

## ***Town Clerk & Registrar's Annual Report***

Randolph had the largest local election turnout since the change in government in 2009. There were many competitive Town Council races at both the district and at-large levels. I was impressed by the number of voters that had not previously voted in a town election, hopefully a trend that will continue. Another impressive feature in this election was the number of candidates that were going to door-to-door to introduce themselves to voters. A face-to-face conversation between a candidate and a voter is truly local democracy in action.

Last year, Randolph was a test location for the Poll Pad, which is an electronic polling list. They are very efficient and I am a big supporter of the technology. While the state has yet to approve them for use in elections, I did rent some units to use for voter assistance as we have three triple precinct polling locations. The poll pads are so quick and efficient. You can look a voter up by first name, last name, street address and by scanning a driver's license!

Temple Beth Am sold the temple property to New Jerusalem Evangelical Baptist Church. I would like to thank the members of Temple Beth Am for allowing us to use the temple for many years to house three voting precincts. The temple never charged for the use and even prepared meals for the poll workers. They were wonderful partners with the Town. I am pleased to announce that Rev. Compere and the Board of Trustees at New Jerusalem have agreed to let the Town continue its use of the facility, I am very grateful.

2017 proved to be a busy year for births, deaths and marriages. There were over 400 births in Randolph for only the second time in 48 years; the last time being in 2002, when we had 423 births. We recorded almost 300 deaths; also not seen since 2005. Randolph recorded 318 marriages in 2017. This is the first time there were more than 300 marriages in 38 years. I'm sure as the number of residents calling Randolph home continues to increase, so will our vital record numbers.

Randolph is gearing up for the 2020 Federal Census. The census is very important because the population of a state determines how many members it will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. At the town level, the population is used to create the precincts used for voting and for drawing our state legislative districts. The Secretary of State and the Census Bureau have been holding training sessions this year and Randolph has attended each of them. Currently, we are reviewing the state / federal maps to look for any new living quarters – residential homes, apartments, mixed-use properties and group homes to ensure they have proper address for mailing a census and/or a visit from an enumerator if necessary.

I would like to thank my office staff for their continued professionalism in meeting the needs of the public every day. My staff consists of Kristin McDonald, Cheryl Sass, Chris LaCerde and Betty Bertrand. While we live in an age where many people will "google" a question about town services, many people prefer to call or stop by the office to try and navigate local government. We take pride in trying to resolve issues right on the spot instead of transferring the call to another department. It saves both the residents and the Town valuable time.

***Respectfully Submitted,  
Brian P. Howard, Town Clerk & Registrar***