

Candidate Biographies

Westfield Council

Name: Sal Caruana
Candidate For: Westfield Town Council, Ward 1
Party: Republican

Professional Background: The incumbent is President and CEO of Foster Capital Corporation, an investment management company he founded in 1991.

Education: The candidate graduated Phi Beta Kappa and summa cum laude from Binghamton University and went on to Cornell Law School.

Family Life: Mr. Caruana is married to his wife, Darleen, and has two daughters, Patricia, 13, and Kristen Leigh, 11, who attend Westfield schools.

Clubs/Organizations: Mr. Caruana has been involved in local civic organizations and charities in Westfield. He is currently serving his third year as a Director of the Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC)

and is in his sixth year as a volunteer coach for youth softball, soccer and basketball teams. In 1999, he endowed the Caruana Family Fund at the Westfield Foundation to assist the medical care and special needs of local children from families in distress, and served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Westfield Symphony Orchestra from 1996 to 1998. Last October, he joined the Westfield United Fund September 11 Committee. The family worships at Holy Trinity and St. Paul's churches.

Platform: Concerned about rising property taxes and the need for greater efficiencies for our tax dollars. Opposes the Elm/Prospect deck because of unswerved traffic safety questions. Believes that a single deck on the south side accommodating not just more commuters, but also downtown employees, would free up many metered spaces for shoppers and residents. Reevaluate the need for additional crosswalks and crossing guards to improve traffic and safety around Franklin and Roosevelt schools, and traffic calming measures on Lawrence, Dudley and other busy streets. Opposes overdevelopment and believes in the preservation of Westfield's most important natural resource: open space. Believes his record of success in originating and leading many successful community efforts such as Westfield Cares is an indication of his commitment to the welfare of his neighbors, his leadership skills and also his potential effectiveness on The Westfield Town Council.



Sal Caruana

Name: Mark Kuehn
Candidate For: Westfield Town Council, Ward 1
Party: Democrat

Professional Background: The candidate is a business and corporate attorney with the Westfield law firm of Lindabury, McCormick & Estabrook.

Education: The candidate graduated from Ohio University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mathematics in 1974, received a law degree in 1981 from the College of William & Mary, and graduated from New York University School of Law with a Masters of Law in Taxation in 1982.

Family Life: Mr. Kuehn lives in Westfield with his wife, Margaret, and their two children, Tim, 12, and Elizabeth, 8.

Clubs/Organizations: Mr. Kuehn is active with the Westfield Y's Men's Club, the Westfield Rotary, the Board of Directors of the Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross, and several area Chambers of Commerce.

Platform: Mark Kuehn is an experienced business owner, business lawyer, and volunteer, not a politician. He says there is just much too partisan politics on the Council. Our energies rather should be directed at solving Town issues, such as taxes, traffic, parking and roads, to benefit all residents - children - seniors - families, alike. We must reduce tax increases by controlling spending; implement a comprehensive traffic plan to slow our traffic; carefully oversee the prudent and successful completion of the just-approved Council's and Mayor's parking solution; and speed up the unfinished task of fixing our damaged streets, sidewalks and curbs. Most of all, as a caring Town Council member and fortunate Westfield resident, homeowner, father of public school children, and Westfield-based professional, Mark Kuehn will strive to continue Westfield's enviable status as a phenomenal community and superb place to live.



Mark Kuehn

Education: The candidate is a graduate of Tulane University in New Orleans and received his law degree from the University of Puerto Rico.

Family Life: Originally from San Juan, Puerto Rico, Councilman Betancourt has resided in Westfield for 17 years. He and his wife, Esperanza, have two sons, Diego, 15, and Andres, 12, who attend Westfield schools.

Gov. Experience: The incumbent is seeking his second term for council where he has served as the Chair of the Transportation and Traffic Committee, and the Council liaison to the Planning Board.

Clubs/Organizations: The candidate is a Westfield Symphony Patron, a member of the College Men's Club, a member of the Society of Former Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a Foundation Partner for the Westfield Foundation, and a parishioner of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church.

Platform: The incumbent wants to complete the proposed decks for downtown Westfield, to continue advocating against the over development of our community, to complete the traffic calming for the Shop Rite grid and other neighborhoods in need of increased public safety, to obtain parking for high school students behind the armory, to preserve Westfield's traditions, and to ensure that Westfield's local govt. is both responsible and ethical.



Rafael Betancourt

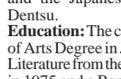
Name: David Owens
Candidate For: Westfield Town Council, Ward 2
Party: Democrat

Professional Background: Mr. Owens is a public relations and cross-cultural communications consultant. He founded Compass Advisory Services in 1994 after serving for eight years as Vice President and Manager of Editorial and Creative Services for a joint venture of the American public relations firm Burson-Marsteller and the Japanese advertising agency, Demtsu.

Education: The candidate holds a Master of Arts Degree in Japanese Language and Literature from the University of Michigan in 1975 and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1969.

Family Life: Mr. Owens and his wife, Cathy, have three sons, Christopher, a 1998 WHS graduate, and Neil and Jeremy, both members of the Class of 2002 at WHS.

Clubs/Organizations: He is currently a



David Owens

Trustee of the Westfield Foundation, a member of the Patriot District Advancement Committee of the Boy Scouts of America, a member of the Optimist Club of Westfield, and a volunteer with CONTACT We Care.

Platform: Represent our entire constituency by using more proactive communications and cooperative planning to solve traffic management and safety problems for the benefit of all without resorting to radical solutions such as street closures. Reduce excessive, inappropriate development to protect the character and quality of our town while stimulating its overall vitality. Manage "up" more effectively by working with county and state officials to seek solutions to problems of taxation and services. Manage "in" more effectively by promoting collegial, cooperative working relationships on the council so more time is spent getting things done than on wasteful partisan bickering I will hold monthly office hours and quarterly ward meetings to promote these aims. Reason to vote for me: I will represent all of us, to make every citizen to feel like a participant whose voice counts in town governance. Reason not to vote for me: If partisanship is more important to you than production.



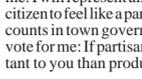
David Owens

Name: Claire Lazarowitz
Candidate For: Westfield Town Council, Ward 3
Party: Democrat

Professional Background: The incumbent is a Certified Personal Exercise Trainer and Fitness Instructor specializing in classes for Senior Citizens. Certified by the American Council on Exercise, 1995-2002 and a member of the International Association of Fitness Professionals, 1995-2002.

Family Life: She and her husband, Barry, have resided in Westfield since 1989 and have a 16-year-old son who attends WHS.

Gov. Experience: Councilwoman Lazarowitz is seeking her second term on council. She ran unsuccessfully against Neil Sullivan in 1999, and was appointed to fill the vacancy left by John Walsh in early 2000 and was



Claire Lazarowitz

reelected again in November. Councilwoman Lazarowitz has chaired the Solid Waste Committee, is currently the chair of the Public Safety Committee

Clubs/Organizations: Prior to serving on the council, Councilwoman Lazarowitz had been involved as a Cub Scout leader and served on the BRAKES (Bikers, Runners and Kids Are Entitled to Safety) Committee. She is on the Board of Trustees for the Westfield Neighborhood Council.

Platform: If re-elected my top three priorities are: The successful completion of the plan to increase downtown and commuter parking through the redevelopment of the South Ave. train station and Elm St. - Prospect St. parking lots. Assure the safety of pedestrians and the slowing down of traffic by continued improvement of child, pedestrian, bikers and runners safety measures, continued enforcement by our excellent police force and traffic calming around schools, parks, playing fields and neighborhoods. Price cuts for our Senior Citizen population who are most affected by tax increases on their fixed incomes, by cutting costs of Town services for them across the board.

Name: Andy Skibitsky
Candidate For: Westfield Town Council, Ward 3
Party: Republican

Professional Background: The candidate has worked as a Product Director for Schering-Plough for the last 14 years.

Education: The candidate graduated cum laude from Rider College.

Family Life: He has been married to his wife, Debbie, for 15 years, and has one daughter, Hope, and three sons, Drew, Shane and Troy, all of whom attend Westfield schools.

Clubs/Organizations: He serves as a volunteer on Westfield's Housing Commission, represents Westfield on the Union County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee, and serves as a coach in Westfield's Wrestling League. He is also a parishioner of St. Helen's Church.

Platform: Improving traffic and pedestrian safety; fighting for fiscal responsibility; and putting the needs of Westfield families ahead of partisan politics.

Name: Lawrence Goldman
Candidate For: Westfield Town Council, Ward 4
Party: Democrat

Professional Background: The incumbent is a Lawyer, Director/Shareholder of Gibbons, Del Deo, Dolan, Griffinger & Vecchione, in Newark.

Education: The candidate graduated Colgate University, A.B. cum laude in 1976; Boston University School of Law, J.D., 1979; and New York University School of Law, LLM Taxation in 1984.

Family Life: Councilman Goldman and his wife Cynthia have two children; Bethany, a college freshman and Andrew an eighth grader at Edison Intermediate School.

Gov. Experience: Incumbent Democrat Lawrence Goldman was first elected to the Town Council in 1996. He held the position of Acting Mayor 1997-2000 and alternate Acting Mayor in 2002. Councilman Goldman is presently the Chair of the Public Works Committee. He is presently serving as the Town Council representative to the Board of Trustees, DWC.

Clubs/Organizations: The incumbent served as Director of the Downtown Westfield Corporation, 1997, 1998, 2002; a Trustee of the Education Fund of Westfield, Inc., 1991 to 1996; and Chairman of the Westfield Democratic Committee, 1991 to 2000.

Platform: If re-elected my top three priorities are the successful completion of the plan to increase downtown and commuter parking through the redevelopment of the South Ave. train station and Elm St. - Prospect St. parking lots; the implementation of long-range capital and budget planning; and the continued improvement of child and pedestrian safety measures and traffic calming around schools, parks and playing fields.

Name: Christopher Panagos
Candidate For: Westfield Council, Ward 4
Party: Republican

Professional Background: Mr. Panagos is employed at Novartis Pharmaceuticals. **Education:** The candidate graduated cum laude from Tufts University in Medford, Mass. In 2001, he received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering and Bio-Medical Engineering, and will be attending Seton Hall Law in the fall as a Chancellor Scholar.

Family Life: Single
Clubs/Organizations: He has also been active at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield as a peer minister and volunteered at Sister Pat's Kids Cancer Camp.

Platform: Mr. Panagos would like to see traffic speed reduced and safety increased on Westfield streets. He also supports the senior bussing initiative and improved services in fields, parks, and recreation.

Name: Thomas J. Fucillo
Candidate For: Westfield Mayor
Party: Democratic

Professional Background: The candidate is Vice President and Associate General Counsel for a Manhattan-based asset management firm.

Education: The candidate earned his Juris Doctorate from St. John's University School of Law; a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Rochester; a Certificate of Management Studies from the University of Rochester; and attended the University of London (England).

Family Life: The candidate and his wife, Kristin have two sons, Thomas age 1 1/2 and Michael age 1.

Gov. Experience: The candidate ran in 2001 for Westfield Town Council, 2nd Ward and served internships in the U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of NY, Narcotics Division and the House of Commons, London, England.

Clubs/Organizations: The candidate is a member of the Board of Directors, Downtown Westfield Corp.

Platform: The candidate wants to put families first by making roads and sidewalks safer; improving the condition of town parks and playing fields; stop overdevelopment, stop shoring and subdividing to protect the quality of life in Westfield neighborhoods, wants to see an end to wasteful spending and the best way to reduce our property taxes is to make government more efficient.

Name: Nancy M. Malool
Candidate For: Scotch Plains Township Council
Party: Republican

Professional Background: The candidate served for 8 years as Chief Legislative Aide to Assemblymen Alan Augustine and Tom Kean, Jr.

Education: She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from Fairleigh Dickinson University; a Master of Public Administration Degree from the Public Administration Institute at Fairleigh Dickinson University, and is currently attending the Seton Hall University School of Law, where she expects to graduate in June 2003.

Family Life: She and her husband, Paul, have two daughters, Amanda and Emily.

Gov. Experience: The incumbent served as a member of the Augustine Park Committee; on the Planning Board, Environmental Commission, Cultural Arts Committee, Architectural Review Board, Ethics Review Board.

Clubs/Organizations: The candidate is a member of the McGinn School PTA.

Platform: The candidate pledges to continue the Republican practice of maintaining municipal property taxes at stable levels through the use of shared services, grants, and by using a responsible portion of our surplus. In addition, she would like to explore the possibility of expanding shared services with other towns, lobbying the Legislature for the township's fair share of municipal and school aid, and advocating property tax reform at the state level. She also believes that open government is responsive government. It is essential for elected officials to listen to the concerns and questions of the public and to respond in a courteous and efficient manner. She will continue the Marks Administration's policy of allowing residents the opportunity to speak freely at public meetings and to convey to the public the message that the council welcomes their input.

Name: Geri Samuel
Candidate For: Scotch Plains Township Council
Party: Democrat

Professional Background: The incumbent previously worked as a legal assistant and in retail.

Education: The incumbent holds a B.A. in Political Science from Kean University and her EMT-B certification from Trinitas Hospital.

Family Life: She lives with her husband, Richard, and their two sons, Matthew and Ryan.

Gov. Experience: served as Scotch Plains Mayor in 1999. She has served on a number of committees and boards, including the Municipal Alliance, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Senior Citizens Housing Board, Cultural Arts Committee, League of Municipalities, Towne Centre Task Force, Telecommunications and Technology Advisory Committees, Recreation Commission, Environmental Commission, Council Liaison to the Scotch Plains Fire Department, Planning Board, and Master Plan Review Committee.

Clubs/Organizations: She is a member of the Scotch Plains Business and Professional Association and the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary. Ms. Samuel is the Development Chair of Prevention Links, a substance abuse prevention organization. She serves on the Temple Board at her Synagogue. She is the Vice-Chair of the New Jersey Regional Board of the Anti-Defamation League. In addition to serving the community in these capacities, she is a member of the volunteer Scotch Plains Rescue Squad.

Platform: Stabilize taxes; eliminate government waste; balance recreation with open space needs.

Name: Francis Rossi
Candidate For: Scotch Plains Township Council
Party: Republican

Professional Background: The incumbent is a corporate attorney, and was previously an Assistant Union County Prosecutor.

Education: He is a graduate of Scotch Plains Fanwood High School, received his BA in Business Administration from Rutgers College and his Juris Doctorate from Seton Hall School of Law.

Family Life: Married to the former Anne Ard, 3 daughters, Erin, Kelsey and Mia.

Gov. Experience: The incumbent has been

WF Mayor

Name: Gregory McDermott
Candidate For: Westfield Mayor
Party: Republican

Professional Background: The incumbent is Vice President of Drew & Rogers, Inc., a printing company based in West Caldwell.

Education: The candidate holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration from Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania.

Family Life: He and his wife, Andrea, have four children, Bryan, Maggie, Melissa and Patricia.

Gov. Experience: This is Mayor Gregory McDermott's second run for Mayor; he was first elected in 2000. Previously, he was elected as First Ward Councilman in 1997 and was re-elected in 1999. He is a former board member of the

Downtown Westfield Corporation and was appointed to the Union County Improvement Authority and served as Chairman.

Clubs/Organizations: The incumbent directed and coached in the Westfield Soccer Association and is a parishioner at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield. He is also a member of Westfield Neighborhood Council.

Platform: In addition to implementing several short-term projects aimed at improving both commuter and retail parking capacity, I have overseen the adoption of redevelopment plans that will enable the town to not only meet its parking needs, but to also create a long-term, taxpayer-friendly plan for future retail and housing development of our downtown area. Despite a dramatic rise in county levies and a sharp decrease in both school and municipal aid, Westfield has seen only a five percent increase over the past two years. I will continue to push for greater efficiencies in government and will hold the line on excessive spending in order to keep property taxes in check for our families and our seniors, alike.

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Education: The candidate earned his Juris Doctorate from St. John's University School of Law; a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Rochester; a Certificate of Management Studies from the University of Rochester; and attended the University of London (England).

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Family Life: Married to the former Anne Ard, 3 daughters, Erin, Kelsey and Mia.

Gov. Experience: The incumbent has been

Name: Shelia D. Ellington
Candidate For: Scotch Plains Township Council
Party: Democrat

Professional Background: The candidate was an Assistant Prosecutor in the Union County Prosecutor's Office and continued her career as a prosecutor as a deputy attorney general in the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice, in the Corruption and Governmental Integrity Bureau. She is currently a solo practitioner and serves as a substitute municipal prosecutor.

Education: The candidate she holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration in addition to her undergraduate and law degrees.

Family Life: She lives with her husband, John Whetstone and their daughter, Shelby.

Gov. Experience: She was a member of the Planning Committee for the Governor's Conference on Women's Issues in 2001 and is currently a member of the New Jersey Supreme Court Committee on Women in the Courts.

Clubs/Organizations: The candidate has served as the Vice-President, Association of Black Women Lawyers, as a member of the Planning Committee-Governor's Conference On Women Issues, and as a member of the Supreme Court Committee on Women.

Platform: To bring responsibility sound management and integrity to Scotch Plains.