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power is off, my furnace is off, everything is shut off." **Stickler**
RO STATE/LOCAL

Are 'Friends of Bill' also Hillary's?

Clinton weighs support for 2008 White House bid
CONCORD, N.H. (AP) - Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton didn't reveal whether she plans to run for president when she called Anita Freedman a few weeks ago.

"I didn't give her a chance," said Freedman, 79, who displays pictures of the Clintons all over her Portsmouth, N.H., home. "As soon as she said, 'Hi, this is Hillary Clinton,' I said, 'Oh, great! Tell me what we need to do.'"

Six years after leaving office, President Clinton still has plenty of friends in New Hampshire and Iowa, the states that traditionally launch the presidential nominating process.

And, many of the folks known as "Friends of Bill" count themselves as "Friends of Hill," as well. Some, like



Nancy Richards-Stower in her office in Merrimack, N.H., Tuesday, Jan. 9 with a signed photo of Hillary Clinton on the wall. A Bill Clinton supporter, she promised to campaign for Hillary in 2008. (AP Photo/Jim Cole)

band's network of supporters Mrs. Clinton, now a New York senator, can resurrect or what role they would play if she decides to get into the race, as expected.

Over the years since then-Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton dubbed himself "the comeback kid" for surviving a personal scandal to finish second in the 1992 New Hampshire primary, the Clintons have not forgotten local Democratic activists who helped them at that critical juncture.

"Oh, great! Tell me what we need to do."

Time and again they have reached out to those same activists and others in early voting states, inviting them to White House events, appointing them to administration posts, and generally remembering them on holidays, birthdays and at important moments in their lives.

When Freedman's husband was dying in 1995, a White House staffer called almost daily to check on him and President Clinton phoned the hospital.

Freedman, a Democratic national committeewoman regarded by many as one of the matriarchs of the New Hampshire party, are eager to rekindle the flame.

Others, though, remain undecided on the 2008 race or have gravitated toward other candidates. It remains to be seen how much of her hus-

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