

Brian Dubie: "Vermont Taking Off" speech

Essex Junction, Vermont

June 12, 2010

Thank you to all of you who have come out to join us. You should know that this is just our first event with five more to go today. You and 900 of your fellow Vermonters have committed to joining with me on my announcement tour today!

Welcome to my hometown. As a matter of fact, welcome to my backyard. My roots run deep in Vermont, our family has lived in Vermont for six generations.

My family came from Ireland and France looking for a better life. They were immigrants and most of them were Democrats. Some of them still are Democrats! But they support me.

I am running for Governor because I love Vermont. And I believe in the people of Vermont.

In my job as a pilot and as your Lt Governor I have traveled all over the world. I can truly say there is not a better place to live and raise a family. Penny and I made the right decision to raise our children right here.

I am running for Governor because I want my kids and your kids to have the same opportunities here in Vermont that I have had.

I am running for Governor to bring the people of our state together – to build our economy and make Vermont an even better place to raise a family, earn a living, invest in the future, start a small business, and enjoy safe and secure retirement.

My first run for public office was to serve on my town's school board. I wanted to give back to my community and I thought I could make a difference. My wife Penny, who was a teacher, encouraged me to run.

I was running as a parent. In a lot of ways, I'm still running as a parent. Because I want every child in Vermont to receive a great education, grow up to find a satisfying job that pays well, and have a loving family, economic freedom and the belief that with hard work, anything is possible.

My mother always encouraged me to be a good listener. Listening has served me well – as a husband, on the school board, and as your Lt Governor. I believe the best ideas come from listening to Vermonters, where they live and work. Listening very carefully is the first step to solving problems. My campaign will be about uniting Vermonters to come up with shared solutions.

I am running for Governor to help grow jobs for Vermonters.