

# The Voter



## Items of Interest

- **What's Up in Local Politics?**
- **Battle for the Statehouse**
- **Three Statewide Ballot Questions**

## Save the Date!

~**Brunswick School Board and Town Council Candidate Forum, Wednesday, October 22, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Municipal Meeting Facility, 44 McKeen Street, Brunswick.**

~**Topsham Board of Selectmen and Sagadahoc County Sheriff Forum, Wednesday, October 22, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Topsham Public Library, 25 Foreside Road.**

~**Topsham Charter Referendum Forum, Wednesday, October 29, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Topsham Public Library, 25 Foreside Road.**

~**Election Day, Tuesday, November 4. For information concerning registration and voting laws, go to [www.lwwme.org](http://www.lwwme.org) or call your municipal clerk.**



## League Co-Sponsors Topsham Political Forums

Topsham, ME — On the last three Wednesdays in October, the League of Women Voters of the Brunswick Area, the Topsham Public Library and Topsham's Future are sponsoring two forums for political candidates and one concerning the proposed Topsham Town Charter. All three forums will take place at the Topsham Public Library at 25 Foreside Road from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m., and will be moderated by a representative of the League of Women Voters.

The October 15 forum featured candidates for the

Maine Senate and House of Representatives. Paula Benoit, Republican of Phippsburg, and Seth Goodall, Democrat of Richmond, are running for Senate District 19, which covers all of Sagadahoc County and Dresden.

Republican Kerri Prescott and Democrat Denise Tepler, both of Topsham, are running for House District 60, which covers most of Topsham. Democrat Peter Kent and Republican Susan Wasserott, both of Woolwich, are running for House District 65, which covers parts of Bath, Brunswick,

Topsham and West Bath and all of Woolwich.

On October 22, two sets of candidates will appear at the forum. The first set consists of the two candidates for Sagadahoc County Sheriff, Democrat Joel Merry, of West Bath, and Republican Brett Strout, of Topsham. The second set consists of three candidates for two seats on the Topsham Board of Selectmen. They are Paul Bennett, Ron Riendeau and Jim Trusiani.

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## Brunswick School Board and Town Council Forum

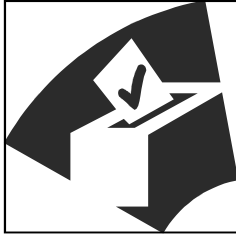
Brunswick, ME — On Wednesday, October 22, at 6:30 p.m., the League of Women Voters is sponsoring a forum for candidates for Brunswick School Board and Town Council at the Municipal Meeting Facility at 44 McKeen Street. The forum will be broadcast live on Channel 3 and taped for rebroadcast.

All School Board and Town Council candidates are participating. James Grant is running unopposed for School Board District 5. In District 7, Michele Joyce of Maine Street and Carol Visser of Thornton Oaks are facing each other. John Jones Jr. of Willow Grove and Matthew Lajoie of Larry Lane are competing for

the At Large seat.

Gerald Favreau is running unopposed for Town Council District 5. Benet Pols of Columbia Avenue and Richard Visser of Thornton Oaks are opposing each other in District 7. Deborah Atwood of Hennessey Avenue and Nicholas Livesay of Crestview Lane are the At Large candidates.

## What's Up in Local Politics?



Bath, ME - **Bath** suffers from a lack of candidates again this election season. All candidates for City Council are running unopposed.

James Omo and Andrew Winglass are running for reelection for the Ward 1 seat and an At Large seat respectively. In Ward 2, Sean Paulhus is running unopposed for the seat left vacant by the resignation of Brian Mulligan. In Ward 6, David Sinclair is running unopposed for the seat formerly held by Brian Verville.

In Bath, the polls are open from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. The polling place is the Bath Middle School at 6 Old Brunswick Road. For more information, call the city clerk at 443-8332.

**Brunswick's** polls are open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. There are six polling places for seven districts. To locate your district and polling place, click on <http://www.brunswickme.org/clerk/ballots.htm>. For more infor-

mation, call the town clerk at 725-6658.

**Freeport** also suffers from a lack of candidates for Town Council. However, there are contests for two of the three available School Committee seats.

Newcomer Eric Pandora is running for the District 2 Town Council seat previously held by Rick White. Veterans Joe Migliaccio and Rich DeGrandpre are seeking reelection to the District 3 seat and an At Large seat respectively.

Running for two three-year terms on the School Committee are Kristin Bailey, Nelson Larkins, Beth Parker and Maxwell Perrotta Jr. Current Committee member Christine Monroe is the only candidate for a two-year term created by the resignation of Sean Crean.

On election day, Freeport Voters will also decide a referendum on school consolidation with the neighboring Towns of Durham and Pownal. For the referendum to pass, the voters

of all three towns must approve it.

Freeport's polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The polling place is Freeport High School on Holbrook Street. For more information, call the town clerk at 865-4743.

In **Topsham**, there are three candidates competing for two seats on the Board of Selectmen. Newcomer Paul Bennett is challenging incumbents Ron Riendeau and Jim Trusiani. The municipal ballot also contains a referendum on the Town Charter proposal, which would change Topsham's form of government from a town meeting to a town council.

In Topsham, the polls are usually open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; however, the Board of Selectmen has not yet officially set voting hours. The polling place is the Exhibition Hall at the Topsham Fair Grounds off Elm Street. For more information, call the town clerk at 725-5821 x124.

## Topsham Political Forums on October 22 and 29

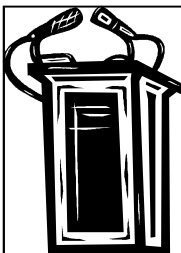
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The October 29 forum will feature representatives of the conflicting views about a proposal to change Topsham's form of government from a Town Meeting to a Town Council, which will appear as a referendum on the Novem-

ber 4 ballot. At the forum, the Topsham Charter Commission will be represented by Mike Evringham, and the Committee to Vote NO on the Charter will be represented by Liz Armstrong. Copies of the Charter Commission's Report are available at the Topsham Town Clerk's Office at 100

Main Street or on line at [www.topshammaine.com](http://www.topshammaine.com).

Questions for the October 22 or October 29 forums may be submitted in advance via email to [lwvba@gwi.net](mailto:lwvba@gwi.net). For more information, call 725-1727 or go to [www.topshamlibrary.org](http://www.topshamlibrary.org).



## Battle for the Statehouse

Augusta, ME - Both the Democratic and the Republican Parties have fielded candidates in all 35 Maine State Senate Districts for the November 4 election. The Green Party has also fielded candidates in District 8 (Portland), District 10 (Brunswick, Freeport, Harpswell and Pownal), and District 12 (Casco, Hollis Raymond, Sebago, Standish and Windham).

During the 123rd Legislature, there were 18 Democratic Senators to 17 Republican Senators. The Republican Party hopes that the election will shift the balance of power in the Senate.

There are no Republican candidates running in 20 Maine State House Districts. How-

ever, there are Independent candidates running in three of those districts and a Green Party candidate running in one of those districts. There are no Democratic candidates running in two House Districts.

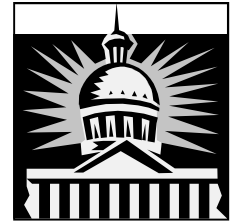
There were 89 Democrats, 60 Republicans and two Independents in the 123rd Legislature. Given the lack of candidates in so many House Districts, the Republicans are unlikely to achieve a majority in the upcoming election.

Locally, there are three Senate races. In District 10, the candidates for the seat left vacant by Beth Edmonds are Green Jason Bergquist, Democrat Stan Gerzofsky and Republican Cody Gillis Sr., all of

Brunswick. Incumbent Republican Paula Benoit of Phippsburg is facing Democrat Seth Goodall of Richmond in Senate District 19, which covers all of Sagadahoc County and Dresden. In District 20, which covers all of Lincoln County, minus Dresden, plus Washington and Windsor, the candidates for the seat left vacant by Dana Dow are Democrat Peter Rines of Wiscasset and Republican David Trahan of Waldoboro.

Robert Carlson of Owl's Head and Democrat Charles Kruger of Thomaston are competing for an open seat in House District 48, which covers Owl's Head, St. George, South Thomaston and Thomaston.

*(Continued on page 4)*



## Three Statewide Ballot Questions

Augusta, ME - Three questions will appear on Maine's statewide ballot on Tuesday, November 4. The first will be a people's veto. On July 16, a group calling itself The Fed Up With Taxes Coalition delivered petitions containing 72,432 valid signatures to the Secretary of State to overturn a law passed by the Legislature during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session to raise taxes on beer, wine and soda to help fund the Dirigo Health Program.

The second is a citizens' initiative question. On February 27, Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap announced that he had certified 59,504 valid petition signatures, enough to place *An Act to Allow a Casino in Oxford County* before the 123rd Legislature during its Second Session. Following an April 2 hearing, the Legal and Veteran's Affairs Committee voted not to send the bill to the full Legislature. Thus, pursuant to the Constitution,

the initiative will appear on the November 4 ballot.

The third question will be a bond issue concerning drinking water and wastewater management. It will ask the voters if they favor a \$3.4 million bond issue to support drinking water programs and the construction of wastewater treatment facilities. If the bond issue is approved, a \$17 million federal match is available.





League of Women Voters of the  
Brunswick Area  
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Brunswick, ME 04011

**Please deliver to:**

***The League of Women Voters is where  
hands-on work to safeguard democracy  
leads to civic improvement.***

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Send your email address to [msmall@gwi.net](mailto:msmall@gwi.net).  
*The Voter* is now available electronically!

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***Vote on Tuesday, November 4!***

## **Local Legislative Races**

*(Continued from page 3)*

Incumbent Democrat Wendy Pieh, of Bremen, faces opposition from Jonathan McKane, of Newcastle in District 50, which covers Bremen, part of Jefferson, Nobleboro and Waldoboro. Republican Democrat Denise Tepler is challenging incumbent Republican Kerri Prescott in District 60, which covers most of Topsham. In District 61, which covers Arroswic, Boothbay, Boothbay Harbor, Georgetown, Southport and Westport Island, incumbent Democrat Bruce MacDonald of Boothbay

is facing opposition from Republican Hamilton Meserve of Southport. Republican Donald Rogers is running against incumbent Democrat Thom Watson in District 62, which covers most of Bath.

Incumbent Charlie Priest of Brunswick is running unopposed in District 63. Republican Chet Garrison is facing incumbent Democrat Leila Percy in District 64, which covers Harpswell, Phippsburg and part of West Bath. Democrat Peter Kent and Republican Susan Wasserott, both of Woolwich, are battling for an open seat in District 65, which

covers parts of Bath, Brunswick, Topsham and West Bath and all of Topsham.

There is a three-way race for an open seat in Brunswick's District 66 between Republican Jonathan Crimmins, Democrat Alex Cornell du Houx and Green David Frans. Republican Emily Davis of Freeport is challenging Incumbent Democrat David Webster of Freeport in District 106, which covers all of Freeport and Pownal.

For more election information, go to [www.lwvme.org](http://www.lwvme.org).

