

League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund

Nonpartisan Voters Guide

Primary Election, May 18 2010

This Voters Guide may be taken into the voting booth. You may vote as long as you are in line by 8 P.M.

FOR ELECTION INFORMATION

Contact your County Board of Elections or call the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Information Center which also provides election information. CALL TOLL FREE: 1-800-564-6598, or visit our web site at www.palwv.org. Election information absentee ballot applications and other forms are available to be downloaded at www.votespa.com

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The material in this Guide was compiled by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Education Fund. This material may not be altered or reprinted without the permission of the League. Each candidate's reply has been printed as submitted, except to use standard abbreviations and by editing from the bottom when a candidate's reply exceeded the word limit. The candidates listed are those whose names appear on the ballot as of March 24, 2010. They are listed according to their ballot order.

PURPOSE AND POLICY OF THE LEAGUE

The purpose of the League of Women Voters is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government. The League is nonpartisan: it does not support or oppose any political parties or candidates. Nothing in this guide should be construed as an endorsement of any candidate by the League of Women Voters.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Registered voters who are persons with disabilities, are ill, or will be absent from the municipality on Election Day may vote by absentee ballot. Absentee ballot applications are available at most public libraries and can be downloaded at www.votespa.com or you may call your County Board of Elections. Completed APPLICATIONS for absentee ballots must be received by the County Board of Elections by 5 P.M., Tuesday, May 11. Completed absentee ballots must be received back at the Board of Elections by 5 P.M. on Friday, May 14. If an emergency arises (unexpected illness or business trip) after the Tuesday application deadline, call your County Board of Elections for information on emergency absentee voting. Proof of emergency may be required. An emergency application and ballot can be obtained and voted by 5 P.M. on Friday, May 11. For information on how to vote if an emergency occurs after this deadline call your County Board of Elections or visit www.votespa.com

VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

If you need assistance in voting or have questions regarding the accessibility of a polling place, consult your County Board of Elections.

WRITE-IN VOTING

Information for writing in the name of a person who is not on the ballot (write-in voting) will be available at the polling place.

ELECTION DAY PROBLEMS

If your right to vote is challenged at the polls on Election Day and the problem cannot be resolved at the polling place, the judge of elections at the polling place should telephone the County Board of Elections. The problem could be resolved by phone if your name appears on the county records. If it does not and you want to try to resolve the problem, then you can go in person to the County Board of Elections where a judge from the Court of Common Pleas will be on duty to resolve election problems. Alternatively you can ask for and vote by provisional ballot. If it is later determined that you were eligible to vote your ballot will be counted. You will be given instructions on how to determine if your vote was counted.

IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW VOTERS

If you are a new voter or if you are voting at a polling place for the first time you are required to bring your voter ID card or a photo ID such as a driver's license, student ID or some other form of federal or state government issued ID. Some forms of non-photo ID are also acceptable such as a firearm permit, current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or government check. If you do not have any acceptable ID then you will be allowed to vote by provisional ballot.

ON-LINE VOTERS GUIDE

The Voters Guide and other useful information for voters can be found on the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Homepage: www.palwv.org.

CERTIFICATION NOTE

As of the publication date of this guide, the slate of candidates listed below is accurate based upon the Pennsylvania Department of State's Bureau of Elections unofficial ballot.

UNITED STATES SENATOR

(Vote for one)

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Congress, the legislative branch of the federal government, is composed of two houses, the Senate and the House of Representatives. A majority vote of both houses is required to pass a law. The Senate, made up of two members from each of the 50 states, also has the power to approve treaties and confirm presidential appointments. Terms are staggered, with one-third of the membership up for election every two years.

TERM: 6 years

SALARY: \$174,000

Question: "In this time of high unemployment, what are the most important things that should be done to improve our nation's economy?"

DEMOCRATIC



JOE SESTAK

Newtown Square

Web site:

<http://www.joesestak.com>

D.O.B.: 12.2.1954

EDUCATION: Cardinal O'Hara H.S. 1970; U.S. Naval Academy, B.S. 1974; Harvard University, M.A., 1980; Harvard University, Ph.D., 1984
OCCUPATION: Member of Congress (PA 7th District)

QUALIFICATIONS: Member of Congress first elected in 2006 after completing a 31-year military career in the U.S. Navy and having risen to the rank of 3-star Admiral.

ANSWER TO QUESTION: To strengthen our economy, we need to create jobs by investing in small businesses. That is why I have called for enhanced SBA lending and tax relief for small firms. My JOBS Act would provide a hiring tax credit to small businesses that hire new workers, helping to create 5 million jobs in the next 2 years. We know that small businesses have led economic expansions and we must now put that knowledge to work.



ARLEN SPECTER

Philadelphia

Web site:

<http://www.specter2010.com>

D.O.B.: 2.12.1930

EDUCATION: B.A. University of Pennsylvania; J.D., Yale Law School

OCCUPATION: U.S. Senator

QUALIFICATIONS: District Attorney of Philadelphia, 1966-1974; U.S. Senator, 19981-Present

ANSWER TO QUESTION: It is necessary to distribute stimulus funding quickly to create 2.1 million jobs. I urge passage of my SBA lending bill which would use TARP funding to increase credit to small businesses. My funding for dredging the Port of Philadelphia will create over 100,000 new jobs. I led the fight to increase NIH funding to \$30 billion annually plus \$10 billion in the stimulus.

REPUBLICAN



K. PEG LUKSIK

Johnstown

Web site:

<http://www.pegluksik.com>

D.O.B.: 8.11.1955

EDUCATION: B.S. in Special Education and Elementary Education; PhD in Humanities

OCCUPATION: Small Business Owner
QUALIFICATIONS: Political adviser, President Reagan's Commission on the Family; founding board of the Pennsylvania Leadership Conference and Pennsylvania Family Institute; Founder, charity to help single-low-income parents escape the welfare cycle, awarded National Point of Light.

ANSWER TO QUESTION: Unlock energy by allowing states to develop their natural resources. In Pennsylvania that means coal, natural gas, and oil. To do this we must remove Washington from involvement in what should be a state prerogative. Revamp our federal tax code to stop the strangulation of businesses. Initiate steps to stop China's "cheating" in trade and restore fair trade practices to give American business a level playing field in the international marketplace.



PAT TOOMEY

Zionsville

Web site:

www.ToomeyForSenate.com

D.O.B.: 11.17.1961

EDUCATION: B.A.,

Political Philosophy, Harvard University, 1984

OCCUPATION: Small businessman

QUALIFICATIONS: Representative, U.S. House of Representatives, 1998-2004; Candidate U.S. Senate, Pennsylvania, 2004; President, Club for Growth, 2005-2009

ANSWER TO QUESTION: All across the Commonwealth, hard-working Pennsylvanians are struggling to make ends meet and provide for their families. But the approach taken by politicians in Washington is not working. Instead, the government should be making it less expensive and easier for businesses to hire people. It can do this by cutting taxes and reducing excessive regulation. In the Senate, I will fight for lower taxes that are integral to our economic freedom and the economic prosperity this country deserves.

GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA

(Vote for one)

JOB DESCRIPTION:

The Governor, as the chief executive officer of the Commonwealth, administers the laws and manages the financial affairs of the state, has extensive appointive powers, and may approve or veto every bill passed by both houses of the General Assembly. The Governor may serve only two terms in succession.

Term: 4 years

Salary: \$174,194

Question: To protect the public interest in the reliable delivery of essential Government services what steps will you take to advocate and implement a timely, efficient, and effective budget process and one that doesn't rely on balancing the bottom line with short-sighted policy decisions?

DEMOCRATIC



DAN ONORATO

Pittsburgh

Web site:

<http://www.voteonorato.com>

D.O.B.: 2.05.1961

EDUCATION: Undergraduate degree, Penn State University, 1983 (B.S. Accounting); Law degree, University of Pittsburgh Law School, 1989
OCCUPATION: Chief Executive of Allegheny Co.

QUALIFICATIONS: Professional background as accountant and lawyer; member, Pittsburgh City Council (1992-2000), Allegheny County Controller 2000-2004; Allegheny County Executive (2004-present).

ANSWER TO QUESTION: Our Commonwealth is facing a budget crisis and needs experienced leadership to ensure fiscal responsibility while making critical investments that strengthen the economy. I proposed a reform plan to finish the budget process earlier and permanently withhold the Governor and Legislature's pay if it is ever late. I have run the state's second-largest County and made the tough decisions necessary to lead—and I am the only candidate who has made real reform a reality.



JACK WAGNER

Pittsburgh

Web site:

<http://www.jackwagner.org>

D.O.B.: 1.04.1948

EDUCATION: Indiana University of PA, B.S. Safety Management, 1974

OCCUPATION: Auditor General

QUALIFICATIONS: Auditor General since 2005; State Senator, 10 years (Allegheny Co.); Pittsburgh City Councilman, 10 years (President 4 years); Certified Safety Professional, 6 years; Marine Corps, Vietnam combat veteran; Husband and Father, 2 Children.

ANSWER TO QUESTION: As Auditor General, I know firsthand where the waste, fraud, and abuse are in government programs and how to make those programs operate more effectively. I will continue to identify significant savings that will support vital government services without tax increases. I will pass a responsible state budget on time every year. I

won't use vulnerable Pennsylvanians as pawns in the budget process, and state elected officials shouldn't get paid until the budget is passed.

ANTHONY HARDY WILLIAMS

Philadelphia



Web site:

www.williams4governor.com

D.O.B.: 2.28.1957

EDUCATION: 1979, B.S. Economics, Franklin & Marshall College

OCCUPATION: Pennsylvania State Senator, 8th District

QUALIFICATIONS: PA State Senator, 8th District since 1998; PA State Representative, 191st Legislative District, 1988-1998; entrepreneur, vending company; mid-level executive, PepsiCo; economics analyst, Acumenics Research and Technology; numerous community and service awards; founding president of a charter school.

ANSWER TO QUESTION:

Communications and consequences are key in this regard. The governor and legislature must be fully engaged from the very beginning of the process and neither should be allowed to collect their salaries after the dust settles. If the budget is late, they should not be paid—nor allowed to recoup those dollars later. It would focus the process. Those making these decisions should experience the pain of inaction, not those relying on the decision-makers.



JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

Abington

Web site:

www.joehoeffel2010.com

D.O.B.: 09.03.1950

EDUCATION: 1972, Boston University, B.A.; 1986, Temple University, J.D.

OCCUPATION: Montgomery Co. Commissioner

QUALIFICATIONS: PA House of Representatives, 8 years; Co.

Commissioner, 10 years; U.S. House of Representatives, 6 years.

ANSWER TO QUESTION: We need a Legislative Budget Office to give non-partisan analysis, and minimize partisan disagreements over the cost of legislation. Legislators need an unbiased analysis of these costs. The General Assembly ended the year with a \$201.4 million legislative

surplus. This is unconscionable. I will veto any budget that includes WAMs, legislative or executive slush funds, or stopgap measures, and I will call on the legislature to return any surplus to the general fund.

REPUBLICAN



TOM CORBETT

Shaler

Web site:

www.tomcorbettforgovernor.com

D.O.B.: 6.19.1949

EDUCATION: B.A. Political Science, Lebanon Valley College, 1971; J.D. St. Mary's University School of Law, 1975

OCCUPATION: Attorney General of PA

QUALIFICATIONS: Assistant D.A., Allegheny Co.; Captain, National Guard, 28th Infantry Division; Teacher, Pine Grove Area H.S.; Assistant U.S. Attorney, WDPA; U.S. Attorney, WDPA; Chairman, PCCD; Corporate Counsel

ANSWER TO QUESTION: For too long, Pennsylvania's budget has been a tool to serve the agendas of Harrisburg insiders rather than a responsible spending plan to serve the taxpayers. The late budget each of the last seven years is a result of the current administration's willingness to use the budget process as a means to drive out-of-control spending. As Governor, every line item will be scrutinized so that every expenditure serves an important public policy goal with measureable results.



SAMUEL E. ROHRER

Reading

Web site:

www.SamRohrer.org

D.O.B.: 8.11.1955

EDUCATION: Bob Jones University, B.S., Business Administration, 1977

OCCUPATION: State Representative
QUALIFICATIONS: Marketing Director, Graco Children's Produces-15 years; State Representative-18 years; Republican Chairman House Finance Committee (current); Republican Chairman Game and Fisheries Committee (former).

ANSWER TO QUESTION: The state budget has become an auction for special interests, not the funding process for priorities. The first reform is to prevent a governor or legislator from using tax dollars to buy votes to pass a budget—this changes the entire incentive structure. Second, the governor needs to follow the Pennsylvania Constitution’s plain language by preparing not one, but five consecutive budgets. Planning far beyond the political cycle was a wise decision by our founders.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

(Vote for one)

JOB DESCRIPTION:

The Lt. Governor will be elected jointly with the Governor in the General Election. Candidates are nominated separately in the Primary. The Lt. Governor is President of the Senate, but has no vote except in case of a tie. In case of death, conviction or impeachment, failure to qualify, resignation, or other disability of the Governor, the powers, duties and salaries of the office are assumed by the Lt. Governor for the remainder of the term or until the disability is removed.

TERM: 4 years

SALARY: \$146,926

Question: To protect the public interest in the reliable delivery of essential Government services what steps will you take to advocate and implement a timely, efficient, and effective budget process and one that doesn't rely on balancing the bottom line with short-sighted policy decisions?

DEMOCRATIC



DORIS A. SMITH-RIBNER
Philadelphia
Web site:

www.smithribnerforlieutenantgovernor.com

D.O.B.: 1945

EDUCATION: 1972, J.D. Law Degree, Pittsburgh University School of Law

OCCUPATION: Retired, effective August 1, 2009, Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania 21 ½ years-January 1988

QUALIFICATIONS: Trial Attorney in Allegheny Co. (state and federal courts) 14 years; Judge, Allegheny Co. Common Pleas Court-Interim term November, 1984-January 1986; Solicitor, Allegheny Co. Controller-5 years; Commissioner, PA Human Relations Commission-5 years; Member/Chair, Supreme Court Disciplinary Board Hearing Committee; Judge, PA Commonwealth Court-21 ½ years (local and state government); Member/Chair, PA Judicial Auditing Agency—11 years; Member (Supreme Court Designee) PA Interbranch Commission; Pittsburgh University School of Law—Distinguished Alumni Award

ANSWER TO QUESTION: As Lt.

Governor I would support a policy that budget preparation for the next year should begin immediately after the close of the current budget year. State agencies should be required to forward budget requests within 60 days for review by the Budget Office and Governor; the Governor should send a budget to the legislature no later than November 30; and legislative review and enactment should take place within 60-90 days.



H. SCOTT CONKLIN
Philipsburg
Web Site:

<http://www.Scottconklin.com>

D.O.B.: 19.07.1958

EDUCATION: Trade School degree in carpentry; licensed air conditioning technician

OCCUPATION: State Representative—77th District (Centre Co.) and business owner with wife.

QUALIFICATIONS: While passionate about the reform message, before making this decision I also took a careful look at the duties of Lt.

Governor. My background is well-suited for the position. The Lt.

Governor is responsible for the PA Emergency Management Agency (PEMA). As a county commissioner, I worked very closely with Emergency Management Director Randy Rockey and his staff to learn what their needs are in times of distress.

ANSWER TO QUESTION: Last fall I brought together some of the best minds at a forum. They provided solid ideas on budget reform. We can tailor a plan that places our essential

services on solid, long-term footing. We just need to dismiss the machine politics and elect servant leaders willing to get the job done.



JONATHAN A. SAIDEL
Philadelphia
Web site:

www.Saidel2010.com

D.O.B.: 6.10.1951

EDUCATION: Law

School: Delaware School of Law at Widener College, 1979; CPA: Philadelphia, 1975; College, Temple University, 1972; High School: North East High School, 1969.

OCCUPATION: Attorney at Cohen, Placitella & Roth, P.C.

QUALIFICATIONS: Philadelphia’s City Controller for sixteen years; advocate of reducing Philadelphia’s tax burden; produced studies of minority and small business lending programs, health care provision through the City’s health clinics; winner of national and local awards including the National Association of Local Government Auditor’s Knighton Award, President’s Council on Integrity & Efficiency Award for Excellence and multiple “Special Projects” awards from the National Association of Local Government Auditors.

ANSWER TO QUESTION: I will create an independent agency to evaluate the cost of each legislative proposal. Loosely modeled after the

Congressional Budget Office, this independent group will put a ‘fresh set of eyes’ on each new legislative initiative that will require taxpayer resources. We ought to treat tax dollars like our own and not settle for just opinion on how much these proposals will cost. The taxpayers deserve more information and they ought to know what their legislators’ ideas are going to cost them.

REPUBLICAN



STEVE JOHNSON
York
Web site:

<http://SteveJohnson2010.com>

D.O.B.: 5.07.1963

EDUCATION: B.A. Law Penn State University, 1986; M.S. Communications, Shippensburg University, 1988

OCCUPATION: President, Homechek, Inc.
QUALIFICATIONS: Business owner, 17 years; Military leader, 13 years; Scout Leader, 10 years.
ANSWER TO QUESTION: Spending should be limited to core functions of government; protecting the safety and individual rights of citizens and providing public goods, those which clearly benefit all citizens such as public safety and infrastructure. Pennsylvania should adopt a bi-annual budget process that is zero-based. This would cut back the wasted time performing a yearly budget. Zero based budgeting would lead to more efficient allocation of resources as it is based on actual needs and benefits.

JEAN CRAIGE PEPPER
Erie

Web site: <http://www.pepper2010>
D.O.B.: 1.17.1955
EDUCATION: 1977, Hollins College (now Hollins Univ.) Roanoke, VA; B.A. American History, Secondary Education Certification.
OCCUPATION: Financial Advisor for 33 years at the same Fortune 500 Financial Institution
QUALIFICATIONS: 33 year investment professional career with a Fortune 500 Company; 15 years on the Northwest Pennsylvania Federal Judicial Review Board; Thornburg appointee to first statewide historic preservation board—Preservation PA; Public service on boards of directors of 10 community organizations; experienced, conservative, multi-tasker; Mother, Wife, Businesswoman and Republican political activist.
ANSWER TO QUESTION: The recurring “budget crisis” we witness annually would be avoided with a two-year or longer budget time frame or process. In a Governor’s administration of four years, this would constitute two budget processes or less, not four. The cost reduction of the process itself and the allowance of a “more focused, long-term analysis of the effectiveness of government programs and tax dollars” stated by Tom Corbett, is needed.



RUSS DIAMOND
Annville
Web site: www.russdiamond.org

D.O.B.: 7.26.1963
EDUCATION: 1981, Northern Lebanon High School; 1981 Lebanon County Vo-Tech, Electronics
OCCUPATION: Entrepreneur
QUALIFICATIONS: PACleanSweep Founder and Chairman, 2005-2009; George Washington University Golden Dot Award, 2005; Philadelphia Inquirer Citizen of the Year, 2006; Common Cause PA Public Service Achievement Award, 2006; IABC Harrisburg Communicator of the Year, 2006, Author of SB 340 and HB 1929.
ANSWER TO QUESTION: Pennsylvania’s budget process should be returned to a two-year cycle and should be a stepped process that includes preliminary due dates. We also need personal accountability and penalties for those officials who fail to meet budget deadlines and objectives. This can only be reliably accomplished at a limited citizen’s constitutional convention. I authored SB 340 and HB 1929, the only legitimate and workable plan currently before the General Assembly to enable such a convention.



CHET BEILER
Manheim
Web site: <http://www.VoteChet.com>
D.O.B.: 5.19.1963

EDUCATION: 1987, Pepperdine University, B.S.
OCCUPATION: Business Owner, CEO
QUALIFICATIONS: 23 years of business building in the private sector; A passion for Constitutional integrity in government; A solid understanding of and commitment to free market Capitalism; Proven team-building and results-oriented leadership.
ANSWER TO QUESTION: I support efforts to establish accountability in both the legislature and in the executive branch of PA government to ensure our state budget is in balance and on time. Reasonable benchmarks should be determined and if the budget is not completed on time all members of the legislature and the Governor should

not get paid. This is the most important and consequential responsibility our lawmakers undertake, and it should be treated as such.



JIM CAWLEY
Langhorne
Web site: <http://www.CawleyforL.G.com>

D.O.B.: 6.22.1969
EDUCATION: 1991, Temple University, B.A.; 1994, Temple University, J.D.
OCCUPATION: Bucks Co. Commissioner; Attorney
QUALIFICATIONS: Bucks Co. Commissioner, 2005-Present; Chief of Staff, PA State Senate, 1994-2005; Bristol School Board, 1994-1995
ANSWER TO QUESTION: Having worked to develop Bucks County's approximately \$500 million budget, I understand the need for balanced, efficient and transparent budget processes. Working with my running-mate, Attorney General Tom Corbett, I will combine my first-hand experience in cutting budgets—our 2010 budget is lower than our 2008 budget—with the same common sense that small businesses use to create their budgets: live within your means, set priorities, cut out waste and improve efficiency.



BILLY MCCUE
Monongahela
Web site: <http://billymccue.com>
D.O.B.: 1.13.1962

EDUCATION:
OCCUPATION: Entrepreneur
QUALIFICATIONS: As a creative entrepreneur and political maverick, my campaign is built on a solid foundation of respect for seniors; openness and transparency in government, and the voter.
ANSWER TO QUESTION: My main campaign theme is respect for seniors and in particular, the often horrendous conditions at personal care homes. On the budget, I have two ideas: (1) legislators should not be paid until there is a budget, and they will not be paid back pay once one is approved; and (2) for non-legislative workers and contractors, spending continues at last year’s level until a budget is approved.



JOHN KENNEDY

Camp Hill

Web site:

www.kennedyforlg.com

D.O.B.: 3.22.1938

EDUCATION: 1956

Graduate, North

H.S. Youngstown, OH

OCCUPATION: Railroad Consultant;

Real Estate Development

QUALIFICATIONS: Founded/Built

Railroad Construction & Engineering

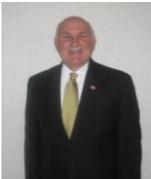
Co.

ANSWER TO QUESTION: Encourage administration to submit realistic budget that matches projected revenues. Consider a 2-year budgeting cycle. Prioritize government spending & define essential and government service. Put state spending on line. Transparency essential so taxpayers can see where our money is being spent. Would improve budget process. Do quarterly spending adjustment to match revenue collected and avoid budget mishap on June 3rd. Should legislature fail to meet June 30th deadline, then stop paying legislators' and Governors' salary.

lawmakers to identify wasteful spending; compensation benefits and all other pay practices of public servants should be benchmarked against private industry.

DARYL METCALFE

No Reply Received



STEPHEN A. URBAN

Wilkes-Barre

Web site:

www.electsteveurban.com

D.O.B.: 10.27.1952

EDUCATION: 1977,

King's College, B.A.; Golden Gate University, M.P.A.; 1992, U.S. Naval War College, M.A.

OCCUPATION: County Commissioner-

10 years; Chairman County Flood

Protection Authority; Chairman, Five

County Flood Mitigation Authority;

Vice Chairman, County Conservation

District, Board Member Wilkes-

Barre/Scranton Airport Board

QUALIFICATIONS: Proven Leader, Lt.

Colonel, USA (Retired) 24 years.

Awards: Legion of Merit, Bronze Star

Medal (2); Meritorious Service Medal

(5); Army Commendation Medal (2)

ANSWER TO QUESTION: Cut

spending now to get our budget in

line with our revenues. Convene a

private sector panel of executives to

recommend ways to reduce waste in

government programs. Conduct

audits, streamline programs, and

adopt latest technologies; create an

online database of state spending

which would allow citizens and