

THE RANDOLPH REVIEW

October 2017

Town of Randolph, Maine
121 Kinderhook Street 04346
207/582-5808

e-mail: townofrandolph@roadrunner.com

www.randolphmaine.org

Selectmen:

Mark Roberts
Bob Henderson
Matthew Drost

Editor:

Peter M. Coughlan

Vote on Tuesday, November 7

The polls at the Town Office will be open from 8 AM to 8 PM. There are 4 state ballot questions along with local elections. There is **one position for Selectman and four positions for Budget Committee**. Details are on the website.

For the Budget Committee, 4 positions are currently open but only one of those current members took out nomination papers. **Pete Oakes** took out papers and his name is officially printed on this ballot. He has been on the Budget Committee since 1989 (except when Mr. Oakes was a selectman). The three remaining positions must be filled with write-in votes.

Pete Coughlan is interested in continuing his time on the Committee. He has been a member since 1989 and is running as a write in candidate.

Julie Gallup is also interested in getting your write in vote. As a newcomer, she is a graduate of the Gardiner School system, and a graduate of USM with a Bachelors in Accounting. She is a Boys and Girls Club Alum, specifically a local and State Club Kid of the Year recipient, and proud continued supporter of their mission. She currently holds a position with the Maine Revenue Service.

In order to vote for a write-in candidate, one must write that person's name on the blank line AND put a checkmark in the adjacent box. Otherwise, the vote will not count.

For Selectman, one candidate returned his nomination papers for this one position --- current Selectman **Matthew Drost**. Matt has been a Selectman for the past two years and served for a year on the budget committee prior to that. Matt graduated from Gardiner High School and recently earned a Bachelors in Marketing and Business Administration from the University of Southern Maine. Matt currently works at Avesta Housing, a Portland area non-profit organization that provides housing to low income seniors and families.

Retail Marijuana in Randolph

If you weren't aware of this already, the voters at the July Town Meeting voted almost unanimously to prohibit all forms of retail marijuana operations. This includes the cultivation, packaging, testing, and retail sales of it along with any social clubs.

Annual Craft Fair

The 23rd Annual Craft Fair sponsored by the Randolph United Methodist Church will be held on Saturday, November 11 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Laura Richards Elementary School on Brunswick Avenue in Gardiner. There will be 50 craft tables plus hot dogs sandwiches, pies and a cookie walk.
FMI 582-3128

Richard Harriman.....town historian

Even if you're only slightly interested in town history, you ought to check out some new collections.

Dick Harriman has spent countless hours over countless years assembling a HUGE collection of Randolph history. He has recently brought most of his 3 ring binders into the Town Office and they are available for anyone to look over. Categories include people, places, buildings, government, schools, the River, and many more.

So next time you're in the Town Office or nearby, stop in and check these out. If anything, you'll be fascinated with some of the old photos !!

A big THANK YOU to Richard !!!

New "building permit" policy

A building permit is required for the erection, alteration, rebuilding, enlargement, or relocation of any building in Town. As of August, the Code Enforcement Officer (or designee) will not issue any permits unless the applicant has submitted:

- all appropriate documents required for issuance of a building permit per "Land Use and Development Ordinance, sec. 3-2.A. 2", and
- proof of payment for a) paying the building permit fee and b) confirmation from the Town of Randolph Tax Collector (or designee) that all real property, personal property and sewer taxes are paid up to date.

Tax commitment Books now online

Since September, these books are now on the town website and list all properties in towns. There is a breakdown of property and building values and the assessed taxes. It is sorted alphabetically by owner's last name, or, by tax map & lot number.

This public information is especially useful to potential home buyers and sellers and realtors. It also saves our Town Office staff many hours from providing this information over the phone and faxing it.

TC Hamlin school - to close or not to close..... again??

A small task force including approximately a dozen school board members, district employees, TC Hamlin parents & educators and Town Selectman has been formed to discuss the possibility of the School closing or what appropriate alternatives may exist. The task force meetings will be open to the public for viewing purposes. You're encouraged to direct any comments or questions through one of two Selectmen who will be part of that committee, Matthew Drost or Robert Henderson. The Selectman will act on that committee to represent the interests of Randolph people and your input is an important part of that..... please let us know what you think by email or by phone.

The 1st meeting was October 30. Future meeting times and locations will be posted on the website.

Interested in town of Randolph history?

A few townspeople would like to start a "Randolph Historical Society" in the hope that others might take an active interest. This winter will be the planning stage with a meeting taking place in May. If anyone would like to participate in the society, please call Bette Seymour at 582-4624 or bettes@gmail.com and you will be contacted whenever the spring meeting will take place.

Animal Control---- a new person to help

The Town of Randolph has recently hired an additional Animal Control Officer, Gretchen Patrick, to provide more coverage and provide an alternative contact for Randolph residents to help with animal control concerns. Gretchen can be reached at 207-458-8361. And don't get bit by a late dog registration fee ! Remember that canines must be registered by January 31. If Rover is spayed or neutered, registration is \$6 and \$11 if not, but failure to register your dog will result in a \$25 late registration penalty on top of that.

Randolph's "Clothes Closet"

Randolph residents -- we have a treasure trove in our back yard. Have you heard about the Clothes Closet -- where you can purchase shirts for \$2, pants for \$3, shoes for \$1 and occasionally an LL Bean down jacket for less than \$10? In fact, if your income is low, you can get these clothes for free!

The Clothes Closet has been in the basement of the Knights of Columbus building on Spring Street in Gardiner since Bette Seymour started it there in 2005. It is sponsored by the Randolph United Methodist Church and is run entirely by volunteers. Dot Weeks is the current manager. Each item of donated clothing is cleaned, pressed, tagged and hung for sale. The shop is open for business Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 to 3.

All of the profits go to local food banks and other local charities. Janice's Food Bank on Windsor Street in Randolph is one of the benefactors.

The Closet can afford to be fussy about the clothing it accepts because donations have grown so much. Nothing that looks faded, worn or stained makes it to the racks, and there frequently are clothes with original price tags still attached. Excess clothing goes to other thrift shops and nursing homes. Volunteers say the only item they ever seem to be short of are men's pants, and that's because men simply wear them out.

One of the Closet's big suppliers, believe it or not, are schools. Children have a tendency to forget things -- gym wear, jackets, back packs, mittens and winter coats. Local schools pack them all up when summer comes and send them to the Clothes Closet.

Families who qualify can pick up a voucher at their town hall which entitles every family member to several items of free clothing each month. And twice a year the Closet holds a 25-cent sale to get rid of the last season's stock.

The Clothes Closet is always looking for volunteers, so if you'd like to spend a few hours a month lending a hand, give them a call. The place has become a social gathering place for regulars who watch for the newest bargains. So check it out!

Call 582-6270 for more information.

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"Randolph Review"
a newsletter written for
the residents of Randolph

PLEASE VOTE ON November 7

Please **DO NOT** put
grease or so-called
"flushables" down the
drain..... your taxes pay
to unclog it.

Donation box at Town Office

