
NASSAU COUNTY VOTERS GUIDE 2008



NON-PARTISAN ELECTION INFORMATION

Prepared By

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF NASSAU COUNTY

Election Day, Tuesday, November 4, 2008

Polls Open: 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

WHAT IS ON THE 2008 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT?

There will be one statewide ballot issue concerning employment advantages for disabled veterans, and one county ballot issue to make the County Assessor an appointed position. Look for them carefully at the top of the ballot (they're easy to miss!), and vote "Yes" or "No" on each. There will be candidates for federal, state, and local elective offices, including:

- the U.S. President and Vice President
- your U.S. Representative
- your N.Y. State Senator
- your N.Y. State Assembly Member
- judges of various courts

President / Vice President

	BARACK OBAMA Democratic, Working Families	JOHN McCain Republican, Independence, Conservative
Experience: (most recent first)	US Senator from Illinois Illinois State Senator Constitutional Law Professor Civil Rights Lawyer	US Senator from Arizona US Representative from Arizona Naval Liaison to US Senate Naval Aviator
Education (Degrees): (highest degree last)	Columbia University, BA, 1983 Harvard Law School, JD, 1991	US Naval Academy, BS, 1958
Web Site:	www.barackobama.com	www.johnmccain.com
Notable:	Harvard Law Review President	Decorated Vietnam Vet/POW
Age:	47	72
Residence:	Chicago, Illinois	Phoenix, Arizona
VP Nominee:	Joseph Biden US Senator from Delaware	Sarah Palin Governor of Alaska
Health Care Stance:	Obama will sign universal health legislation by the end of his first term, ensuring all Americans have high-quality, affordable coverage. His plan will save a typical American family up to \$2,500 annually; modernize our health care system to contain costs and improve quality; and promote prevention and public health.	The problem with American health care is not one of quality, but one of cost. I have proposed a health care plan that addresses the escalating cost of health care to ensure more American families can afford access to the finest health care system in the world.
Iraq and the Middle East:	Obama opposed the war in Iraq from the beginning. He will end it by withdrawing our combat troops over 16 months, calling a new constitutional convention, and urging Iraq's neighbors to work towards stability. Obama seeks a two-state solution--Israel and Palestine living side by side in peace and security.	Two generations of Americans have fought wars in Iraq; we cannot condemn a third to the same fate by letting that country become a failed state in which we must again intervene. Anchoring Iraq in a stable, prosperous region must be the purpose of American strategy in the Middle East.

	CYNTHIA MCKINNEY Green	BOB BARR Libertarian	RALPH NADER Populist
Experience: (most recent first)	US Representative from Georgia Georgia House of Representatives Atlanta HIV Health Services Council College Professor	Attorney and Consultant US Representative from Georgia Federal Prosecutor CIA Employee	Consumer Advocate and Political Activist Attorney Writer College Professor
Education (Degrees): (highest degree last)	University of Southern California, BA, 1978 Tufts University, MA	University of Southern California, BA 1970 George Washington Univ. & Law School, JD '77	Princeton University, AB, 1955 Harvard Law School, LLB, 1958
Web Site:	votetruth08.com	www.bobbarr2008.com	www.votenader.org
Notable:	First African-American Georgia Congresswoman	Privacy and security expert	Founder, "Public Citizen" organization
Age:	53	59	74
Residence:	Atlanta, Georgia	Atlanta, Georgia	Washington, DC
VP Nominee:	Rosa Clemente, Journalist and Activist	Wayne A. Root, Businessman, Television Producer and Host	Matt Gonzalez, Attorney and San Francisco public official
Health Care Stance:	The United States is the only industrialized nation in the world without a national health care system. The current system's high costs and widely recognized failures demand that bold steps be taken. The Green Party supports a universal, comprehensive, national single-payer health insurance program as the only solution to the current disastrous for-profit system.	Regulations which mandate insurance coverage and inflate premiums should be eliminated. Controls which unduly restrict competition within the health care industry, and that limit access to insurance across state lines should be ended. Moreover, current tax policy, which is biased towards employer-provided, comprehensive health insurance, should be reformed, encouraging individual purchase of less costly catastrophic policies.	The state of health care in the United States is a disgrace. For millions of Americans it is a struggle between life, health and money. The Nader Campaign supports a single-payer health care plan that replaces for-profit, investor-owned health care and removes the private health insurance industry (full Medicare for all).
Iraq and the Middle East:	Our government does not have the right to justify pre-emptive invasion of another country on the grounds that the other country harbors, trains, equips and funds a terrorist cell. Our commitments compel us to oppose U.S. government support for "friendly" regimes, both in Israel and in the Arab world, whenever those regimes violate human rights, international law, and existing treaties. Those same values compel us to support popular movements for peace and demilitarization.	I would put in place plans for withdrawal without undue delay. While I support an exit from Iraq as quickly as possible, I would not publicly announce a timetable to our adversaries. However, as President, I would begin to immediately and significantly begin to reduce both the military and the economic security blanket we are providing the government.	The current political strategy of pre-emptive war in the Middle East is a disaster for both the American people and the people of the Middle East. Nader/Gonzalez propose a rapid withdrawal of troops from Iraq. Nader favors a two-state solution and believes that the United States needs to highlight the broad and deep peace movement in Israel and its counterparts among Palestinians and among Americans of the Jewish faith.

	GLORIA LA RIVA Socialism & Liberation	ROGER CALERO Socialist Workers
Experience: (most recent first)	Worker/Human Rights Activist Union Organizer	Writer and Activist Former Meat Packer
Education (Degrees): (highest degree last)	Brandeis University (attended)	
Web Site:	www.votepsl.org	www.themilitant.com
Notable:	Frequent nominee of Workers World Party	Nicaraguan native
Age:	54	38
Residence:	California	Bronx, New York
VP Nominee:	Eugene Puryear Anti-war and social justice organizer	Alyson Kennedy Garment Worker
Health Care Stance:	The La Riva/Puryear PSL presidential campaign believes that quality health care must be free and available to all people. Capitalist insurance companies and providers must be dismantled and replaced with publicly-owned entities that provide health care for all.	The federal government must guarantee lifetime medical care and retirement pensions for all. No cuts in Social Security, Medicare, or workers compensation payments.
Iraq and the Middle East:	We stand for the immediate removal of all U.S. and foreign forces from Iraq. All U.S. bases and the gigantic U.S. embassy in Baghdad should be shut down immediately. Reparations should be paid to the Iraqi people for the vast destruction inflicted on their land by the launching of an unprovoked war of aggression.	In a bipartisan effort, the war makers in Washington are using the military and political gains they have registered in Iraq since mid-2007 to extend the deployment of U.S. troops there and expand and deepen their aggression in Afghanistan. In contrast to both Democrats and Republicans, the Socialist Workers campaign demands immediate, unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. and coalition troops from both countries, and everywhere else U.S. forces are stationed.

UNITED STATES CONGRESS

Term: Two Years ■ Vote for One ■ Salary: \$169,300

Question: There is wide consensus that the health care system is in dire need of reform. How would you ensure that all Americans are adequately covered? Would you support a single payer system?

2nd Congressional District

STEVE J. ISRAEL (D, I, WF)

Dix Hills / Incumbent

Elected to Congress in 2000; proven to be a leader in Congress on the issues of energy security, military readiness, healthcare and economic success.

We need healthcare reform to address the fact that 45 million Americans went without health insurance at some point last year and many more are underinsured or struggling with healthcare bills. I am focusing on improving preventive care and health IT. I am hopeful that Senators Obama's and Clinton's proposals will provide a good starting point for broad reform in 2009, ensuring that every American is covered through a mix of government and private plans.

FRANK J. STALZER (R, C)

Huntington

I'm a husband, father, grandfather, businessman, not a professional politician; I've seen firsthand how high taxes, wasteful spending & over-regulation have put a tremendous strain on families and businesses.

We need to make healthcare affordable, but we also need to give individual control. First, we need to make healthcare owned and controlled by the individual, not corporations; to make it portable so if you move to another job, your healthcare comes with you. Second, we need to provide people with a choice, not limited to what employers offer; to provide a competitive environment where insurance companies compete for business, like for homeowners and car insurance.

3rd Congressional District

GRAHAM E. LONG (D, WF)

Locust Valley

Economic development advisor and regional planner working with Nassau County; background in the fields of suburban planning and government for the past four years; B.A., George Washington University.

We should expand Medicare to cover every American. Medicare is a single payer system that is efficient and provides health insurance while maintaining private doctors and hospitals. For-profit health insurance has proven to be a failed system and led us to one of the most expensive health care systems in the world. Even with a single payer system, we will need to build efficiencies into the health care industry, restructure it, and reduce the costs of administering care.

PETER T. KING (R, I, C)

Seaford/Incumbent

I have extensive experience in government, including 16 years in Congress where I am Ranking Member of the Homeland Security Committee. I graduated from Notre Dame Law School (J.D.)

One size fits all policies do not fit everyone's needs. I support a multifaceted approach to cover the uninsured. I've secured \$20 billion for states to cover vulnerable individuals and am currently fighting for more. I've supported tax free accounts for workers' healthcare costs and support businesses banding together to negotiate healthcare premiums. We should encourage employers to expand health programs and grant a tax credit for individuals who do not have employer sponsored coverage.

4th Congressional District

CAROLYN McCARTHY (D, I, WF)

Mineola / Incumbent

I want to continue the work I've been doing for the hard-working middle class, those less fortunate and our children. My actions in Congress reflect the bond I share with the District.

There is no doubt that the health care system in the United States is in desperate need of reform if we are to ensure that all Americans have access to affordable health care. I would strongly support a change to a single-payer system if given the opportunity before the House of Representatives. However, any such system must also shift emphasis from traditional "sick care" to a more comprehensive approach that includes preventive and long-term care.

JACK M. MARTINS (R, C)

Mineola

Graduate of St. Johns University Law School; attorney; three term Mayor of Village of Mineola; Member of Executive Board of Nassau County Village Officials Association; Executive Committee of NYS conference of Mayors.

We must use competition to improve the quality of health insurance with greater variety to match people's needs, lower prices and guarantee portability. Families should be able to purchase health insurance nationwide, across state lines. I support the use of tax credits. Every family would receive a direct refundable tax credit. Families would be able to choose the insurance provider that suits them best and the money would be sent directly to the insurance provider.

5th Congressional District

GARY L. ACKERMAN (D, I, WF)

Roslyn Heights / Incumbent

Privileged to serve the 5th C.D. since 1983; proven track record representing northeast Queens and northwest Nassau Counties has given me the experience to continue as an effective advocate for them in Congress.

Millions of Americans do not have health insurance; many others do not have sufficient coverage. All Americans should have access to the same coverage as their Member of Congress. Congress should extend the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program to all Americans with more assistance going to the families that need help the most. As a first step, Congress should expand the State Children's Health Insurance Program, so that no child goes without health insurance.

ELIZABETH BERNEY (R)

Great Neck

University of Chicago Law School, J.D.; diverse legal experience includes tax, international litigation, consumer safety, securities fraud (represented investors against Enron), education, health care and intellectual property.

We need a multi-faceted approach to health care, including (1) Prevention, addressing our most serious health risks: smoking, obesity and product and food safety; (2) Tax policy to make health care and health insurance affordable, including providing for full deductibility or a credit for medical expenses and health insurance; (3) A possible early Medicare opt-in option; (4) Lowering health insurance costs through multi-state competition; and (5) Prompt action to stop health insurers' improper denials of benefits.

JUN POLICARPIO (C)

Little Neck

Adjudications Officer – US C.I.S. – 13 years; Health Care Administrator (NYC HHC) – 5 years; NYC Board of Education, management intern, 1 year; College Professor, University of Manila, Philippines, 1968-1973. M.P.A., NYU, 1980.

I would not support a single payer system. I cannot ensure that all Americans can be adequately covered anymore than I can ensure that all Americans can be employed. I would spearhead an economic program to create more jobs. To create more jobs, American businesses, big and small, should be encouraged and stimulated to expand – increase their earnings through appropriate tax incentive/tax abatement programs. If more Americans were employed, Group Health Insurance would cover them.

NEW YORK STATE SENATE

Term: Two Years ■ Vote for One ■ Salary: \$79,500

Question: There is wide consensus that the health care system is in dire need of reform. How would you ensure that all Americans are adequately covered? Would you support a single payer system?

5th Senatorial District

MATTHEW T. MENG (D)

East Norwich

Native Long Islander; studied Business Administration at Baruch College; Since 1980 has owned and operated specialty auto repair shop; major civic and environmental leader, co-founding numerous civic and environmental organizations.

I support a Single Payer System. I support HR 676, the "new expanded Medicare" bill. HR 676 creates a new and far more functional "single payer" method of paying for medical services while leaving the medical system itself alone and intact. This will eliminate the hundreds of complicated and redundant payment plans currently imposed on the system by private "for profit" health insurance companies and save billions of dollars every year by eliminating wasteful duplication.

CARL L. MARCELLINO (R, I, C)

Syosset / Incumbent

I earned B.A and M.S Degrees and a Professional Diploma in Administration and Supervision. After a career as an educator, I was elected to Clerk of the Town of Oyster Bay.

Programs like Family Health Plus and Child Health Plus have helped to make insurance available for those who otherwise can't afford it. This year Senate bill 6344, which I supported, was signed into law allowing employers to provide health coverage for their workers through creation of a new Family Health Plus buy-in initiative. We need to continue to reform our health care system, putting patients first, so that they have access and can afford the care they need.

6th Senatorial District

KRISTEN M. McELROY (D, WF)

Garden City

I am a mother of three and lifelong resident of Nassau County. After graduating from St. John's Law School, I worked for the District Attorney and now am a defense attorney.

Our public programs, Medicaid, Family Health Plus and Child Health Plus, are an effective foundation that can get our state to universal health coverage at a manageable cost. A mixed/hybrid system could cover all individuals through a combination of expanded public programs and reforms to the private insurance market. Financial responsibility can be shared among individuals and employers either through payroll tax or an expansion of private and public health insurance and subsidized premiums.

KEMP HANNON (R, I, C)

Garden City / Incumbent

JD, Fordham Law School; Chair, NYS Senate Health Committee; responsible for EPIC (most comprehensive prescription plan nationwide); property tax refund check; and STAR, among others.

Reforming by expanding health coverage and by creating a patient centered, quality results system. Simplifying system of payers, paperwork and permissions. Continuing expansion I've led in sponsoring Child Health Insurance, Family Health Insurance and Healthy New York.

7th Senatorial District

CRAIG M. JOHNSON (D)

Port Washington / Incumbent

I currently serve as the State Senator, having been elected in February 2007; highest level of education is a J.D. from St. Johns University School of Law.

This is a complicated issue that will require a comprehensive examination of what has worked, and what hasn't worked, in other states. I would support a move towards universal healthcare and would be willing to examine any and all avenues to ensure healthcare which is affordable and available to all. This is a task that is important to examine in New York, but ultimately, I think this overhaul would be most effective on the federal level.

BARBARA C. DONNO (R, I, C)

Manhasset

Hofstra University, M.S. Education; teacher; served 9 years on Manhasset School Board, 4 as President; Mayor of Village of Plandome Manor; Board Member, Long Island Alzheimer's Foundation.

I would work to reform the health care system in New York by expanding programs such as Child Health Plus and Family Health Plus. By finding inefficiencies in our current system, I believe that we can work to provide the coverage that families and children need while providing patient centered quality care.

8th Senatorial District

CAROL A. GORDON (D, WF)

Massapequa

Attended State University at Farmingdale; Acting Executive Director of North Amityville Community Economic Council; Dept. of Veterans Affairs Medical Center roles; Clinical Manager mental health; patient advocate; Federal Women's Program Manager.

Having worked for the Veteran's Administration for 25 years, I know first-hand the benefits of a single payer system. In peer reviews the quality of care received by VA patients scored significantly higher overall than patients in the rest of the United States. In order to fund a single payer system the government and the people of the U.S. must be equal partners. A combination of tax revenues and mandatory contributions based on income would provide adequate funding.

CHARLES J. FUSCHILLO (R, I, C)

Merrick / Incumbent

Elected 1998; Chairman, Senate Consumer Protection Committee; author of strongest consumer protection laws in country; led fight to combat drinking and driving; fought to increase aid to education; B.B.A. Adelphi University.

I will continue to support expansions of Child Health Insurance, Family Health Insurance and Healthy NY that will enable increased accessibility to health coverage. We need to think patient first when reviewing options for reforming our healthcare system, simplifying administrative obstacles to ensure they have access to quality and affordable healthcare.

9th Senatorial District

ROY D. SIMON (D)

West Hempstead

Teacher of legal ethics over 20 years; currently a Legal Ethics Professor at Hofstra University; J.D. from NYU School of Law. My background in ethics makes me uniquely qualified to clean up Albany.

I would support a single payer program – we need to begin holding private health insurers more accountable to their clients. I would first sponsor a statewide awareness program explaining the advantages of a single-payer program. This would include demonstrating the staggering overhead currently footed by individuals enrolled in private insurance programs, and showing how they would ultimately wind up saving money with single-payer. I would also insure that low-income residents are aware of the new system.

DEAN G. SKELOS (R, I, C)

Rockville Centre / Incumbent

Having had the privilege of serving the residents of the 9th S.D. since 1984, I look forward to building upon my record of legislative accomplishments and constituent service.

As a State Senator, I have fought to provide New Yorkers with access to quality and affordable health care. I created the EPIC program, which has saved hundreds of thousands of seniors literally millions of dollars on prescription medications. I also worked to enact the Family Health Plus and Child Health Plus programs. This year I supported the successful effort to expand Child Health Plus eligibility to provide every child in New York with health insurance.

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

Term: Two Years ■ Vote for One ■ Salary: \$79,500

Question: There is wide consensus that the health care system is in dire need of reform. How would you ensure that all Americans are adequately covered? Would you support a single payer system?

10th Assembly District

JEFFREY STARK (D)

Huntington

No Reply

JAMES D. CONTE (R, I, C)

Huntington Station / Incumbent

Lifelong resident of Huntington Station where he lives with his wife and 3 school-aged children; holds a B.A. in Economics and Political Science from SUNY Stony Brook.

I support requiring universal health insurance so that individuals and businesses can choose the level of health care they wish to receive. The State should set minimum standards so that everyone is on the same playing field but people could choose to purchase additional coverage. For those who cannot afford health insurance, the state can and should provide subsidized coverage such as Child Health Plus and Healthy New York.

12th Assembly District

KEITH A. SCALIA (D)

Massapequa

Lifelong resident of Massapequa who understands the concerns of 12th Assembly District residents and their dissatisfaction in Albany's dysfunction; a volunteer firefighter and am completing my Masters Degree at Hofstra University.

I support a single payer system because it would eliminate insurance companies' tremendous extra costs for multiple administration, lobbying, advertising and CEO profits. The fact of the matter is that a government funded program already works entirely better than the Bush Prescription Drug Program which is a costly bureaucratic boondoggle that provides huge profits for the pharmaceutical companies and forbids people the freedom to get their necessary medications directly from Medicare.

JOSEPH S. SALADINO (R, I, C, WF)

Massapequa / Incumbent

NYS Assemblymember since 2004; worked 23 years as a government administrator, professional broadcast journalist, small business owner; president/officer with 20 community and volunteer service organizations/charities; M.A. degree.

I appreciate the LWV and their dedication to educating the public. I'm very proud of our success in restoring former Governor Spitzer's proposed cuts to healthcare, restoration of Senior Care, and the creation of an Attorney General for Medicaid fraud and abuse. I'm proud to deliver the largest expansion ever of the State's Child Healthcare Plus program. I support the highest quality of healthcare attainable for all New Yorkers.

13th Assembly District

CHARLES D. LAVINE (D, I, WF)

Glen Cove / Incumbent

General Counsel for Community Development and Industrial Development agencies of Glen Cove; member of Glen Cove Planning Board; 2 terms State Assembly; Chairperson of Judiciary Committee Subcommittee; New York Law School, J.D.

While there are administrative and efficiency advantages to a single payer system, this method is inconsistent with our nation's resistance to a mandatory one size fits all approach. I favor building on to our present system of private insurance by offering consumers increased choice. Citizens would be free to keep their present plans or enter a new national plan open to all, including self-employed and small businesses. There would be guaranteed eligibility and mandatory coverage for all children.

GEORGE B. McMENAMIN (R, C)

Sea Cliff

Retired Detective (NYPD); have traveled extensively (international) for a currency trading bank; have worked as a substitute teacher in the North Shore School District.

Canada, like Europe, has "socialized medicine" and we still see Canadians coming across the border for care. We need to look at our people's ability to pay and perhaps create jobs that would offer health care insurance as a job benefit. The truly indigent should be helped via social services agencies. To create a "National Health System" would be to create a government monster that would be long on promises and very short on delivery.

14th Assembly District

JOSEPH J. FERRARA (D)

Valley Stream

In my career, I have helped revitalize a local nature preserve and currently collect life-saving products for those in need. I graduated with a B.A. from Stony Brook University.

Yes, I fully support the creation of a nationwide single payer system that provides coverage for all Americans. As a candidate for the New York State Assembly, I pledge to support a resolution to urge Congress to pass HR 676, the single payer health care bill. I will also support legislation to expand health and prescription drug coverage for all New Yorkers. No one should have to choose between food and medicine, or housing and health care.

ROBERT D. BARRA (R, I, C, WF)

Lynbrook / Incumbent

B.A., Hofstra University; New York State Assemblyman for 8 years.

We all want universal healthcare. We all want people covered. The questions are: how do we pay for it and how do we make it work? The single payer system is one model but not the only model. My constituents are not convinced that this is the best option. Nonetheless, I stand ready to support an adequate and affordable healthcare plan for all, the minute it comes to the floor for a vote in the assembly.

15th Assembly District

STEPHANIE G. OVADIA (D)

East Meadow

J.D., 1984; practicing law over 20 years; owned own business over 15 years. My platform addresses family priorities, affordable housing, education, health care, alternate energy sources, environment and small business initiatives.

Coverage is needed for everyone. No one should be left out. More than 45 million Americans lack health insurance. I believe that a mix of both government and private plans would be a more realistic system rather than a single payer system. I believe that there are means to work within the system to make it more efficient, thereby spending less. Concentration of education and prevention is also another strategy to bring down costs.

ROB WALKER (R, I, C, WF)

Hicksville / Incumbent

State Assembly 3 1/2 years; active member in civic/fraternal organizations; former Assistant to Supervisor Venditto; I am well prepared to continue as State Assemblyman; B.S. in Education, Long Island University.

The number one priority on health care must remain patient care. While we all know the healthcare system must be reformed, the state has taken great strides in providing additional coverage to ensure that all New Yorkers are adequately covered. Increasing the opportunities through Child Health Plus will help but we must rein in fraud, waste and mismanagement. The savings will greatly assist in providing additional health care coverage to those in need.

16th Assembly District

MICHELLE E. SCHIMEL (D, I, WF)

Great Neck / Incumbent

Former Town Clerk; health care professional; visionary activist in crime prevention and environmental issues; sponsored landmark crime fighting legislation micro-stamping ammunition and expanded use of solar and wind energy signed into law.

Health care is a right, not a privilege. Forty-five million are uninsured. I support a single payer system. Doctors' practices and hospitals can remain private yet directly negotiate fees with government. Like Medicare, a single payer plan affords the same quality care and lower costs as a global budget eliminates the cost of billing individually for products and services. More funds will go directly to health care rather than administrative costs and insurance company profits.

MATTHEW S. MITCHELL (R)

Great Neck

Graduated Virginia Military Institute with dual degree in Economics and Business; self-employed in finance; started tax-exempt foundation to help people pay for college; entrepreneur and family man.

With the systemic flaws and fraud with Social Security and Medicaid, which worsen with each passing year and considering the current information available, I am not comfortable with government run health care. More importantly, it is our duty to ensure the affordability and availability of competitive health care for everyone. We must foster the potential and incentive for more efficient and clean operations within the current health care field and put people first again.

17th Assembly District

JOHN L. PINTO (D)

Merrick

Resident of 17th A.D. for over 40 years; 20 years of community service from youth leagues to being a school board member in N. Merrick for 11 years; High School graduate 1981.

The State's healthcare system is inadequate. Programs such as Child Health Plus need to be available to everyone. I support a single payer system like Medicare, allowing individuals to choose providers. Physicians would be compensated by hospitals receiving annual budgets or nonprofit health maintenance organizations. The State would collect and allocate money for healthcare, but no further involvement. Clean Money provisions prohibiting legislators from accepting money from healthcare and pharmaceutical lobbyists must be included and enforced.

THOMAS McKEVITT (R, I, C)

East Meadow / Incumbent

Graduate Hofstra Law School; attorney 12 years; former Deputy Town Attorney for Town of Hempstead; member of East Meadow Kiwanis and East Meadow Chamber of Commerce.

My concern about a single payer system is that there is a limit to patient choice and a delay in obtaining quality care when it has been implemented in other countries. We need to establish a system that covers the uninsured, while keeping in place the quality care that many currently receive from private insurance. New York's Child Health Plus and Family Health Plus are examples of plans we should look into expanding.

18th Assembly District

EARLENE HOOPER (D, I)

Hempstead / Incumbent

Adelphi University MSW; Professor of Social Work at Adelphi; extensive background in social work, union activities, education problem solving; Deputy Majority Leader; I am in position to positively affect policy.

I would support a single payer system.

DARREN R. BRYANT (R, C)

Roosevelt

No Reply

HENRY CONYERS (WF)

Hempstead

Graduate of New York Institute of Technology with a BS degree in Criminal Justice; an advocate for the rights of people; Deputy Mayor of the Village of Hempstead.

I would initiate a plan and or support legislation in Albany to ensure that New York State residents receive adequate medical coverage. I would also enlist Congress and our U.S. Senators' assistance in establishing a health care system that would give all Americans adequate health care coverage. I believe the United States government could make Universal Health Care a reality for all Americans by holding big businesses accountable by paying their fair share of taxes.

19th Assembly District

HOWARD A. KUDLER (D)

Merrick

Teacher of Economics and Good Government for 23 years; will be your strong voice in Albany; M.S., St. John's University – Government & Politics, International Law.

In the 21st century, government directed health service is long overdue. Whether it's the privilege of equal justice for all, or the regulation of pure air and water, the People's welfare is mandated by the Constitution. I support health coverage for all Americans. A single payer plan may have its thistle, but is still a good path to explore. Let's trend in the right direction.

DAVID G. McDONOUGH (R, I, C, WF)

Merrick / Incumbent

I have been representing the district for the past seven years and am familiar with the needs of this particular area; B.A., Columbia University.

As you know, the future of health care is currently being debated as part of the presidential election. I look forward to working with members of Congress to improve our health care system.

JUDICIAL CANDIDATES

District Court - 2nd District

Term: 6 Years ■ Vote for Five ■ Salary: \$169,300

FRED J. HIRSH (D, I, WF)

East Meadow / Appointed Incumbent
My experience as a judge, law secretary, and attorney in private practice, provides me with the qualifications necessary to serve on the District Court.

TRICIA M. FERRELL (D, I, WF)

Uniondale / Appointed Incumbent
Appointed March 2008 and presides over a variety of cases; previously was Nassau County Director of Compliance, managing countywide internal control program; former Deputy Hempstead Village Attorney; graduated Benjamin Cardoza School of Law.

FRAN RICIGLIANO (D, R, I, C, WF)

Garden City / Incumbent
St. John's University School of Law; Presiding Judge of District Court's "DWI Part 7", where all Misdemeanor Driving While Intoxicated cases are initially conferred; is an expert in this area.

MICHAEL A. CIAFFA (D, WF)

Garden City
Found well-qualified by Nassau County Bar Association; thirty years experience in litigation; partner at Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein since 1989; former Law Secretary to Supreme Court Justice.

ROBERT A. BRUNO (D, R, C)

Wantagh / Incumbent
Currently, Nassau County District Court Judge. Formerly, attorney for 26 years and executive officer, director and general counsel to numerous public and private corporations throughout the United States and internationally.

TERENCE P. MURPHY (R, I, C)

Seaford
Fifteen years legal experience; Clerk to County Court Judge Gerald Carter; court attorney in District Court handling civil and criminal law issues; Major, USAR; worked on prosecution of Saddam Hussein.

DANA MITCHELL JAFFEE (R, I, C)

Lido Beach / Incumbent
Acting County Court Judge, 2006-2008; 22 years legal experience; 12 years as an elected Nassau County District Court Judge (1996-2008); rated "Well Qualified" by the Nassau County Bar Association; J.D., Cardoza Law School.

IGNATIUS L. MUSCARELLA (R, C)

North Bellmore
Graduate of NYU Law School; Moot Court advocacy award; served 26 years as law clerk for three NYS Supreme Court Justices; currently, the Court Examiner Specialist for Nassau County.

District Court - 4th District

Term: 6 Years ■ Vote for Two ■ Salary: \$169,300

ANGELO A. DELLIGATTI (D, R, I, C)

Massapequa Park
Attorney 37 years, first six of which I served as an Assistant District Attorney for Nassau County; member Oyster Bay Town Board 1985-91 and 1993 to present; Supervisor, Town of Oyster Bay 1988-1991.

MARTIN J. MASSELL (D, R, I, C)

Hicksville / Incumbent
Graduated from Delaware Law School. I have been a District Court Judge for the last five years where I have presided over all aspects of civil and criminal matters.

Nassau County Court

Term: 10 Years ■ Vote for One ■ Salary: \$136,000

NORMAN ST. GEORGE (D, R, I, C, WF)

Roosevelt / Incumbent
Currently a County Court Judge, appointed May 2008; handle all of Nassau County's Driving While Intoxicated hearings and trials; previously District Court Judge; responsible for establishing Nassau County's first Misdemeanor Domestic Violence Part.

Nassau County Family Court Judge

Term: 10 Years ■ Vote for One ■ Salary: \$136,000

ROBIN M. KENT (D, C)

Jericho
Graduated from St. John's School of Law. Currently represents children in family court matters; represents children and parents in education law matters. Married and has four children.

CARNELL FOSKEY (R, I, WF)

West Hempstead / Incumbent
Judge, Nassau County Family Court for past 9 years, the last three as Supervising Judge; have implemented mediation services and the Self-Represented Division to assist litigants who do not have legal representation.

State Supreme Court

Term: 14 Years ■ Vote for Four ■ \$136,700

WILLIAM J. CONDON (D, R, I, C)

East Islip

HECTOR D. LASALLE (D, I, C, WF)

East Northport

PATRICIA FILIBERTO (R)

West Islip

JERRY GARGUILO (D, I, C)

St. James

EDWARD A. MARON (D, C, WF)

Hewlett

ROBERT A. LIFSON (R, WF)

Huntington

KENNETH A. DAVIS (R, I)

Syosset

NEW YORK STATE BALLOT PROPOSAL

Form of Submission of Proposal Number One, an Amendment

Amendment to Article 5, section 6 of the Constitution, in relation to additional civil service credit for members of the armed forces of the United States

The proposed amendment would eliminate the requirement that veterans who were disabled in the actual performance of duty in any war be receiving disability payments from the United States Veterans Administration in order to qualify for additional points on a civil service examination for appointment or promotion. Under the proposed amendment, the disability must only be certified to exist by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. The proposed amendment would also update the reference to the "United States Veterans Administration" to instead refer to the "United States Department of Veterans Affairs" to reflect current federal government structure. Shall the proposed amendment be approved?

Discussion:

Applicants for many jobs in New York State and local government are required to take a civil service examination, and applicants are appointed or promoted to these positions based on their scores on the examination. Disabled veterans who were disabled in the actual performance of duty in any war also receive a defined amount of extra points on these examinations to increase their scores, giving them preferential status on the lists of those who qualify.

The purpose of the proposal is to eliminate the requirement that disabled veterans be receiving disability payments from the federal government in order to qualify for additional credit on civil service examinations.

The State Constitution currently requires two things for the disabled veteran to qualify for the additional points: 1) the veteran must be receiving disability payments from the United States Veterans Administration; and 2) the United States Veterans Administration must certify that the veteran's disability exists at the time that the veteran applies for appointment or promotion.

The proposed amendment would eliminate the first requirement - that a veteran who was disabled in the actual performance of duty in any war be receiving disability payments from the federal veterans department in order to qualify for additional points on a civil service examination. Instead, the proposed amendment would only require that the United States Department of Veterans Affairs certify that the veteran's disability exists at the time that the veteran applies for appointment or promotion.

The proposed amendment would also change the reference to the "United States Veterans Administration" currently in this section to the "United States Department of Veterans Affairs" to reflect the Veterans Administration's re-designation as the Department of Veterans Affairs under Federal Law.

Pro:

There is a long history (indeed, since the Civil War) of veterans, particularly disabled veterans, being afforded preferential treatment in qualifying for and being retrained for positions in the civilian world. Preferential treatment is a recognition of veterans' sacrifice and service to our country, and also serves to make military service more attractive. Voting against this amendment will continue the status quo, which makes it harder for disabled veterans to qualify for additional points on civil service examinations. This in turn makes it harder for them to be appointed or promoted to positions in the civil service.

Con:

The League can identify no arguments against this proposal.



A COUNTY REFERENDUM

Making the Nassau County Assessor an Appointed Position with Educational and Professional Qualifications

Form of Referendum:

SHALL NASSAU COUNTY LOCAL LAW NO. 7 -2008, ENTITLED "A Local Law to amend the County Government Law, in relation to the organization of the Department of Assessment and the appointment and duties of the Assessor," abolishing the County Board of Assessors and replacing the county-wide elected Chair of the Board of Assessors with an Assessor, who would be appointed by the County Executive, subject to confirmation by the County Legislature, for a term of three years and who would be required to meet standards of education and professional experience. BE APPROVED?

Proposed Abstract

This referendum seeks voter approval of a local law to amend the Nassau County Charter, in relation to the organization of the Department of Assessment and the appointment and duties of the Assessor.

The law brings Nassau County in line with most other jurisdictions throughout the State by providing for a single appointed professional County Assessor to serve as the head of the County Department of Assessment. The Charter amendment would abolish the County Board of Assessors and replace the county-wide elected Chair of the Board of Assessors with an Assessor, appointed to a three year term of office by the County Executive, subject to confirmation by the County Legislature, and required to meet professional standards of education and experience and to obtain certification as a New York State certified assessor within three years of beginning his or her initial term of office.

In addition, the proposed law amends former Charter § 607 (entitled "Correction of roll: extension of taxes") to delete obsolete language that provided for the hearing of complaints from property owners. Since the provision is inconsistent with subsequently enacted sections of State law, it has not been used for many years.

The law would become effective on January 1, 2009.

Pro:

Those who favor the referendum say it will take politics out of the Assessor's position. There would no longer be a need for the candidate to raise money and run a political campaign, and the Assessor would not be identified with a particular party. The Assessor would have to meet professional educational and experiential requirements, thereby assuring knowledge and experience with the job. This referendum would bring Nassau County in conformity with most of the rest of the counties, 85% of which have professional Assessors.

Con:

Those against the referendum say that it robs Nassau County residents of their constitutional right of representation and their right to vote for a policy-making government official. They say that it would effectively eliminate the people's choice and hand it over to the County Executive; that this law quashes the voices of all 1.3 million Nassau County residents. The key factor is accountability. We should leave the choice in the hands of the taxpaying voters, who should retain their right to select and elect the County Tax Assessor.

The **Nassau County Voters Guide** was compiled by volunteers from the League of Women Voters of Nassau County. Biographical forms and questionnaires were sent to candidates seeking the same office. Due to space constraints, biographical information was limited to 30 words and answers to 75 words each. If necessary, the candidates' answers were edited to meet these requirements. In doing so, the editors strove to keep the candidates' own language. Although every effort was made to minimize typographical, procedural and proofreading errors, The League of Women Voters apologizes for any errors that may have occurred.



The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan, non-profit organization, encourages informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

VOTER INFORMATION

TO VOTE, YOU MUST:

be a United States citizen
be 18 years old by the date of the general, primary or other election in which you want to vote
live at your present address at least 30 days before an election
not be in prison or on parole for a felony conviction, and not claim the right to vote elsewhere.



GENERAL ELECTION—TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Last day to register for general election by mail: Postmarked by *October 10*, received by *October 15*

Last day to register for general election in person: *October 10*

In-person registration for persons honorably discharged from the military or who become naturalized citizens after October 10th: *October 24*

Last day to postmark application for absentee ballot for general election: Postmarked by *October 28*

Last day to apply in person for an absentee ballot for general election: *November 3*

Last day to postmark and return the actual absentee ballot and date it must be received by the board of elections: Postmarked by *November 3*, received by *November 11*

Last day to deliver an absentee ballot in person to your county board of elections: *November 4*

HOW DO I MAKE SURE I AM REGISTERED TO VOTE?

New York State has complied with federal law in establishing a centralized data base of identifying information for all registered voters. This information is used to create the rolls of registered voters used at the polling places. Like all new computer systems, its data is gradually improving, but there can be some problems, and your name could be erroneously eliminated from the rolls.

To check your status, call your local county Board of Elections and ask three questions:

1. Am I registered to vote?
2. Is my registration status set to "Active"? If not, to what is it set?
3. Will my name appear in the polling place roll book on Election Day?

While you can check your registration information on the NYS Board of Elections website, the information that you see does not indicate your status and is not assurance that you will be on the rolls.

WHAT IF I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO VOTE?

Most boards of elections in New York State send a postcard telling you the location of your polling place. If you do not receive this postcard, call your county board of elections to verify your registration and the location of your polling place. You can also check the Voter Registration Search engine on the New York State Board of Elections website at <https://voterlookup.elections.state.ny.us/votersearch.aspx>, or you can call the League of Women Voters of New York State at 518-465-4162 or toll free 1-866-598-6971, or you can go to VOTE411.org.

WHAT IF I AM GOING TO BE OUT OF TOWN OR IN THE HOSPITAL ON ELECTION DAY?

If you will be away from your county on Election Day or will be unable to go to your polling place because of illness or disability, you can ask your county board of elections for an Absentee Ballot Application or download one from the New York State Board of Elections website. To receive an Absentee Ballot to vote in the General Election, your Application must be postmarked by October 28 or you must apply in person by November 3. If mailed, the actual ballot must be postmarked by November 3 or hand delivered by November 4.



Democracy Is
Not a Spectator Sport

CAN I GET TIME OFF FROM WORK TO VOTE?

NYS Law states that if you do not have sufficient time outside your working hours to vote, you may take off up to 2 hours at the beginning or the end of your shift, with pay, to allow you time to vote. You must notify your employer no more than 10 and not less than 2 days before the day of the election that you will take that time.

AT YOUR POLLING PLACE

A sample ballot should be posted. If you do not know how to use the voting machine, ask one of the election inspectors for assistance. If you are not on the rolls at your polling place, and believe you are registered to vote, ask for an "affidavit" (paper) ballot (to which you are legally entitled), and ask the poll worker for advisement about following up on your status. After validation by your county board of elections, your affidavit/paper ballot will be counted. Be sure to bring some identification.

What is an affidavit ballot? An Affidavit ballot, sometimes referred to as a Provisional ballot or paper ballot, is used when a voter's name has been omitted from the computer generated pollbook. These voters must swear that they are registered voters and provide current and previous addresses. At a primary election, a voter must include the party in which he/she is enrolled. A voter may also use an affidavit ballot to challenge his/her party enrollment stated in the pollbook.

WHAT IDENTIFICATION DO I NEED TO VOTE?

Federal law requires persons who register by mail for the first time to provide identification. Identification means a current NYS driver's license or the last four digits of your Social Security number. If you do not have a current NYS driver's license, you need to provide the last four digits of your social security number. If you do not have either of these, you may provide a copy of a valid photo ID, or a current utility bill, bank statement, government check or some other government documentation that shows your name and address. If you do not provide identification when you register, you will be asked for it the first time you vote.

THE VOTING MACHINE

For the fall 2008 elections, as part of New York State's implementation of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), there will be at least one ballot marking device per polling place which will be accessible to individuals with disabilities.

These devices enable individuals with disabilities, who cannot use a lever machine or mark a paper ballot, to create a marked paper ballot for casting their vote. This is accomplished through the following interfaces, features and accessories that assist voters in the independent voting process:

- For voters who cannot see or read the ballot text, an audio interface recites the ballot, including all contests and candidates, and allows the voter to make selections. It also verifies selections by reciting them back to the voter.
- For voters with some form of visual impairment or illiterate voters, a key pad with Braille enables the voter to navigate through the ballot and record their vote.
- For voters who are unable to use a pen, or who are quadriplegic or paraplegic, a "sip and puff" device allows them to navigate the ballot and make their selections.
- For voters with limited manual dexterity, accessible "paddles", access pads, foot pads and buttons allow them to navigate the ballot and make selections.

The devices will be used to assist voters in marking their ballots only; they will not be used for counting the ballots. While the new machines are geared to disabled voters for this election, New York is expected to replace the old lever voting machines by fall 2009 for all voters. The machines used just for marking ballots for disabled voters this year might be used by all voters next year for scanning and tallying their votes.

**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF NASSAU COUNTY**

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Vice President: Jane Thomas
Voters Guide Editor: Eleanor Berger

The information contained in this *Voters Guide* is the most accurate available at press time.

Information on the statewide ballot proposal was provided by League of Women Voters of New York State.

Contact the LWV of Nassau County for reprint information.

A party's position on the ballot is determined by the relative number of votes its candidate for Governor received in the last gubernatorial election.

Post-Election Lunch

Thursday, November 6, 2008, 12:00 Noon
Coral House, 70 Milburn Avenue, Baldwin

Guest Speaker:

Patrick G. Halpin

Executive Vice President for External Affairs, Institute for Student Achievement, Host of the Cablevision Public Affairs Television Talk Show, "Meet the Leaders," Former Suffolk County Executive

Hear a discussion of the election results and what effect they will have on the country, state and county.

For further information, please contact the LWVNC: 516-431-1628, info@lwvofnassaucounty.org

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ON ELECTION DAY

1. **Your Ballot – Your Vote** Don't panic. If you registered to vote but your name is not on the list. Get help from a poll worker to make sure your vote is counted. You may be directed to another polling place or be given a provisional ballot.
2. **I.D. - Don't Leave Home Without It** You may need to show I.D. To be safe, bring your driver's license, or a paycheck, utility bill or government document that includes your name and street address.
3. **Writing on the Wall** Look at the signs at the polling place for directions on how to use the voting machines, a list of your voting rights, and instructions for filing a complaint if your rights have been violated.
4. **When in Doubt - Ask** Poll workers are there to help you. They'll show you how to work the machines and give you a provisional ballot if you need one. If you're at the wrong polling place, they should tell you how to get to the right one.
5. **In and Out** You probably won't have to wait too long. But even if the line is long, don't leave without voting. The outcome of this election will be important!

Abbreviations used in this Guide

C = Conservative
D = Democrat
I = Independence
R = Republican
WF= Working Families

Single copies of the **Voters Guide** cost \$2.00 including postage & handling. On all orders, please add sales tax or enclose a tax-exempt certificate.

\$2.00 per copy, mailed
\$40.00 per 100 copies
\$70.00 per 200 copies
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\$ 5.00 postage & handling for orders up to 50 total copies
\$ 7.00 postage & handling for orders of 51-199 total copies
\$ 9.00 postage & handling for orders of 200 or more

Candidates Meetings

October 6, 2008, 7:00 p.m. Hewlett-Woodmere Library Congressional & State Candidates LWV of Southwest Nassau	October 20, 2008, 7:00 p.m. Elmont Library Congressional & State Candidates LWV of Southwest Nassau	October 20, 2008, 7:30 p. m. Universalist Unitarian Church, Manhasset State Senate and Assembly Candidates LWV of Port Washington/Manhasset
October 22, 2008, 7:00 p.m. Long Beach Library LWV of Long Beach	October 27, 2008, 7:00 p.m. Hewlett-Woodmere Library Judicial Candidates LWV of Southwest Nassau	October 29, 2008, 7:00 p.m. Elmont Library Judicial Candidates LWV of Southwest Nassau

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