

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK AND REGISTRARS' OFFICE

"A New Chapter"

The past year was probably the most historic in our 216 year history as a Town. Randolph has operated with a Selectmen/Town Meeting form of government since its incorporation as a Town in 1793. Randolph has made small changes to its government structure such as increasing the membership of the Selectmen from three to five members; and in 1948, when Open Town Meeting was changed to a Representative Town Meeting with 240 members elected by precinct.

But, no change was as significant or as meaningful as the ballot question passed by the voters on April 1, 2009. The Annual Town Election featured two ballot questions. Question One – Town Manager / Town Council (nine members – five at large, four by district). Question Two – Town Manager / Board of Selectmen / Town Meeting (reduced to 120 members). Voters overwhelming supported Question One with 73 % of the voters opting for change.

The end of the Town Meeting era allowed for a celebration of those who gave so many years of service to our community. A final historic Town Meeting was held on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at Stetson Hall where Town Meeting was held from 1843 – 1954. Stetson Hall was the perfect setting for this special occasion. Close to 300 people – past Selectmen, School Committee, Finance Committee, and Town Meeting Members, along with many Randolph residents, came together to remember our collective past and honor our longest serving Town Meeting members. A copy of the official program, evening agenda, photographs, and a DVD of the televised event from Randolph Community Television will be preserved for future generations in the Office of the Town Clerk.

The change in government was the result of the collective efforts of many residents. The leader of the venture was Town Meeting Member Roz Vineberg. Roz and a group of 20 residents compared many types of government structures and recommended three Town Charters to Town Meeting. Town Meeting chose to eliminate the Mayor / Town Council Charter and asked Moderator Kevin Reilly to select a government study committee to perfect the final two documents and return them to Town Meeting for consideration.

The Government Study Committee was comprised of Roz Vineberg, Tom Dugan, Jean Duddy, Andrew Azer and Anne Pirrera, with Robert Gass and myself serving as special advisors. The committee completed its task and returned the documents to Town Meeting a few months later. Town Meeting voted to send them to the State Legislature as a Home Rule Petition and to place them on the town ballot. As stated above, the Town Manager / Town Council ballot question was ultimately accepted by the voters.

I would like to thank my office staff for their continued professionalism in meeting the needs of the public. My sincere thanks to Anne Zadai, Kristin McDonald, Cheryl Sass and Betty Bertrand for their efforts this past year. I wish Town Manger David Murphy and the Town Council all the best as they usher in a new chapter in the great history of the Town of Randolph.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian P. Howard, Town
Clerk & Registrar

Statistics recorded as of 1/19/10 for 2009		Final Statistics recorded for 2008
Births	341	374
Deaths	261	233
Marriages	229	204
Dog Licenses	1496	1434

The breakdown in age of the residents of Randolph was as follows:

Age 1 day old through 17		6013
Age 18 through 25		3575
Age 26 through 35		4363
Age 36 through 45		4587
Age 46 through 55		5130
Age 56 through 65		3895
Age 66 through 74		1876
Age 75 +		2146
Total		31,585

By Precinct, the number of residents for the year 2009, were as follows:

Precinct 1		3922
Precinct 2		3752
Precinct 3		3732
Precinct 4		3972
Precinct 5		4149
Precinct 6		3852
Precinct 7		4073
Precinct 8		4133
Total		31,585

Nomination Papers and Initiative petitions certified during the year 2009, were as follows:

	Papers	Signatures
Nomination	341	4413
Petition	664	1940
Respectfully submitted,		
Brian P. Howard, Town Clerk/Registrar		
Paul I. Kopelman, Chairman		
Lallie P. Falls, Vice Chairman		
William A. LeVangie, Clerk		