

2012



Voter Guide

**League of Women Voters
of Saratoga County**

www.lwvsaratoga.org

Election on Tuesday, November 6, 2012

Polls open: 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.

About this Voter Guide

This Voter Guide includes candidates who will be on the ballot for citizens of Saratoga County. It is intended to help you cast an informed vote. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

An interactive online version of this guide is available on the League's Vote411.org website. Candidates who replied after the Oct. 1st deadline can be found there.

New Legislative Districts

Districts have changed! The incumbent who previously represented you may **CHANGE AFTER THIS YEAR, EVEN IF THE** incumbent is reelected. Boundary lines and district numbers have changed. The U.S. Constitution requires that district lines be redrawn following each U.S. census.

You can find your new district lines at the [2012 New York Senate and Assembly Maps](#) of the NY State Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment (LATFOR).

Where to Vote

Contact your [County Board of Elections](#) to find your polling place.

Voting Machines

Learn about the new voting machines in your county at Vote-NY.com.

More Information

For more information about voting, see the [League of Women Voters of New York State](#) or the [New York State Board of Elections](#).

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U.S. Senate

US Senate

Description: New York State's junior Senator.

Candidates (choose 1):

Colia Clark



Party: GRN

Biographical Info:

Parties: Green Party

Campaign Web Site: coliaclark.org

Education: BA History, MA Africana and Women Studies with further study towards a Doctor of Arts in Humanistic Studies, certificates of training in conflict resolution and mediation for schools and community, and community and management

training.

Experience and Qualifications: I have long years of experience organizing in urban and rural areas, working with community and civic organizations: with women, youth, children, unions, homeless, educators, handicapped and developmentally disabled youth and adults, seniors, environment, international organizations; manager of social justice center with 30-plus organizations working on varied issues; served as vice president of NGO to United Nations on issue of Apartheid; served on numerous boards, worked as editor of newspaper

Key Endorsements: Green Party

Questions:

Q: Priorities: *What would be your top three priorities if elected? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: (1)Fight for constitutional right to universal education - day care through 4 years of college in public institutions, including immigrants. Cancel student loan

debt, fund increases for after-school programs & Project Head Start. (2) Right of women & girls to own and control their bodies, right to abortion & morning-after pill, passage of Equal Rights Amendment. (3) Funds for Farm, Families, Small Businesses & Public School Working Partnership to assure that each American has multiple literacies.

Q: *Economy: What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and reduce unemployment? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: I will locate President Franklin Roosevelt's 1944 Economic Bill of Rights from beneath the pile of Congressional rubble. FDR's ECBR called for rights to health care, living wage, universal education. Push for creation of mass employment in mass transit, ecofriendly fuels, nuclear/fossil fuel waste clean-up programs, new model homes, agriculture production including agriculture curriculum for all in public education, water clean-up & development, reforestation. Motto: We Feed, Clothe and House.

Q: *Energy Policy: What steps would you propose to secure America's energy needs while protecting the local and global environment? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: I will work with Congress, State and local agencies, organizations, communities, schools, educators, businesses to implement a 5-year plan to increase solar, water, wind and other ecofriendly energy sources. This 5-year plan will include continued research and development of ecofriendly fuels, and methods for rapidly implementing these cheap, affordable, environmentally friendly energy sources. This 5-year plan is accompanied by a cleanup campaign for waterways, affected lands and reforestation.

Q: *Money in Politics: Do you support the Disclose Act, which would require disclosure by outside groups of large campaign contributions and expenditures, so that voters can determine the actual sources of funds being spent to influence federal elections? (Maximum of 250 characters)*

A: I support the Disclose Act 100%. I will wage a campaign to repeal Citizens United. Voters must know who finances campaigns, influences public policy and creates an atmosphere of distrust of Congress. Unbossed and unowned is the rule.

Q: *Health Care: What changes, if any, should be made to federal health care policies or programs? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: I will work vigorously for a constitutional right to universal health care for every American including immigrants and their families in the US. The best possible national security of any nation is a healthy, well-educated, housed and economically secure population. A Single Payer Health Plan is the best option for US national security. It must be a constitutional right. A great Single Payer Health Plan will include complete eye and dental care, and the right to abortion and morning-after pills.

Chris Edes



Party: LBT

Biographical Info:

Parties: Libertarian

Campaign Web Site: www.vote-for-chris.net

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What would be your top three priorities if elected? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: The budget must be balanced without raising taxes. This will require cuts to both military spending and entitlements. There is simply no other way. Federal laws that intrude on the civil liberties of Americans must be repealed, and federal agencies must be held accountable for violating the privacy of American citizens. To ensure wars are fought with clear objectives and won with honor, I will introduce legislation requiring a Declaration of War before any troops can be committed to combat

Q: *Economy: What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and reduce unemployment? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: Every attempt by the government to intervene has only hindered our economic recovery. The strategy of stimulating growth through additional spending has failed everywhere it has been tried. In addition, rewarding failure by bailing out banks and corporations only encourages more failure. We cannot incur any more debt as our nation is on the verge of bankruptcy. Tax increases will only further harm our economy. The only acceptable budget is a balanced budget that does not raise taxes.

Q: *Energy Policy: What steps would you propose to secure America's energy needs while protecting the local and global environment? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: We must end all forms of energy subsidies as they distort the market and discourage innovation. We should enforce existing environmental laws, but until we experience an economic recovery there must be a moratorium on additional regulations. I would introduce legislation prohibiting states from using eminent domain to acquire land for use in hydraulic fracturing. Also, the federal excise tax on gasoline and diesel fuel should be eliminated.

Q: *Money in Politics: Do you support the Disclose Act, which would require disclosure by outside groups of large campaign contributions and expenditures, so that voters can determine the actual sources of funds being spent to influence federal elections? (Maximum of 250 characters)*

A: I agree with the ACLU that the Disclose Act is discriminatory. By exempting larger organizations that tend to be mainstream from disclosure requirements, the bill inequitably suppresses the speech of smaller and more controversial organizations.

Q: *Health Care: What changes, if any, should be made to federal health care policies or programs? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: The answer to our nation's health care needs is more freedom to innovate, not more regulation. Federal regulations impose a straitjacket which prohibit solutions from being tested in the marketplace, while doing nothing to lower

costs. In addition, there are serious privacy concerns resulting from the intrusion of the government into the doctor-patient relationship. Getting government out of the way will allow innovation to control costs so that all Americans can afford health care.

Kirsten E. Gillibrand



Party: DEM, WF, IND

Biographical Info:

Parties: Democratic (DEM) Independence (IND) Working Families (WFP)

Campaign Web Site: www.kirstengillibrand.com

Education: A magna cum laude graduate of Dartmouth College in 1988, Gillibrand went on to receive her law degree from the UCLA School of Law in 1991.

Experience and Qualifications: After working as an attorney in New York City for more than a decade, Senator Gillibrand served as Special Counsel to United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Andrew Cuomo during the Clinton Administration. She then worked as an attorney in Upstate New York before becoming a member of Congress in 2006. She has been a New York Senator since January of 2009.

Key Endorsements: Kirsten is honored to be a candidate once again in November 2012. Because of her strong New York values and her proven record of accomplishment, she has been endorsed by a wide range of elected officials and civic organizations, including EMILY's List, NARAL, Planned Parenthood, NYSUT, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., and twenty New York Democrats in Congress.

Questions:

Q: Priorities: *What would be your top three priorities if elected? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: No matter where I travel in NY it is clear that job creation is a number one priority. From small businesses, to manufacturing to high tech and bio tech, New York State will be a leader in the recovering economy. We also need to keep New York safe. Working with America's allies to prevent terrorism worldwide is critical to our nation's security. I will continue to fight for measures here at home that will keep New York families safe.

Q: Economy: *What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and reduce unemployment? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: New York State is poised to be a leader in American manufacturing. My "Made In America" grant program would award competitive grants to manufacturing companies and provide them with resources needed to adapt to today's manufacturing model. I support the SEAM Act, which would help cut costs on domestic clean energy technology manufacturing. And we need to support small businesses by providing them with tax incentives and access to capital that will help them create the new jobs we so badly need.

Q: Energy Policy: *What steps would you propose to secure America's energy needs while protecting the local and global environment? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: The best way to stem the tide of global climate change is to end America's dependence on carbon-based energy and invest in clean, homegrown energy sources. Those investments will not only address global climate change, but spur economic growth, create green collar jobs and move America forward on a path to energy independence. We need investments in renewable energy production and energy efficient technology.

Q: *Money in Politics: Do you support the Disclose Act, which would require disclosure by outside groups of large campaign contributions and expenditures, so that voters can determine the actual sources of funds being spent to influence federal elections? (Maximum of 250 characters)*

A: I fully support the DISCLOSE Act and am an original cosponsor of the bill. We must get wealthy, corporate special interest influence out of our elections. Politicians must be accountable to their constituents, not corporate campaign contributors.

Q: *Health Care: What changes, if any, should be made to federal health care policies or programs? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: Every American should have access to affordable, quality health care. The historic bill we passed achieved important goals, including insuring those with pre-existing conditions, making prescription drugs more affordable for seniors, providing small business tax credits, and moving to a preventative care system. Ultimately, this bill will deliver care to 30 million more Americans, bring down costs for everyone, and will reduce our deficit by more than \$1 trillion over 20 years.

Wendy Long



Party: REP, CON

Biographical Info:

Parties: Registered Republican, Candidate in June 26th Republican Primary, nominee of the NYS Conservative Party.

Campaign Web Site: www.wendylongfornewyork.com/

Education: Dartmouth College, attended Northwestern University School of Law and Harvard Law School, J.D. from Northwestern

Experience and Qualifications: Press Secretary to U.S. Senator Gordon Humphrey (R-NH) and Senator William Armstrong (R-CO), Law Clerk to Judge Ralph Winters of U.S. Court of Appeals and to Justice Clarence Thomas of the Supreme Court of the United States, litigation partner at Kirkland & Ellis, Counsel and Spokesperson for the Judicial Confirmation Network (now the Judicial Crisis Network).

Key Endorsements: Ambassador John Bolton, Sean Hannity, Grover Norquist, Steve Forbes, Laura Ingraham, Citizens United, Susan B. Anthony List, Staten Island Boro President Jim Molinaro, Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro, Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks, Oneida County Executive Tony Picente, NY State Senators: John DeFrancisco, Hugh Farley, William Larkin, Mike Nozzolio, Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb and Assemblymembers: Bob Oaks, Gary Finch, Will Barclay, Annie Rabbitt, Jane Corwin, Marc Butler, Don Miller Nancy Calhoun, Ray Walter, Nicole Malliotakis.

Questions:

Q: Priorities: *What would be your top three priorities if elected? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: Stopping wasteful government spending so we can rein in the deficit and shrink the national debt. Cut taxes so that small business owners have the capital needed to expand and create new jobs. Repeal Obamacare, defend the 2nd Amendment and be a U.S. Senator who believes in and defends the U.S. Constitution.

Q: Economy: *What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and reduce unemployment? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: Lower taxes so that small business owners and individuals have the capital needed to reinvest in America. Cut burdensome government regulations so that businesses and individuals may grow and prosper.

Q: Energy Policy: *What steps would you propose to secure America's energy needs while protecting the local and global environment? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: Allow the extraction of Natural Gas from Marcellus Shale, build the Keystone Pipeline, allow the exploration and extraction of gas and oil from Federal lands and from off-shore sites. Not only is this good energy policy but, also good national security and economic policy too.

Q: Money in Politics: *Do you support the Disclose Act, which would require disclosure by outside groups of large campaign contributions and expenditures, so that voters can determine the actual sources of funds being spent to influence federal elections? (Maximum of 250 characters)*

A: NO.

Q: Health Care: *What changes, if any, should be made to federal health care policies or programs? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: Repeal Obamacare, work to lower insurance barriers between states, cut waste and theft so we can lower the cost of delivering healthcare. The solutions to high healthcare costs lies in the private sector, not in big government.

John Mangelli



Party: CSP

Biographical Info:

Parties: I'm an independent candidate. Unfortunately, election law requires the candidate to name a party. I couldn't use independent although that's what I am, because it's similar to independence party. So I chose the name Common Sense party. I am not affiliated with any particular party but had no choice but to make up a name. I believe we need to return common sense to politics so the name is appropriate. However, in essence I am an independent candidate.

Campaign Web Site: johnmangelliforsenate.com

Education: Law Degree: Thomas Cooley Law School. Graduated 1995.
University of Maryland: College Park: 1987 BA
Commack HS North

Experience and Qualifications: Practicing law in NY since 1996. Licensed in NY and Fla See website for additional courts and affiliations.

Questions:

Q: Priorities: *What would be your top three priorities if elected? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: providing constituents with ability to vote on issues that I would be addressed with. So that my vote would be a direct and verifiable vote on behalf of my constituents. Prosecute fraud. Education-tackling the costs of mandates and or regulations, providing jobs for more(maybe less paying jobs but for more people). Protecting the environment.

Q: Economy: *What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and reduce unemployment? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: I would support less Federal government intervention within New York. I don't think the answer to this should involve the taking of public resources and allowing a certain few to harvest same. The economy should not outweigh the preservation of the environment.

Q: Energy Policy: *What steps would you propose to secure America's energy needs while protecting the local and global environment? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: I am against fracking. I believe in conservation. Use less, recycle. Don't sacrifice the environment for profit and greed. I don't think we have a choice but to drill for oil and continue to use coal. As horrible as that is we have much more experience with oil and coal then we do with fracking. I would like to see coastal communities use hydro power. Wind and solar need to be made affordable. Fracking is not safe in my opinion.

Q: Money in Politics: *Do you support the Disclose Act, which would require disclosure by outside groups of large campaign contributions and expenditures, so that voters can determine the actual sources of funds being spent to influence federal elections? (Maximum of 250 characters)*

A: I do. Is it not already common knowledge? Do we need to see the numbers to confirm the corruption? Will it make any difference? The public needs to decide if they are being represented or ruled.

Q: Health Care: *What changes, if any, should be made to federal health care policies or programs? (Maximum of 500 characters)*

A: I believe you should not be forced to buy insurance.

U.S. House of Representatives

US Congress District 20

New district: Includes Albany and Schenectady Counties, plus part of Montgomery, part of Rensselaer, and part of Saratoga Counties.

Candidates (choose 1):

Robert J. Dieterich



Party: REP, CON

Biographical Info:

Parties: Republican and Conservative Party endorsed.

Campaign Web Site: dieterichforcongress.com/

Education: AAS, SUNY Delhi (1988) BS, SUNY Plattsburgh (1991) Commission, Academy of Military Science (2004).

Experience and Qualifications: Bob is a 19-year employee of a respected, local, community bank where he currently serves as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. In 2011, he was named the Capital District Business Review "CFO of the Year" in the under-\$20 million category. He also serves as the Treasurer of the Glenville Bank Holding Company, President of FNB Financial Services, Treasurer of the Mohglen Corporation and as Chairman of the CFO Council of the Independent Bankers Association of New York. In 2008, Bob completed a decade of service to his state and nation as a member of the 109th Airlift Wing, New York Air National Guard. During his time in the Guard, Bob rose from enlisted Airman to the officer's rank of Captain, earning an array of military awards including the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (1 oak leaf cluster), the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal (2 oak leaf clusters), the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (rifle) and the NYS Defense of Liberty Medal. In the aftermath of the World Trade Center Attacks on 11 SEP 2001, Bob served as part of the New York National Guard's response and subsequent operations, and later supported the humanitarian aid mission in response to Hurricane Katrina.

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: My top priority if elected to Congress will be to lower our crushing national debt which is already hampering our ability to address critical issues like national security, health care for our seniors and repairing our aging infrastructure. We must also reform our tax code which is overly complex and too easily manipulated by those who can afford teams of compliance officers and accountants. And finally, we must promote policies which will spur entrepreneurialism and small business startups.

Q: *Economy: What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: To truly strengthen our national economy and permanently reduce unemployment, the federal government must do several things. First, we must balance our federal budget to put our nation on solid footing. Next we must reform and simplify our tax code. Once the code is simplified and stable, consumers and businesses will find it more attractive to operate on American soil and we will see a turnaround in permanent, well-paying jobs. We need to elect qualified leaders to tackle these issues.

Q: *Energy Policy: What steps would you propose to secure America's energy needs while protecting the local and global environment?*

A: Our federal energy policy needs to be driven by technological advances and national security imperatives. For this reason, I support investment in the research which could produce scientific breakthroughs in domestic energy production and storage as well as environmentally responsible drilling. I support source diversity among all of our resources to reduce, and eventually eliminate, our need for foreign oil. I would also oppose direct government investment in any private company.

Q: *Money in Politics: Do you support the Disclose Act, which would require disclosure by outside groups of large campaign contributions and expenditures, so that voters can determine the actual sources of funds being spent to influence federal elections?*

A: I support the goals of the DISCLOSE Act but do not believe it goes far enough. Any campaign finance reform must treat all groups fairly and equitably, which this bill clearly does not do. I prefer to see the role of money in elections almost entirely eliminated. Debates and public forums, where both sides can be heard, could become the primary way for the electorate to become informed. Once elected, I commit myself to ensuring full transparency in campaign finance with no exceptions.

Q: *Health Care: What changes, if any, should be made to federal health care policies or programs?*

A: The ACA of 2010 has failed to reduce the cost of health care or increase competition but will result in over \$1 trillion in new taxes in the first decade alone! This means that our small businesses will be hurt both by higher taxes and a bigger bill for health insurance coverage. In Congress, I will advocate for a series of simple reforms to allow for the sale of insurance across state lines, address the needs of those with pre-existing conditions, end the costly practice of defensive medicine.

Paul D. Tonko



Party: DEM, WF, IND

Biographical Info:

Campaign Web Site: www.paultonko.com/

Education: Paul graduated from Clarkson University with a degree in mechanical and industrial engineering.

Experience and Qualifications: Congressman Paul Tonko is a second term member of the United States House of Representatives. He currently represents New York's 21st

Congressional District, including the cities of Albany, Schenectady, Troy and his hometown of Amsterdam. Paul has been a champion for the middle class, job creation, economic opportunity, providing senior citizens the opportunity to retire with dignity and the mental health community throughout his career. For the 112th Congress, Paul was named the Ranking Member of the Investigations and Oversight Subcommittee on the Science, Space and Technology Committee, where he has special investigative authority on all matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee. He is also a member of the Energy and Environment Subcommittee. Paul is also a member of the Natural Resources

Committee, where he serves on the Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee. He continues to fight to bring clean energy jobs to the Capital Region to ensure it maintains its status as one of the fastest growing clean technology hubs in the country. Paul believes in the power of America's middle and working class families and is fighting to ensure the American Dream stays within reach for all who work hard and play by the rules. As a former Member of the Budget Committee, Paul offered the lead amendment to the Ryan Budget to protect Medicare and was instrumental in fighting to protect the program from ending. Building on his work in the New York State Assembly, where he fought for one of the nation's strongest mental health parity laws, known as Timothy's Law, Paul continues to promote mental health parity at the federal level and serves as a Co-Chair of the Mental Health Caucus. Prior to joining Congress, Paul was the President and CEO of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. Before that, he served in the New York State Assembly for 25 years, 15 of which he was the Chair of the Assembly Energy Committee. At the age of 26, Paul was the youngest person in the history of Montgomery County to be elected to the County's Board of Supervisors, which he chaired until 1981. Paul graduated from Clarkson University with a degree in mechanical and industrial engineering. He is a lifelong resident of the city of Amsterdam, New York.

Key Endorsements: Democratic, Working Families, Independence Parties

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: If re-elected, my top three priorities will be helping local small businesses expand and create jobs, strengthening and growing the middle class and improving the livability of our local communities through waterfront development policies. Our area is home to some of the fastest growing high tech real estate in the country, and fostering that development while fighting for the policies of the middle class will ensure a brighter future for all our area residents.

Q: *Economy: What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: Government doesn't create jobs, the private sector does. But businesses can only expand when they have customers for their products. That is why I believe our policies must empower the middle class – the stronger their purchasing power the quicker our businesses can grow. We must also invest in education, infrastructure and innovation. The Capital Region is one of the fastest growing high technology hubs in the country – we must continue to build on that success.

Q: *Energy Policy: What steps would you propose to secure America's energy needs while protecting the local and global environment?*

A: Our country lacks a national energy policy. In order to compete in a global race for clean energy and innovation, America must invest in renewable resources and tap into our brightest and smartest minds. We should not simply continue to give Big Oil mindless handouts. Energy policy should be guided by physics, not politics. Energy efficiency should be our fuel of choice - because the cheapest power plant is one we never have to build. And we must protect the air we breathe and water we drink.

Q: *Money in Politics: Do you support the Disclose Act, which would require disclosure by outside groups of large campaign contributions and expenditures, so that voters can determine the actual sources of funds being spent to influence federal elections?*

A: I am an original co-sponsor of the DISCLOSE Act. I have been outspoken in our need to not only force big political spenders to come out from behind the shadows, but also to reform our entire campaign finance system. Corporations should not have the ability to contribute unlimited funds to any candidate they choose. Elections should be about who can bring solutions forward to help solve the country's problems, not an auction to the highest bidder.

Q: *Health Care: What changes, if any, should be made to federal health care policies or programs?*

A: The ACA ensures preventative services are covered with no out-of-pocket costs, children under 26 can stay on their parents plan, people with preexisting conditions are no longer denied coverage and seniors won't have to dig so far into their pockets for prescription drug coverage. But we must continue to do more; including protecting the Medicare guarantee from turning into a voucher program, enhancing mental health services and eventually ensuring health care is a right rather than a privilege.

US Congress District 21

New district: Includes Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington Counties, plus part of Herkimer and part of Saratoga Counties.

Candidates (choose 1):

Matthew A. Doheny



Party: REP, CON, IND

Biographical Info:

Parties: Registered Republican. Will appear on the Republican, Conservative & Independence parties lines in the upcoming election.

Campaign Web Site: doheny4congress.com

Education: Allegheny College, bachelor of arts in political science, 1992. Cornell University, juris doctorate, 1995.

Experience and Qualifications: Matt has never held elected office. He's had a successful career in the private sector, turning around troubled companies and protecting American jobs

Key Endorsements: NYS Conservative Party; NYS Independence Party; State Sens. Farley, Griffo, Little, McDonald, Ritchie and Skelos; Assembly Members Kolb, Barclay, Blankenbush, Butler, Duprey, Jordan, McLaughlin, Tedisco.

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: America faces 2 challenges: debt & growth. Congress must balance the nation's budget, just as families do. We should cut unnecessary programs & corporate subsidies. I will help spur our economy by encouraging the growth that leads to jobs. We need to improve roads, bridges, cell & broadband service. Let's also invest in our future & support education & training programs. We need to fix our tax code to make it simpler & replace Obamacare with common-sense solutions that actually lower costs.

Q: *Economy: What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: Lawmakers can help the economy & reduce unemployment by giving certainty to employers. If companies can anticipate their taxes & regulatory requirements, they feel comfortable making capital improvements and hiring people. Our government can also lower the cost of doing business by lowering the cost of energy, offering more avenues for exports and expanding broadband and cell service. Our schools should also teach students marketable skills.

Q: *Energy Policy: What steps would you propose to secure America's energy needs while protecting the local and global environment?*

A: Let's unlock our nation's vast reserves, such as natural gas, which is safe and economical so that we can lead our country forward for the next generation. An "all of the above" proposal is an excuse to give corporate subsidies to energy sources, such as solar & wind, that don't work. That's how massive taxpayer losses, such as Solyndra, happen. Oil, natural gas, hydropower and nuclear are economically viable. We need to tap into our own resources and continue to use what works.

Q: *Money in Politics: Do you support the Disclose Act, which would require disclosure by outside groups of large campaign contributions and expenditures, so that voters can determine the actual sources of funds being spent to influence federal elections?*

A: No. The bill would create exemptions for certain groups, while restricting free speech for others. It would have a terrible impact on our political process & would impinge on privacy rights, which could lead to intimidation & harassment of donors.

Q: *Health Care: What changes, if any, should be made to federal health care policies or programs?*

A: We must repeal & replace ObamaCare with common-sense solutions, such as allowing purchasing of plans across state lines, tort reform, increasing caps on health savings accounts, allowing people to take their plans from one job to the next, improving doctor recruitment in rural areas, offering more flexibility to hospitals making capital improvements & reducing barriers to telemedicine. This gives patients control over their own care, while decreasing costs & improving incentives in health care.

Donald L. Hassig



Party: GRN

Biographical Info:

Parties: Green Party

Campaign Web Site: donhassigforcongress.wordpress.com/

Education: BA with majors in Biology and Chemistry

Experience and Qualifications: Served as director of Cancer Action NY since founding this grassroots environmental health organization in January 2000. Much of my work with Cancer Action NY involves advocacy for action by national, state and local governmental entities to protect the environment and the public health.

Key Endorsements: Ali Zaidi, PhD, Professor of Humanities, SUNY Canton College

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: 1. Establish a prohibition against corporate spending in all federal election campaigns 2. Create a new governmental institution charged with bringing out the Truth about matters of national significance (The first matter that the National Truth Commission would be addressing is the failure of the federal government's public health entities to warn the public of the avoidable persistent organic pollutants (POPs) exposure health hazard.) 3. Ban all offensive wars.

Q: *Economy: What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: Government should: (1) establish a tax on Wall Street sales,(2) ban offensive wars and set about downsizing the military to an all defensive force and (3) establish a 50K standard deduction with progressive tax rates above this figure. The monies obtained by taking the first two actions would fund free public education through graduate school and free health care for all. Government must create an Environmental Health Education Service employing 3 million to minimize exposure to pollutants.

Q: *Energy Policy: What steps would you propose to secure America's energy needs while protecting the local and global environment?*

A: Ban shale oil and shale gas extraction; Ban tar sands extraction and any importation of tar sands sourced materials; Establish incentives for energy conservation action; Establish grants for residential solar power and wind power projects; Ban oil and gas exploration in the arctic; Eliminate all connections between government and energy corps Provide financial incentives for research and development focusing on alternatives to fossil fuels Increase the fleet mpg requirement to 50 mpg.

Q: *Money in Politics: Do you support the Disclose Act, which would require disclosure by outside groups of large campaign contributions and expenditures, so that voters can determine the actual sources of funds being spent to influence federal elections?*

A: Yes, I support the Disclosure Act. If elected I would support legislation that prohibits corporate contributions to campaigns for elected office at the state and federal levels of government. This legislation would provide for public financing.

Q: *Health Care: What changes, if any, should be made to federal health care policies or programs?*

A: Federal health care must come to include: (1) free health care for all; (2) an Environmental Health Education Service with a staff of 3 million to educate Americans on the subject of pollutant toxicant exposure minimization; (3) a new public health institution charged with insuring that political considerations play no part in public health decision making and that corporations are denied any role in public health; and (4) promotion of alternative therapies for cancer treatment.

William L. Owens



Party: DEM, WF

Biographical Info:

Parties: Democratic and Working Families Parties

Campaign Web Site: www.billowensforcongress.com

Education: Manhattan College (B.B.A.), Fordham University

School of Law (J.D.)

Experience and Qualifications: After serving as a Captain at Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Bill chose to put down roots in the community and raise his family in the North Country. Prior to serving in Congress, Bill was Managing Partner at the law firm Stafford, Owens, Piller, Murnane & Trombley, where he practiced business and tax law for more than 30 years. In that role, he helped bring over 2,000 jobs to the region through redevelopment of Plattsburgh Air Force Base and working with other community leaders to recruit businesses from Canada to New York. · Chairman of the Board-Economic Development & Technical Assistance Center Plattsburgh State University College · Chairman of Plattsburgh State University of New York Business and Advancement Advisory Council · Plattsburgh State College Foundation · Appellate Division, Third Department Supreme Court of the State of New York Committee on Professional Standards · Clinton County Chamber of Commerce Adhoc Committee on the City of Plattsburgh Business Climate · President - The Adirondack Ballet Company, Ltd. · The Camelot Home · Formerly Vice Chairman and Board of Trustees - Plattsburgh Public Library · Vice President - Clinton County ARC · Plattsburgh Rotary Club · Clinton County Blue Ribbon Panel - Studying Economic Development · Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital Medical Center Foundation, Inc.

Key Endorsements: Assemblywoman Teresa Sayward, Glens Falls Mayor Jack Diamond, Supervisor Tom Scozzafava, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Democratic Party, Working Families Party

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: I'm focused on job creation and economic development, maintaining a strong national defense, and reducing the debt and deficit. I support expiration of the

Bush tax cuts for the wealthy and ending tax breaks for companies that ship jobs overseas In addition to reforming our tax code, I'm fighting to crack down on China's currency manipulation, which costs American jobs, and working to strengthen our trade relationship with Canada to increase economic activity in the region.

Q: *Economy: What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: The federal government can create the conditions for economic recovery by investing in infrastructure, reforming the tax code and reducing the debt. In our region, we can maximize commerce with Canada, promote our agricultural economy, and retrain workers for the over 3,000 unfilled jobs in the region. Supporting colleges and universities is critical to keeping young people in our communities, attracting outside investment, and retraining workers for the global and local economy.

Q: *Energy Policy: What steps would you propose to secure America's energy needs while protecting the local and global environment?*

A: I support an all-of-the-above energy strategy that supports responsible oil and gas development and renewable energy sources. New York is blessed with many energy resources, from hydropower to biomass to nuclear energy and natural gas. I support the right of local governments to make their own energy production decisions. Communities know best their own needs and desires.

Q: *Money in Politics: Do you support the Disclose Act, which would require disclosure by outside groups of large campaign contributions and expenditures, so that voters can determine the actual sources of funds being spent to influence federal elections?*

A: Money has too much power in politics and our campaign finance laws are in need of reform. Although I was disappointed in the Supreme Court's ruling in Citizens United, I did not support the DISCLOSE Act. I am concerned it encroaches on individual free speech and could inhibit constructive political advocacy and public participation in the political process. I believe a better solution is to establish a voluntary public financing system for congressional candidates.

Q: *Health Care: What changes, if any, should be made to federal health care policies or programs?*

A: I voted for the health reform because it will reduce cost and improve care while extending coverage to millions of uninsured. As with all major legislation, improvements will be made as the law is implemented, some of which I have already supported. Work remains to be done to reduce the cost of delivering care while improving the quality of care received. We can achieve this goal by allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices, reducing hospital readmissions, and focusing on preventive care.

New York State Senate

NY Senate District 43

New district: Includes **Saratoga County:** Towns of Moreau, Greenfield, Wilton, Northumberland, Saratoga, Stillwater, Halfmoon, Waterford, most of the City of Saratoga Springs except the western part, and the City of Mechanicville. **Washington County:** Towns of Easton and Cambridge. All of **Rensselaer County** except the City of Rensselaer and the southern part of the City of Troy. All of **Columbia County**.

Candidates (choose 1):

Robin Andrews



Party: DEM

Biographical Info:

Parties: Democrat

Campaign Web Site: www.robinandrews.org

Education: Business degree (BS) in Marketing and Management, New York University

Experience and Qualifications: For the past 20 years I have owned my own business as a Budget and Planning Consultant for publications such as the Wall Street Journal, ESPN and the Saturday Evening Post. Additionally, I am the Supervisor for the Town of Claverack, and sit on the Columbia County Board of Supervisors. I am a former Village Trustee in Philmont, Chair of the Main Street Committee, President of the Local Development Corp and Treasurer of the Lively Arts and Avanse.

Key Endorsements: Columbia County Democratic Committee, Rensselaer County Democratic Committee, Saratoga County Democratic Committee and Washington County Democratic Committee

Questions:

Q: Priorities: *What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: 1) Strengthening our economy through job creation, reducing taxes, job training and removing barriers to employment. 2) Strengthening our education system by supporting giving all children a sound, basic education while finding ways to reduce financial and bureaucratic burdens. 3) Strengthening our belief in government by using government resources wisely and ensuring that politicians are held to the same scrutiny that everyone else is.

Q: Economy: *What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: There are so many opportunities for government to help strengthen the economy. We need to reduce costs by cutting through bureaucratic red tape;

support the infrastructure needed for development; cultivate a trained and ready workforce; and remove barriers to employment.

Q: *Hydraulic Fracturing: Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: I have grave concerns about hydraulic fracturing. My brother is a driller and shared that once you make the gas seams, over which you have no control, you cannot take them back. At a minimum, legislation is needed to ensure that this is held to the same regulations as other hazardous materials, that property owners know the risks and that it is safe for our communities. And we will need to give adequate funding to the regulatory agencies to ensure the safety of our residents.

Q: *Campaign Finance: Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: Campaign Finance needs major reform – we need to strengthen our enforcement of existing regulations as well as create more transparency and accountability on how money is being used in campaigns. We also need to ensure we close the existing loopholes that continue to allow the power of money to influence policy. I believe that for true campaign finance fairness, we need to move toward public funded campaigns to level the playing field and allow more people to participate.

Kathleen A. Marchione



Party: REP, CON

Biographical Info:

Parties: Republican and Conservative

Campaign Web Site: www.marchione2012.com

Education: State and Federally Certified Court Reporter

Experience and Qualifications: I have served as Saratoga County Clerk for the past 14 years. In addition to that I have served as the Halfmoon Town Supervisor, Halfmoon Town Clerk, and President of the New York State Association of County Clerks. In my current capacity as County Clerk, I oversee \$72 million in transactions, a \$5 million budget and 65 employees across 4 offices.

Key Endorsements: Conservative Party of New York State, New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedom, Columbia County Independence Party (Supported), New York State Right to Life Committee, Town of Halfmoon Republican Committee, Town of Wilton Republican Committee, Town of Saratoga Republican Committee, City of Mechanicville Republican Committee, Town of Clifton Park Republican Committee, Town of Milton Republican Committee, Town of Malta Republican Committee & Town of Pittstown Republican Committee

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: Special interests and the status quo still rule the process in Albany. That's left us with the highest taxes and debt in the nation, and the second-worst business climate according to the Tax Foundation. To change that culture I will

use my vote and my voice to speak out for reforms, to stop out-of-control spending and debt, fight to lower taxes for families, seniors and businesses, and work to improve the business climate so that the private sector can create more jobs.

Q: *Economy: What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: State government doesn't create private-sector jobs but it should help create the environment where businesses and entrepreneurs can start successful enterprises and create jobs. Businesses today have to deal with up to 49,000 pages of regulations and high taxes. I will propose a moratorium on any new regulation and an audit on the existing regulations. And I will work to lower taxes because high taxes are job killer number one.

Q: *Hydraulic Fracturing: Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: I look forward to reviewing the DEC's final report and regulations. There is great promise in hydrofracking when you consider the potential impact on our economic and energy needs, and the fact that natural gas is the cleanest fossil fuel. But we need a balanced approach as we move forward and all public health concerns need to be addressed and safeguarded first and foremost. I agree with Gov. Cuomo that we can do both and we should.

Q: *Campaign Finance: Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: I would be supportive of certain reforms, including reforms that call for greater disclosure and transparency of campaign finance information.

NY Senate District 49

New district: Includes **Fulton and Hamilton** Counties. **Saratoga County:** Towns of Day, Hadley, Edinburgh, Corinth, Providence, Galway, Milton, Charlton, Malta, Ballston and Clifton Park and western part of Saratoga Springs.

Schenectady County: Towns of Glenville, Niskayuna and eastern part of City of Schenectady. **Herkimer County:** Towns of Webb, Ohio, Fairfield, Russia, Salisbury, and Manheim.

Candidates (choose 1):

Hugh T. Farley



Party: REP, CON, IND

Biographical Info:

Parties: Republican, Conservative, Independence

Education: Juris Doctor degree from American University Law School. Bachelor of Science from SUNY Albany; graduate of Mohawk Valley Community College

Experience and Qualifications: State Senator representing four counties; former Town councilman; former college professor and high school teacher; Army veteran

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: We need to focus on reviving the economy, encouraging job creation, and reducing excessive taxes, fees and regulations. The overall burden of taxes, fees and other costs of doing business in New York is unsustainable and counterproductive, placing our state at a disadvantage. I've been encouraged by the important progress we've made in New York the past couple of years, working in a bipartisan manner to cut spending, lower taxes and reject new fees. I look forward to building on that progress.

Q: *Economy: What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: We must take steps to encourage job creation. Business owners tell me they need relief from the high cost of doing business. We need to reduce the crushing burden of government taxes, fees and related costs (in that vein, I'm very opposed to the proposal to dramatically increase Thruway tolls). We need to continue to rein in spending in a way that treats upstate fairly and enables businesses to remain and grow in New York. I also support initiatives such as a tax credit for each job created.

Q: *Hydraulic Fracturing: Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: While there are potential benefits to accessing these energy resources -- including reducing our reliance on coal and foreign oil -- any such program must carefully evaluate and take steps to address the potential environmental impacts of such activities. I think the DEC has been taking the right approach by undertaking an extensive review of this practice, including evaluating the experiences in other states, before making a decision and establishing comprehensive new standards.

Q: *Campaign Finance: Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: I am open to reforms in this area, including improvements to disclosure, transparency and enforcement. There have also been concerns about increased activity by outside groups and the lack of information or accountability about their activities. As for public funding, there may be a role for it in statewide races, but I am also keenly aware that many citizens do not favor using their tax dollars for political campaigns.

Madelyn C. Thorne



Party: DEM, WF

Biographical Info:

Parties: Democrat, Working Families

Campaign Web Site: www.madelynforstatesenate.com

Education: High School, Some College

Experience and Qualifications: Job experience in technical sales required budget review, preparation of cost justifications, ROIs, bringing a business perspective to state government and programs. My experience in community organizations and as a working class woman has developed my understanding of the challenges we all face.

Key Endorsements: NARAL, Eleanor's Legacy, Congressman Paul Tonko

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: Control local real property taxes by eliminating unfunded mandates, establishing equitable state aid and reducing Medicaid costs to the Counties. Job creation and workforce development. Preserving the civil rights of all New Yorkers by protecting Marriage Equality.

Q: *Economy: What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: State governments must cease sending unfunded mandates down to our counties and cities and dedicate monies to job training for the skill sets that high-tech industries require and reinvest in our BOCES programs so students who are not college-bound can develop trade skills.

Q: *Hydraulic Fracturing: Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: While I am open to reviewing reports and studies about hydro-fracturing, at this point I am not in favor this type of energy exploration. The risks are great, the environmental impact both above and below the ground is significant and we have alternative, clean energy options which should be advanced.

Q: *Campaign Finance: Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: I support public-financed campaigns without the ability to opt-out and the closure of loopholes that allow the unlimited spending by PACs on behalf of candidates and issues.

New York State Assembly

NY Assembly District 108

New district: Includes **Saratoga County:** Town of Waterford. **Albany County:** Cities of Cohoes, Green Island, Watervliet and the northeastern part of the City of Albany. **Rensselaer County:** the City of Rensselaer, the Town of North Greenbush, and a portion of Troy (i.e., the southernmost part of the city, plus an extension on the western side of the city that runs northward up to an

approximate midway point between the northern and southern municipal boundaries).

Candidates (choose 1):

James Campbell



Party: LIB

Biographical Info:

Parties: Libertarian

Campaign Web Site: www.facebook.com/jcassembly

Education: ITT Tech, HVCC, Excelsior College --
Accounting, Network & Business Administration

Experience and Qualifications: I am a taxpayer of NY state, and looking for work. No one else is more in tune to the dysfunction of this state than one of the high % of unemployed professionals

Key Endorsements: Capital Area Chapter of the UCC

Questions:

Q: Priorities: *What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: I would repeal or stop the 45% increase in Thruway Authority toll hikes on commercial trucks. That will trickle down to ordinary taxpayers where cost of goods such as food, clothing and gas will increase. I will support income coming INTO the state rather than the 45 billion that has left, by support hydrofracking and MMA. We have closed our doors for business for way too long. Be opposed to ANY increase in Legislative pay and will be a vocal supporter of doing away with political pensions

Q: Economy: *What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: Stop regulating every single aspect of business. We have the WORST small business atmosphere in the United States. Lower small business tax and make government less intrusive to entrepreneurship. Like I stated before, I would also advocate fracking and bringing MMA into NY State, bringing in billions of revenue. But foremost, government should keep "hands off" the economy, the free market will regulate itself decreasing the period between ebbs and flows.

Q: Hydraulic Fracturing: *Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: Yes, and we need to stop dragging our feet as other states have tons of studies already stating fracking is safe and we have the largest source of natural gas in the WORLD, right here in New York. What troubles me, are the media reports from TX that have stated a rise in breast cancer, and it was debunked as untrue. We need to stop catering to powerful environmental lobbyists and put New Yorkers to work! Young adults are on a exodus of epic proportions

Q: Campaign Finance: *Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: There is no reason we, the taxpayers should be paying millions in order to get junk mail from politicians. Laws like McCain-Feingold only help to keep corrupt officials in power. Contributions should be given freely by people and groups that share the view of the candidate. Laws that restrict voluntary financing of campaigns should be repealed

John T. McDonald, III



Party: DEM, IND

Biographical Info:

Parties: Democrat, Independence

Campaign Web Site: www.mcdonaldforassembly.com

Education: High School - Keveny Memorial Academy, College - Albany College of Pharmacy

Experience and Qualifications: Mayor of the City of Cohoes 2000- Present, Pharmacist and Owner Marra's Pharmacy 1985-

Present. Former President New York State Conference of Mayors, Member of the New York State Workforce Investment Board, Chairman of Riverspark, Chairman of the Capital District Transportation Committee, President of the Cohoes Local Development Corporation, Chairman of the Cohoes Industrial Development Agency

Key Endorsements: New York League of Conservation Voters, Cohoes Democratic Committee, Green Island Democratic Committee, Watervliet Democratic Committee, Waterford Democratic Committee, Rensselaer County Democratic Committee, Rensselaer City Democratic Committee, Troy City Democratic Committee

Questions:

Q: Priorities: *What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: First is to address the continued stream of unfunded mandates that has unfairly burdened local governments and those that live and work for or in the communities. Secondly we have to look at a fairer distribution of education aid as urban districts are struggling to meet the mandates and taxpayers are unfairly picking up the burden. Thirdly we need to ignite jobs in our region and find ways to provide opportunities for those who wish to work to find stable middle class jobs.

Q: Economy: *What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: The state needs to invest in workforce training in the health care arena. The reality is that health care has and will continue to be the largest part of our economy and as our health care system continues to expand, there will be many positions that need to be filled to support this growth. Workforce funds should be directed for those out of school for technical training and school curriculums should reflect this emerging trend not only in health care but in other trade related fields.

Q: Hydraulic Fracturing: *Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: If there is to be hydraulic fracturing we need to review all impacts to the environment and water supply both for short and long term impacts. To date this has not happened or been proven, therefore I am not convinced of its safety. We need to look not only at the impact of fracking on our economy but also it's detriments. If the DEC does at some time deem this to be safe the final decision should rest with the local government as home rule need's to be respected as do the wishes of the resident

Q: *Campaign Finance: Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: I believe the system we have today needs to change. Large corporations and outside interests are at any time able to sway the outcome of any election one sets their sights on. We need to establish some type of public finance reform that allows the average person to have access to elected office. A online and transparent public finance program with limits makes sense to me although there are many different proposals that need to be debated and decided upon.

Carolyn McLaughlin



Party: WF

Biographical Info:

Parties: Democratic, Working Families

Campaign Web Site: carolynmclaughlin.com/

Education: B.S. Chemistry, Keuka College National Urban Fellow and M.P.A., Baruch College

Experience and Qualifications: Prior to a 25 year career in public service, I spent 10 years as a research chemist in cosmetics development and nuclear weapons research. I was elected to the Albany Common Council in 1997, and proudly represented the Second Ward in the historic South End while also serving as Majority Leader. In January 2010, I began a four-year term as the first African-American President of the Albany Common Council.

Key Endorsements: I have been endorsed by the Working Families Party, the Albany County Democratic Party, Emily's List and Citizen Action.

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: My top three priorities would be: 1.) Creating jobs in the Capital Region that pay fair wages and put the people willing to work for the American Dream on the path to earning it. 2.) Working with teachers, administrators and parents to craft policy that addresses the underlying issues that cause problems in our urban schools. 3.) I would work with community leaders and the executive branch to pass laws that make our cities safer.

Q: *Economy: What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: To strengthen the economy we can raise the minimum wage and put money into the hands of consumers. We can ask the wealthiest to live up to the social contract and invest in the American Dream. We can fix our aging infrastructure with public works projects that create jobs. We can enforce the laws that were ignored by the people who helped cause the economic downturn. And, we can

make sure our future workforce has the education they need to succeed a 21st Century workplace.

Q: *Hydraulic Fracturing: Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: I am a vocal opponent of hydrofracking. In the Common Council I supported a permanent ban on fracking in Albany, and in the Assembly, I would continue protecting New Yorkers from shortsighted decisions with long-term consequences. If fracking can be shown as a safe practice that doesn't have negative long-term health or environmental effects, I would re-consider my opposition. But, we still don't even know what chemicals are pumped into the ground. We need more information.

Q: *Campaign Finance: Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: I would support a system of publicly funded campaigns in this state. In this era, when some consider corporations people, money's influence in politics threatens to disenfranchise the real people who need strong advocates in government, but can't afford to donate to campaigns and PACs.

NY Assembly District 112

New district: Includes **Saratoga County:** Towns of Providence, Greenfield, Galway, Milton, Charlton, Ballston, Clifton Park, and Halfmoon. **Schenectady County:** Town of Glenville.

Candidates (choose 1):

Michele E. Draves



Party: DEM, WF

Biographical Info:

Parties: Democratic, Working Families Party

Campaign Web Site: www.dravesforassembly.com

Education: 2010 - Leadership Institute (AFL-CIO), National Labor College/ Silver Spring, MD, 1996-1999 SCCC - Paralegal Studies/ Schenectady, NY, 1987-1991 Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School/ Burnt Hills, NY

Experience and Qualifications: With a background in Public Relations and Marketing as well as Non-Profit Management, I am a member of the Middle Class. I understand the struggles of trying to make ends meet in today's economy; I understand the struggles of families where one or both parents are out of work; I understand the struggles facing blue collar workers; I understand YOU! I am YOU!

Key Endorsements: Congressman Paul Tonko, Assemblyman Bob Reilly, NYS Public Employees Federation, NARAL Pro-Choice, Planned Parenthood

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: I will fight to end special tax breaks and special privileges for those with wealth and influence. I fully support an increase in New York's minimum wage past \$8.50 per hour to a living wage and indexing to inflation. We currently have several constituents earning less than a living wage and I find that appalling. I fully support the Reproductive Health Act, which guarantees a core value, a woman's ability to make her own personal, private health care decisions.

Q: *Economy: What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: We as legislators must make responsible choices, such as ending the special privileges extended to the wealthiest New Yorkers, there by closing the budget gap. Besides being able to balance the state budget, we must also raise the minimum wage to a livable wage. Once our constituents are earning at a level that they have disposable income, they will in turn stimulate our local economy. This will not only assist with job creation it will create a better way of life for our constituents.

Q: *Hydraulic Fracturing: Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: Enough study has not been done to ensure that hydrofracking is safe. We can not risk New York's precious water supply without being sure of hydrofracking's environmental impact. Until, further research is completed, we need to put a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing.

Q: *Campaign Finance: Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: I believe we need to severely curtail the maximum contribution limits. As the Empire State, we should set an example by being the first to limit campaign contributions to ensure that the candidate with the largest "war chest" does not have an unfair advantage.

James N. Tedisco



Party: REP, CON, IND

Biographical Info:

Parties: Republican, Conservative, Independence

Campaign Web Site: www.jimtedisco.com

Education: Bachelor's Degree in Psychology -- Union College
Master's Degree in Special Education -- College of Saint Rose
Bishop Gibbons High School

Experience and Qualifications: -NYS Assembly -Schenectady City Council -Special education teacher, resource room instructor and varsity basketball coach at Bethlehem Central High School -Guidance counselor, varsity basketball coach and athletic director at Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons High School

Key Endorsements: National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), Unshackle Upstate, NYS Nurses Association, NYS United Teachers (NYSUT), NYS Federation of Police, named to NYS Farm Bureau's Circle of Friends

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: In the past two years, we've worked across party lines with the Governor, to pass two on-time budgets that eliminated deficits, and created an improved sense of spending priorities by reducing spending so we can keep New York working. My plan to keep NY working and help spur private sector jobs would: 1. Freeze and cut property taxes. 2. Mandate relief to lower property taxes. 3. Help small businesses create jobs by reducing burdensome and unnecessary state regulations.

Q: *Economy: What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: The state needs to reduce unfunded state mandates that cause local property taxes to increase. State government must have spending priorities so NY can continue to move away from the altered reality that there is always a revenue problem when in fact NY has a taxing and spending problem that prevents small businesses from growing and creating jobs. NYS also must be more of an ombudsman for small businesses which create most of the jobs and help remove obstacles for private sector job growth.

Q: *Hydraulic Fracturing: Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: Currently, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is working on a report studying the potential environmental impact of hydrofracking in New York. If the experts at the DEC conclude that it can be done safely with no negative impact on the environment and on drinking water then I would support limited hydrofracking in communities that want to develop that industry. The President has gone on record in support of developing America's natural gas reserves to power our nation.

Q: *Campaign Finance: Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: I support campaign finance reform. I've authored legislation (A.1503) to end the practice of bundling-sidestepping individual contribution limits by having an intermediary gather donations and then delivering them to a candidate to get credit for soliciting the funds. I support full disclosure and transparency of political contributions and relationships.

NY Assembly District 113

New district: Includes **Saratoga County:** Towns of Moreau, Wilton, Northumberland, Malta, Saratoga, and Stillwater, and the Cities of Saratoga Springs and Mechanicville. **Washington County:** Towns of Kingsbury, Hartford, Fort Edward, Argyle, Greenwich, Salem, Jackson and Easton.

Candidates (choose 1):

Tony Jordan



Party: REP, CON, IND

Biographical Info:

Parties: Republican, Independence, Conservative

Campaign Web Site: www.tonyjordan.com

Education: Jordan earned his Bachelor's Degree in business and finance from the University of Notre Dame in 1986. He later graduated magna cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law in 1995.

Experience and Qualifications: Assemblyman Jordan is a two-term Assemblyman, and was recently made floor leader of the Republican conference. He leads the debates in the Assembly on important matters like lowering taxes and improving the economy.

Key Endorsements: Assemblyman Jordan is endorsed by the National Federation of Independent Business/New York, Unshackle Upstate, and New York State Rifle and Pistol Association. Jordan was also recognized with the top ratings from the Business Council of NY and was included in the New York Farm Bureau's Circle of Friends.

Questions:

Q: Priorities: *What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: -Growing and strengthening our economy by reducing red tape, taxes and creating a business friendly environment allowing job creators to start hiring again. -Making New York affordable for families and small businesses by eliminating unfunded mandates on local government and schools to lower property taxes for good. - As a father of 4, I am committed to providing our kids the best education possible. This will be done by fixing the school aid formula ensuring a quality education for all kids.

Q: Economy: *What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: Our economic resurgence will be built with, not in spite of, small business owners. New York's policies need to recognize their important role in our recovery. Job creators tell me that over regulation, high cost of doing business and excessive taxes limit their ability to reinvest in their business and ultimately their ability to hire. While I said yes to investing \$62.7 million in our local economy, the surest way to long-lasting economic recovery is to improve New York's business climate.

Q: Hydraulic Fracturing: *Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: The Department of Environmental Conservation is expected to release its report on hydro-fracking soon. If science deems it safe, then the DEC must develop the most rigorous rules to protect our drinking water and environment. If the DEC does indeed vouch for the safety of natural gas drilling in the Marcellus shale, the communities which would be affected, like the Southern

Tier and Syracuse, should then decide if it is right for them and DEC ensure its rules are followed.

Q: *Campaign Finance: Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: It is important to enforce and continually review campaign finance reform laws; this ensures that the voice of taxpayers are heard and not drowned out by special interests. Limiting special-interest dollars and requiring stricter reporting is one way to achieve this important objective. We must also continue to strive to find a workable solution to provide publicly funded campaign financing.

Carrie Woerner



Party: DEM, WF

Biographical Info:

Parties: Democratic, Working Families Party

Campaign Web Site: www.carrie2012.com

Education: Carnegie Mellon University - Bachelors, Santa Clara University - MBA

Experience and Qualifications: I have nearly 30 years of private sector experience in the high tech industry, including both large corporate and small business experience. I run the software division of a small publishing company today, where I am proud to be creating local jobs for local people. I am serving my third term as a Village Trustee in the Village of Round Lake with a track record of fighting to reduce spending and holding the line on taxes. I am active volunteer, as a member of the Malta Planning Board, a member of the Saratoga Arts Board of Directors and the Wilton Food Pantry.

Key Endorsements: Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Eleanor's Legacy, NYS League of Conservation Voters, Women's Campaign Fund, NARAL, AFL-CIO, Capital District Area Labor Federation, Saratoga County Central Labor Council, Glens Falls Central Labor Council, New York State United Teachers, Public Employees Federation, Civil Service Employees Union, Plumbing and Pipefitting, National Association of Letter Carriers, Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters, International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craft Workers, Service Employees International Union, American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, Transport Workers of America

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: 1. Modify the school aid formula to reflect the needs and conditions of rural upstate schools. 2. Protect the right of all women to access the full range healthcare services. 3. Create a better business climate by streamlining regulations, reducing fees and taxes, and addressing the following Top 3 Unfunded Mandates: a. Fix the calculation of the Unemployment Insurance Base Period b. Fully fund municipal 911 call centers c. Fund the mandatory purchase and scoring of Regents exams.

Q: *Economy: What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: First, make it simpler to start up and grow a small business by streamlining regulation and review processes in State agencies for small businesses bringing on their first employees. Establish a One-Stop-Shopping approach, where there is a single point of contact to assist new businesses in completing the correct forms, scheduling agency reviews, calculating fees etc. Second, continue to invest economic development dollars to bring advanced manufacturing to Upstate.

Q: *Hydraulic Fracturing: Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: I do not support hydraulic fracturing at this time. Until the evidence is clear that this controversial procedure does not pose a health and safety risk to the families, communities, environment and economies in proposed areas, the moratorium should remain in place. If and only if the process is deemed safe, then all permitting and subsequent negotiations should ultimately be a matter for locally elected municipal governments to decide based on uniform NYS guidelines established by the DEC.

Q: *Campaign Finance: Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: We need to do all that we can to make political campaigns, fair, transparent, and accountable. The cost of campaigns has grown considerably, limiting the pool of candidates to those who can raise or fund expensive campaigns. We need to implement a system that encourages more people to run for office. I would support a system that provides an option for publicly funded campaigns to those seeking elected office, provided this could be done without impact to taxpayers.

NY Assembly District 114

New district: Includes **Essex and Warren** Counties. **Washington County:** Towns of Putnam, Dresden, Fort Ann, Whitehall, Hampton, Granville, and Hebron. **Saratoga County:** Towns of Day, Hadley, Edinburg and Corinth.

Candidates (choose 1):

Daniel G. Stec



Party: REP, CON, IND

Biographical Info:

Parties: Republican (REP) Conservative (CON) Independence (IND)

Campaign Web Site: www.stec4assembly.com

Education: B.S. Chemical Engineering, Clarkson University
M.B.A. University of Rhode Island

Experience and Qualifications: Queensbury Town Supervisor 2004-present • Warren County Board of Supervisors 2004-present - Chairman 2011-present -

Finance Chairman 2008-2010 • Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks 2004-present - Chairman 2005 • Queensbury Town Councilman 2000-2003 • Member, Capital Region Economic Development Council

Key Endorsements: Unshackle Upstate, a coalition of business groups- GEORGE PATAKI, FORMER NYS GOVERNOR- CONGRESSMAN CHRIS GIBSON- SENATOR BETTY LITTLE- ASSEMBLYWOMAN TERESA SAYWARD- ASSEMBLYMAN TONY JORDAN- 30 DISTRICT TOWN SUPERVISORS AND MAYORS

Questions:

Q: *Priorities: What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: My three top priorities will be to: a. work to improve the business climate to encourage job growth and opportunities b. control costs in state government, including costs mandated onto schools and local governments c. provide the highest quality of constituent service to find solutions to everyday issues in the district

Q: *Economy: What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: To strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment the state should and I will work towards – a. improving the business climate through examining and modifying excessive and burdensome regulations that hinder and discourage business growth b. reducing the cost of state government by eliminating wasteful spending and mandates that drive up costs c. improving infrastructure vital to economic growth and access to high speed internet and cellular communications systems.

Q: *Hydraulic Fracturing: Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: I am big on local government being involved and this means a home rule type of management with any hydrofracking. We need to increase our domestic production in so many areas and this is one of them. Knowing where to drill, what is below the surface, and what is used to frack are the main keys to safe hydrofracking. We cannot let misinformation lead the way. Where environmental impact studies show it to be safe, then we should take the steps needed towards economic development and growth.

Q: *Campaign Finance: Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: Campaign finance reform is overdue but with the diverse and extreme opinions of those effecting any change, it is hard to nail down all needed changes. What we need is a review and elimination of loopholes to begin the process. Due to the nature of the beast change will not happen with a complete overhaul but has a better chance with precise incisions into the most abusive rules.

Dennis J. Tarantino



Party: DEM, WF

Biographical Info:

Parties: Democratic Working Families

Campaign Web Site: www.dentarantino.com/

Education: BA, Siena College JD, Albany Law School

Experience and Qualifications: 37 years general practice of law representing individuals and small business. 25 years owner Maple Abstract & Realty Corporation.

Key Endorsements: Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 200 United Transportation Union Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local Union #2

Questions:

Q: Priorities: *What will be your top three priorities if elected?*

A: My top three priorities are: 1. Attracting businesses and good paying jobs by eliminating unnecessary regulations and increasing the minimum wage. 2. Lowering property taxes by, for example, eliminating unfunded mandates. 3. Improving our Education Aid Formula so North Country schools get their fair share of funding.

Q: Economy: *What should the state government do to strengthen the state economy and reduce unemployment?*

A: We must ensure that New York is truly "open for business" by encouraging businesses to remain and grow in New York State and not outsource their labor. We must run our State Government like a business and keep expenditures down, find ways to lower taxes and make Albany more "user-friendly" by cutting red tape. When businesses stay and grow, the economy prospers and unemployment is reduced.

Q: Hydraulic Fracturing: *Do you favor introducing high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in New York? What legislation is needed to ensure safety, manage costs and protect New Yorkers?*

A: As someone who has lived through an environmental disaster (Caputo Dump Site in Moreau), I know how important it is that we complete our "due diligence" when it comes to issues like hydrofracking. If the process currently under review by the Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health is ultimately approved, a process must be put in place to insure local input as well as processes and procedures for immediate recovery in the event of health and /or safety violations.

Q: Campaign Finance: *Would you propose any changes to campaign finance regulation and enforcement in New York State? Please explain your answer.*

A: Candidates for public office should not be given an unfair advantage because they can "self-fund" their campaigns. There should be a process in place that provides a fair and equitable system that permits and encourages all qualified candidates to run for public office. I would support an option for public campaign financing provided it is done in a way that does not place additional financial burden on the taxpayers.

NYS Supreme Court

Supreme Court Justice - 4th Judicial District

The 4th Judicial District of the New York State Supreme Court includes the counties of Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Montgomery, Saratoga, Schenectady, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington. There are 4 open positions, so you may vote for four candidates.

Candidates were not asked for information. Ratings and other information were gleaned from publicly available information.

Candidates (choose 4):

Thomas Buchanan



Party: REP, CON

Biographical Info:

Campaign Web Site: www.linkedin.com/pub/tom-buchanan/a/a/44

Judicial Rating (IJEQC): Not released

NY Judicial Candidate Voter Guide: www.nycourts.gov/vote/

Felix J. Catena



Party: REP, CON

Biographical Info:

Campaign Web Site: www.judgecatena.com

Judicial Rating (IJEQC): Highly qualified

NY Judicial Candidate Voter Guide: www.nycourts.gov/vote/

Christine Clark



Party: DEM

Biographical Info:

Campaign Web Site: www.judgeclark.com/

Judicial Rating (IJEQC): Qualified

NY Judicial Candidate Voter Guide: www.nycourts.gov/vote/

John T. Ellis



Party: REP, CON

Biographical Info:

Campaign Web Site: ellis4nysupremecourt.com/

Judicial Rating (IJEQC): Qualified

NY Judicial Candidate Voter Guide: www.nycourts.gov/vote/

Mark Powers



Party: DEM

Biographical Info:

Campaign Web Site: www.judgemarkpowers.com

Judicial Rating (IJEQC): Qualified

NY Judicial Candidate Voter Guide: www.nycourts.gov/vote/

Joseph M. Sise



Party: REP, CON

Biographical Info:

Campaign Web Site: www.facebook.com/pages/Re-Elect-Judge-Joseph-Sise-Supreme-Court/249272838518327#!/pages/Re-Elect-Judge-Joseph-Sise-Supreme-Court/249272838518327

Judicial Rating (IJEQC): Not released yet

NY Judicial Candidate Voter Guide: www.nycourts.gov/vote/

John Silvestri



Party: DEM

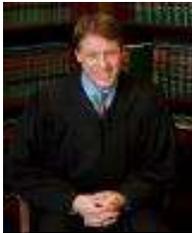
Biographical Info:

Campaign Web Site: www.silvestri2012.com

Judicial Rating (IJEQC): Qualified

NY Judicial Candidate Voter Guide: www.nycourts.gov/vote/

Jeffrey D. Wait



Party: DEM

Biographical Info:

Campaign Web Site: www.judgewait2012.com/

Judicial Rating (IJEQC): Qualified

NY Judicial Candidate Voter Guide: www.nycourts.gov/vote/

Local Ballot Propositions

Saratoga Springs City Charter

YES

NO

Ballot Proposition: *Shall the amendments to the Charter of the City of Saratoga Springs proposed by Local Law No. 1 of 2012, which amendments would replace the City's current Commissioner form of government with a Manager-Council form of government, be approved?*

Background: Abstract of Local Law No. 1 of 2012

TO PROVIDE A NEW CHARTER FOR THE CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS

The new charter of the City of Saratoga Springs proposed by Local Law No. 1 of 2012 would replace the City's current commission form of government with a manager-council form of government.

Under the present commission form, voters elect a city council consisting of a mayor, and four commissioners: one each for finance, public safety, accounts, and public works. All terms of office are two years. The mayor and

commissioners act as both a legislative body and have individual administrative responsibilities over specific departments. Deputy positions are funded for the mayor and each commissioner.

Under the proposed council-manager form, a mayor and four city councilors are elected for four-year terms and have legislative responsibilities but not administrative oversight over any departments. The city council would, by majority vote, appoint a city manager to be the chief administrative officer of the city. The city manager would serve at the pleasure of the city council and would oversee departmental operations.

The proposed charter eliminates the five deputy positions and establishes four new management positions in addition to the city manager: director of administration and finance, director of public works, city clerk, purchasing agent, and city assessor, each of which would act as department heads. The director of administration and finance may also act as the purchasing agent. The police and fire departments would operate as separate departments. The local law is substantially similar to a charter proposed in a petition of citizens in 2010.

If approved by the voters, the new charter would take effect on January 1, 2014 after the November 2013 elections in which a newly structured city council would be elected.

Supporters and Opponents:

Group supporting proposition: Saratoga Citizen

Website: www.saratogacitizen.com/

From website: Saratoga Citizen, Inc. is a grassroots community group supporting an alternate form of government in Saratoga Springs, New York. We advocate replacing the current commission form of government with a council-manager form.

Group opposing proposition: SUCCESS

Website: saratogasuccess.com/

From website: SUCCESS stands for Saratogians United to Continue the Charter Essential to Sustain our Success, but we really are working for much more. We want to keep the people in charge of our government, and not put all the power in the hands of one office.

Corinth: Proposition One

Ballot Proposition: Shall there be approved in the Town of Corinth Local Law 1 of 2012, entitled "A Local Law increasing Term of Office of Highway Superintendent from Two Years to Four Years"?

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

Corinth: Proposition Two

Ballot Proposition: Shall there be approved in the Town of Corinth Local Law 2 of 2012, entitled "A Local Law increasing Term of Office of Town Clerk from Two Years to Four Years"?

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

Mechanicville: Proposition One

Ballot Proposition: Should term limits for City Commissioners and the Mayor be eliminated?

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

Moreau: Crandall Library Budget

Ballot Proposition: The proposed 2013 budget of the Crandall Public Library District is \$4,260,227.00 to be partially funded by the municipalities comprising the Library District. The share of the proposed budget to be partially funded and raised by an ad valorem assessment upon the real property located within the Town of Moreau is \$674,191.00. Shall the proposed budget be approved.

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

Wilton: Proposition One

Ballot Proposition: On September 6, 2012, the Town Board of the Town of Wilton adopted a resolution which shall amend the Wilton Emergency Squad, Inc. Service Award Program for active volunteer ambulance worker members of the Wilton Emergency Squad, Inc., subject to voter approval. The amendment, effective January 1, 2013, would allow participants who attained the entitlement age of 65 and commenced receiving their monthly service award payments to

continue to earn additional service credit and therefore increase their monthly service award payments by \$20 for each year of post entitlement age service credit earned in calendar year 2013 and beyond. Such monthly payment increases shall be effective the January 1st following the year in which the additional service credit was earned.

The current annual cost of funding the Wilton Emergency Squad, Inc. Service Award Program could be as much as \$27,000, which includes the cost of administration of \$2,500. Should voters approve this amendment, the annual cost of the amended program is not expected to increase until 2014, and may increase to as much as \$38,000 for current volunteers, which includes the cost of administration of \$2,500.

Therefore, shall the Resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Wilton, authorizing the referendum to amend the existing Wilton Emergency Squad, Inc. Service Award Program, be approved?**Yes - For the Measure**

No - Against the Measure

Town Judges

Ballston Town Justice

No information was sought from candidates for this office. We are just providing the candidate names.

Brandi Burns

Party: REP

Malta Town Justice

No information was sought from candidates for this office. We are just providing the candidate names.

James Faucci



Party: REP, CON

Providence Town Justice

No information was sought from candidates for this office. We are just providing the candidate names.

Candidates (choose 1):

Lela Hartman

Alan Lahoff

Saratoga Town Justice

No information was sought from candidates for this office. We are just providing the candidate names.

Timothy Williams



Party: REP, CON, IND

Responses received after October 1, 2012 may be viewed online at Vote411.org

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, volunteer organization working to promote informed and responsible participation of citizens in government. The League neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate.