

## CANDIDATES FOR RTM

LWV question for all districts: *How will you identify the needs of your district and then how will you communicate with your constituents?*

### DISTRICT SEVEN • VOTE FOR ANY FOUR



#### ARTHUR ASHMAN

Because of my extensive background and experience in healthcare, teaching, and business, I feel qualified to identify town needs, with an understanding of local problems, to find practical, lasting solutions to arising issues in local government.

Specifically, I shall welcome speaking with people in my district and listening carefully to their views, comments, and suggestions for town issues. In keeping an open mind to all views on an issue before personally taking a position, I hope to fairly represent all the constituents of District 7. Being semi-retired, I shall be personally available, and have a dedicated email address for ongoing communication with constituents, as well as other RTM members. Obtaining a consensus of opinions and devising suggested directions is essential before arriving at meaningful conclusions.

Bio: Oral surgeon-35 years. • Entrepreneur: Founded, developed and sold 3 biotech companies to big board companies. Clinical Professor, and Founder of Ashman Department of Implant Dentistry, NYU College of Dentistry.

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#### JOHN G. KLINGE

Most District needs same as Westport - maintain/enhance quality of life for residents of all ages at reasonable cost. Identify local needs by observing/listening. Examples: Sturges Highway needed resurfacing - found Fairfield responsible -spoke to manager - result job completed plus storm drains. Spoke with residents regarding Staples lights as member RTM Parks/Rec Committee. Stated that if approved mandatory that sound system overhauled (noise reduction) plus GRADUAL startup Fall 2010 ( 4 "events" max, lights ONLY Monday-Wednesday-Friday until 7 PM.

Lived same address 35 years; neighborhood/church meetings, Senior Center events, PTA moms as substitute teacher. Town meetings, local sports and events/projects. Letters to Editor, telephone (255-0829). Deliver meals to homebound Thanksgiving-Christmas-New Years - Easter holidays.

Bio: RTM 12 years. Committees- Future Planning (chair), Education, Parks/Rec, PW. Westport Committees - Maintenance, School Transportation, EMS. President Friends Senior Center. SafeRides Board. Sub Teacher. Mentor. Cornell, Harvard MBA. US Navy.

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#### PATRICIA L. VORIS

There are many ways to listen to your constituents, through such means as public forums, civic organizations, emails, phone calls, in the supermarket, at church, expressed views in the media. Conversely, there are also ways to communicate with your constituents. As a life-long resident of Westport, I have developed many contacts over the years that I feel will help me get a sense of how residents feel on issues.

Bio: Born, raised Westport; graduate Fisher College, Boston; assistant editor NY Times; worked Planning and Zoning Department, Westport; married; two children, one grandchild (all products Westport schools).

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#### STEPHEN M. RUBIN

Needs of the district are diverse and so are the people. As an active member of our community I will continue to be available to all. Attending events at the Senior Center, Schools, athletic events and town organization functions, etc., I have found no lack of input from constituents. Phone and emails are always a good way to communicate and will continue to be available. (Home: 256-1834 and Email: smrubin@optonline.net) With a 100% attendance record for all RTM meetings over the past terms my neighbors

have always been able to feel they are well represented. No matter how popular, or not, an issue is, honest communication with constituents is essential and appreciated. Please vote to re-elect me. Thank you.

Bio: Rules; Public Protection; Education committee member and Chair of Transit. I am Active with Senior Center, PAL, Staples Gridiron and Westport religious, charity and civic groups.

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#### ALLEN S. BOMES

The concerns and needs of my district are similar to the rest of town. The current economic downturn requires tough choices in reducing expenditures. We must maintain the proper balance between school and town spending while keeping the overall tax rate as low as possible. There are also concerns about preserving the character of our residential neighborhoods, improving senior tax relief, building more affordable and senior housing and conducting a fair and equitable property revaluation. The best way to find out how constituents feel is by attending as many board and commission meetings as possible and listening to the public comments. Another way to communicate with constituents is while campaigning. As you go door to door, you find out which issues are important.

Bio: Three-term incumbent and member of the Finance, Parks & Recreation and Long Range Planning Committees. Community service includes School Building Committee, Emily McLauri House Restoration Committee, and First Night.

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### DISTRICT EIGHT • VOTE FOR ANY FOUR



#### WENDY G. BATTEAU

As my 17 years here have demonstrated, district needs impact quality of daily life. Meeting these requires understanding them individually and in town context. Natural resources and health protection, infrastructure maintenance, neighborhood integrity, school issues, the "blue line", zoning

regulations, traffic control, revaluation and more all affect and connect us. For insight I research issues extensively, talk with town, state, federal and other experts, attend numerous meetings. Conversation with constituents is key. I phone individuals and visit neighborhoods; mail information also requesting input; talk with residents at gatherings at schools, the library, town events. I'll hold daytime district forums to maintain residents' night family-time. I've urged utilizing technology for virtual interactions. Expanded use of webcasts, local TV and newspapers will also facilitate communication.

Bio: RTM Education; Environment, Library/Arts; Ordinance; Rules Committees. Green Village Initiative steering committee; Green Task Force. Develop children's media; former senior executive, major publishing houses. Brown, Stanford. 17-year resident, child at Staples.

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#### MICHAEL A. REA

An RTM is a volunteer, nonpartisan, non-paid elected representative serving the district. As a lifelong Westporter, I have come to know Westport and its citizens very well. We're not bashful in helping identify needs or issues in the district. I currently serve as Chairman of the

RTM's Finance Committee, commonly referred to as the workhorse committee. The Finance Committee meets frequently, reviews, makes written and oral reports to the full RTM for its consideration on all expenditures over \$20,000. Communication to the district is often by direct telephone calls, emails, letters, and personal conversations. This happens at all hours of the day and night throughout the term. I enjoy it, and once again, ask for your vote to continue to serve you in District 8.

Bio: Westport Native, Married, Three Children; VP-General Re Corporation; Elected RTM Five Terms, Chairman-Finance Committee, Environment & Workers Compensation. Past: Chair-Westport School Building Committee-Bedford Middle; Chair - P&R.

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#### LOIS G. SCHINE

I have represented District 8 in the RTM for 12 years. It has been my experience that my constituents (as well as other citizens) use the telephone and e-mail to communicate with me. I will write to every household in my district, including my telephone number and e-mail address, encouraging them to contact me with comments, opinions and feedback on issues important to them. I will remind voters that RTM meetings are broadcast on Channel 79. Citizens are permitted to speak at every RTM meeting-an excellent opportunity to be heard by all 36 RTM members. If I deem it desirable to reach out to voters I will generally do that with a random telephone survey.

Bio: Degrees-Engineering; A Founder and Treasurer of Young Womens League; President Coleytown Junior High P.T.A.; Chair Human Services Commission; Member Selectman's Land Acquisition Committee; Member Committee to Acquire Winslow Park

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#### JONATHAN PHILIP STEINBERG

I'm always eager to discuss issues affecting Westporters, although perhaps this makes me rather boring company! My kids' activities have been a great way for me to connect within my district, interacting with parents and grandparents. I'm on six RTM committees, five town committees, and attend many boards/commissions meetings, so I hear what Westporters are passionate about (I get lots of emails, too!).

But good representation is more than polling constituents. My job is to conduct due diligence on any proposal before the RTM, do the requisite research, and develop a point of view on what's best for Westport. I care about finding solutions, like keeping taxes down through improved efficiencies in town or school operations, or "smart growth" policies to preserve the town's residential character.

Bio: 3 RTM terms; 27-year resident. Graduated: Coleytown MS, Staples, Yale, NYU MBA. Jon's and Nancy's daughters educated in Westport schools: Rachel (Staples '09), Margot (Staples), Charlotte (Coleytown MS).

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#### HEATHER CHERRY

I believe in thoughtful, regular communication and making myself readily accessible to all of my constituents. I will create a website that not only provides constituents with information regarding the RTM agenda and other upcoming Westport business but also allows constituents to submit issues and questions. I will publicize the existence of this website so that the residents of District #8 can become more involved in and educated about Westport government. I will also make myself available either via telephone, email or face-to-face meeting for any constituent that would like to meet with me. In addition, I am constantly in contact with many people who live in District #8 and therefore will often be able to pursue discussions regarding their concerns and needs.

Bio: I am married with two children. I currently attend Yale Law School, have an MBA from Harvard, a BA from Wellesley College and was a Vice President at Goldman, Sachs.

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