

Bridgewater Candidate Seeks ‘Miracle’

Appointed To Town Council In 2013

By NOLAN STOUT

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HARRISONBURG — Bill Miracle prefers to see his simple mistake as an opportunity.

Miracle, 69, will be at the Bridgewater Community Center on Tuesday seeking write-in votes for Town Council in Tuesday’s election.

“I’m ready for it,” he said. “I plan to be there all day long.”

Virginia code requires candidates for Town Council in a locality with fewer than 1,500 registered voters to gather

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Miracle

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125 signatures from voters to appear on the ballot.

Miracle, who is dean of students at Bridgewater College, said he had his paperwork notarized before obtaining and submitting all the required signatures to the Rockingham County Voter Registrar’s Office. The mistake rendered some of the signatures invalid.

Miracle was bumped from the six-member panel when he lost a re-election bid in 2012 after eight years on council. He is seeking his first full, four-year term since being appointed in 2013 to replace Councilman Roscoe Burgess Sr., who died of cancer.

He said the mistake gives him an opportunity to interact with constituents.

“That’s the good outcome that wasn’t intended,” Miracle said. “That opportunity to shake hands and talk to the people I know well or don’t know very well.”

Miracle and Councilman Steve Schofield are seeking re-election on Tuesday. Councilwoman Rosetta Harris is not running.

Travis Bowman, 37, an agent with Old Dominion Realty in Harrisonburg since 2006, is the only other candidate running for three seats in Tuesday's election.

Councilman Ted Flory is running unopposed for a two-year term as mayor. He will replace longtime Mayor Hallie Dinkel, who is not seeking re-election.

Flory's council term runs through 2018, and council would need to appoint someone to fill his seat. Virginia code requires the seat be filled 45 days after it is vacated.

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