



# PROChoice

Newsletter of  
Choice Matters, Inc.,  
WCLA-PAC and PROChoice Voter  
Vol. 45, No. 1 Autumn, 2016

## #ImWithHer

Every year, at every election, and especially presidential ones, we say, "This is the most important one ever." BUT THIS YEAR, IT TRULY IS.

*On November 9th, we could wake up to having elected Hillary Clinton President, a Pro-Choice U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and a Pro-Choice New York State Senate. Or we can awake to the most fascistic government this country has ever known, resembling Germany in August 1934 when Adolph Hitler was elected führer.*

That is not an exaggeration! We have had anti-choice presidents before who catered to their zealot constituents; but we've never had one who shunned any vestige of governmental protocol, knew absolutely nothing about the balance of power or government structure, allied himself with Russia, and let "hate" be his guiding light, consistently demonizing and belittling Mexicans, Muslims, immigrants, women, the disabled, and other groups – and who blatantly

## Endorsements:

### Targeted Races

#### CONGRESS

**Sean Patrick Maloney (CD 18)** is a strong ally of all pro-choice groups and coalitions. He is 100% pro-choice and has voted consistently to protect women's comprehensive healthcare including the funding of Planned Parenthood. His opponent is vehemently against women's reproductive rights and an ally of Westchester's anti-choice extremist County Executive. **Re-elect Sean Patrick Maloney!**

### Four Critical State Races

#### THE STATE SENATE

**George Latimer (SD 37)** is 100% pro-choice and an advocate for legislation that ensures access to vital services for women. He supports the Reproductive Health Act, and believes New York women deserve 21st century healthcare. In sharp contrast, his opponent does not. She refuses to support the Reproductive Health Act which would remove abortion from New York's penal code, put it in the health code, and provide women with the healthcare we deserve. **George Latimer has our overwhelming support!**

**Alison Boak (Ali) (SD 40)** is a lifelong advocate for women and 100% pro-choice. She is an internationally recognized expert on human trafficking and advocate for adolescent health. She established an anti-trafficking model for the U.S. Department of Justice. In sharp contrast, her opponent is an extremist who has been endorsed by anti-choice right-wing groups because he opposes abortion even in cases of rape and incest. **We need to elect Ali Boak to the Senate!**

embraced rape culture. At his rallies, Trump whips his followers into a frenzy, inciting violence, by declaring he will imprison his political opponents; and then he sits back, enjoying their chants of, "Hang her in the streets." Just as in 1934 Germany, Trump eviscerates anyone or anything that gets in his way, and his supporters love it.

No State is safe. State governments are already well on their way to criminalizing abortion, and women are already dying – not in the proverbial streets, but rather in semi-public places and apartments, using herbs and teas that provoke abortion and hemorrhaging, as well as sharp objects that offer the promise of affordability but instead deform or kill.

People *incorrectly* think that there is no problem for women in New York State. They mistakenly consider NY a safe healthcare haven. The reality, however, is quite different. 53% of NY counties have no abortion clinics and the number of abortion providers is decreasing every year. Outside of New York City,

*Continued on page 2.*

*(We are using our limited space to highlight highly contested race. See our Voting Guide page for the comprehensive list of endorsed candidates.)*

#### THE STATE ASSEMBLY

**Brian Higbie (AD 94)** is pro-choice and running against an anti-choice conservative who refused to respond to our questionnaire. This opponent promises to follow in his anti-choice predecessor's footsteps, which means working to defund Planned Parenthood! **We're excited to endorse Brian Higbie!**

**Sandra Galef (Sandy) (AD 95)** is a strong advocate for comprehensive reproductive rights for women. She is an outspoken supporter of Planned Parenthood, equal pay, and paid family leave. Her opponent is not. He is anti-choice, refusing to even answer questions on his views about women's healthcare. **Re-elect Sandy Galef!**

#### WESTCHESTER COUNTY

**Anthony Scarpino (Tony) (District Attorney)** has extensive legal experience. He worked as an FBI agent, served as a County Court Judge, and then as Surrogate Court Judge. Tony knows the importance of the law and that women have a constitutional right to safe access to reproductive healthcare including abortion. His opponent is anti-choice and refuses to respond to questions about his understanding of laws governing women's health. Westchester needs a DA who will defend women's rights. **Elect Tony Scarpino.**

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# A Few Salient Points

by Catherine Lederer-Plaskett,  
President/Chair of the Board



1 **Be kind to your neighbor.** Many people can't get to the polls. Age, weather, physical impairments or simply no transportation can stop a person from voting. Don't let that happen. Lend a hand and a ride. You can also call: 914-946-5363 and we'll find you transportation. We all need to vote

2. This year's election is more than the presidential race alone. **Voting all the way down the ballot matters!** REMEMBER: Determining who is in the White House, and who controls Congress, the New York State Senate and the Assembly will decide what laws protecting women's rights do or don't get passed. Who is elected Westchester District Attorney will determine whether those laws are enforced.

3. When *Roe v. Wade* became the law of the land in 1973, other pro-choice advocacy organizations across the country packed up, believing the war was won. *We did not.* We recognized that women's reproductive rights would always be under attack and that protecting our rights would

require constant vigilance. We were right!

We see that again today in New York State, even though our state - even now - does not guarantee women the full protection of *Roe v. Wade*; abortion remains in NYS's penal code; and NY women are denied 21st century medical care. Some groups like NARAL ProChoice NY which closed in January and Empire Pride which closed last December, are gone. But we are here. The fight is hard but definitely worth waging.

WCLA - Choice Matters has been here for pro-choice voters for more than 43 years. WE DELIVER and we will continue to do so! In the Special Election in April, WCLA PAC went to Nassau County and made the difference in NYS Senate District #9 – winning by getting pro-choice voters to the polls. 780 votes put that seat in the Pro-Choice column!

Our work requires your support. We don't need massive SUPER PAC money to succeed, but we do need your contributions. As we've clearly demonstrated, we spend our funds wisely. The more you invest in us, the greater our impact will be on New York State and federal politics. It starts with a donation from you. Please make a contribution today.

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## #ImWithHer

to get an abortion past 16 weeks is dramatically more difficult. Women have to travel to the City or Westchester to terminate, plus figure out how they will afford a three-day procedure, including housing, food, etc. – not to mention missing work, school and leaving their families. After 24 weeks, it is virtually impossible to terminate here. NY's law was written before *Roe v. Wade* and does not provide the full constitutional protection guaranteed by *Roe*. If a woman's health is at risk or something goes wrong in her pregnancy after 24 weeks, she must seek care outside of NY because State law does not allow a doctor to provide abortion coverage.

*It is quite literally now or never.* Trump has promised to appoint only anti-choice extremists to the U.S. Supreme Court who will overturn *Roe*. His running mate, Mike Pence, has declared, "We'll see *Roe vs. Wade* consigned to the ash heap of history where it belongs." Both Trump and Pence have made clear they believe women who have abortions should be punished. As governor, Pence signed legislation into law that does just that. Both men oppose both equal pay and a minimum wage. Trump has pledged to make the Hyde Amendment permanent and sign an unconstitutional 20-week abortion ban into law. He has assembled an advisory board whose members even oppose many forms of birth control. The head of the board, Marjorie Dannenfelser, is president of the anti-choice Susan B. Anthony List. Another member, Tony Perkins, is a supporter of the white supremacist group Council of Conservative Citizens Louisiana Chapter and head of the anti-LGBTQ Family Research Council which has been classified as a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center. The National Right to Life PAC has endorsed Trump and Pence because of their extreme anti-choice agenda.

That said, we have the opportunity to elect THE BEST advocate women have ever had - **Hillary Clinton**. She has been an

*Continued from page 1.*

outspoken leader for women's comprehensive reproductive rights her entire life. She has stood up, and refused to be shut up, for all the things that have mattered – equal pay, paid sick leave, economic justice, Title IX and X, and more. She helped pass the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) which covers more than 8 million children. She fights for the rights of the disabled and the elderly. Hillary understands what it means to care for your children while caring for your parents.

**You have the opportunity to do something really big.** Please, don't sit on the sidelines waiting for someone else to do the heavy lifting. Get out there. Talk with everyone about why they must vote for Hillary Clinton on November 8th. There's no time to waste!

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## ROCK THE VOTE



A memorable night, of awesome music competition & voter registration.

Special thanks to our stellar judges, Scott Latzky & Soulstatic (a.k.a. Dan Martino), our graphic designers at Agile Pixel, & our terrific organizers, Stessa Peers & Andrew Mangiapili.

Hopefully, this is the beginning of a new tradition!

**Take this Voting Guide with you to the Polls on NOV. 8TH!**



Help us save money! Send us your e-mail address to [ChoiceMatters@ChoiceMatters.org](mailto:ChoiceMatters@ChoiceMatters.org)

Please copy and distribute this page  
to other Pro-Choice Voters!

# 2016 PROChoice Voting Guide

## WCLA-PAC and PROChoice Voter

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

### U.S. PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT

**HILLARY CLINTON/  
TIM KAINE (D,W,WEP)**

Donald Trump/Mike Pence® (R,C) SBA/RTL  
Jill Stein /Ajamu Baraka (G)  
Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (I,LBT)

### U.S. SENATOR

**CHARLES SCHUMER\* (D,W, I,WEP)**

Wendy Long® (R,C) SBA/RTL  
Robin Laverne Wilson (G)  
Alex Merced (LBT)

### NYS SUPREME COURT JUDGES

9th Judicial District: Westchester, Putnam,  
Rockland, Dutchess & Orange.  
(Vote for 3)

**LINDA JAMIESON\* (D,R,C,W,I)  
JANET MALONE (D,R,C,W,I)**

Thomas E. Walsh (D,R,C,W,I)

### DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**ANTHONY A. SCARPINO JR. (D,C,WEP)**

Bruce P. Bendish (R,I,REF)

### U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### • District 16

Westchester County: Eastchester, parts of Greenburgh,  
Mamaroneck, Mt. Vernon, New Rochelle, Pelham,  
City of Rye, Scarsdale, Yonkers; plus parts of  
the Bronx.

**ELIOT ENGEL\* (D,W,WEP)**

Derickson K. Lawrence (PCC)

#### • District 17

Westchester County: Cortlandt, parts of  
Greenburgh, Harrison, Mt. Kisco, Mt. Pleasant,  
New Castle, North Castle, Ossining, Peekskill, Rye  
Town, parts of Yorktown; City of White Plains;  
plus Rockland County.

**NITA LOWEY\* (D,W,WEP)**

#### • District 18

Westchester County: Bedford, Lewisboro, parts  
of Mt. Kisco, parts of New Castle, parts of North  
Castle, North Salem, Pound Ridge, Somers, parts  
of Yorktown; plus Dutchess County: Beacon, East  
Fishkill, Fishkill, Poughkeepsie (City & Town),  
Wappinger; plus Putnam and Orange Counties.

**SEAN PATRICK MALONEY\* (D,W, I,WEP)**

Phil Oliva (R,C,REF)

### NEW YORK STATE SENATE

#### • District 34

Westchester County: Pelham, parts of Mt.  
Vernon, plus parts of the Bronx.

Jeffrey Klein\* (D,I,WEP)  
Alex Mici (R)

**CARL LUNDGREN (G)**

#### • District 35

Westchester County: Greenburgh, Scarsdale, parts  
of New Rochelle, parts of White Plains and parts  
of Yonkers.

**ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS\* (D,W,I,WEP)**

#### • District 36

Westchester County: Parts of Mt. Vernon and the  
Bronx.

**JAMAAL BAILEY (D,W)**

Robert Diamond (C)

#### • District 37

Westchester County: Bedford, Eastchester,  
Harrison, Mamaroneck, North Castle, Rye (City &  
Town), parts of New Rochelle, White Plains and  
Yonkers.

**GEORGE LATIMER\* (D,W,WEP)**

Julia P. Killian (R,C,I,REF)

#### • District 38

Westchester County: Ossining; plus Rockland  
County: Clarkstown, Orangetown and Ramapo.

**DAVID CARLUCCI\* (D,I,WEP)**

Thomas DePrisco (R,C,REF)

#### • District 40

Westchester County: Cortlandt, Lewisboro, Mt.  
Pleasant, Mt. Kisco, New Castle, City of Peekskill,  
North Salem, Pound Ridge, Somers, Yorktown;  
plus Putnam County: Carmel, Patterson,  
Southeast; and Dutchess County: Beekman  
and Pawling.

**ALISON BOAK (D,W)**

Terrence Murphy\*® (R,C,I,REF) SBA/RTL

### NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

#### • District 88

Westchester County: Eastchester, parts of New  
Rochelle, Pelham, Scarsdale and parts of White  
Plains.

**AMY R. PAULIN\* (D,W,I,WEP)**

Anthony J. DeCintio Jr.® (C) SBA/RTL

### WCLA PAC & ProChoice Voter Endorsement Policy, 2016

WCLA PAC and ProChoice Voter make their endorsements based on the candidate ratings made by the Board of Directors of WCLA - Choice Matters.

WCLA PAC's and ProChoice Voter's endorsements are determined case by case. To be considered for endorsement, candidates must complete and return the Organization's questionnaire and participate in an interview if requested. All endorsements are made on a strictly non-partisan basis. The questionnaires, incumbents' and opponents' records, leadership, and helpfulness during the legislative session are all reviewed. Consistency between candidates' actions, interviews and questionnaire responses is important.

Each race is voted separately. 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 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 regulations
- 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, and neither seek nor accept the Right to Life Party nomination.

#### • District 89

Westchester County: Mt. Vernon and parts of  
Yonkers.

**J. GARY PRETLOW\* (D,W,I)**

#### • District 90

Westchester County: Parts of Yonkers.

**SHELLEY MAYER\* (D,W,I)**

#### • District 91

Westchester County: Mamaroneck, parts of New  
Rochelle, Rye (City & Town.)

**STEVEN OTIS\* (D,W,I,WEP)**

#### • District 92

Westchester County: Towns of Greenburgh and  
Mt Pleasant.

**THOMAS J. ABINANTI\* (D,W,I)**

#### • District 93

Westchester County: Bedford, Harrison, Lewisboro,  
Mt. Kisco, New Castle, North Castle, North Salem,  
Pound Ridge and parts of White Plains.

**DAVID BUCHWALD\* (D,W,I,WEP)**

#### • District 94

Westchester County: Somers, Yorktown; plus  
Putnam County: Putnam Valley, Carmel,  
Southeast and Patterson.

**BRIAN HIGBIE (D,W)**

Kevin Byrne (R,C,I,REF)

#### • District 95

Westchester County: Cortlandt, Ossining,  
Peekskill; plus Putnam County: Phillipstown  
and Kent.

**SANDRA GALEF\* (D,W,I,WEP)**

Greg Purdy Jr. (R,REF)

### Key to ratings:

**PRO-CHOICE, ENDORSED**

PRO-CHOICE, NOT ENDORSED

Anti-choice, not endorsed

\* = Incumbent

® = Former Right to Life candidate

SBA/RTL: Susan B. Anthony/Right to Life Endorsed

**Parties:** D: Democrat R: Republican  
C: Conservative W: Working Families  
I: Independence WEP: Women's Equality  
REF: Reform G: Green LBT: Libertarian  
PCC: People's Choice

The Voting Guide is inside this newsletter. Use your power to vote to protect Choice!

WCLA-Choice Matters  
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**- SEXUAL ASSAULT -  
ONLY AN ELECTION DAY ISSUE?  
YOU DECIDE.**

**Hillary Clinton's Record of Accomplishments** is awe-inspiring and too lengthy to write here. Please visit the following websites to explore in more detail why Hillary is THE BEST candidate for the job of President of the United States - bar none:

**Daily Kos** *Hillary Clinton's Record of Accomplishments*;

**UltraViolet Action** *WTF Has Hillary Done*; and

**Mic.com** *Hillary Clinton Resume, Age and Professional Accomplishments*.

### **Right-Wing Religious Fanatic's Record** Trump's Running Mate, Governor Mike Pence

#### **Pence as Governor (2012 - present):**

- Signed into law every anti-reproductive rights piece of legislation that crossed his desk.
- Outlawed all abortions sought because of a fetal abnormality. Abortion providers could go to jail. Pregnant women had to view the fetal ultrasound and hear the heartbeat.
- Refused to comply with Obama administration rules aimed at reducing prison rape.
- Signed into law the most extreme bill permitting business owners to refuse service to gay and lesbian customers, therewith allowing religion to be used as an excuse for other forms of discrimination.

#### **Pence in Congress (2000 – 2012):**

- Authored the first bill to block federal funds from Planned Parenthood.
- Voted twice against the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, and against the Paycheck Fairness Act.
- Co-sponsored the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortions Act aimed at redefining the rape exemption as "forcible rape."
- Co-sponsored an amendment to prohibited same-sex marriage, and voted against the Employee Non-Discrimination Act and the repeal of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

Go to [ProChoiceVoter.org](http://ProChoiceVoter.org) to read more.

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