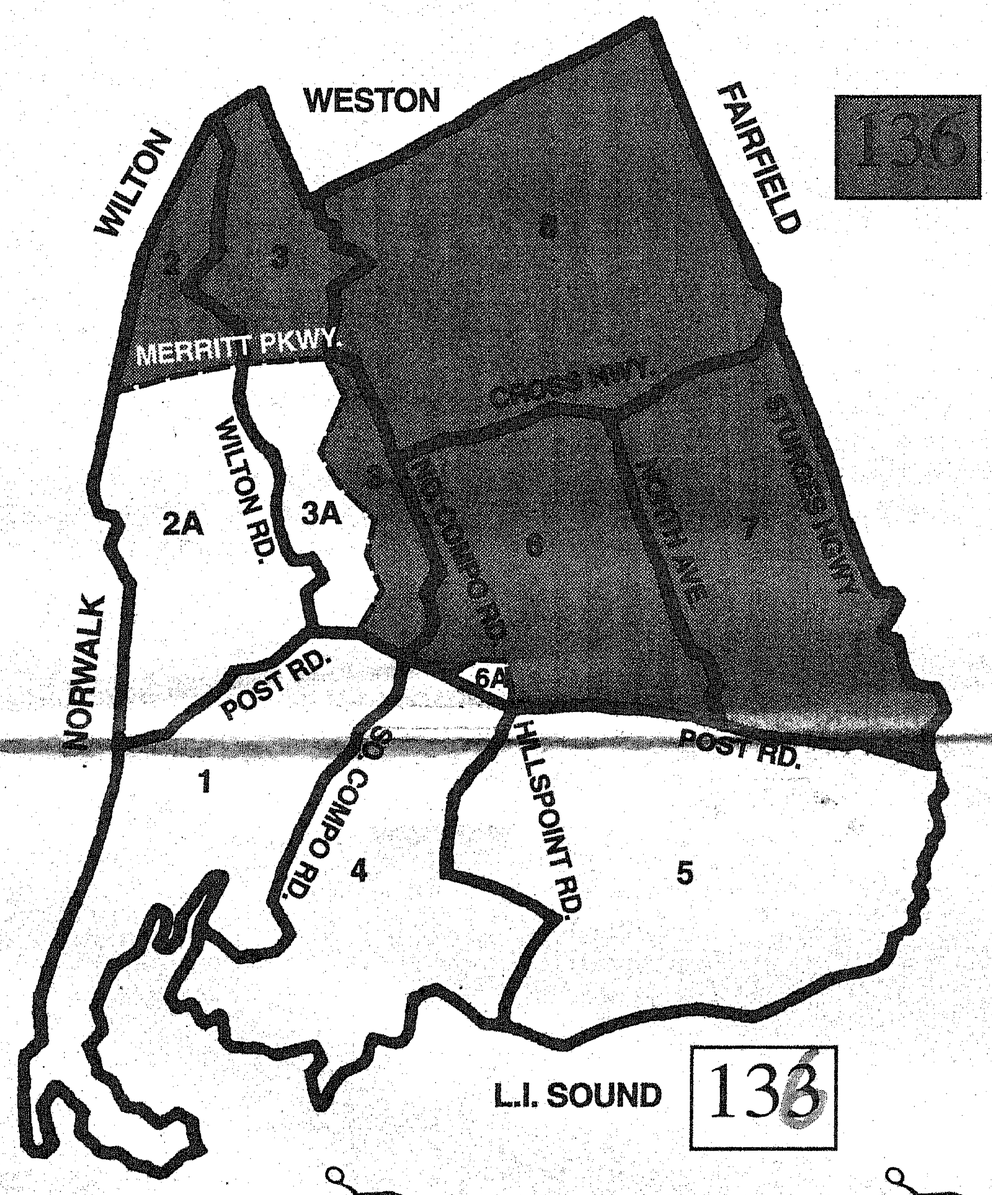
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

SPECIAL THANKS TO
THE WESTPORT NEWS
for generously underwriting this
Voter's Guide

1998 WESTPORT Voter's Guide

Prepared As A Non-Partisan Public Service by the
WESTPORT LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

and by the League of Women Voters of Connecticut.
Candidates' replies are published exactly as submitted
(within the word limits specified).



POLLING PLACES

DISTRICTS 1, 2A, 3A - DISTRICT 136

Bedford Middle School gym
Riverside Avenue

NEW

DISTRICTS 4, 5, 6A - DISTRICT 136

Staples High School gym
70 North Avenue. (Turn left after the tennis courts.)

DISTRICTS 2, 3, 8 - DISTRICT 133

Coleytown Elementary School gym
Easton Road

DISTRICT 6, 7 - DISTRICT 133

Long Lots School gym
Hyde Lane

Handicapped accessible machines are available.

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 133 - includes sections of Weston and Fairfield
STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 136 - includes a small area of Norwalk

SAMPLE BALLOT

133rd

OFFICE → / PARTY ↓	1 Governor and Lieutenant Governor	2 United States Senator	3 Representative in Congress	4 State Senator	5 State Representative	6 Secretary of the State	7 Treasurer	8 Comptroller	9 Attorney General	10 Sheriff	11 Judge of Probate	12 Registrar of Voters	13
REPUBLICAN	John G. Rowland and M. Jodi Rell ☐ 1A	Gary A. Franks ☐ 2A	Christopher Shays ☐ 3A	Judith G. Freedman ☐ 4A	Paul M. Tymniak ☐ 5A	Ben Andrews ☐ 6A	Paul J. Silvester ☐ 7A	Christopher Scalzo ☐ 8A	Santa Mendoza ☐ 9A	Charles M. Valentino, Sr. ☐ 10A	Richard J. Diviney ☐ 11A	Mabel A. Johnson ☐ 12A	13A
DEMOCRATIC	Barbara B. Kennelly and Joseph Courtney ☐ 1B	Christopher J. Dodd ☐ 2B	Jonathan Kantrowitz ☐ 3B	4B	Jeffrey L. Jacobs ☐ 5B	Susan Byslewicz ☐ 6B	Denise Nappier ☐ 7B	Nancy Wyman ☐ 8B	Richard Blumenthal ☐ 9B	Stephen F. DeVito ☐ 10B	Kevin M. O'Grady ☐ 11B	Nita S. Cohen ☐ 12B	13B
CONCERNED CITIZENS	Joseph A. Zdonczyk and Gary R. Garneau ☐ 1C	William Kozak ☐ 2C	3C	4C	5C	6C	Joseph J. Ciccomascolo ☐ 7C	8C	9C	10C	11C	12C	13C
LIBERTARIAN	Ned Vare and Robert S. Loomis ☐ 1D	Wildey J. Moore ☐ 2D	Marshall C. Harrison ☐ 3D	4D	5D	Kenneth F. Mosher ☐ 6D	Louis A. Garofalo ☐ 7D	Steven Edelman ☐ 8D	Richard J. Pober ☐ 9D	10D	11D	12D	13D
NATURAL LAW	1E	☐ 2E	3E	4E	Bernard A. Nevas ☐ 5E	6E	7E	8E	9E	10E	11E	12E	13E
TERM LIMITS	Roberta M. Scaglione and James A. Powell ☐ 1F	Lois A. Grasso ☐ 2F	3F	4F	5F	6F	7F	8F	9F	10F	11F	12F	13F

136th

5 State Representative
G. Kenneth Bernhard ☐ 5A
Steven S. Goldberg ☐ 5B
5C
5D
5E
5F

Don't forget to bring an I.D. with you. You may bring this ballot into the voting booth.

VOTE! Polls Open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, November 3

CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR

TERM OF OFFICE - 4 YEARS Candidates were asked to respond to questions at top of page 3.

REPUBLICAN - John G. Rowland

Biographical Information - On January 4, 1995, John G. Rowland was sworn in as Connecticut's 86th Governor. At 37, Rowland was the youngest person ever elected to the state's highest office. He is currently the youngest governor in the nation. The Wall Street Journal has recognized John Rowland as "one of the nation's top ten emerging government leaders." Since taking office, Governor Rowland has made responsible budgeting, spending restraint and improving the quality of life in Connecticut top priority.

1 - Anyone who has ever run a campaign for public office would support a change in the campaign finance system. The process takes too much time and requires too much money. As governor I have signed legislation reforming the campaign finance system in Connecticut and would certainly consider supporting future legislation aimed at improving the system.

2 - The state not only has a role, in Connecticut, the state has a leading role. Since 1995 we have been reforming our welfare system. The key to our welfare reform program is building bridges from dependency on the system to self-sufficiency. That includes a wide array of training programs for people making the transition from welfare to the workplace. Our Department of Social Services and Department of Labor have teamed up with a number of other state agencies and the private sector to promote job training and develop welfare to work programs. Finally, our public colleges and universities, and vo-tech schools are constantly developing programs to help train people entering the workforce for the first time or seeking to learn new skills.

3 -Connecticut is in an unusual position on this issue. Connecticut's income tax has been on the books for only 8 years so the only tax credit in place is a credit for property taxes. The property tax credit itself is only about 4 years old. So Connecticut does not have a long list of tax credits, or tax preferences to review or sunset. As a rule our tax codes are reviewed each year as part of the budget process. As governor, I do a complete review of the tax code with my staff and the General Assembly, through it's Finance Committee, does an additional review. My philosophy is to reduce taxes whenever and wherever I can. As part of my effort to reduce taxes it makes sense to make an annual review of where we stand. Where are we collecting taxes, where can they be cut, where can we inject more fairness into the tax system?

DEMOCRAT - Barbara B. Kennelly

Biographical Information - Barbara Kennelly represents Connecticut's First Congressional District. She is the fourth-highest ranking Democratic leader in the House and is the first and only woman to serve in the elected leadership. Representative Kennelly is the ranking member of the House Subcommittee on Social Security. Mrs. Kennelly is a long-time advocate for children. She has fought to increase the collection of child support payments, improve child protection programs and expand healthcare for children.

1 - Throughout my career I have supported efforts to reform our campaign finance system, including the comprehensive Shays-Meehan bill this year. I believe we can do more to reform the current campaign finance regulations in Connecticut. The 1997 bill that nearly passed in the General Assembly would have placed voluntary spending limits and would have permitted public financing through a check-off on the income tax form for the gubernatorial election was a good approach to leveling the playing field.

2 - Yes, government has a role in providing the resources to assist low-income workers become self-sufficient. I have worked throughout my career to improve education, job training programs, transportation, and childcare, the pieces that are necessary to achieve the goal of self-sufficiency. We must have quality education for all our children no matter where they live. Workers must be provided with skills to meet the needs of the jobs of the future in the high-tech, and biotech industries. We must also ensure that affordable housing or sufficient transportation is available near places of employment. Finally, safe and affordable childcare must be available so individuals can go to work or school. Helping families rise to self-sufficiency is more than creating jobs, it requires a global approach so that individuals can find long-term, good paying jobs with adequate benefits to ensure sustained self-sufficiency.

3 - I believe that it is a good idea for Connecticut to formalize a procedure to review our current tax code. We should look at the current laws on the books to ensure that they reflect life in this state and to determine whether we are providing tax breaks to the right people.

Photo not submitted

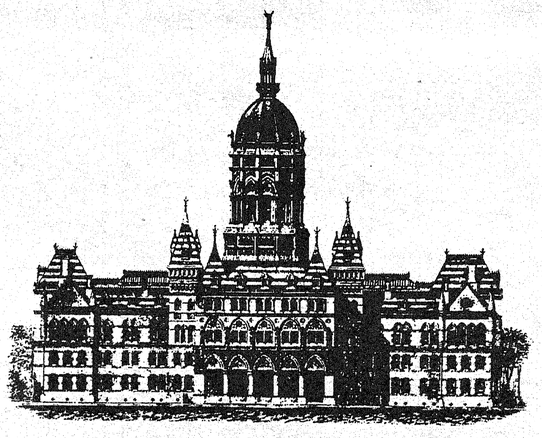
CONCERNED CITIZENS - Joseph A. Zdonczyk

Biographical Information - Born Nov. 2/28. High School graduate. Served in the U.S. Army of occupation in Japan after the 2nd World War. Honorably discharged. Studied for the priesthood with the Marian Fathers in Stockbridge for 2 yrs. Self-employed in the amusement and vending machine business. Now retired Chairman of the Concerned Citizens Party since its inception in 1975. Newly married Dec. 13/97.

1 - No. The way to reform is to equalize the opportunities candidates have to get their message out. Equal access to the media is the key. A candidate with a sensable program needs exposure. Media bias prevents this from happening.

2 - Yes. Training people to acquire new skills is again the key. This begins with a school system able to provide basic skills. People stuck in low-paying jobs find themselves unable to advance because of a perceived lack of ability by superiors. Willingness to learn comes from within.

3 - I have proposed that there be a Constitutional cap on spending. With a spending cap in place it would require whoever was in control of state government to be more restrained in devising new programs, often politically inspired, without benefits except to a limited number of insiders.



LIBERTARIAN - Ned Vare

Biographical Information - Born in PA '34, Yale BA '56 m. Arch. Army Nat. Gd. '58-64. Investor; 4 children; engaged to Luz Shosie of Guilford. Coordinator: Ross Perot '92; taxpayer group since '93. Lions New Haven '89-91; elected to City Council, Aspen, CO '70-71. Professional: design homes, interiors, landscape, one golf course. Teacher; three private schools (most subjects), college. Farmer, contractor, ski instructor, writer (articles, two books). Business: owner Golf Haven and golf school '88-95.

1 - We all want less corruption. Politicians often sell influence for campaign contributions; the more influence and power they have, the more they can sell to special interests, without accountability to the public. Large contributors expect to make profits from state contracts; they are "investing" in politics for big payoffs. The solution is not more regulations, but LESS GOVERNMENT — less power in the hands of politicians and more power and responsibility in the hands of the citizens. Libertarians favor reducing corruption by limiting government to its constitutional duties (protecting the citizens from violence and fraud) and keeping financial activity in the private sector where there is accountability. Big government brings waste and corruption; smaller government will mean less of both and more freedom.

2 - State "assistance" is the opposite of self-sufficiency; more of one means less of the other. Thus, the state PREVENTS many people from reaching independence. People need jobs, not handouts, and the best way to create jobs is to end taxes, starting with the Income Tax, then the Business Tax - both punish hard work and success. The state can't give to one person without taking from someone else. The government should get out of people's financial lives, out of political charity (welfare), out of the medical field and let people control their own lives, fortunes and sacred honor. Also, the state must end its failing monopoly in education by allowing parents CHOICE from all schools, including private and parochial, without the penalty of paying both school taxes and tuition. Options exist: vouchers, savings accounts, scholarships, privatization and more. As governor, I will begin discussions.

3 - Our state government, like the federal, has too many laws and is involved in too many areas where it spends alot but does a bad job. Both taxes and spending should be greatly reduced, so that working people keep what we earn, to save, spend or give as we choose - not as politicians or bureaucrats choose. All taxes should sunset every year unless re-enacted by two-thirds vote, with all legislators' votes recorded. All taxes and fees should be earmarked for specific purposes, with no revenue appropriated for "general" purposes. The government should work for us; not force us to work for it. Connecticut must enact citizens' Initiative and Referendum; otherwise, how can we call this The Constitution State?

AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Question 1 - Will you support further changes in campaign finance laws?
Question 2 - Does the state have a role in assisting low income workers to reach self-sufficiency?
Question 3 - Other states require periodic review and/or have "sunset" laws for tax credits, exemptions, exclusions, deductions, etc. What is your position on Connecticut's procedures to enact and review these tax preferences?

REPUBLICAN - M. Jodi Rell

Biographical Information - M. Jodi Rell was elected Lieutenant Governor on November 8, 1994, running on a ticket led by Gov. John Rowland. She had served 10 years as a state representative from Brookfield. Her strong leadership qualities in the House Republican caucus allowed her to rise to the position of Deputy Republican Leader. She is respected by legislators on both sides of the aisle and by mayors and first selectmen throughout the state, where she has emerged as a forceful and thoughtful spokesman on municipal issues ...*

1 - Connecticut's Republican Party has been at the forefront of changes in campaign financing. It was the only party in any state in 1996 to refuse soft money from their national party. This decision not to accept this money had my full support. I believe soft money harms the political process. However, I also believe that funding the political process is important for our democracy. Campaign financing is not wrong, nor does it constitute a dirty phrase. Candidates who wish to become government leaders and makers of public policy need to tell people who they are and in what principles and policies they believe. The best way to do that is for people who support them to donate money. Connecticut has tough laws and a strong watchdog in the State Elections Enforcement Commission, which has never hesitated to discipline any party when the law is violated. I have great faith in the commission,...*

2 - Every state has a role in assisting its less fortunate to reach a level of self-sufficiency. In Connecticut, under the leadership of Gov. John Rowland and with my support and assistance, we have been meeting that responsibility. There is no greater example than Connecticut's welfare to work program. The cycle of welfare dependency in Connecticut is ending. We have created programs to teach the less fortunate, the low-income worker and the welfare recipient how to work, how to better themselves and how to become self-sufficient and a strong, contributing member to society. These programs show results slowly and steadily. There have been many success stories, more failures than we like, and so much more hope for these people and for our state than we have seen in decades. I am filled with enthusiasm as I see welfare recipients and low-income workers bringing home bigger and better paychecks, feeling better about themselves ...*

3 - I believe Connecticut's procedures to enact and review tax preferences such as credits, exemptions, exclusions and deductions make sense for our state. It is the General Assembly that writes these preferences into law. The legislator who proposes the idea and the legislative bodies that vote these proposals into law have the responsibility of narrowly drafting the proposal to meet a specific need. I do not believe sunset laws work efficiently. They can require the end of a program before its usefulness is completed or allow a program to continue long after its need has ended. A sunset date makes it easier for a law to be forgotten. These tax preferences do receive periodic reviews, both from the Department of Revenue Services, which makes proposals for changes when a program's usefulness is over, and from the legislature's finance committee, whose members and staff are vigilant in their review of tax preferences.

Photo not submitted

CONCERNED CITIZENS - Gary R. Garneau

Biographical Information - Born - May 24, 1951 Hartford, Ct. Lived 1st 21 yrs. E. Hampton, Ct. Graduated E. Hampton High 1969. National guard 1970-1976. Works as machinist, tool & die maker. Single - lives in Hartford. 1992 - on November ballot for Congress 1st District. 1994 - on November ballot for U.S. Senate

1 - Yes, reform would level the playing field and encourage more independent candidates and minority parties to participate. Changes I support; 1) no T.V., radio or billboard advertisements by candidates, special interests or political parties 2) public funding of T.V. time, radio time and newspaper space 3) all candidates on the ballot would be in all debates, given equal time for political statements 4) limit funding

2 - Yes, too many jobs are not paying a living wage. Many employers are hiring part-time employees who are paid lower hourly rates and do not qualify for benefits. I would be for legislation to stop this practice when it is abused. CT has lost much of its industrial base becoming more service job based. These jobs do not pay as well. Joe and I will lean toward doing as much as we can to reestablish industrial base jobs.

3 - Since the state income tax has been enacted, the state budget has gone from 7 to 11 billion dollars. Taxes in the state of Ct. can be reduced 1) cap the budget at its current level 2) reduce state bonding projects, 1.2 billion is excessive 3) reduce state deficit 4) reevaluation of state agencies, cost versus effectiveness "sunset law" 5) some privatizing of state services and agencies (no state employee layoffs, reduction only by attrition)

** Exceeded specified word limit*

DEMOCRAT - Joseph D. Courtney

Biographical Information - Joseph Courtney has a record of distinguished public service in Connecticut. He served four terms as a State Representative. Mr. Courtney was House Chair of the Human Services and the Public Health Committees, he also served as Co-Chair of the Health Care Access Commission. He worked to expand access to and improve the quality of healthcare for Connecticut residents and negotiated a healthcare deal that saved the state millions during the recession of the 1990's.

1 - Throughout my career I have supported efforts to reform our campaign finance system, including the comprehensive Shays-Meehan bill this year. I believe we can do more to reform the current campaign finance regulations in Connecticut. The 1997 bill that nearly passed in the General Assembly would have placed voluntary spending limits and would have permitted public financing through a check-off on the income tax form for the gubernatorial election was a good approach to leveling the playing field.

2 - Yes, government has a role in providing the resources to assist low-income workers become self-sufficient. I have worked throughout my career to improve education, job training programs, transportation, and childcare, the pieces that are necessary to achieve the goal of self-sufficiency. We must have quality education for all our children no matter where they live. Workers must be provided with skills to meet the needs of the jobs of the future in the high-tech, and biotech industries. We must also ensure that affordable housing or sufficient transportation is available near places of employment. Finally, safe and affordable childcare must be available so individuals can go to work or school. Helping families rise to self-sufficiency is more than creating jobs, it requires a global approach so that individuals can find long-term, good paying jobs with adequate benefits to ensure sustained self-sufficiency.

3 - I believe that it is a good idea for Connecticut to formalize a procedure to review our current tax code. We should look at the current laws on the books to ensure that they reflect life in this state and to determine whether we are providing tax breaks to the right people.

VOTE!
Polls Open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Tuesday, November 3

LIBERTARIAN - Robert S. Loomis

Biographical Information - Born 1926; Married 1947, 4 children & 5 grandchildren. B.S. & M.S., Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Opened engineering office (1955). Evolved to Loomis and Loomis Inc. Various public offices in East Granby (1957-67). Libertarian Party 1972.....present. Chaired LP of Conn. 1975-80. Professional Memberships include American Society of Civil Engineers, Boston Society of Civil Engineers and Structural Stability Research Council. Published "Torsional Buckling Study of Hartford Coliseum" in SSRC Proceedings and ASCE Structural Division.

1 - No! Restrictions on financing are restrictions on free speech. The only effective way to avoid influence peddling is to enforce the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, Article First, Sec. 1 ".... and no man or set of men are entitled to exclusive public emoluments or privileges from the community". Our problem is that we have public officials who violate our Constitution and then proceed to obtain favorable judicial reviews from their appointees. Their exercise of power must be constrained and the only way to do this is to restrict that power.

2 - No! There is no such authorization in our Constitution and Article First, Sec 1 forbids it since such people would receive "privileges" not available to others. Incomes should not be taxed. The State should not set minimum wages. The State should not interfere in any economic activity unless a crime has been committed and then its primary concern should be to make the victim as whole as possible. The best that government can do for any worker is to free them of "legal" obstructions to their right to earn a living.

3 - "Sunset" would be an improvement, if they were ever implemented. But we need more effective measures. We should amend the constitution to require a 2/3 rds vote in both houses to approve any expenditures or tax. The people should also be empowered to nullify any statute by petition and referendum.

U.S. SENATE
Term of Office - 6 Years

Question 1 - Do you support further campaign finance reform?
Question 2 - Does the federal government have a role in assisting low-income workers to reach a level of self-sufficiency?
Question 3 - Is there a role for government in the growing trend toward part-time employment without benefits?

REPUBICAN - Gary A. Franks

Biographical Information: Gary A. Franks served three terms in Congress. He was the first black Republican elected to Congress in nearly 60 years. He was hailed as the "moral force" behind welfare reform, and fought to revitalize our state's urban areas and lower taxes on Connecticut's families. A graduate of Yale, Gary spent ten years in private industry and also served as a Waterbury Alderman. Gary lives in Waterbury with his wife, Donna, and their three children.

1 - Many politicians talk as if they are in favor of campaign finance reform, but fail to recognize that if they talk the talk, they must also walk the walk. It is not enough to wait for the laws to be changed. That is why I am practicing campaign finance reform in my campaign for the U.S. Senate: I will not spend more than one dollar per registered voter, and I will place a 10% limit on PAC contributions. I also support stronger disclosure laws and increasing funding for the FEC, currently a watchdog without teeth. Reforming the way in which we fund our political campaigns will restore faith in our political process and our democracy. We've talked long enough about campaign finance reform, let's make it happen.

2 - The booming economy of the late 1990's, while making many rich, has left too many behind. That is because many of our workers, especially in our urban areas, lack the education and training to improve their quality of life. Also, many of our workers have been left behind as Connecticut's defense contracting industry has downsized. The federal government should commit itself to improving education at all of our nation's schools through school choice (within town boundaries, to preserve local control), charter schools and magnet schools. The government should also increase funding to train our workers for this new-high-tech age. For example, the federal government should provide funds to help train Connecticut workers, many displaced from the defense contracting industry, in new technology-intensive professions. We cannot allow Connecticut workers, the best in the nation, to be left behind. Our government has a role in helping them to improve their lives.

3 - Too many businesses are finding that it has become to expensive to hire workers on a full-time basis, and have increased their number of part-time workers without benefits. This is not the best situation for employers and employees alike, Employers want workers dedicated full-time to their endeavors, and employees want access to the stability and benefits of a full-time job. I believe that by decreasing taxes and burdensome regulations on businesses, thereby lowering an employer's cost per worker, the government can encourage businesses to hire more full-time workers. This helps employers and employees alike, and is in keeping with my political philosophy of lower taxes, smaller government and more freedom.

DEMOCRAT - Christopher J. Dodd

Biographical Information: Chris Dodd authored the landmark Family and Medical Leave Act which allows workers 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for a sick or newborn family member. He authored legislation to expand Head Start and college loans. In addition, he supports a Patients' Bill of Rights that will allow Americans to choose their own doctor and hold HMOs accountable. Dodd also supported the Brady Bill to reduce handgun violence.

1 - Yes. I support campaign finance reform that will limit the unhealthy influence of money on our democratic system. As Connecticut's Senator, I believe we must take meaninful steps to ban uncontrolled soft money contributions, require greater financial disclosure by campaigns and special interests, and restrict PAC contributions. To that end, I strongly support two bipartisan proposals—Shays-Meehan and McCain-Feingold—which take these important steps. In the past two years, I have voted six times to break the Republican logjam and pass the McCain-Feingold bill and I pledge to continue that fight.

2 - Yes. I have long believed that the best social program is a good job. Nothing does more to encourage good citizenship, build strong families, and create stable neighborhoods. Although our unemployment rate is low, we must remember that there are still people in our country and in our state who work very hard for low wages. These people deserve better education and job training services so they can obtain the best jobs of the 21st century economy. They deserve affordable health insurance and child care, so they can work without worry. And they deserve a raise in the minimum wage, so that a full time job in America will no longer pay poverty wages. I have supported worthy legislation to achieve each of these objectives and will continue to do so.

3 - Yes. Although part time work has given many Americans flexibility in their lives, it has often threatened to erode their standard of living. In order to expand that flexibility while minimizing the negative, I introduced legislation that would create the National Commission on Fairness in the Workplace. The Commission would study the trend toward part time jobs, and how to preserve benefits for the people who hold those jobs. I also cosponsored legislation to encourage small businesses to provide health insurance to their employees. And when businesses fail to do so, I fought to make health insurance more affordable for individuals. We also need to ensure that American workers have the skills to compete in the new, high technology economy. To that end I have worked to provide companies with incentives to offer further training and education to their workers, to help dislocated workers obtain high technology skills, and to make college more affordable for working families.

LIBERTARIAN - Wildey J. Moore

Biographical Information: Age: 61. Married: wife, Linda five children. Education: Formal - same school as Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Edison and others. Informal - Thirty year and continuing association with the Foundation for Economic Education (FEE), Irving-On-Hudson, NY. Organizations: President, Western Connecticut Discussion Club. An affiliate of FEE. Activities: Host "We the People" TV show, public access channel 21, Charter Communications. Business: Self employed as a sporting arms manufacturer.

1 - Absolutely! Campaign financing should only come from individuals and/or families residing in the district the candidate will be representing and be limited to $1,000.00 respectively. NO finances should come from any other entity. It should be a Class A felony punishable by not less than five years mandatory to solicit and/or accept unlawful/money. Ten years mandatory for the solicitation and/or acceptance of foreign money. I consider this to be an act of treason. Finances received from individuals coupled with the coverage the news media gives are more than ample for any candidate to get his message across. The power on loan to representatives must be "Of the people, By the people, and, For the people".

2 - NO! Inorder for the federal government to do something FOR the people it must first do something TO the people. It is not a productive entity. Socialism (a command class and those compelled to comply with their rulers) is not the foundation America was built on. Simple economics tells us adding the exorbitant cost of bureaucracies and politicians to a cause only increases cost; leaving less for the recipients. Cutting taxes (leaving more money for productive endeavors) and reducing the overhead (government) will enable the producers to produce more thereby increasing wages and job opportunities. Socialism takes from the productive and, history teaches us, only distributes where it feels it will gain political advantage. I do not, as the socialist would have me believe, see my fellow Americans as vultures putting self ahead of all others necessitating the need for regulators to stand between myself and all my relationships.

3 - NO! Business in America is surviving in spite of government NOT because of government. There are more people employed in government (non productive regulators) than in all American manufacturing (productive) positions, combined. People that take part time jobs w/o benefits do so willingly, in large part, to help the family unit afford government. When two parties willingly enter into a contractual relationship to both of their satisfaction it is, in my opinion, immoral if not amoral for anyone to question said relationship. To do so is to cause division the only beneficiary being the divider. "If, to please the people, we offer what we ourselves disapprove, how can we afterward defend our work? Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair. The rest is in the hands of God"...George Washington.

Photo not submitted

CONCERNED CITIZENS - William Kozak

Biographical Information: DOB -3/23/37-Shelton, Ct. B.S. in B.A. Quinnipiac College "63"-Dean's List Student. U.S.A.F. 54-58 stationed in USAFE worked as Intelligence Specialist at Ramstein, Germany in war room at USAF-ADVON - prime source of intelligence for Air Force in Europe. Owner of Kozak Builders. Sunday School Teacher currently at Holy Rosary Church, Ansonia, Ct. Former member of Rep. Ansonia Town committee. Ran for Congress in the 5th District in 1976. Former Treasurer-President of American-Russian Citizen club.

1 Yes. Political campaigns have reached astronomical heights; our gvernment should limit the amount spent on campaigns. What chance has a desirable candidate have without huge funds?

2 - No. People have to help themselves, too many people look upon government to solve their problems. If a person serves the military than he should receive G.I. benefits.

3 - Most part-time employment is low end; if a person strives, he will succeed - either learn a trade or go to College; an individual has to have the desire to help him or herself. No amount of government regulation is going to control the free market economy - Communism failed!

Photo not submitted

TERM LIMITS - Lois A. Grasso

No response received from the Term Limits candidate.

VOTING IN PERSON

Officials will be on hand at all polling places to answer your questions and demonstrate the voting machine.

When ready to vote, give your address, name and ID (such as a driver's license, employment card or library card) to the checkers. They will direct you to a voting machine.

To close the curtain and unlock the machine for voting, move the red handle of the curtain lever to the right as far as it will go, and leave it there.

To register your votes, simply TURN DOWN the pointer OVER the name of the candidate for whom you wish to vote, and LEAVE IT THERE. Returning the red handle to the left opens the curtain and registers your vote.

VOTING WITH CHILDREN

State law allows a child up to age 16 to accompany a voter, who must be his or her parent or guardian, into a voting booth.

IF YOU ARE 18 YEARS OLD OR A NEW RESIDENT

The cut-off date for registering to vote was October 20. BUT, if you have moved into town since that date, or become a new citizen or will turn 18 on or before Nov. 3, you may still register to vote in this election. Contact the Registrars of Voters at 341-1115.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Applications for absentee ballots are obtained from the town clerk, 341-1110. You may vote by absentee ballot only if you are:

1. Out of town during all voting hours (6 A.M. to 8 P.M.)
2. Ill or physically disabled.
3. Prohibited by your religion from voting that day.
4. In the armed forces.
5. An election official working at another polling place.

Completed ballots must be received by the Town Clerk by 8 p.m. on Election Day, so ACT NOW to vote absentee BY MAIL. You may vote absentee IN PERSON in the Town Clerk's office at Town Hall any weekday between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. before November 3. Also, the office will be open Saturday, Oct. 31 from 9 a.m. to noon.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
4th District
Term of Office - 2 Years

Question 1 - Do you support further campaign finance reform?
Question 2 - Does the federal government have a role in assisting low-income workers to reach a level of self-sufficiency?
Question 3 - Is there a role for government in the growing trend toward part-time employment without benefits?

REPUBLICAN - Christopher Shays

Biographical Information: U.S. Congressman, 1987 to present. House Budget Committee. House Government Reform and Oversight Committee; Chairman Subcommittee on Human Resources, overseeing departments of Labor, HHS, Education and HUD for waste, fraud and abuse. Former State Representative; Mayor's Aide, Trumbull; College Instructor; Business Consultant; Realtor; Peace Corps Volunteer. B.A. Principia College; MPA and MBA, New York University. Lives in Stamford and Washington, D.C. with his wife Betsi. Daughter, Jeramy, is a freshman in college.

1 - I strongly support campaign reform and am co-author of the McCain-Feingold, Shays-Meehan legislation to clean up the current system. The legislation helps restore integrity to the political system by: Banning Soft Money, the unlimited contributions from individuals, corporations, labor unions and other interest groups to the political parties; Recognizing sham issue ads for what they truly are: campaign ads; Improving FEC disclosure and enforcement; and Establishing a commission to study further reforms. On August 6, the House passed the bill by a vote of 252 to 179. On September 10, the Senate failed by eight votes to end a filibuster against the McCain-Feingold bill. I will continue to push for comprehensive reform with every fiber of my being.

2 - The Federal Government has an important role in ensuring self-sufficiency and making welfare reform work. It is absolutely essential we monitor it carefully and make modifications when necessary. Since enactment, we have seen a noticeable reduction in the number of people receiving public assistance. Throughout the country, individuals are experiencing the pride and satisfaction of holding a job. We need to make sure there is safe, reliable child care; transportation to get people to work; and a meaningful opportunity to improve job skills. Funding Bridgeport's
Workplace program, Stamford's Women's Mentoring program and CTE's Family Self-Sufficiency program are helping workers in a crucial transition period. Welfare reform is also one reason why I worked so hard to pass an increase in the minimum wage - to help the working poor and those striving to escape the welfare rolls earn a decent living.

3 - The federal government has a role to play in ensuring workers are not being exploited and providing a safety net for those who cannot find a job. The challenge for Congress and the Administration is to avoid enacting new mandates on employers that, while well-intentioned, reduce the number of available jobs. While I would like to see more part-time workers offered benefits, particularly health care benefits, I believe the best way to achieve this is to provide an economic environment where businesses can thrive. We need to continue efforts to get our country's financial house in order and promote strong economic growth so a job exists for everyone who wants one with competitive pay and benefits. True competition in the workplace is the best antidote.

DEMOCRAT - Jonathan Kantrowitz

Biographical Information: Lifelong resident of Fairfield. Attended Fairfield Public Schools, Brown University (B.A. 1966) and Harvard Law School (J.D. 1969). Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Queue Inc. an educational software publishing company located in Fairfield. Previously worked as a public school teacher (2 years) in Bridgeport, a lawyer in Bridgeport, Stamford, Greenwich, New Haven and New York, and an Adjunct Professor at UB School of Law. Founder and President of the Board of Brooklawn Academy, a charter school in Fairfield. ...

1 -I have pledged to spend no money on my campaign and have challenged my opponent to do likewise. Campaigns should be about issues, not public relations. It is the Republican Senate which has blocked all efforts at campaign finance reform.

2 - Yes. The minimum wage should be raised. Additional training opportunities should be made available. Regressive taxes, which fall most heavily proportionately on low income workers should be readjusted.

3 - The problem is not part-time employment without benefits - it is full time employment without benefits. Too many full time worker have little or no benefits. Health benefits should be the right of every full time worker, just as unemployment benefits, Workmen's Compensation and Social Security now are.

LIBERTARIAN - Marshall C. Harrison

Biographical Information: Harrison, a life-long Libertarian, is an entrepreneur and true believer in the power of the individual. Throughout his career he has started and operated several successful companies, including Imperium Solutions LLC, the Westport, Conn.-based technology company he currently directs. Outside business and away from politics, Harrison is a passionate sailor, art collector and opera enthusiast. He and his wife Henrietta, a Westport-based psychotherapist, live in Fairfield, Conn., with their two teen-age sons.

1 - What is commonly called "campaign finance reform" is really an infringement on free speech. I believe that all contributions must be disclosed and made public. However, to prevent an individual or organization from publishing their views is contrary to the First Amendment.

2 - The federal government must provide an environment free from unnecessary regulatory burdens and restriction. I believe the free market is the best motivator and provider of self-sufficiency.

3 - Salaries, fringe benefits and other terms of employment should be the subject of private and unfettered negotiation between employer and employee. The only appropriate role for government regulation is in the area of health and safety conditions.

SECRETARY OF THE STATE
Term of Office - 4 Years

Question 1 - What voter education and outreach efforts would you support to encourage more voter participation?
Question 2 - With the January 1, 1999, prohibition of soft money flowing from national to state political parties, would you support any further changes in campaign financing regulations?

REPUBLICAN- Ben Andrews

1 and 2 - No response received from the Republican candidate.

LIBERTARIAN - Kenneth F. Mosher

Biographical Information - No response received.

1 - An informed electorate is an absolute requirement for a free society. As Secretary of State I would focus on two outlets to let our citizens know what's happening in the legislature, the Internet and a periodic newspaper feature submitted to every paper in the State. My duties include tracking and recording every piece of legislation. My intent would be to make a summary of all pending legislation easily available to everyone. The summary would include a description of the law, a list of sponsors and how to contact them, and the current status. A practical, plain English description of how the law would affect us is also a crucially important aspect of this summary. The Internet version would contain a method to provide immediate feedback to the authors and sponsors. This proactive publicizing should in itself encourage increased voter participation.

2 - The Libertarian Party does not support any restrictions on campaign fundraising except for Constitutional prohibitions, such as money from foreign powers. As such, the soft money prohibition and most other existing prohibitions should be repealed. Restrictions on campaign contributions are a violation of our First Amendment rights. Libertarians believe everyone should be allowed to donate as much as they want as long as there's full and immediate disclosure of every donation. The fact that a candidate might be in the pocket of a corporation or special interest would be immediately apparent if all of his donation records could be scrutinized immediately by the entire population. I would support requirements that every campaign which accepts donations make all information regarding those donations immediately available in an electronic format which any person can easily access, such as via the Internet.

DEMOCRAT - Susan Bysiewicz

Biographical Information - Susan Bysiewicz attended public schools in Middletown, graduated from Yale College and earned her law degree from Duke University. She practiced corporate and international law at White and Case in New York City, then returned to Connecticut to practice corporate and banking law at Robinson and Cole. She was elected to the Connecticut House of Representatives in 1992 and served as Co-Chair of the Government Administration and Elections Committee and as a member of the Judiciary and Aging Committees.

1 - Participation in the election process is critical to the future of our state. In order to be effective participants, voters must be informed about the candidates and their platforms. One way we can increase voter participation is through increased and earlier education in citizenship beginning at age three or four ... I propose to expand the character counts program that is currently in our public school system to include more elements relating to government and citizenship. I would like to begin this program in kindergarten and continue through high school. I also would like to expand the civics curriculum and emphasize citizenship in every grade. We need to start teaching citizenship and instilling the value of participatory democracy in our children when they are young, not just registering them when they turn 18 and expecting them to spontaneously vote.

2 - I wrote the law to ban the transfer of soft money from national parties to state parties in Connecticut. This legislation closes a huge loophole that allowed otherwise illegal contributions to be funneled to Connecticut, effectively skirting campaign finance laws. This is the first outright ban of soft money by a state in the country. This ban was a good first step but we must continue to fight to reform our campaign finance system. I have fought to ban lobbyist gifts to legislators and for stricter disclosure laws. I fought for comprehensive campaign finance reform and was within two votes of passing it in the Connecticut House of Representatives. We must continue to work to insure that people and ideas count for more than money in elections.

A Message from the League

The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends on the informed and active participation of all citizens. This Voter's Guide is intended to help you cast an educated vote. The information from each candidate is presented on a nonpartisan basis. We neither support nor oppose any candidate.

Read what the candidates have to say, attend the forums, then mark the sample ballot. Vote in person if you can. Absentee ballots are available from the Town Clerk's office, but remember that failure to provide "true and correct" information on an absentee ballot is a Class D felony.

After the election, STAY INFORMED. Attend public meetings, they are open to all. Let public officials know your thoughts, and don't be afraid to ask them tough questions. Be proud of yourself for participating.

Lisa Shufro & Maggie Feczko – Co-Presidents, LWV of Westport

STATE TREASURER
Term of Office - 4 Years

Question 1 - The Office of Fiscal Analysis projects a General Fund deficit of $500 million in FY 1999/2000, due in part to revenue reductions. What measures would you support to address what appears to be an impending structural deficit in our state budget?
Question 2 - What is the proper balance between state debt, tax revenues and expenditures?

REPUBLICAN - Paul J. Silvester

Biographical Information - State Treasurer Paul J. Silvester was named to the office by Gov. John G. Rowland on July 22, 1997. Prior to that he served as the Deputy Treasurer and Chief of Staff to former Treasurer Christopher Burnham. Treasurer Silvester holds a bachelor's degree in Finance from the University of Connecticut and a master's degree in Business Administration from Tulane University. Before joining state service in 1995, Silvester was a vice president of corporate finance at Advest, Inc. in Hartford...

1 - The Office of Fiscal Analysis bases its projections on an extremely conservative revenue and expense forecast that includes the addition of a one-time cost for a twenty-seventh State payroll totaling approximately 100 million dollars. We have not always agreed with their projections. It should be emphasized that our revenue projections have proven, over the past three years, to be so conservative that we have consistently generated surpluses and have fully funded the rainy day fund. However, assuming the revenue projection is accurate, we must control spending and balance the budget. This can be accomplished by establishing strict expense priorities. State services for children, families, the elderly and education should continue to be funded on the basis of need and not budget exigencies. All other state agencies should hold expense growth at or preferably below the rate of inflation, thereby funding critical services while maintaining a balanced budget. Control of expenditures can be achieved through a continued emphasis on training and technology.
2 - Balancing the competing dynamics of taxes, expenditures and debt is critical to the success or failure of government. One has only to contrast Connecticut's current economy with the economy of the early 1990's to validate this statement. Budget surpluses, a fully funded rainy day fund and $150 million available for debt reduction have replaced onerous taxes, overspending, massive deficits, high unemployment and the issuance of long term debt to pay for current expenses. I believe that taxes should continue to be lowered by a policy of prudent rate reduction and rebates when warranted. Clearly, many of us are benefiting from a tax environment where businesses can price products competitively in world markets and individuals retain enough money after taxes to take care of themselves and their families. State expenditures should be capped at or below inflation after full funding for human services and the cost of educating our children. Debt should be issued to make strategic investments...*

DEMOCRAT - Denise Nappier

Biographical Information - Treasurer of the City of Hartford, was sworn in December 2, 1997, to her fifth term in this important office, the financial cornerstone of City government. First elected in 1989, she is custodian and trustee of the City's Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund, with assets of about $950 million, and also serves as trustee of some $20 million in city trust funds. As the official responsible for bond issuance and the management of some $425 million annually in cash receipts, disbursements and short term investments.

Questions 1 and 2 - no response received

LIBERTARIAN
Louis A. Garofalo

No response received from the Libertarian candidate.

Photo not submitted

CONCERNED CITIZENS - Joseph J. Ciccomascolo

Biographical Information - 1953 graduate of Bentley College of Accounting and Finance. Controller of some companies. Administrator of company investments engaged in public, industrial, and health care accounting and finance. Forty five years of experience in the financial field.

1 - After having confirmed the projection of a deficit in FY 1999/2000, I would recommend a delay of some spending programs in the budget, review investments for possible revenue, and consider possible bonding. Of course, a study of the revenue projections should be made to determine the veracity of each projection.
2 - Tax revenues must always be sufficient to absorb expenditures. Failure to do that results in deficits which in turn leads to debt and debt service. This brings on an added burden to revenues to cover. State debt should always be kept to a manageable level. Control over expenditures and increased revenues will serve to keep down state debt.

COMPTROLLER
Term of Office - 4 Years

Question 1 - How can the Comptroller's office contribute to improving Connecticut's financial status?
Question 2 - Would you recommend any further measures be taken to protect state employee pension funds?

REPUBLICAN - Christopher Scalzo

Biographical Information - Chris Scalzo, 34, lives in Ridgefield with his wife Laura. Chris earned a B.A. in Economics from Fordham University and worked in the international financial markets on Wall Street. In 1994, Chris was elected to the State House of Representatives where he served as a member of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, The Education Committee and Ranking member of Housing. Chris passed legislation to reduce underage drinking and driving and improve local accountability in Education spending.

1 - The Comptroller's responsibility is to care for Connecticut's fiscal health and advocate fiscal responsibility. That role is central to our state's financial status. I have worked with Gov. Rowland to lead Connecticut from the days of deficits and recession. We cut taxes, controlled spending, filled the rainy day fund, and returned rebates for the first time to taxpayers. Our state created over 90,000 jobs and record surpluses... I will bring the full force of the office to operate state government more efficiently, place the employee health plan on firm financial ground, and I will employ my background in finance and economics to improve the accuracy of fiscal reporting.
2 - While the investment of pension funds is the responsibility of the Treasurer, the Comptroller has administrative duties for pensioners and therefore a valuable voice for their well-being. Connecticut has taken great strides in the quality of investment of pension funds, and the level of contribution to the fund to make it actuarially sound for future retirees. The unfunded liability, or the amount of money that we will need in the future but is not yet represented in the fund, has benefited from these measures but there is still need for improvement. We are on the right path and our funding levels are actuarially sound. But past administrations have deviated from the proper path before. I will work with the Treasurer to ensure that we remain committed to funding levels for the pension fund that spares future generations of taxpayers a very large unpaid bill and protects our investments for retirees.

DEMOCRAT - Nancy Wyman

Biographical Information - Nancy Wyman became the first woman to hold the office of State Comptroller on January 4, 1995. Comptroller Wyman also served as State Representative (1987-1995) from the 53rd District. She was House Chairperson of the Education Committee and Chairperson of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education. She was named "Legislator of the Year" by the Connecticut Education Association. From 1979-1987, Comptroller Wyman served on the Tolland Board of Education. She resides in Tolland with her husband ...*
1 - Collecting and reporting accurate financial data is essential to sound decision making. Therefore, I have led the effort to introduce Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) to the state budget process. Under current accounting practices, spending is not counted until payments are made, and revenues are recorded before they are earned. This system encourages budget gimmickry. Surpluses can be produced simply by delaying some large payments, which has occurred in past years. GAAP would introduce honesty to state budgeting and provide the reality check policymakers need. Due to my efforts, GAAP budgeting is scheduled for implementation in the next biennium. I have also developed an innovative accounting program that will allow agencies to evaluate their programs for effectiveness and efficiency. This tool is vital, because when tough economic times come to pass, agencies will be able to cut programs that are not as cost-effective and keep the ones that really work ...*
2 - The State Employees' Retirement System is in poor financial health. Presently, there are enough assets to cover 55% of liabilities, leaving $3.7 billion in unfunded liabilities. It is essential to the state's fiscal health that this liability be reduced in a systematic way. I favor a legislative change that would allow the State Treasurer discretion to direct budget surpluses to the pension fund if interest rates and market conditions make it a better alternative than bonded debt reduction. Currently, budget surplus dollars must be used to reduce bonded debt. Both bonded debt and pension debt are part of the state's total long term debt, which now totals $16.3 billion. The Treasurer should be able to direct surplus dollars to the pension fund if that strategy provides the optimum return on the dollar. Beyond this, the state should not allow any interruption to the systematic payments toward pension debt.

Photo not submitted

LIBERTARIAN - Steven Edelman

Biographical Information - Frog Pond, Director. Finance lecturer, banking and financial research, defense communications engineer. M.B.A., Yale University School of Management; M.S., Columbia University Fu School of Engineering; B.S., University of Pennsylvania Wharton School; B.S., University of Pennsylvania Moore School of Engineering.

1 - Upon the departure of the O'Neill administration, Connecticut residents suddenly discovered that Connecticut faced a financial crisis. This crisis arose not from a stock market crash, but rather from a concerted effort to conceal the true financial condition of the State. This crisis precipitated a bitter battle over the imposition of a state income tax in a state historically opposed to income taxes. Many people consider the financial statements that appear at the end of an annual corporate shareholder report complex and tend to skip over them. This perceived complexity may explain why the news media focuses upon budgets when reporting on State finances. Nevertheless, only financial statements provide a means for evaluating the financial condition of the State. As comptroller, I would terminate accounting shell games. By actively disseminating financial statements with clear, accessible explanations as to their meaning, I would educate the public to demand accurate reporting from successor comptrollers.
2 - Article IV, Section 22 of the Connecticut Constitution states that " The treasurer shall receive all moneys belonging to the state, and disburse the same". Section 3-13a of the Connecticut General Statutes provides for "an assistant treasurer for investments, who shall...subject to the provisions of Section 3-13 to Section 3-13d...advise the treasurer on investing the funds of the state". Section 3-13c refers to the State Employees Retirement Fund. Article IV, Section 24 of the Connecticut Constitution states that "The comptroller shall prescribe the mode of keeping and rendering all public accounts. He shall...be one of the auditors of the accounts of the treasurer." Section 3-13a of the Connecticut General Statutes paraphrases this description. A treasurer invest funds. A comptroller audits funds. How can a comptroller possibly invest funds and then ethically audit those same funds? As comptroller, I would uphold the Libertarian belief in limited, constitutional government and abide by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

If you like this Guide... call us at 226-6170 and say so! Or write us at

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS • P.O. BOX 235 • WESTPORT, CT • 06881-0235

We are a non-partisan organization which welcomes women and men as members, and this Voter's Guide is only one of our many projects aimed at strenthening democracy through an informed and active electorate.

** Exceeded specified word limit*

ATTORNEY GENERAL
Term of Office - 4 Years

Question 1 - How should the Attorney General's office best protect the interests and needs of Connecticut's citizens, especially children, working poor, and those without healthcare insurance?
Question 2 - What steps will you take to ensure that companies adhere to CT-DEP regulations?

REPUBLICAN - Santa Mendoza

Biographical Information - Santa Mendoza grew up in Norwalk, graduated cum laude from Fairfield University in 1978, and received a J.D. degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1984. Formerly in private practice, Santa is currently an Assistant Counsel for Taxation and Regulatory Affairs at CBIA. Since 1992, Santa has been a community activist, having been appointed by the Board of Education to Governor Weicker's Local Advisory Committee on Quality Education and Diversity, the West Hartford Human Rights Commission and Board of Tax Review....*

1 - The Attorney General's office is a vanguard position, being charged with a protective role in state government. There are many ways to be effective and focused on Connecticut's needs: 1. The number of children in neglectful and sometimes abusive homes is tragically growing. The Attorney General's child protection and child support enforcement divisions should be immediately beefed up to face this crisis. Not one more child should be lost as a result of a "case backlog" or some other bureaucratic excuse. 2. One of the greatest problems the working poor face is their inability to afford private legal help. Working mothers can't afford to pay a lawyer for a child support or a health insurance dispute. Senior citizens can't afford lawyers to assert a property tax appeal. Part of the Attorney General's role is to see to it that the laws and regulations promulgated by state agencies provide for remedies that are in fact accessible to the working poor....*
2 - Given that the role of the Attorney General includes a role in helping to review draft DEP regulations, I think greater time should be spent insuring that these regulations have clarity, lack loopholes, and are easy to both comply with and enforce. Regulations that conflict, overlap, are unintelligible, or are impossible to practically comply with, create an automatic disincentive on the part of companies to comply with the law. The Attorney General's office should do everything it can to assist the DEP in its efforts to simplify and clarify its regulations. The Attorney General's office should also be part of a balanced effort to effect practical remedies on companies that are non-compliant. Companies that acknowledge their non-compliance and take swift and significant steps to rectify their problems should be dealt with fairly. Incorrigible polluters, however, should expect to feel the full weight of Connecticut's law brought to bear on them.

DEMOCRAT - Richard Blumenthal

Biographical Information - Richard Blumenthal has served two terms as Connecticut's Attorney General. Mr. Blumenthal was a member of the Connecticut State Senate (1987-1990) and the Connecticut House of Representatives (1984-1987). Richard Blumenthal also served as the United States Attorney for Connecticut and as a clerk to United States Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun. Mr. Blumenthal graduated with honors from Harvard College and Yale Law School, where he was Editor-in-Chief of the *Yale Law Journal.*

1 - My constant and continuing goal is to be the people's lawyer, fighting first and foremost for the public interest, making the law a force for the betterment of people's lives. No matter how formidable the foe, or how financially or politically powerful the opponent, I have sought to protect the citizens of Connecticut—battling Big Tobacco's unconscionable misconduct, unfair utility rate hikes, excessive auto insurance charges, abusive bank practices, and the illegal contamination of our environment. I have sought to make our neighborhoods safer by successfully advocating and defending in court our state's assault weapon ban, DWI per se suspension law, sex offender registration statute, and enhanced child abuse and neglect protections. Yet, while much has been accomplished, much remains to be done: advocating consumer rights, preserving the environment, protecting children, halting health care fraud, protecting a woman's right to choose, and more. These causes have and will continue to be my focus as Attorney General.
2 - The Attorney General's office during my tenure has aggressively sued and successfully litigated to enforce Connecticut's environmental laws against polluters. I have obtained judgements resulting in the shutdown of a major polluter; forced companies to pay for brown site clean ups, and obtained millions of dollars in penalties from polluting companies and industries. These suits and rewards act as a major deterrent to corporations and industries that previously may have acted irresponsibly. My actions have led companies to begin instituting preventative and proactive measures that reduce the risk that environmental damage and accidents will occur.

LIBERTARIAN - Richard J. Pober

Biographical Information - Partner, Pober, Ross and Pasquini, a civil law firm since 1988. Private practice attorney in Connecticut for twenty years. Adjunct associate professor at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield in MBA department for ten years. Member of the Westport Representative Town Meeting for five years. Married to Kathi Joy for 21 years, 2 sons, Bryan and Benj (age 12 & 10).

1 - The function of the Attorney General should be to ensure justice for the victims of crimes and not intrude in social matters. The interests of the citizens of Connecticut will best be served by eliminating the entire social welfare system. Individuals who are unable to fully support themselves and their families must learn to rely on supportive family, church, community or private charity to bridge the healthcare and financial gap. Our current government-run welfare system is costly to taxpayers and cruel to children born into a cycle of welfare dependency and hopelessness. A compassionate society will find other ways to help our people who need temporary assistance, including healthcare coverage. The IRS should allow a dollar for dollar tax credit for contributions to private charity. Private charities provide a safety net, but not a way of life. Private charity can allow short-term emergency assistance.
2 - The CT-DEP should be abolished. The CT-DEP has a yearly budget of $96 million which monies should assist with repealing the Connecticut Income Tax. Connecticut receives 68 cents back from every dollar we send to Washington. It is time to return to the principals of the Connecticut and United States Constitution and not believe that the government (both state and federal) should address all social concerns. Private causes of action will allow individuals and neighborhoods to bring private lawsuits against companies that pollute and otherwise harm the environment. State regulatory agencies have a financial self interest to find problems to address, whether the problem is a real concern or not. The issues addressed by CT-DEP can be solved less expensively through private means. It is time to begin to dismantle the regulatory bureaucracy and allow the citizens of Connecticut to control their lives and reduce their taxes.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

☆ SUNDAY, October 25th ☆
Come to the
☆ CANDIDATES' DEBATE ☆
State Representatives Districts 133 & 136
Westport Town Hall ☆ 2 - 3:30 p.m.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE - District 133
Term of Office - 2 Years

Question 1 - Given the high cost of living in Fairfield County, what can be done to help the working poor?
Question 2 - Please state your campaign priorities in no more than 20 words.

REPUBLICAN - Paul Tymniak

Background: More than 20 years of experience at the state and local level — along with legislative leadership positions — provides a special opportunity to get things done for our towns and for the most needy in our state.
Reply: The answer lies primarily in better education, improved job training and continued job creation. I am proud to have been recognized by the state Federation of Vocational Teachers for efforts to expand and improve vocational technical training for urban students. More can be done to expand vo-tech schools to train young people for 21st century technical jobs. Also, we should continue the effort begun by a state takeover of Hartford schools to assure that all students receive a quality education. Further, the state should continue to encourage economic growth and job creation so that everyone who is willing and able to work can find a good job.
Priorities: Stay the course: tax cuts, improved business climate. Encourage parental involvement in schools, reform State Siting Council, protect runaway children.

NATURAL LAW PARTY - Bernard Nevas

Background: Bernie, 54, an expert in prevention oriented government, served on SWRPA, the Westport RTM and in the Peace Corps and practiced law and real estate. He is married with two children. Since 1992 he has been promoting the Natural Law Party's prevention oriented approach for government.
Priorities: "My priority is to create a Prevention Coalition of legislators, like the one in Congress, to study the methods that already exist to eliminate the deepest 'root' causes of problems and propose solutions that prevent problems before they arise, saving money and eliminating much suffering."
Reply: "We don't really know all the 'root' causes for the inability of individual workers to make a good living. With many it may be inadequate education or training, with others a psychological or a physical problem, Each of these "causes" may have a deeper cause, for example a build up of stress may be a factor. My Prevention Coalition would research these root causes, propose field tests of likely approaches, then submit legislation for the roll out of the proven solutions. It is likely that proper education and stress management will be part of the solution."

DEMOCRAT - Jeffrey Jacobs

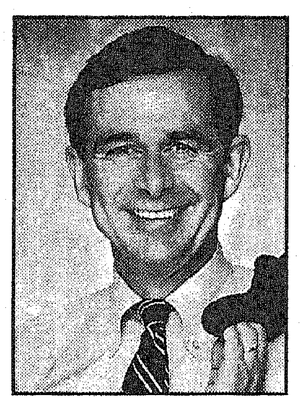
Background: Westport-based attorney, educator and business owner; President, Professional Education Network, providing high-quality education services to professionals; Trustee, Westport Public Library (chairman of successful capital campaign); Adjunct Professor, Quinnipiac College School of Business; Grew up in Connecticut; children attending Westport Public Schools.
Reply: Unfortunately, many Americans believe that poor people don't work and that people who work aren't poor. In fact, the number of "working poor" in Fairfield County is increasing rapidly, even in families where at least one parent worked. The main reason: declining job opportunities for adults who aren't educated or trained to advance in today's workforce. Connecticut has the highest median income in the country, but the state has not provided assistance to these families. We must implement some of the strategies that have proven successful elsewhere:
• Work to attract stable employers and increase the number of higher-paying jobs;
• Raise the skills levels of workers through education and job training; and
• Address employment barriers stemming from lack of mass transportation, available childcare, and affordable health insurance.
Priorities: We need someone who will represent our views in Hartford, who is accessible and who shares our values and priorities.

** Exceeded specified word limit*

STATE REPRESENTATIVE - District 136

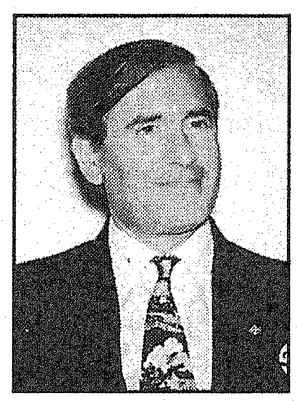
Term of Office - 2 Years

Question 1 - Given the high cost of living in Fairfield County, what can be done to help the working poor?
Question 2 - Please state your campaign priorities in no more than 20 words.



REPUBLICAN - Ken Bernhard

Background: I have been actively involved in Westport's community events and have assumed multiple leadership positions, including Board of Selectmen, Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Attorney and State Representative commencing in 1981.
Reply: The two most important things that can be done to help the working poor in Fairfield County involve improving mass transportation and providing adequate daycare services. As to the latter, the State of Connecticut has made great strides in improving daycare facilities in our urban areas. By providing funds and by providing incentives for inhouse daycare facilities, the State has been sensitive and imaginative in helping the working poor. Improving mass transportation is a much bigger problem. I would like to see the State subsidize mass transportation by absorbing the bulk of the expense for train and bus fares. This would improve access to employment opportunities for the working poor and take some of the auto traffic off the highway.
Priorities: I believe that the priorities for the next legislative session include focusing on protecting young children from abuse, ensuring quality education for all of the State's children, improving our environment and protecting our open spaces.



DEMOCRAT - Steve Goldberg

Background: Steve Goldberg is a practicing attorney/accountant for thirty years in tax, financial, pension, real estate, estate planning and investment matters. He is a Westport RTM Member, President of Rotary and former President of the Westport Bar Association who is active in education and community affairs.
Reply: This year's $200,000,000 budget surplus give-away of tax rebate/credits was not the answer to help all Fairfield County residents cope with the high cost of living. A school construction fund should have been established to reduce building and capital/interest costs and reduce property taxes. Such fund can still be created out of future surpluses or budgets. State guidelines, building efficiencies and elimination of duplicate functions can cut education costs, not quality. Towns should have better defined capital spending ceilings. Also, an increased "Rainy Day" reserve fund could prevent future income tax increases when revenues decline. Working poor would further benefit if Fairfield County got ii its fair share of State benefits and if more training and continuing education programs were available to upgrade job skills.
Priorities: Listen to constituents. Hartford business as usual is not satisfactory. We need a CREATIVE, courageous, energetic fighter for new, alternative and efficient uses of tax dollars.

STATE SENATE - District 126

Term of Office - 2 Years

Question 1 - Given the high cost of living in Fairfield County, what can be done to help the working poor?
Question 2 - Please state your campaign priorities in no more than 20 words.

REPUBLICAN - Judith G. Freedman

Background: State Senate 1986-present; Senate Republican Assistant Leader; Senate Republican Leader, Education Committee
Senate Chair, Appropriations subcommittee, Education. Former: Vice Chairman Westport Board of Education, teacher, importer; President Republican Women Westport, 4th Congressional Republican Women, BS, MS, Member, Weston Kiwanis, Westport Women's Club, A.A.U.W.
Reply: The free marketplace determines the cost of living. As long as there is a demand for housing, that cost will continue to rise. The state within certain confines, does offer a variety of programs geared to assist income qualified persons. They include:
the HUSKY health insurance plan for children; continuation of benefits for families moving off welfare; day care subsidies and additional day care slots; pre-school programs targeted to families who cannot afford private preschool programs; rental subsidies; low cost loans to purchase housing; job training programs to increase skills for better job opportunities; a pilot program, experimenting with lower train fares out of Bridgeport to get people to work. Hopefully the pilot will succeed and expand. Inexpensive mass transit helps everyone.
Priorities: State campaign finance reform; reviewing education aid formulas; expanding health care patient bill of rights; local control of zoning.

SHERIFF - Fairfield County

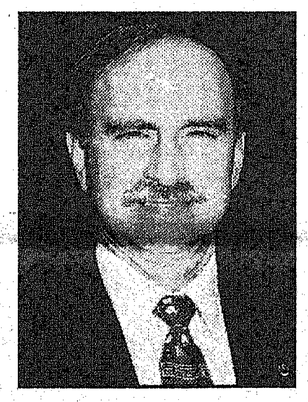
Term of Office - 4 Years

Question 1 - How will your background and experience help you to effectively carry out the specific duties of Sheriff?

REPUBLICAN - Charles M. Valentino, Sr.

Background: Born and raised in Fairfield County. Attended Bridgeport Schools and studied management at Wesleyan University. Honorably discharged as Sergeant, U. S Army after 14 years of service. Ten years, Deputy Sheriff, Fairfield County; 6 years, City Sheriff, Bridgeport; Service Co-ordinator High Sheriffs Office. Received "Outstanding Service Umbrella Award" for reducing domestic violence. Served over 7,000 restraining orders; arrested over 300 deadbeat parents.
Reply: Will work to expand CT's most successful program of tracking deadbeat parents; will increase security at state courthouses to include armed, trained deputies and videosurveillance; will enhance on-line computer services among state offices to provide better and faster service. Will develop training and certification programs for deputy sheriffs in Fairfield County — already best in state. Will encourage community service by deputy sheriffs so they can better understand public needs. Will work to enhance fingerprinting Identikit Program to help recover missing children.

My record shows that I believe very strongly in public service and have actively participated in many civic, social and political organizations and events to help make our community a better place for all of us.



DEMOCRAT - Stephen F. DeVito

Background: I am Deputy Chief and a 32 year veteran of the Stamford Police Department with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a Masters degree in Public Administration. I have risen through the ranks and served in a command and administrative position for 21 years.
Reply: My training, education and experience provide me with the expertise to provide leadership in the Sheriff's Department, resulting in an administration which will provide:
• quality service to victims of domestic violence through a comprehensive approach to recruitment of qualified candidates
• easier access to a County Sheriff via an office in each of four county courthouses to promote expedient service of process
• contemporary training and reporting procedures for Deputy Sheriffs relative to the service of process
• a closer relationship with Family Court and the office of the Attorney General, providing an avenue for proactive enforcement against deadbeat dads, spouse and child abusers
• training and education for Special Deputies beyond the mandated training of 3 weeks, which is in most cases grossly inadequate. Employee development must include training commensurate with the needs of the courthouse security officers, to include courtroom and building security, managing persons in crisis, firearms training and shooting decisions.

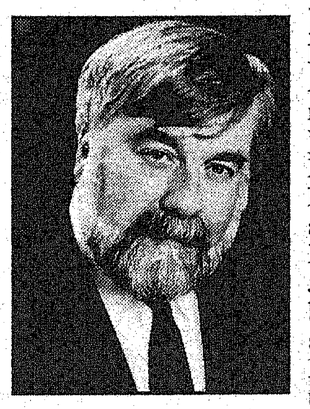
PROBATE JUDGE

Term of Office - 4 Years

Question 1 - How will your background and experience help you to effectively carry out the specific duties of Probate Judge?

REPUBLICAN - Richard J. Diviney

Background: Born, New York, N.Y., 1941. B.A. History, Quincy College, 1963. Juris Doctor, St. John's University, 1966. New York and Connecticut Bar, 1967. Westport resident since 1968. Four children, all Staples graduates.
Reply: Longstanding professional experience and community involvement best enable me to effectively perform the duties of Judge of Probate. My concentration in estate settlements and other probate matters has continued from the outset of my 30-year Westport law practice. I have helped hundreds of families through the often difficult process of winding up the legal affairs of their deceased loved one. Children have frequently asked me to assist them in taking care of elderly parents who can no longer manage their own property. The Probate Court has appointed me to represent alleged incapable people when their best interest is in question. I have served as executor of estates, as trustee and guardian for minors. I have taught probate law in Fairfield University's paralegal studies program. Each of these experiences deepened my interest in Probate Court matters. They expanded my knowledge of probate law and have refined my awareness of what is most important to the people the Probate Court was established to serve.



DEMOCRAT - Kevin M. O'Grady

Background: Juris Doctor Boston University School of Law; Westport Attorney. Elder Law, Estates and Probate Sections - Bridgeport; Connecticut Bar Associations. Appointed Commissioner by Probate Court. Written and lectured on: Social Security Law (Medicare, Medicaid); Intestacy; Testamentary Trusts for Disabled; Estate, Elder, Trust Law. Drafted first Connecticut OBRA Trust. Approved by Probate Court, on appeal Connecticut Supreme Court.
Reply: The Court rules on estates, wills and some trusts. The Probate Judge must be extremely capable in these areas. I am. In estates, the Probate Judge decides whether legal fees are reasonable. As Judge, I will not allow percentage fees for attorneys.
Most importantly, the Probate Judge needs the judgment and compassion to decide very sensitive legal/medical issues in the lives of individuals and families: guardianships of the young, adoptions, conservatorships of the infirm, elderly, developmentally disabled, and the mentally ill, including involuntary commitment hearings at Hall-Brooke Hospital. I have been selected by our Probate Judge and other Probate Judges to represent clients in hundreds of these cases, often pro bono.
Probate Judges must be sensitive to the tension between protecting an individual and preserving that individual's freedom. I know the law and I have the heart for the job.

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Term of Office - 2 Years Vote for only One

The Charter of the Town of Westport provides that there shall be 2 Registrars of Voters who shall not be members of the same political party. The candidates are presented by the Democratic and Republican Town Committees respectively. Both candidates will be elected.

REPUBLICAN - MABEL JOHNSON

Resident of Westport since 1970
Deputy Registrar 1980-81
Registrar 1982 - present

DEMOCRAT - NITA COHEN

Resident of Westport since 1971
Deputy Registrar 1996-97
Appointed to fill vacancy January 1997

Additional copies of this guide are available at the Westport Public Library and the Town Clerk's Office.