **Friday, June 23rd**, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. **Steve Marchand**, Democratic candidate for NH Governor in 2018 will be there. For more info, please contact Kat at 603-465-2033.
- NH March Against Monsanto, **Saturday, May 20th**, 11am to 2pm at City Plaza in Concord. [Click here](#) for more info.
- Healthcare and Human Rights Rally, **Monday, June 5th**, 5:30pm to 7pm at the NH State House in Concord. [Click here](#) for more info.

future for all of us. This annual event provides space for new and veteran activists to come together and be inspired by one another as we collectively learn, train, strategize, and mobilize for the issue and electoral challenges and opportunities we face together.

Last year's NH Progressive Summit theme was "Standing on the Brink." This year's theme is "Embracing the New Wave." We have a lot of work ahead of us. We are working to beat back the attacks on our health care. We are fighting for equal rights for immigrants and the LGBTQ community. We are demanding the clean air and water we all deserve. We are seeking a new, local, and inclusive economy. We are preparing to take back our elections. Across the country and our state, people are awake and ready to engage. As we fight for all the values we hold dear, new leaders are emerging and old tactics are being updated. It's a time of transition in the progressive community and a time to act. Will you be a part of building the New Wave?

Whether it's advancing legislation at the state and federal level, guarding against conservative rhetoric, or challenging corporate political corruption of our legislative and electoral process – the 2017 NH Progressive Summit will be an exciting, action-packed day to come together as we shape a bold, new progressive future.

[Register now!](#)

Copyright © 2017 Hollis Democrats, All rights reserved.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Newsletter Design by [Acme New Media Solutions](#)

MailChimp