

## Kramer Supporter Lists Reasons

Editor:

Here are some of the reasons we are voting for Muriel Kramer for the Board of Selectmen:

### **Leadership**

Muriel's leadership qualities were apparent to other board members from the start of her term as selectman. In her first term, she assumed the chairmanship of the board. Under Muriel's leadership, the Board of Selectmen has encouraged "full and fair" debate on all issues of concern to the residents of Hopkinton. As a seasoned chairperson of the Board, she has always encouraged different points of views so as to put issues in their proper perspective, while, at all times, considering what is best for the well-being of all Hopkinton residents. She tends to reduce the issues to their content and not their politics. There is none of the trade-offs of normal political fare.

### **Commitment**

She puts in the time and effort each day calls for. Her commitment is strong and sincere. However, she is all business and tries to keep discussion focused. She has a large family to care for, so you can be sure time management is a positive quality. She has made a commitment to the town and meets all expectations. Her record will show attendance at not only BOS meetings, but various other meetings held weekly and bi-weekly around town. She has a need to understand the issues as best she can, and this is one of her ways of doing that.

She has a good working relationship with other elected and appointed officials, no matter what their party affiliation. She has a no-nonsense approach which does lead to conflicts at times; however, it is usually recognized that this an attempt to focus on just the issue and achieve a result which offers a good solution for the whole town without the politics.

### **Balance**

Muriel has recognized the need and is attempting to move the town to a balanced budget approach based on existing income. Hopkinton has borrowed substantial amounts in recent years and the result has been somewhat like a child in a toy store with a credit card. Borrowing should be for special projects and town emergencies and not as a routine part of the budget process. Muriel has recognized this. The BOS has taken a stand on responsible financial management. Every issue cannot be resolved by borrowing approved by a vote.

In the hard times to come, strict financial management and fiscal responsibility is an essential characteristic in a selectman for Hopkinton. Muriel has shown the leadership and strength to take a stand on this issue. We need this kind of responsible leadership now. We also need balance such that the politically strong organizations do not starve out other less influential but legitimate and important needs. Muriel has shown that she understands that the town has many interests all of which need consideration. Muriel has the strength of leadership to ensure every organization has an opportunity for funds.

Ken and Chris Dietz  
44 Alexander Rd.  
May 13, 2008