

**The Daily Star September 6, 2006**

**Letter to the Editor**

**Vote for Devlin, who has experience**

I am writing this letter to express my support for Richard Devlin in the upcoming primary race for the Republican candidate for Otsego County sheriff.

First off, I would like to point out that the sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer of a county and is one of the most important positions in county government. Not only is the sheriff responsible for providing police services, he or she is also responsible for court security, security of some county-owned buildings, safe-keeping of prisoners in the custody of the county and the service of civil process.

Many people only get to see their sheriff and deputies on patrol or investigating a complaint or accident. There is much more to the office than those duties. For many years our sheriffs have always come from within the ranks of the department. This has ensured continuity of all the services and mandates that the sheriff has. I think both Sheriff Mundy and Undersheriff Carroll would state that they had no idea that the sheriff had so many responsibilities prior to their employment with the department.

There is no better way to learn than to have practical experience and a good teacher. Rich Devlin has had both; Sheriff Mundy has publicly endorsed him and groomed him for the position. I would urge all registered Otsego County Republicans to vote for Rich Devlin on Tuesday, to continue the legacy of our Sheriff's Office.

**Sean M. Ralph, Worcester**