



# Political Election Coverage 2001



## County Freeholder

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manager with NYNEX.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** Mr. Mingo was appointed to fill an unexpired term on the Freeholder Board in 1998. He was elected later that year to a full, three-year term. He also worked in the office of State Assemblyman Gerry Green (D-17).

**Family Life:** Mr. Mingo and his wife, Pansy, have an adult daughter, Nicole. They reside in Plainfield.

**Clubs/Organizations:** Mr. Mingo serves on the Board of Deacons at St. John's Baptist Church in Scotch Plains and is President of the Men's Ministry. He also helped organize the Plainfield Area Youth Development Tennis Association in 1986. He served on the Plainfield Economic Development Council, Planning Board and the Adult Education School Board.

**Name:** Daniel P. Sullivan  
**Candidate For:** Union County Freeholder

**Party:** Democrat  
**Education:** Freeholder Sullivan holds a bachelor's degree in government from Seton Hall University in South Orange.

**Professional Background:** Mr. Sullivan is the Executive Director of the Elizabeth Development Corporation, which oversees the city's Urban Enterprise Zone. He was previously a Data Processing Manager for AT&T.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** Mr. Sullivan was named to the Freeholder board to fill a vacancy in January 1995. He was subsequently elected to a full, three-year term later that year and was re-elected in 1998. He is a former member of the Elizabeth Board of Education, having served as President and Vice President and as Chairman of its Finance Committee.

**Family Life:** Mr. Sullivan and his wife, Connie, have three children. The family resides in Elizabeth.

**Clubs/Organizations:** Mr. Sullivan currently serves as Third Vice Chairman of the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority's (NJTPA) Executive Committee. He chairs the NJTPA's Planning and Economic Development Committee and is a member of its Freight Movement Committee.

**Name:** Ricky Badillo  
**Candidate For:** Union County Freeholder

**Party:** Republican

**Education:** The candidate is a graduate of East High School in Newark and a 1997 graduate of the Thomas M. Cooper Corrections Staff Training Academy in Skillman, where he was Class President.

**Professional Background:** Mr. Badillo is an Essex County corrections officer. He is a former corrections officer in Union County, where he was a member of PBA Local No. 199. He was previously a shop steward with Sealand of Elizabeth.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** The candidate is in his second term on the Roselle Park Borough Council. He has served as Council President and Acting Mayor.

**Family Life:** Mr. Badillo and his wife, Anna Olivo, reside in Roselle Park with their three children.

**Clubs/Organizations:** Mr. Badillo has been a member of the Roselle Park Volunteer Rescue Squad since 1983. He is a member of his town's Parent Teacher Association Dads Club, serves as a Little League coach and is member of the Board of Directors of the Roselle Park Police Explorers. He is also a member of the Calvary Tabernacle Church in Cranford.

**Name:** Mary P. Ruotolo  
**Candidate For:** Union County Freeholder

**Party:** Democrat

**Education:** Mrs. Ruotolo received an Associate's Degree in Business and then continued her education at Kean University. She attended St. Anthony's grade school in Elizabeth and Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark before graduating from Union High School.

**Professional Background:** The candidate is currently a full-time Freeholder. She has worked as a teacher's assistant in kindergarten classes with the Westfield public school system.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** Freeholder Ruotolo was named to the Freeholder board in 1998 to fill a vacancy. She was elected to a full, three-year term later that year. Her late husband, Andrew K. Ruotolo, Jr., served as

Union County Prosecutor from 1991 until his death in 1995.

**Family Life:** Mrs. Ruotolo resides in Westfield with her three children.

**Clubs/Organizations:** Mrs. Ruotolo has been active with the Westfield Parent Teacher Organization, where she has served on its Executive Board and worked on fundraising and student enrichment committees.

**Name:** R. Jeffrey Schundler  
**Candidate For:** Union County Freeholder

**Party:** Republican

**Education:** The candidate has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Administration and Economics from Penn State University.

**Professional Background:** The candidate is Chief Operating Officer and Controller of the Schundler Company in Edison.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** This is the candidate's first attempt at elective office. He worked on the campaigns of his brother, former Jersey City Mayor and this year's GOP gubernatorial nominee, Bret Schundler, in 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1997, as well as the current campaign.

**Family Life:** The candidate is married and has two children. He resides in Westfield.

**Clubs/Organizations:** Mr. Schundler served as a First Lieutenant in the United States Army from 1969 to 1973. He is former President of the St. Peter's Prep Parents Association. Among his many business affiliations, Mr. Schundler has served as an advisory board member to the New Jersey Small Business Development Center.

He co-chaired the New Jersey Delegation to the 1995 White House Conference on Small Business and served on the Governor's Conference on Small Business in 1981.

## Westfield Town Council

**Name:** Susan Jacobson  
**Candidate For:** Westfield Town Council, Fourth Ward

**Party:** Democrat

**Education:** The candidate has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Accounting from Rutgers University.

**Professional Background:** Ms. Jacobson is Vice President of the Union County Chamber of Commerce.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** Mrs. Jacobson served 12 years on the Westfield Board of Education, including roles as President and Vice President.

**Family Life:** A 32-year resident of Westfield, Mrs. Jacobson and her husband, Ronald, have two children, Irene and Monica.

**Clubs/Organizations:** Mrs. Jacobson has served on the Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Elizabeth; is a member of the Fund Distribution Committee of the United Fund of Westfield, and is a member of the Westfield Community Center Board of Directors.

She is a member of the Advisory Board and Steering Committee of the proposed Westfield Cultural Arts Center and represents Mayor Gregory S. McDermott on the Westfield Memorial Library Board of Trustees. She was recently asked to serve on the Board of Trustees of the College Woman's Club of Westfield.

**Name:** Janis F. Weinstein  
**Candidate For:** Westfield Town Council, Fourth Ward

**Party:** Republican

**Education:** A Westfield High School graduate, Mrs. Weinstein holds a saleswoman's license from the New Jersey Real Estate Commission and is a referral agent with Burgdorf ERA Realtors in Westfield.

**Professional Background:** Mrs. Weinstein is Office Manager with the Westfield law firm of Johnstone, Skok, Loughlin & Lane.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** Mrs. Weinstein was appointed to fill an unexpired seat on the Westfield Town Council in 1996. She lost her bid for a full term later that year but was elected to a full term in 1997 and was reelected in 1999.

The Councilwoman is also a member of the Westfield Recreation Commission. She is the Chairwoman of the council's Public Works Committee.

**Family Life:** Mrs. Weinstein and her husband, Loren, have two children.

## Westfield Town Council

**Clubs/Organizations:** The candidate is a former member of the Executive Committee of the Westfield Historical Society. She is past Co-Chairwoman of the United Fund of Westfield's Special Business Committee; past Vice Regent of the Westfield Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and Past President of the McKinley Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization.

**Name:** Neil F. Sullivan, Jr.  
**Candidate For:** Westfield Town Council, Third Ward

**Party:** Republican

**Education:** Councilman Sullivan has a bachelor's degree from Duke University and a Master of Business Administration Degree from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke.

**Professional Background:** A former Senior Vice President for a leading financial institution, Mr. Sullivan is President of Westfield Mortgage, a residential lender he recently founded.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** Mr. Sullivan was appointed to the council to fill a vacancy in 1995. He was elected to a full, two-year term that year and reelected in 1997 and 1999. He is serving as Acting Mayor this year and chairs the council's Transportation, Parking and Traffic Committee.

**Family Life:** Councilman Sullivan and his wife, Susan, have two daughters, Katie and Cami.

**Clubs/Organizations:** The Councilman has been active with Duke University affairs, previously serving on the Alumni Council for the Fuqua School of Business. He is a member of the American Revolution in New York and is a member of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield. He is a coach in the Westfield Soccer Association.

**Name:** Kevin G. Walsh  
**Candidate For:** Westfield Town Council, Third Ward

**Party:** Democrat

**Education:** Mr. Walsh holds a bachelor's degree from Seton Hall University in South Orange and a law degree from the Seton Hall University School of Law in Newark.

**Professional Background:** The candidate is an attorney with the firm of Gibbons, Del Deo, Griffinger & Vecchione in Newark, where his practice focuses on white collar criminal defense, intellectual property litigation and general commercial litigation.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** This is Mr. Walsh's first attempt at elective office.

**Family Life:** The candidate is married.

**Clubs/Organizations:** The candidate and his wife are members of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield. While at Seton Hall, Mr. Walsh was a member of the school's Human Relations Council. Professionally, he participates in the Volunteer Lawyers for Justice program, representing disadvantaged people, free of charge.

**Name:** Thomas Fuccillo  
**Candidate For:** Westfield Council, Second Ward

**Party:** Democrat

**Education:** Mr. Fuccillo holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and certificate of management studies in marketing from the University of Rochester and a law degree from the St. John's University School of Law in Queens, NY.

**Professional Background:** The candidate is employed as an associate counsel for the investment management firm of Neuberger, Berman, LLC in Manhattan.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** This is the first attempt at elective office for Mr. Fuccillo.

**Family Life:** Mr. Fuccillo and his wife, Kristin, live on Hillcrest Avenue with their two young children.

Finance Committee and previously headed the Building and Town Property Committee.

**Family Life:** Mr. Albano and his wife, Michelle, have three children, Matthew, Juliana and Marielle.

**Clubs/Organizations:** Mr. Albano is a member of the Knights of Columbus in Westfield. He is President of the Summit Bar Association and sits on the Alumni Board of Trustees of the Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison. He is Town Council



Matthew P. Albano

Liaison to the Westfield Downtown Corporation and is active with the Loyola Retreat House in Morristown, a Jesuit community.

**Name:** Peter M. Echausse  
**Party:** Republican  
**Candidate For:** Westfield Council, First Ward

**Education:** The candidate holds a bachelor's degree from Manhattan College and a master's degree in business administration from Fordham University in the Bronx.

**Professional Background:** The candidate has 13 years of combined experience in municipal finance and public service as a credit analyst, including nearly 10 years collectively with Standard & Poors and Merrill Lynch. He is employed as Vice President at Toronto Dominion Securities in New York City.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** After an unsuccessful run for Town Council in 2000, Mr. Echausse was appointed to fill a vacancy left by the resignation of Gregory S. McDermott upon his election as Mayor. The candidate also served as a member of the Westfield Recreation Commission and chairs the council's Public Safety Committee.

**Family Life:** The candidate and his wife, Colleen, have four small children: Kevin, Lauren, Michael and Andrew. They reside on Tuttle Parkway.

**Clubs/Organizations:** The candidate is a member of the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield, where he served on the Finance Council.

**Name:** Reid Edles  
**Candidate For:** Westfield Council, First Ward

**Party:** Democrat

**Education:** The candidate earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the now-defunct Belknap College in Center Harbor, N.H., in 1969. He graduated from the Metropolitan Police Academy in Washington D.C., the same year. Mr. Edles also holds a certification as an Emergency Medical Technician in New Jersey.

**Professional Background:** A former detective with the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department, the candidate is currently employed as a loss prevention director for a major regional retailer.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** The candidate has no previous political experience.

**Family Life:** The candidate lives on Cleveland Avenue with his wife, Lisa, and daughter, Allison, a junior at Westfield High School.

**Clubs/Organizations:** Mr. Edles serves as President of the Westfield Volunteer Rescue Squad. He has been active in the squad since 1986.

## Scotch Plains Town Council

**Name:** Pat Romano  
**Candidate For:** Scotch Plains Township Council

**Party:** Democrat

**Education:** The candidate completed courses to work as a Tax Assessor. She recently completed the appropriate courses to obtain her real estate license.

**Professional Background:** Mrs. Romano recently entered the real estate field. She had been with the City of Rahway for 14 years, working in the City Clerk's office and the Tax Assessor's office.



Pat Romano

## Scotch Plains

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** This is Mrs. Romano's first campaign for elective office.

**Family Life:** Mrs. Romano and her husband, Vincent, have a six-year-old daughter, Giavanna.

**Clubs/Organizations:** The candidate has served on the Scotch Plains Cultural Arts Committee since 1997. Her husband, Vincent, has been a township volunteer fireman since 1988.

**Name:** Guy Celentano  
**Candidate For:** Scotch Plains Township Council

**Party:** Republican

**Education:** The candidate is a graduate of Hanover Park Regional High School in East Hanover and the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park N.Y.

**Professional Background:** The candidate owns his own food business, Celentano Food Products, as well as Key Dreams Inc., a real estate management and consulting business. Both are based in Scotch Plains.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** The candidate was a member of the Union County Transportation Advisory Committee. He is a current member of the Scotch Plains Planning Board and the township's Environmental Commission.

**Family Life:** Mr. Celentano and his wife, Catiana, are three-year residents of Scotch Plains. They do not have any children.

**Clubs/Organizations:** Mr. Celentano is a member of the Scotch Plains Italian-American Club and the Scotch Plains Republican Committee. He is a parishioner at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in Scotch Plains.

## Fanwood Borough Council

**Name:** Michael Brennan  
**Candidate For:** Fanwood Borough Council

**Party:** Democrat

**Education:** Mr. Brennan is a graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School and Rutgers University in New Brunswick, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Government.

**Professional Background:** The candidate is a computer systems engineer with Avaya Communications in Warren, a spin-off of Lucent Technologies. He is a specialist in technology and communications.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** This is Mr. Brennan's first attempt at elective office.

**Family Life:** A Fanwood resident since age 3, Mr. Brennan and his wife, Maryann, live on Midway Avenue. The couple does not have any children.

**Clubs/Organizations:** The candidate is a member of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in Scotch Plains.

**Name:** Katherine Mitchell  
**Candidate For:** Fanwood Borough Council

**Party:** Democrat

**Professional Background:** Councilwoman Mitchell is a registered nurse with the Visiting Nurse Association of Central New Jersey.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** The candidate first ran for council in 1993. She was elected on her second attempt in 1998 and is now serving her freshman term on the Fanwood governing body.

**Family Life:** A North Avenue resident, Ms. Mitchell is not married and has lived in Fanwood for 46 years.

**Clubs/Organizations:** Councilwoman Mitchell was instrumental in establishment of the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Recycling Association; serves as a Eucharistic Minister at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church in Scotch Plains and is a member of the Interfaith Council for the Homeless of Union County.

Her résumé also includes having served as Chairwoman of the Fanwood Democratic Committee.

**Name:** Dr. Chester R. Lindsey  
**Candidate For:** Fanwood Borough Council

**Party:** Republican

**Education:** The candidate attended Temple University in Philadelphia and graduated from the Pennsylvania College of Podiatrists.

**Professional Background:** Dr. Lindsey has been an optometrist in Fanwood since 1958.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** The candidate served on the Borough Council from 1989 to 1992 and from 1994 to 1997. He ran unsuccessfully for Fanwood Mayor in 1995.

**Family Life:** Dr. Lindsey and his wife, Patricia, are 41-year residents of Fanwood and live on Midway Avenue. They have several adult children.

## Clubs/Organizations:

Dr. Lindsey has served three different terms as President of the Fanwood Lions Club. A United States Navy veteran, he was a member of the Fanwood Volunteer Rescue Squad from 1962 through

1965. He is the ex-Chairman of the Heart Fund.

**Name:** David B. Trumpp  
**Candidate For:** Fanwood Borough Council

**Party:** Republican

**Education:** Mr. Trumpp is a graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School and Alfred University in New York.

**Professional Background:** Employed with the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, he has held the title of Marketing Coordinator for the past two years.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** The son of former Fanwood Mayor Theodore "Ted" Trumpp, the candidate is making his third bid for the Borough Council. He previously ran in 1997 and 1998.

**Family Life:** The candidate is a lifelong Fanwood resident and presently lives on Oakwood Court.

**Clubs/Organizations:** Mr. Trumpp is President of the Fanwood Lions Club. He is a member of the Fanwood Historic Preservation Commission and Fanwood Republican Club.

## Mountainside Borough Council

**Name:** Glenn Mortimer  
**Candidate For:** Mountainside Borough Council

**Party:** Republican

**Education:** Mr. Mortimer has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics from Drew University in Madison and is a designated Chartered Financial Consultant.

He has also completed the Fellow Life Management Institute test, giving him knowledge of the insurance industry. Mr. Mortimer is the only member of the Borough Council to have completed the Certified Municipal Elected Officials program through Rutgers University.

**Professional Background:** Mr. Mortimer is a Project Manager with IBM in Cranford.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** Mr. Mortimer has been on the Borough Council for three years, including one year as Council President in 2000.

**Family Life:** A nearly lifetime borough resident, Councilman Mortimer is not married.

**Clubs/Organizations:** Mr. Mortimer has been active with the Mountainside Republican Club. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Springfield Chapter, and has been an active volunteer for the American Cancer Society. He is also a member of the Mountainside Honorary Policeman's Benevolent Association.

**Name:** Steve Brociner  
**Candidate For:** Mountainside Borough Council

**Party:** Democrat

**Education:** The candidate has a degree in business administration from the University of Miami in Florida.

**Professional Background:** The candidate has owned his own carpet business for 20 years.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** Mr. Brociner ran previously for Borough Council in 1998, 1999 and 2000.

**Family Life:** Mr. Brociner and his wife, Phyllis, have two children.

**Clubs/Organizations:** A veteran of the Korean Conflict, Mr. Brociner has been an active member of the Democratic Committee in both Elizabeth and Mountainside for the past 30 years. He is a member of the Mount Nebo Lodge of the Masons and volunteers at area homeless shelters and child development agencies, as well as in providing mental health and vocational services to disabled adults and in resettlement of Soviet Jews.

**Name:** Werner C. Schon  
**Candidate For:** Mountainside Borough Council

**Party:** Republican

**Education:** Councilman Schon holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Accounting from the now defunct Upsala College in East Orange.

**Professional Background:** Dr. Lindsey has been an optometrist in Fanwood since 1958.

**Gov./Pol. Experience:** The candidate served on the Borough Council from 1989 to 1992 and from 1994 to 1997. He ran unsuccessfully for Fanwood Mayor in 1995.

**Family Life:** Dr. Lindsey and his wife, Patricia, are 41-year residents of Fanwood and live on Midway Avenue. They have several adult children.

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