

PROChoice

WCLA-PAC

**Use the right to vote to
protect the right to choose**

2007 VOTING GUIDE VOTE Tuesday, NOV. 6, 2007

****YOU CAN CARRY THIS GUIDE INTO THE VOTING BOOTH**
DON'T LET ANYONE STOP YOU!**

IT IS YOUR RIGHT TO CARRY IT IN WITH YOU.

Under Election Law Title I, Polling Places, Section 8-104

you are permitted to bring this guide in with you.

If anyone questions you, tell that person to call the
Westchester Board of Elections (914-995-5700) and to ask to speak with
the Democratic Deputy Commissioner. AND GET THE PERSON'S NAME
WHO CHALLENGED YOU. We will report them!

**Our endorsed candidates are listed in
BLUE BOXES
VOTE ONLY FOR THEM**

FREEDOM OF CHOICE – VOTE FOR IT!

Please copy and distribute this page to other pro-choice Westchester County Voters.

2007 PROChoice Voting Guide

WCLA-PAC

**Our endorsed candidates are highlighted in boxes.
Help keep abortion legal and accessible.
Vote for endorsed candidates.**

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

• 9th Judicial District

Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess and Orange Counties (vote for 3)

FRANCIS NICOLAI (D)
ELAINE ZARITSKY SLOBOD (D,I,C,W)
ROBERT BERLINER (D,W)
RORY BELLANTONI (R,I,C,W)
CHRISTINE KRAHULIK (R)

William Sherwood* (R,I,C,RTL)

Anthony Zepf (RTL)

Anthony DeCintio (RTL)

COUNTY COURT JUDGE (Vote for 2)

BARBARA ZABELLI* (D,R,I,W)
JAMES HUBERT* (D,I,W)

Mark E. Constantine (R,C,RTL)

Raymond Belair (RTL)

FAMILY COURT

JANET C. JORDAN (D,I,W)

Charles F. Devlin (R,C)

Mary N. Clark (RTL)

WESTCHESTER COUNTY LEGISLATOR

• District 1

Peekskill, Buchanan, parts of Yorktown and Cortlandt

Domenic Volpe (D,I)

George Oros*= (R,C,CM)

Key to ratings:

ENDORSED

PRO-CHOICE, NOT ENDORSED

Anti-choice * Incumbent

= Former RTL

Parties: D: Democrat R: Republican
I: Independence C: Conservative
W: Working Families RTL: Right to Life
CM: Common Sense Party

WCLA - Choice Matters Endorsement Policy, 2007

WCLA - Choice Matters' endorsements are made by its Board of Directors.

WCLA - Choice Matters' endorsements are determined case by case. To be considered for endorsement, candidates must complete and return WCLA - Choice Matters' questionnaire and participate in an interview if requested.

Incumbents may be endorsed over pro-choice challengers if they have consistent voting records and have established a reputation for strong leadership and extra effort in advancing access to abortion and contraception. Non-incumbents may be endorsed if they have demonstrated leadership in the community on the issue.

Endorsement is considered only for those who unequivocally support:

- access to abortion and contraception for all women, unimpeded by laws, restrictions, or regulation;
- strict confidentiality for all reproductive health care;
- coverage by public and private insurance of abortion and contraception.

Judicial candidates: To be eligible for endorsement, judicial candidates must participate in an interview if requested by WCLA - Choice Matters, and neither seek nor accept the Right to Life Party nomination.

• District 2

Mt. Kisco, Bedford, North Salem, Lewisboro, Pound Ridge and part of Somers

PETER B. HARKHAM (D,W)
PETER T. MICHAELIS (R,I,C)

• District 3

North Castle, Pleasantville, and parts of Harrison, Mt. Pleasant and Briarcliff Manor

JOHN NONNA (D,I,W)
SUZANNE SWANSON* (R,C)

• District 4

New Castle and parts of Yorktown, and Somers

MICHAEL KAPLOWITZ* (D,I,W)
Terrence Murphy (R,C)

• District 5

Scarsdale, parts of White Plains

WILLIAM J. RYAN* (D,I,W)

• District 6

Rye Brook, Port Chester and parts of Harrison and Rye Town

MARTIN ROGOWSKY* (D,I,C,W)

• District 7

Rye City, Mamaroneck Town, Larchmont, and parts of Village of Mamaroneck, New Rochelle and Rye Town

JUDY MYERS* (D,W)

DONALD R. MARCH (R,C)

• District 8

Elmsford, Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown and parts of White Plains, Greenburgh and Mt. Pleasant

LOIS BRONZ* (D,W)

• District 9

Croton, Town and Village of Ossining, parts of Briarcliff Manor and Cortlandt

WILLIAM BURTON* (D,I)

Donald J. Deberardinis (W)

• District 10

Tuckahoe and parts of New Rochelle and Eastchester

VITO PINTO* (D, I, W)

• District 11

Pelham, Pelham Manor and parts of New Rochelle

JAMES MAISANO* (R,I,C,W)

• District 12

Ardsey, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings, Irvington and parts of Greenburgh

THOMAS ABINANTI* (D,I,W)

• District 13

Parts of Mt. Vernon

Lyndon D. Williams (D)
Scott Snyder (R,C)
Serapher Conn-Halevi (I)

• District 14

Parts of Yonkers and Mt. Vernon

Geraldine Christiana (D,RTL)
BERNICE SPRECKMAN* (R,I,C,W)

• District 15

Bronxville and parts of Yonkers and Eastchester

Gordon Burrows* (R,I,C)

• District 16

Parts of Yonkers

KEN JENKINS* (D,I,W)

• District 17

Parts of Yonkers

JOSE ALVARADO* (D,I,W)
Frank Valente (RTL)

VOTE CHOICE!

Don't let major party affiliations fool you!



See Spreckman on page 9

Greenburgh: A Microcosm of the Problems Facing the Choice Issue Today

by Catherine Lederer-Plaskett
President/Chair of the Board



On September 18th the Town of Greenburgh held its Democratic Primary for the town's elected offices. It was an extremely divisive election, with all involved turning to the Fair Campaign Practices Committee for relief. For WCLA - Choice Matters, the most important aspect of the election was the light it shined on the problems confronting pro-choice advocates today, as compared to the pre-President Bill Clinton days. If these problems can arise in a progressive Democratic-party-dominated community like Greenburgh, what does it say about the county, state, and, potentially, the country at large?

Choice on a Local Level

The most immediate and frequently heard question was, **"What does Choice have to do with local elections?"** Many who asked meant it as a rhetorical question. In reality it's an excellent one. Our local elected officials make zoning decisions; so, for example, will the zoning code permit or prohibit the operation of clinics that provide full reproductive services? Our local elected officials decide who to hire as well as what expenditures to fund, which can translate into whether or not to protect a clinic against over-zealous anti-choice demonstrators. Will there be a police chief willing and financially able to enforce clinic access laws?

Just compare Dobbs Ferry with Yonkers. The Dobbs Ferry clinic was able to stay open and safe for almost 20

years despite horrific anti-choice demonstrations because pro-choice locally elected officials were willing to enforce the law. By contrast, today's anti-choice Yonkers mayor tried to stop Planned Parenthood from opening through zoning manipulation.

If that were not enough, today's local officials often go on to higher office. Tomorrow they may be making the laws that they are being asked to enforce today.

Pro-Choice: Does It Have Any Meaning?

What does it mean when candidates say they are pro-choice? Clearly what Sue Kelly and Jeanine Pirro mean by pro-choice is different than what WCLA - Choice Matters and other reproductive rights advocacy groups do. On the other hand, the Republican Majority for Choice accepts the Kelly-Pirro definition, while the National Right to Life Conference considers any allowance for abortion, even rape or incest, to be pro-choice.

One possible conclusion: pro-choice has become a marketing tool, to be used for or against a candidate. With the exception of John Spencer, candidates in Westchester generally either identify themselves as pro-choice or try to avoid the issue. Given the support for women's reproductive rights by the vast majority of Westchester's voters, and the increasing complexity of the issue due to successful anti-choice campaigns, candidates can don the label without providing a definition.

That's where WCLA - Choice Matters steps in. WCLA - Choice Matters considers a candidate to be pro-choice after establishing that he/she unequivocally supports: 1) access to abortion and contraception for all women, unimpeded by laws, restrictions, or regulation; 2) strict confidentiality for all reproductive health care; and 3) coverage by public and private insurance of abortion and contraception. In addition, WCLA - Choice Matters sends questionnaires to candidates both to educate and assess the level of commitment to reproductive rights. **How important is Choice to the candidate? Is it in the top ten when the candidate evaluates his/her priorities, or is it number 150?**

This assessment really does matter, and every single-issue group would agree. If a particular issue is not one of THE primary issues for an elected official, it doesn't matter if the official agrees with the group's perspective—the issue is not going to be a top contender for consideration when decisions are being made. For example, if an abortion provider and a luxury condominium developer are both interested in the same parcel of land and both require zoning changes, an elected official who considers Choice to be a fundamental and primary issue might consider the following factors: the

Westchester Coalition for Legal Abortion - Choice Matters, Inc. © 2007

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WCLA-PAC

235 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605

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[See Greenburgh on next page](#)

A Priority: Women's Health

Choice Matters is excited to announce the formation of a wonderful new coalition in New York State, the Alliance for Women's Health; and we're proud to say that Choice Matters is a founding member!

We are an alliance of approximately 45 organizations that has formed to work together on policy issues that will help achieve optimal health for every woman in New York.

One issue taking center stage is the enactment of the Reproductive Health and Privacy Protection Act, which was announced by Governor Spitzer in April. The Act updates New York State's abortion laws and establishes a fundamental right to reproductive privacy. It treats the regulation of abortion as an issue of public health and medical practice, and removes it from the penal code provisions. It ensures

that a woman will be able to have an abortion if her health is endangered at any point in the pregnancy, and it guarantees everyone the right to use or refuse contraception.

Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins has taken a leadership role in becoming the lead bill sponsor for Reproductive Health and Privacy Protection Act in the Senate. Choice Matters was happy to stand with her in support of this very important bill at a press conference held in Albany last May.

Governor Spitzer's announcement of the Act came just a week after the US Supreme Court's anti-choice decisions in *Gonzales v. Carhart* and *Gonzales v. Planned Parenthood* that have resulted in the imposition of dangerous restrictions on women's reproductive rights.

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Greenburgh from page 2

number of abortion providers in the area; the difficulty in getting to the provider(s); who would be served by the clinic; while an official who is considered pro-choice but does not consider it a priority might very well focus only on which one would produce more tax revenues.

Does that make the second official less pro-choice than the first? In the eyes of WCLA - Choice Matters, it does—and for the same reason that our telephone calls identifying pro-choice households only target female voters. Men may be pro-choice but they are far less likely to consider the Choice issue in determining for whom to vote.

Back to Greenburgh

Normally WCLA – Choice Matters does not get involved in local races. However, this year in Greenburgh, WCLA – Choice Matters' interview and endorsement process was undermined. In 2005, based on an interview, WCLA – Choice Matters determined conservative Republican Charles Devlin to be anti-choice. (For details on Devlin, page 4.)

Kevin Morgan, who is a Democrat running for a seat on the Greenburgh Town Council, carried petitions to put Republican anti-choice Devlin on the Democratic Primary ballot—an action that Polly Rothstein, founder of this organization, called “an overt anti-choice action.” Morgan's explanation, as reported in *The Journal News*, was that he did not know Devlin was a Republican or anti-choice. Why didn't Morgan ask? Morgan considers himself pro-choice but he has done things that contradict that, e.g.; supporting Ed Brady a former Right to Life candidate against a pro-choice Democrat. Is he anti-choice or is it simply that Choice is not a priority?

A question that appears in one form or another

on WCLA - Choice Matters questionnaires and was originally crafted by founder Polly Rothstein asks if the candidate would support an anti-choice nominee. In the NY Senate candidate questionnaire, the question has read: “Prior to voting to confirm or reject a judicial nominee, would you determine if a candidate ever ran for public office with RTL support? Would you examine prior writings, such as court decisions or law review articles to determine if the candidate subscribes to the ‘strict constructionist’ point of view? If yes, what would you do?” For County legislature, the question was phrased, “Regarding confirmation of county officials relevant to reproductive health care such as, but not limited to, Commissioners of Health, Social Services, Corrections; nominees to Westchester Medical Center Board, Women's Advisory Board, Board of Health, and AIDS Council: I would vote, in committee and on the floor, to confirm only people who are publicly committed to the full range of such care. Yes or No.”

If a candidate does not give a pro-choice response WCLA - Choice Matters considers the candidate anti-choice. How would this standard have played out with Kevin Morgan?

A Slippery Slope

The two incumbents Eddie Mae Barnes and Steve Bass, who are strong pro-choice advocates, had to grapple with that question. They came up with an approach used by Francis Sheehan and Diana Juettner, who were confronted by Morgan two years earlier. They called Kevin Morgan “Not 100% Pro-Choice 100% of the Time.” A nice label but a slippery slope. It is dangerous to create degrees of being pro-choice. (As you can't be a little pregnant, you can't be a little pro-choice.)

See Greenburgh on page 7

2008 elections from page 1

Committing herself to making the phrase “safe, legal and rare” a reality, Clinton has aggressively promoted legislation to make birth control available and accessible. Senator Clinton has not wavered or re-invented herself. Quite the contrary. She has used her elected office and position on the international stage to focus attention on women’s health and reproductive rights.

Giuliani says, “Yes,” “No,” and “Maybe Sometimes”

In 1989 Giuliani lost his bid for mayor. Part of the blame went to “waffling” and getting “bogged down in questions about his commitment to abortion rights.” (*New York Times*, 6/18/93) A statement from the Dinkin’s campaign pointed out, “As a prosecutor in the New York Southern District, Mr. Giuliani handled numerous cases which pushed back women’s rights at least 20 years.” “When abortion clinics were under real attack by Operation Rescue..., it was Mayor Dinkins who took action to make sure the clinics stayed open. Where was Mr. Giuliani then?” (*NYT*, *ibid.*)

In 1993, when he returned for a rematch, Giuliani emerged as a strong supporter of abortion rights. With this newly found position he convinced NARAL Pro-Choice New York that there was no difference between himself and his opponent, Mayor Dinkins; in turn NARAL stayed out of the race. While campaigning in June 1993, Giuliani appeared before more than 800 women, telling them he supported abortion rights without restrictions, and distributed campaign material which highlighted his opposition to the Hyde Amendment. He

was a proponent of Medicaid funding for abortions “without restrictions.” Giuliani also defended President Clinton’s 1994 veto of the so-called partial birth abortion ban.

Now, turn the clock forward to 2007. Giuliani is no longer trying to appeal to a progressive New York City population. Instead he seeks the support of the conservative Republican primary voter. Thus, his position on abortion rights has morphed, again.

When asked by Chris Matthews at the first Republican debate, “Will the day that *Roe v. Wade* is repealed be a good day for America?”, Giuliani responded, “It’d be OK.” He added, “If a strict constructionist judge viewed it as precedent.”

“Strict constructionist” is code for judges who believe *Roe v. Wade* was incorrectly decided, and that it should be overturned. At every opportunity Giuliani explains that, “On the federal judiciary I would want judges who are strict constructionists because I am.” In recent travels Giuliani has added that the best way to imagine what he would do as president is to look at those he considers models for the Supreme Court: Antonin Scalia, John Roberts and Samuel Alito, three of the court’s most conservative members, and strict constructionists.

Since leaving the mayor’s office, Giuliani has changed his position on most every aspect of a woman’s right to choose. No reproductive rights groups—with the exception of the Republican Majority for Choice—is supporting Giuliani’s candidacy at this time, because it is clear, as Rich Lowry, editor of *National Review*, the conservative magazine, said, “...he [Giuliani] doesn’t care about abortion.” Or women’s health and reproductive rights.

Setting the Record Straight: Charles Devlin is Anti-Choice

Charles Devlin is anti-choice. In September 2005, I, Catherine Lederer-Plaskett, as president of WCLA – Choice Matters, telephoned Devlin at his home to ascertain his position on Choice. Our conversation lasted approximately thirty minutes.

During that conversation Devlin said that he did not take the Right to Life (RTL) line because he didn’t believe in one-issue lines. (I have since learned that Devlin believed that if he took the RTL line he would have been denied the Working Families line.) Devlin went on to say that I would consider him, in my terms, to be “anti-choice” or as he preferred “pro-life.”

He said that he believed *Roe v. Wade* should be and would be overturned. He thought that if it were overturned in 2005 the country would blow apart but that, in time, *Roe* could, would, and should be overturned.

Accordingly, Devlin was marked anti-choice in the 2005 and 2006 Voting Guides, both on the inside cover of the guides and in the corresponding articles. Devlin didn’t object to this designation until this September when he was trying to woo Democratic Primary voters.

Two years after the interview and the publishing of the Voting Guide, Devlin is trying to hide his position on Choice by falsely claiming he never revealed his position publicly

or privately. Just as with the Working Families line, he must have realized that Democratic Primary voters in particular and Westchester voters in general will not *knowingly* vote for an anti-choice candidate.

Through My Eyes...

Contributed by a visitor to the Choice Matters Web Site
 “I am pro-choice because as a 15 year old girl I was raped by a 40 year old man. I was trapped in a hotel room with him for 3 days and had no way to contact either the police or my parents. When the police found me I was terrified and had bruises all over my body and it was perfectly clear that I had been raped. The police report however said that I voluntarily went to the hotel with him and had consensual sex. The local newspaper printed the story from the police report. When everyone at my school heard about it I was labeled a slut and a whore. It ruined my entire high school experience and I still haven’t quite recovered from it. As a result of that attack I got pregnant. I had an abortion because I knew I would love the child far too much to give him or her up for adoption but I also knew that every time I looked at him or her I would remember that horrible experience and feel disdain for my child and that would not be fair to him or her.”

Electing Judges: Pro-Choice vs. No-Choice

This Year

Voters will choose three NYS Supreme Court judges, two County Court judges, and one Family Court judge on November 6th. All courts handle abortion-related cases from different legal approaches.

The Process

Unlike those running for political office, candidates for judge may not offer opinions on disputed legal and political issues. Choice Matters does not send questionnaires, but discusses with candidates their general philosophies regarding pregnant women and the law. We do not compromise their judicial integrity and do not ask how they would rule on any case. To qualify for consideration by Choice Matters, candidates must agree to an interview and eschew the Right to Life (RTL) Party.

Personal Perspective

The role personal perspective plays in judicial decisions is seismic. Personal opinions do matter, and not just on the US Supreme Court. Personal bias affects how a judge treats those who come before her/him, the sentence imposed, the bail required, and more.

Supreme Court

Choice Matters endorses five of the eight Supreme Court candidates:

Francis Nicolai is the Administrative Judge of the 9th Judicial District and a County Court Justice. His prior judicial experience includes serving as a Supreme Court Justice.

Elaine Zaritsky Slobod is an Acting Supreme Court Justice and a Surrogate's Court Judge. She has served as Family Court and City Court judge. Slobod is also the recipient of the Liberty Bell and Rose Rosen Awards.

Robert Berliner is an Acting Supreme Court Justice and a Surrogate Court's Judge. He is also assigned to Integrated Domestic Violence Court. His public service experience includes serving as a County Legislator for four years and as Vice Chairman of the Legislature for two.

Rory J. Bellantoni is an Acting Supreme Court Justice presiding over the County Sex-Offender Court. His judicial experience includes serving as County Court Judge, Acting Family Court Judge, and Family Court Hearing Examiner. His legal background includes practicing law as a Senior Assistant District Attorney in Rockland County.

Christine Krahulik is a Support Magistrate in Westchester and Orange County Family Court. Her legal experience includes serving as the Principal Court Attorney in Orange County Family Court and working in private practice.

Their opponents—William Sherwood, Anthony Zepf , and Anthony DeCintio—are on the RTL* line. Beware because Sherwood is also on the Republican, Conservative and Independent lines!

County Court

Choice Matters is proud to endorse two of the three County Court candidates:

Barbara Zambelli has served with distinction as a County Justice since 1998, and as Acting Supreme Court Justice since 2000. Her judicial experience includes serving as Mt. Vernon City Court judge for 11 years, and as Senior City Court judge for eight years. In addition, she has served as Upstate Vice president of the NYS Association of Supreme Court Justices by Designation, and as a panelist and lecturer at the NYS Office of Court Administration's Newly Appointed and Newly Elected Judges' School.



James Hubert is presently a County Court Justice, a position to which he was appointed under Governor Spitzer. Prior to this position, Hubert served as a Greenburgh Town judge. His legal experience includes serving as a Bureau Chief and as Deputy Chief of the Criminal Court Bureau in the Queens County District Attorney's Office, and as a criminal and civil law litigator.

Their opponent, Mark E. Constantine, is anti-choice. Voters

need to be alert to the fact that Constantine has taken both the Republican and RTL* lines.

Family Court

Choice Matters endorses only one of the three candidates running for Family Court judge:

Janet Jordan is a Westchester County Family Court Support Magistrate, appointed to the Integrated Domestic Violence Court. Jordan's legal experience includes serving as a prosecutor in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, and working in private practice serving matrimonial and Family Court clients.

Her opponents Charles Devlin and Mary Clark are both anti-choice. Clark is on the RTL* line.

*To retain a place automatically on the ballot, a party must receive, at a minimum, a certain percentage of the vote in a gubernatorial election year. The Green Party and the Right to Life Party both failed to reach that minimum in the 2002 election. Now candidates must carry petitions to re-establish the RTL line each election. **Resurrecting the RTL line is a pro-active anti-choice action.**

I needed that now-banned procedure known as 'partial-birth' abortion

By Ilene Jaroslaw

It was Friday afternoon at nursery school and Simone just couldn't wait until Mother's Day to give me her present—a tote bag printed with a photo of the two of us. When we got home, Toby greeted me with the card he'd made for me in kindergarten. We all looked forward to dad coming home from a business trip. It was the start of a perfect Mother's Day weekend. I was 40, and I was joyfully pregnant. "It'll be three kids by next Mother's Day," I remember thinking. When Monday came, I called my doctor for the results of my quadruple screen blood test from the past week, nothing I really sweated because a CVS test a couple months before had told us that our baby's chromosomes were completely normal. This time though, the doctor said that one of the screening tests concerned him and asked me to go to the hospital right away.

The ultrasound technician's silence told David and me that something was very wrong. The doctor explained that the baby had anencephaly, a neural tube defect. Large parts of the brain were missing. Babies who survive birth may live days or weeks or months, but they perceive nothing, not even a mother's touch. There was no mistake, and nothing to be done. I scheduled an abortion. On Wednesday, May 14, 2003, in the early morning, 17 weeks into the pregnancy, David drove me to the operating room and I had my abortion. That night we told Toby and Simone that the baby did not grow all the parts that a baby needs to live, and had died. We hugged and cried.

On Wednesday, April 18, 2007, the U.S. Supreme Court suggested that women do not fully comprehend the abortion procedure, and thus may come to regret it. Not this woman. Four years ago, I asked my doctor whether the Federal Partial-Birth Abortion Act, which was then being considered by Congress, would outlaw the dilation and evacuation procedure he intended to use. Yes, he told me, it would. Before I became a mother, I'd had two uterine fibroid surgeries that weakened the walls of my uterus. After the second surgery, my obstetrician-gynecologist advised that my children would have to be delivered weeks before my due date by cesarean section to minimize the risk of uterine rupture. Toby was born by early cesarean in 1997, and Simone in 1999 also by early cesarean. Before my abortion, my surgeon knew that my uterus had undergone four prior surgeries, and he also knew that I ached for a third child. I pleaded with him not to do anything in the operating room that could possibly compromise my ability to have another child. My surgeon promised me he would do everything he could to preserve my fertility, and he kept his word. I am for-

ever grateful. And one day my 2 ½-year-old daughter will be too.

My health and future fertility depended on the best available medical care, which in this case meant that I needed the intact dilation and evacuation procedure, or "partial-birth abortion" to use the non-medical, ideological term. This wrongly politicized, legitimate and standard medical procedure results in the removal of the fetus with the least probing and instrumentation, greatly reducing the risk to the woman of bleeding, infection and uterine rupture, all of which may lead to infertility.

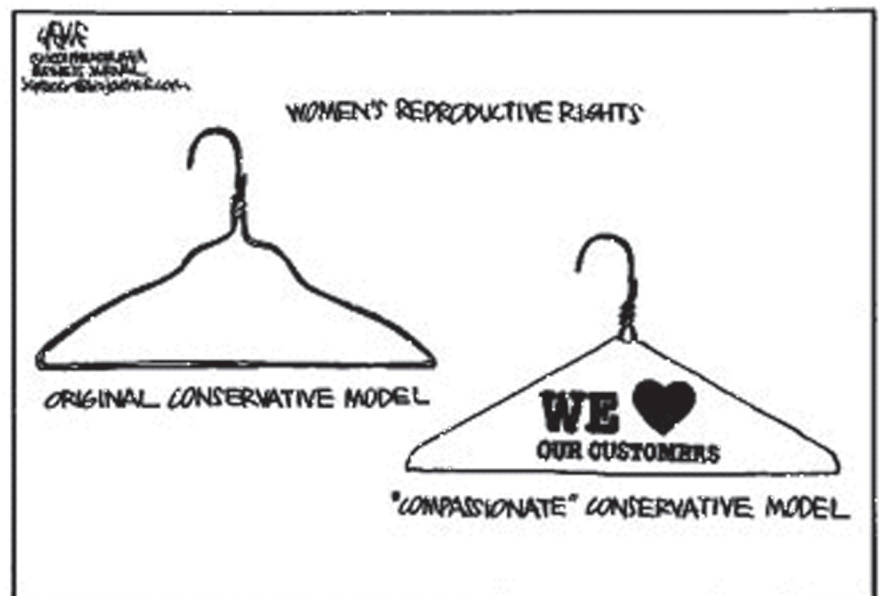
Last Wednesday was a dark day for women, and for the men in their lives who care about the health, autonomy, freedom and equality of women in 21st-century America. The high court took a giant step backward when it upheld the federal abortion ban, sweeping aside decades of its own constitutional precedent protecting women's health, in favor of ideology.

The Supreme Court decision means that judges and lawmakers may now dictate to doctors what they can and cannot do in the operating room. It means that surgeons who want to do what's best for their patients do so now at the risk of criminal prosecution. And it means that thousands of women will undergo second-best procedures carrying greater risk; many will face dire health consequences, as well as the loss of future fertility. We are now in a country where judges and lawmakers are allowed to tell doctors how best to care for their patients. This cannot stand.

For my daughters Naomi and Simone, for my son Toby's future wife, and for all girls and women in the United States, today the hard work of repealing the federal abortion ban must begin.

Ilene Jaroslaw is a lawyer in New York

From our Archives



Greenburgh from page 3

Using the WCLA – Choice Matters standard, I call Kevin Morgan anti-choice.

Words Spoke Louder than Actions

One of the first lessons taught by parents to their children is that “actions speak louder than words.” Why wasn’t that the case for Kevin Morgan?

When Barnes and Bass literature revealed that Morgan carried Devlin’s petitions, no one held Morgan accountable. Instead, Paul Feiner screamed *foul play* as he had done in 2005. At no time did Feiner condemn Morgan’s actions. Instead he mailed out a newspaper clipping containing Morgan’s pro-choice declaration **and** Devlin’s false claim never to have revealed his position on Choice publicly or privately.

Why did the public accept the Feiner defense? Perhaps because they can separate themselves from the issue of abortion. Frequently, the public and the media reporters are distant from and younger than the Roe decision. The right to choose is taken for granted, and the threats that exist are not seen as local.

While Supreme and federal court appointments and the April 2007 Supreme Court decision may be seen as distant problems to be dealt with on a national level, the public doesn’t seem personally confronted by New York’s problems either.

- 42% of New York State’s counties have no abortion provider; how many does Westchester have now that the Dobbs Ferry clinic is gone?
- New York prohibits certain qualified health care professionals from performing abortions; only a licensed physician or the woman herself may perform an abortion.
- New York allows certain individuals or entities to refuse to provide women specific reproductive health services, information, or referrals.
- 12 Anti-Choice Bills were introduced in Albany in 2007 that if passed would mandate: Biased Counseling and Mandatory Delay, Mandatory Ultrasound, Restrictions on Low-Income Women’s Access to Abortion, Restrictions on Young Women’s Access to Abortion, and Separate Legal Status for Embryos and Fetuses.
- There is a state struggle being championed by the Alliance for Women’s Health, of which WCLA - Choice Matters is a founding member, to actually incorporate a proposed abortion law into the NYS public health code and remove abortion from the penal code provisions. Right now New York’s abortion law is like icing on a cake; it has never been incorporated into the batter. With one swift motion, it could be wiped away, and New York will be left with abortion being a crime as described in the penal code.

Where Does That Leave Us?

The problems facing the Choice movement today are mammoth. As we move forward, unraveling and hopefully resolving them, two actions that we can start implementing immediately are:

- “Think Globally, Act Locally.” Apply it to Choice. If women’s reproductive rights are a priority for you on a global and national level, make them a priority locally.
 - Define “pro-choice” and apply it universally. Here at WCLA – Choice Matters, we believe that “actions do speak louder than words” is a universal truth.
- November 6th is Election Day. Voters will decide who serves in the county legislature, town, village or city governments, the NYS Supreme Court, Westchester County Courts, and Family Court. Let’s hope they’re thinking globally as they’re acting locally.

District 4: Mike Kaplowitz – A Pro-Choice Ally

Over his five terms as a county legislator representing District 4, Mike Kaplowitz has proven himself a strong ally of the pro-choice community. His position as Budget and Appropriations Committee Chairman has made Kaplowitz keenly aware of the role the County plays in the fight to protect women’s reproductive rights. That understanding has served the women of Westchester well.

Kaplowitz has also distinguished himself as a solid advocate for the preservation of open space. He serves on the Environment and Energy, and Public Safety and Security Committees.

Choice Matters stands with Mike Kaplowitz, who is being challenged by anti-choice Terrence Murphy.

District 7: All the Way with Pro-Choice Judy Myers

Westchester is lucky to have Judy Myers! In her short tenure on the Westchester County Board, which follows her extensive experience on the Mamaroneck Town Board, Myers has shown herself to be a staunch advocate for a wide range of critical issues including women’s health. Myers does not sit back and wait for issue-based organizations to come forward with a need or problem. Her style is to stay involved year-around and to attend organization-led meetings on a regular basis so that she can anticipate needs and judge them more accurately. Myers chairs the Family, Health and Human Services Committee. She also serves on the 13-member Westchester County Board of Health where she can give voice to the public health concerns and initiatives raised in the Family, Health and Human Services Committee.

For Myers this is a rematch of two years ago with her opponent, Donald March, who is also pro-choice but not endorsed. Myers’ strong leadership in women’s health makes her the clear-cut winner of Choice Matters’ endorsement.

**ACTION
ALERT!
ACTION
ALERT!**

**These elected officials represent you.
Contact them and let them know how
YOU want them to vote.**

Your Elected Officials: Keep For Future Reference

U.S. President

President George W. Bush [-] R,C
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20500
Opinion phone: 202/456-1111
Fax 202/456-2461
E-mail: president@whitehouse.gov

U.S. Senate

Hon. _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
Switchboard: 202/224-3121

Hon. Hillary Rodham Clinton [+] D,I,W
212/688-6262; 202/224-4451
Senator@clinton.senate.gov

Hon. Charles E. Schumer [+] D,I,W
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Senator@schumer.senate.gov

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Hon. _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
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CD 18 Nita Lowey [+] D,I,W
914/428-1707; 202/225-6506
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CD 19 John Hall [+] D
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Governor

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AD 99 Greg Ball [-] R,C, I
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Speaker: Sheldon Silver [+] D, W
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speaker@assembly.state.ny.us

Health Committee Chair
Richard Gottfried [+] D, W
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gottfr@assembly.state.ny.us

County Executive

Andrew Spano [-] D, I, W
Michaelian Office Building
White Plains, New York 10601
Phone: 995-2900
ceo@westchestergov.com

Westchester Board of Legislators

Hon. _____
Michaelian Office Building
White Plains, New York 10601
Switchboard 995-2800

CBL 1 George Oros [-] R,C, I ◇

CBL 2 Ursula LaMotte [+] R,C, I

CBL 3 Suzanne Swanson [+] R,C,I

CBL 4 Michael Kaplowitz [+] D, I, W

CBL 5 William Ryan [+] D, I, W

CBL 6 Martin Rogowsky [+] D,I,W

CBL 7 Judy Myers [+] D, I, W

CBL 8 Lois Bronz [+] D, W

CBL 9 William Burton [+] D, I, W

CBL 10 Vito Pinto [+] D, I, W

CBL 11 Jim Maisano [+] R,C,I, W

CBL 12 Thomas Abinanti [+] D,I, W

CBL 13 Clinton Young, Jr. [+] D, I

CBL 14 Bernice Spreckman [+] R,C,I, W

CBL 15 Gordon Burrows [-] R, C

CBL 16 Ken Jenkins [+] D

CBL 17 Jose Alvarado [+] D

Key

+	Pro-choice	I	Independence
-	Anti-choice	RTL	Right to Life
+/-	Mixed, qualified	W	Working Families
D	Democrat	◇	Has run on RTL
R	Republican		
C	Conservative		

This list keeps improving because YOU elect pro-choice candidates.

*To write
letters to
the editor*

The New York Times
229 West 43rd Street
New York, NY 10036
Fax: 212/556-3622

e-mail: letters@nytimes.com

The Journal News
1 Gannett Drive
White Plains, NY 10604
Fax: 696-8396

e-mail: letters@thejournalnews.com

Weekly papers:
Check the mastheads
for addresses and fax
numbers.

I am sending this donation to help support equal choice for everyone all the time.

I'll adopt a phoner: ☐ 10 shifts/ \$270 ☐ 9/\$243 ☐ 8/\$216 ☐ 7/\$189 ☐ 6/\$162 ☐ 5/\$135 ☐ 4/\$108 ☐ 3/\$81 ☐ 2/\$54 ☐ 1/\$27

I Can Do More! Count Me In For: ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other \$ _____

Visa, MC, AmEx (min \$35) _____ Expires _____ Signed _____

Name _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ ☐ I will volunteer. Call me.

City/Zip _____ ☐ I will help with pro-choice voter identification phone calls.

Political Party _____ ☐ I will do phoning in the ☐ evening ☐ daytime.

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ ☐ I will contact my legislators when notified.

☐ I won't vote for anyone who would restrict abortions.

Checks are payable to Choice Matters. Mail with this coupon to 235 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains, NY 10605.
Contributions are not deductible from federal income tax.

Vote from page 1

comprise a large portion of that budget.

County Medical Center: The County Board of Legislators (CBL) confirms appointments to the County Medical Center hospital board and in turn controls whether the hospital will continue to provide abortions. The CBL enters into contracts with the Medical Center to provide services to inmates of the county jail.

County Health Department: The County Health Department decides how to provide reproductive health services, including counseling and abortions.

Department of Social Services (DSS): The DSS administers the system by which pregnant women can get fast-track Medicaid eligibility for pregnancy-related conditions, including abortion. The CBL oversees the DSS to ensure a full range of reproductive services are provided by HMOs to those who are eligible for DSS assistance.

County Jail: The CBL decides whether County Jail inmates will get pregnancy tests, abortions, and prenatal care on request, and without delay.

Commissioners: The County Executive appoints, and County Legislators vote to confirm, commissioners. Commissioners important to the pro-choice issue are Health, Social Services, and Corrections.

Citizen Information Service: The County decides whether it will include referrals for clients for family planning and abortions.

Office for Women: The County Executive and the CBL determine the budget and the number of positions in an office that provides a wide range of services and information for women.

Women's Advisory Board: The County Executive and the CBL determine the make-up of the Women's Advisory Board.

Legislation on other levels of government: The County lobbies on state and federal issues that relate to reproductive health care. The CBL votes on resolutions supporting or opposing legislation on the higher levels of government.

Future office holders: County and local offices are springboards for politicians seeking higher office.

Planned Parenthood Takes Over Services

The Westchester County Department of Health has transferred its family planning services to Planned Parenthood Hudson Peconic. The Health Department determined that based upon the number of providers in Westchester that had more flexible hours and more comprehensive medical care, it would be in the best interest of patients to phase out these county services. Planned Parenthood was selected as the organization to which to refer patients. It was the only Title X provider in Westchester that the New York State Department of Health approved for transfer of Title X Family Planning Grant.

The Health Department notified patients in writing at the close of 2006 and facilitated their transition, including transfer of medical records. The County was proactive in working with the New York State Department of Health to ensure that Title X Family Planning grant dollars it received from the State were retained in Westchester.

Spreckman from page 1

Security. Oh, and by the way, Bernice Spreckman is running on the Republican, Conservative, Independent and Working Families lines.

Her opponent Geraldine Christina, on the other hand, was not satisfied with running on the Democratic line. She had to go out and resurrect the Right to Life line. She did not just take the line; she had to collect signatures to resurrect it. (To retain a place automatically on the ballot, a party must receive, at a minimum, a certain percentage of the vote in a gubernatorial election year. The Green Party and the Right to Life Party both failed to reach that minimum in the 2002 election.) Don't let Christina's place on the Democratic line fool you! She is anti-choice!

Bernice Spreckman has earned Choice Matters' and your support!

Return Service Requested

PROChoice



PLEASE SAVE OR RECYCLE.

Choice Matters Launches EC Campaign

Choice Matters is taking Emergency Contraception (EC) to the people! But we are not doing it alone. We've built a broad coalition. Choice Matters has involved the entire county in a non-political outreach, inviting everyone to come together as a community to address the issue of unintended pregnancies. In cooperation with Planned Parenthood Hudson Peconic, and with the support of NARAL Pro-Choice NY, the Westchester Women's Agenda, the Westchester Hispanic Coalition, Victims Assistance Services, YWCA of White Plains and Central Westchester, and others, Choice Matters has launched a campaign to increase Emergency Contraception awareness and access in Westchester County communities with high rates of unintended pregnancy. The goal of this project is two-fold: 1) First and foremost, to reduce the number of unintended pregnancies in the county; and 2) To serve as a model for other suburban communities seeking to address this issue.

Special thanks to the Westchester County Board of Legislators and the Chairman of the Board, the County Executive, our local NYS Assembly delegation and State Senator Suzi Oppenheimer for their support in launching this educational outreach program.

If you are interested in participating in this project, please call 914/946-5363 or email us at choicematters@choicematters.org.

What is Emergency Contraception?

- Emergency Contraception or EC is a safe and effective birth control that can be taken after sex to prevent an unplanned pregnancy.
- Plan B® is the most common kind of EC and is currently the only product marketed specifically as EC pills.
- Plan B® can be taken up to 5 days (120 hours) after sex but it works better the sooner you take it! It is up to 89% effective in preventing pregnancy when taken within 72 hours of unprotected sexual intercourse, and moderately effective when taken between 72 and 120 hours after unprotected sex.
- Plan B® is also called "the morning after pill" or "backup birth control."

Volunteers Needed

Choice Matters is seeking volunteers to assist with our EC* Education and Outreach Program. Volunteers are needed to help design peer outreach materials and distribute information.

For more information you can contact Choice Matters at 914/946-5363.

SE NECESITA AYUDA VOLUNTARIA PARA CAMPAÑA EC

Este programa esta diseñado para educar a la población de habla hispana acerca del Anticonceptivo de Emergencia (EC, por sus siglas en ingles) ó Plan B® (la pildora de la mañana siguiente). Estamos pidiendo su colaboración para distribuir informacion a diferentes grupos de personas de bajos recursos, jovenes y mujeres indocumentadas que viven en el area de Westchester. Se distribuira en lugares como ferias, centros comunitarios de salud (Greenburgh, Mount Vernon y Yonkers), Iglesias y otros lugares en donde la gente este reunida. Esta ayuda puede ser recompensada.

Para mas información puede comunicarse con Choice Matters al 914/946-5363.

Inside

Greenburgh: A Microcosm.....	2
A Priority: Women's Health.....	3
Devlin: Anti-Choice.....	4
Electing Judges.....	5
First-person 'Partial-birth' Abortion.....	6
Endorsement: Kaplowitz.....	7
Endorsement: Myers.....	7
Your Elected Officials.....	8
Planned Parenthood Takes Over Services.....	9

Read
'Greenburgh: A Microcosm'
on page 2