

(continued from page 5)

You can get the BEST maple syrup at the Franklin Farm and your money is staying in our little community supporting agriculture which used to be the backbone of this community and by supporting the local farmers you're supporting our past, our present and our future because without the farmers our community would be drastically different.

So I watched the Franklin Farm video and I was just wondering, how long does a production like that take?

Rick: We stalked the Franklins for a year to a year and a half and it took us two years to actually make the film. There were other things happening at the time. After the first day of shooting, we all came back – the crews came back and we were ready to call it a day and the phone rang and Maple, the little calf in the video, was being born. So we had to RUN back to the farm really quick. We knew we were off to a really good start.

The farm really made the story. We didn't have to make it up. You just follow the farm - the farm tells its own story and that's really what we tried to do. While we were shooting they actually got certified organic and won Southern Vermont's Farm of the Year, so there were two things that happened that were really positive. The job isn't over – there's still the marketing that we're working on."

Bill and Rick would like to see this video made available to schools. They believe there are some positive messages for

young people such as building responsibility. There are responsibilities that kids don't have to be given but they can take on themselves, maybe volunteering at a senior citizen's home or cleaning cages at the Humane Society. They believe that so much is done for kids today that we now need to demand responsibilities and ask for jobs.

What's next?

We're in the conceptual stages of putting together something about the one room schoolhouses [in Guilford] – working maybe with people from the Historical Society, Guilford School and people in the community who went to the schools and putting together a documentary.

Bill and Rick have also just recently finished a documentary to kick off the fund-raising campaign for a permanent home for the YMCA in Brattleboro to be built on Putney Road next door to the Holiday Inn. They think the Y will strongly contribute to the surrounding communities and they are on the committee to bring the Y to our region. It is the hope of that committee that this project will move forward and the new Y will be open by late 2007.

I found Bill and Rick to be two genuinely kind individuals, who are a great asset to the Guilford community. After the interview, I also found out that the profits from every project that Bill and Rick do are shared equally with whatever local organization they are featuring. Be sure to see the Franklin Farm Video and we look forward to their One Room Schoolhouse project.

Note: The Guilford Gazette provides a forum for candidates for elected positions in town to present themselves to the voters. The Gazette staff has not edited these submissions.

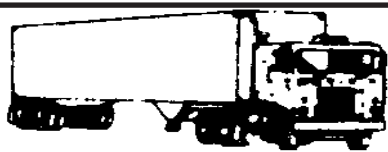
Frank Rafferty Candidate for Town Lister

I am running for reelection, as I have served eight three year terms in this position. There are three members of the Board of Listers; we are responsible for the Grand List of the town, which is a list of the owner, location and assessed value of each of the 1,067 properties in Guilford.

I came to this area in the late '60s at the age of 18, and settled in as a homeowner in '73. Once a year the listers would come around and ask how many people, dogs, and gas tanks were at each house. We still do a drive by inspection of each place each year, but there is no longer a poll tax on each person. I became a licensed real estate sales person, and a property mapper, a few years before I ran for the office of Lister. In the 80's I became certified as a Vermont Property Evaluator.

My first year we started the reappraisal completed in '84, collecting property data from scratch, all done with pencil, eraser, and pocket calculators. That first year we wrote the entire grand list by hand. This past year we completed the second town wide reappraisal in 20 years; its all on a computer now.

I'm running again because there's more work to do and I'm fairly well trained by now, and a good lister is hard to find.



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Page 6

Troy Revis—Candidate for Guilford Select Board

My Name Is Troy E Revis Jr and I am running for the open seat on the Select Board for Guilford. I have lived in the town at 667 Melendy Hill Rd since August of 1994 but have claimed Guilford as my home town since January of 1991 when I married my wife Alice Revis (LaChance). As many people know I work for the Guilford Central school as the Maintenance Supervisor and I am currently active with the Vermont Army National Guard, 131st Engineers unit that is detached in Springfield Vermont. We have 1 son Daniel Joseph who is in the 4th Grade at Guilford Central School.

Before I departed the Navy after 12 years of active duty I asked my wife, "Are we going to move back to Guilford?" She said yes due to the community and neighborly support of everyone in this town, in which her family ties go back 40 plus years. With that I said I would very much like to serve the town of Guilford by running for the open seat on the Select Board. I believe that listening and respecting the input of others, along with ideas and energy of the community we together can work as a team to take care of the issues in front of us and those to come. Guilford is a community made up of good people that have a lot of family ties here. I would like to see it stay that way. Guilford has been blessed to have a lot of citizens who have given a tremendous amount of time and effort to the town through the years. This is one reason that I would like to announce my candidacy for the select board.



Shaun Murphy—Candidate for BUHS School Board

My name is Shaun Murphy and I am the representative from Guilford on the Brattleboro High School District #6 board. I have served for three years on the board. My term expires in March of this year and I have decided to run for another three year term.

I have lived in Guilford for thirty six years. I have two children, both of whom are graduates of Guilford Central School and BUHS.

The BUHS board is made up of nine members. There are five individuals from Brattleboro and one from each of the sending towns, Guilford, Putney, Dummerston and Vernon. As the Guilford representative I have tried to be an advocate for our town. I am on two subcommittees: Planning and Policy and Teacher Curriculum. The Planning and Policy committee works on updates and changes to policies at the school. The Teacher Curriculum committee meets before most regular board meetings and deals with a variety of issues. All of the 1% proposals from the teaching staff have to be approved by the TCC, and there are regular presentations to the committee by teachers and administrators. An example of a presentation would be the one given on Jan. 17th on the "A World of Difference" course which is required for all ninth grade students. AWOD is a course developed to help students recognize bias and prejudice. The same night the English department proposed changes to their curriculum which might include additional elective courses for juniors and seniors.

I am glad that I have had an opportunity to serve on the board and hope that I will be able to continue after the election in March. I feel as if it is an exciting time at BUHS and the Career Center. Building a new high school campus in Brattleboro is a huge undertaking; it will be completed within the next year and a half. I feel that BUHS and the Windham Regional Career afford fine opportunities for the students of Guilford.

Arthur Pettee – Candidate for Guilford School Board

My name is Arthur Pettee and I live at 5779 Coolidge Highway in Guilford. I'm running for a one year seat on the Guilford School Board. I have been a reader of the Gazette and appreciate this opportunity to introduce myself to the voters. Oh boy, first run for public office and I already sound like a politician.

I'm a 52-year-old self-employed carpenter. For twenty years I have lived with my wife, Joan Peters, on Route 5. The check we write to pay our property tax is usually the largest debit to our account.

I am a product of public school, Green St. and B.U.H.S. My parents had a combined 57 years as teachers with the W.S.E.S.U. I'm a taxpayer who feels strongly in the importance of public education.

Through town meetings and other public forums I have tried to remain informed and watched the ups and downs the G.C.S. has experienced. Our daughter, Anna, is a fifth grader and over the past six years, as a parent and volunteer with some of the sports programs, I've gotten to know the school better. We have a great school. The literacy rate in Guilford is something we should all take pride in, students, staff, and citizens. That said, continued and projected declining enrollment gives us an opportunity for budget cuts. We are educating fewer students. We should be able to spend less money. The challenge lies in not compromising the education of the students who remain.

As a school board member I will work to present a fair budget at town meeting and present the case strongly enough that we do not need to come back two months later and revote the issues. I will keep an open mind and listen to the voices of all, students, parents, staff, and taxpayers. I would appreciate your vote on town meeting day.