

New Mayor in Randolph Has Ties to Our Parish

By Henry M. Holden

Mayor Christine Carey was elected to the Randolph Township Council in November 2012. She served as deputy mayor in 2016, and was selected by her peers to serve as mayor in 2017. Seven members of the Town Council are elected and they in turn select one of their own to a one-year term as mayor,

Cary said her parents were both very involved in their community. "My mother had five kids and she was involved in the PTA and other organizations. My father was a newspaper reporter and always covered PTA, meetings, town council, and school board meetings. I felt like I knew what was going on in the town as I was growing up. It just felt like this was the thing you did. Not that you had to do it, but it was normal to volunteer.

Carey lives with her husband of 28 years (in May), Frank Brenner, and 16-year-old son, Joey, a junior at Morris Catholic High School. She has two other children, Kelsey, a second-grade teacher in Buffalo, N.Y. and Nick, who works in social media marketing in Pittsburg, PA.

Carey, a resident of Randolph since 1992, brings an extensive history of public service with her into the mayor's office. As a longtime volunteer in the Randolph community, she has served on many boards and committees.

Carey was elected for three terms on the Randolph Board of Education, first in 2002, before winning re-election in 2005 and 2008.



"When I moved to Randolph, I started getting involved with the PTA, and library and it progressed from there. "I think it's been a lifelong commitment to volunteering that grew from grassroots as a child.

Cary has also been very active in Resurrection Parish, "I first met Chris in a PTA meeting," said Lorraine Scandariato, Director of Religious Education at Resurrection Parish. "Chris had a natural skill communicating with parents. She joined our religious education program and started as a catechist assistant, first in the Children's ministry and then working through the Middle School and Youth Ministry. We were so blessed to have her in our parish."

As a catechist, she had to do service work with the teens, and helped them prepare for Confirmation for 2 ½ years. Cary was a Caring Group Leader for the Youth Ministry, and she and her husband served on the Social Committee.

"The education institutions in Randolph play critical roles in the Randolph community and it is important that we continue to maintain close working relationships with them.

"When you serve in the community, it helps to understand the community values," said Carey. "If you listen, you will hear a lot from

residents. Whether it is about library programs, school programs, the curriculum or homework, or what your dreams and desires are for your children, it just translates into getting a real feel for the community."

Cary has no aspirations for higher public office. "I'm very content where I am. I like serving my community. It's very personal. You know the people, their issues and understand the community."

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