

TELL US WHAT YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR CHOSEN CANDIDATE!

When you make up your mind who you're voting for in the November county, state, or national elections, send a few sentences about what you like most about the candidate you've picked. We'd like to run those short bits in the *Beacon* so we can all see what's persuading our friends and neighbors one way or the other.

Please – nothing negative about the other candidates, parties, policies, etc! There's enough of that going around already. Let's hear what's attracting you to the candidate you've picked.

Send a few sentences to Elections@AndoverBeacon.com or to PO Box 149, Andover 03216. Those received by October 15 will be in the November issue.

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT...

We have known Jenn Coffey for some years now and find her an upstanding individual. She has great love of family, faith, and country. She is a big supporter of the Second Amendment and the Constitution, a person who is not afraid to stand up for what she believes in and especially for the people of this great town and district which she represents.

It doesn't matter if you are Republican, Democrat, or independent, she is there to listen and be a voice for you. It is with great pride and honor that we give her our support for the state legislature. There is no one who would and will work harder than Jenn for what is right for our great state of New Hampshire, "Live Free or Die."

Richard and Sandra Williams

I support President Obama because of his strength of character and introspection (see his *Dreams of My Father*), his vision in public policy (see his *Audacity of Hope*), and his leadership (as seen, for example, in his boldness and decisiveness in the war against terrorism when he ordered the removal of Osama bin Laden).

Kent Hackmann

Unlike the Republican Convention, the Democratic Convention portrayed America as a 21st century, dynamic country; not without problems, but on a positive path for its citizens. Also offered were realistic solutions that did not concentrate their advantages on a small group of high income earners and supposed "job creators," but benefitted the entire spectrum of Americans.

What is needed now are real solutions that help all the people of this country. Precisely those President Obama has been laboring for and will continue to pursue.

Don Cline



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Details Of Medicaid Funding And Eligibility

By **Mary Anne Broshek**

I worked at the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for 30 years and dealt with eligibility for Medicaid and all public assistance programs. I saw a number of items in Faith Clendenen's article on page 8 of the September *Beacon* that I feel need to be corrected. I also want to be sure that everyone knows the help they can get in this difficult economic time.

Protecting Medicaid For Seniors

There are three Medicaid programs created solely to help seniors pay for Medicare Part A and B premiums, co-insurance, and deductibles. These programs have income and resource requirements that increase as the benefits decrease. Because these are Medicaid programs, the funding is 50% federal and 50% state. The total number of seniors in New Hampshire receiving only this help is 9,745.

In addition, there are Medicaid programs for people who are age 65 or older, for people 18 to 64 who are disabled, age 18 to 64 who are disabled and working, and for those of all ages

who are blind. The total numbers receiving this Medicaid are:

- 65+: 8,402 (with 4,150 in nursing care)
- Disabled: 15,483 (with 415 in nursing care)
- Blind: 255 adults (with 14 in nursing care)
- Disabled and working: 1,827

The age 65+ and disabled programs account for about 25% of the Medicaid population and about 75% of the cost. This makes them very vulnerable to budget cuts. The state-funded Catastrophic Illness Program (CIP) was suspended in the 2012/2013 New Hampshire budget. CIP was a state-funded program that provided financial assistance to adults with specific medical conditions, including cancer, hemophilia, end-stage renal disease, cystic fibrosis, spinal injury with resultant non-ambulation, and multiple sclerosis.

Must Be A Citizen

Except for emergency medical care, the only people who can receive federally-funded assistance are those who are citizens or legally-admitted aliens. Legally-admitted aliens have to wait up to five years after coming to the US.

Nursing Care Funding

Nursing care is the most costly program. It is funded with 50% federal funds, with the remaining 50% paid by the county of residence prior to placement in the nursing home. There is a cap on how much the counties have to pay, and if the cap is exceeded, the state picks up the remaining cost.

The counties get their money from the towns and cities, so keeping individuals in their homes rather than going to a nursing home is important, both for the individual who wants to stay at home and for the budgets of towns, cities, and

See Medicaid on page 8

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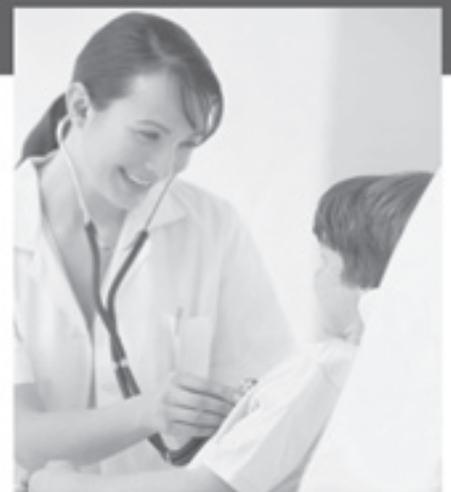
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