

## Wanted: Candidates For Town Boards And Committees

Too busy? No excuse! This is important work.

Dennis Fenton,  
Andover Select Board (Retired)

*Dennis Fenton, a long-time member of the Select Board, wrote these words in 2009 when he decided to retire from the Board. With his permission, we're re-running this to encourage people to consider becoming a candidate.*

First, the fact that you are busy is not a legitimate excuse! Everyone can use that one, but it's the town's well-being that is at stake, so we all have to find time to do the things that are really important to us.

What background should you have to run for a Town office? There's no one right answer to that question. George Upton, for example, took an appointment to fill a vacancy on the Board of Selectmen before the moving van was completely unloaded when he came to Andover. He went on to win re-election. George only had on-the-job training, which is the hard way.

Other town officers have taken different paths. All these folks had one thing in common – as a part of the community, they wanted to give something back to Andover.

### A Good Candidate

What makes a good candidate? The first item on any candidate's agenda should be what is good for the majority. When a new problem arises, the solution is not the easy way out, but what serves our town the best.

As a member of a Town board or committee, you are one of the overseers of our town whose job it is to manage the town's resources and problems. When a vote is taken, be supportive even if you might like something a little different.

Your main charge is to have needed services provided to the town at a reasonable cost. An important tool available to you in pursuit of that goal is the Budget Committee. Their job is to review all budgets in town and present the budget to be voted on at Town Meeting, School District Meeting, and the meetings of the various precincts.

The Budget Committee takes the prejudice out of an individual budget as they look at the big picture. It is important that we all, boards and citizens, listen very closely to the story they tell each year as they attempt to keep our tax rate at a manageable level.

### Share Your Talents

To all you good folks out there: You are not too busy to make a commitment to share your many talents. Being a member of a Town board or committee is not a thankless job. People appreciate your willingness to serve, and you will be surprised how many times you are told this.

I don't know who will sign up, but you are out there. This is for your town. It is all worthwhile. Good luck!

*The filing dates for candidates to file with the Town Clerk are Wednesday, January 22, through Friday, January 31.*

## Town Clerk Prepares for Holidays, Candidates, and Three Elections

Holiday hours and election dates

Bonnie Wesley, Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's Office will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Our hours for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve will be 11:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

### Important Election Dates

January 22, 2020: First day to file to become a candidate for any elected Town office

January 31, 2020: Last day to file to become a candidate for any elected Town office. The Town Clerk's Office will open from 3 to 5 PM only.

February 11, 2020: Presidential Primary Election Day

March 10, 2020: Town Election Day and Town Meeting Day

September 8, 2020: State Primary Election Day

November 3, 2020: General Election Day.

### Election Year 2020

It is going to be a very busy year, and

we will be needing lots of help. We will need ballot clerks (checking people in) and ballot counters.

If this is something you may be interested in, please let the Town Clerk's Office know. Training will be provided.

### Dogs

Please continue to keep us updated on your dog's status. If you no longer have your dog, please let us know.

Also, all dogs must be licensed. The 2020 licenses are now available and are due by April 30. Late charges will be applied after that date.

### New Legislation

HB 391 became effective on June 21 this year. This bill amended RSA 261:148 to require that a current government-issued photo ID be presented to the Town Clerk to obtain a permit for vehicle registration.

### Reminder

When mailing a check to us, please write the PID in the memo for taxes, or write your plate number in the memo for vehicle registrations.

## Thirteen Elected Positions in Town and School Need Candidates

You must file by Friday, January 31

Bonnie Wesley, Town Clerk

Town Election Day is Tuesday, March 10. The filing period for Town offices and School offices is Wednesday, January 22, through Friday, January 31.

If you are interested in running for a Town office or a school office, come on into the Town Clerk's Office between January 22 and January 31 during our regular hours of Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 AM to 2 PM, or Saturday, January 25, from 9 to 11 AM, or Friday, January 31, from 3 to 5 PM.

### Town Positions on the Ballot

Select Board for three years  
Town Treasurer for two years  
Trustee of Trust Funds for three years

Cemetery Trustee for three years  
Library Trustee for three years  
Town Moderator for two years  
Supervisor of the Checklist for six years

Two members of the Budget Committee, each for three years

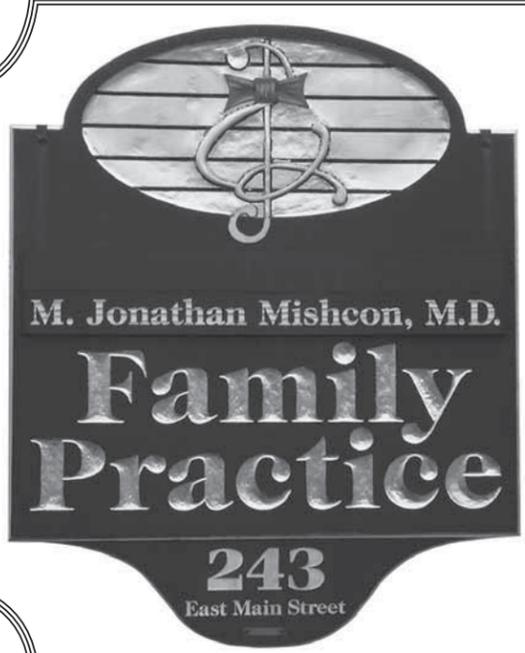
### School Positions on the Ballot

School Board for three years  
School Moderator for one year  
School Clerk for one year  
School Treasurer for one year

# S & P AUTO

**720 Main Street • Andover**

Scott Palmer 526-9528 nights: 927-4629      Phil LeBrecht



**M. Jonathan Mishcon, M.D.**  
**Family Practice**  
243 East Main Street

## Tilton Medical Assoc., PLLC

243 East Main St, Tilton • 286-8907

### Dr M. Jonathan Mishcon

*Tilton Medical Associates are proud to support The Andover Beacon.*



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