

ON THE BALLOT - MARCH 12, 2013

The Beacon asked every candidate running for a state or county office to submit 250 words and a picture.

Selectman

John Duncan Coolidge



I'm Duncan Coolidge, and I'm running for Selectman. I have been a resident of Andover for more than 30 years, so many of you may already know me. I'm running because I care greatly about this town and with my judgment, experience, and willingness to tackle complex problems, I would like to offer my service. Our small town is a wonderful community, and I am so glad that we made our home here among all the good people of Andover.

As a candidate for Selectman, I want to share my perspective on the job. With our town's limited financial resources, living within our means is simply an essential reality. Complying with a host of state and federal requirements is necessary to avoid fines and service restrictions, and thoughtful planning and careful attention to frugal implementation can minimize costs. Everyone must be represented fairly so all of us have equal access to what our town has to offer. At the same time, each of us must respect and accept the responsibilities that go along with membership in our community.

There are many challenges, and I think new approaches to old problems are needed. Careful advance information gathering and planning need to be done in addition to addressing the day-to-day community needs. We can save money by thinking ahead – not beating out brushfires. As an example, developing an appropriate area of town-owned land to attract desirable manufacturing businesses can improve our tax revenue base. I think this is a better way to address our financial needs than continuing to rely so heavily on family property taxes. It can also provide local job opportunities for residents and reduce their commuting expenses.

I am hoping to serve you as a selectman, and if elected, I will work hard to repay your confidence serving everyone with respect and fairness. Best regards to all, Duncan

Jeffrey D. Miller

I joined the East Andover Volunteer Fire Department in 1993 at the age of 17, after attending Vermont Technical College for a year and a half, then returning home to Andover. I have worked in a variety of fields and now run my own business doing carpentry and landscaping.



Order of Candidates on the Ballot

New Hampshire RSA 656:5-a defines the order in which candidates' names will appear on the ballots. For the sake of consistency with the ballot, the *Beacon's* On the Ballot section follows the same scheme.

The essence of the RSA 656:5-a scheme is that as an election draws near, the Secretary of State's office picks a random number for each possible number of candidates in a race. The candidate whose position in a specific race's alphabetical list of candidates matches the random number chosen for races with that number of candidates becomes the candidate who is listed first on the ballot. The ballot for that race continues from that point in the alphabetical list, wrapping back to the beginning of the list to include all the candidates.

In other words, if candidates A, B, and C are running against each other and the Secretary of State randomly selects the number 2 for races with three candidates, then the candidates will appear on the ballot in this order: B, C, A.

My company, Miller Property Maintenance, has worked for the Town for the last four years.

I have been a member of the Andover Rescue Squad since 1998. I have also been a member of the Fourth of July Committee, and I am a Cub Scout Den Leader.

I feel that we have a lot of challenges on the plate for the Board of Selectmen, and I am willing to serve as long as the town will have me. I moved to Andover when I was six and have seen the changes we have made for better or worse.

I hope to approach the job of Selectman with a common-sense attitude. I hear from people a lot of concerns regarding the budget and will do my best to keep budgets as low as possible.

However, there are a lot of items that the town has put off until it could better afford to deal with them. We as a town will have to address these issues in the coming years. We probably are in no better place to afford some of these items now as compared to when they first cropped up, but unfortunately, our roads and bridges can no longer wait.

Howard L. Wilson



In that the Federal Reserve has been ordered to keep the printing presses running night and day printing as much inflation as the economic ignoramus at the top of the federal heap doesn't know a thing about, the expenses of the Town will continue to climb even while the value of the dollar declines.

I would thank the Budget Committee for their efforts to keep the budgeted amounts level even while failing to keep expenses level due to the loss of value of the dollar.

Yes, the complaint will be leveled against me that the Board of Selectmen is not much of a platform as a federal office. Yet if no one complains, nothing will happen anywhere especially by our beloved Federal Government.

I am certain that everyone reading this statement has watched the steady climb of gas prices being the most visible sign of inflation's effects. Yet if you check in grocery stores, even discount stores, you will see the cost/price condition.

See Ballot on page 9



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