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Opinion


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Today we begin a series of editorials endorsing candidates and making recommendations on other issues before voters on Election Day, Nov. 4.

Tomorrow: Municipal elections. Saturday: State propositions. Sunday: Westchester county executive. Monday: Westchester district attorney and county clerk, Putnam sheriff. Tuesday: County legislature. Wednesday: State school bond. Thursday: State constitutional convention.

For state Supreme Court Nastasi and Beisner

We recommend the re-election of Aldo A. Nastasi of Westchester and Ralph A. Beisner of Dutchess to second 14-year terms as state Supreme Court justices based on their experience and fine records.

Both, running on the Republican, Conservative and Right to Life lines, have reputations as soft-spoken, learned and hard-working judges. We believe that judges who have acquitted themselves well during a full term deserve re-election.

The two sit in the 9th Judicial District, which covers Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Dutchess and Orange counties.

Nastasi impressed us with his many important decisions. In 1990, he struck a blow for multifamily housing by declaring a North Salem zoning ordinance invalid, allowing a developer to build up to 184 units near Peach Lake. This spring, he displayed both wisdom and compassion in holding that a living will can be used as the basis to end life-sustaining treatment as he sided with the husband of an unconscious woman kept alive by a feeding tube for six years in a nursing home. Nastasi's 22 years as a judge include service as a Yonkers city judge and as a Westchester county judge.

Before becoming a judge, Beisner served as an assistant state attorney

general and as an assistant district attorney in Queens.

Their overall records override our serious reservation about their candidacies. We agree with those who believe that judges should not seek nor accept endorsement of one-issue parties like the Right to Life Party. Cases involving the abortion issue do reach court, and perceptions cannot shadow judges who take that line. Nastasi and Beisner said they would rule to uphold the law with Beisner citing an example of his acting in favor of Planned Parenthood in issuing a restraining order stopping an anti-abortion group from continuing a misleading advertisement.

The other two candidates are Doris T. Friedman, acting village justice of Tarrytown for 11 years, and Sant D. Walker, a Mount Vernon city judge for the past eight years. Both Democrats have fine records in their courts and in their law professions.

Three years ago, when there was a position without a qualified incumbent, we endorsed Friedman for Supreme Court justice based on her record as a local judge and her work as a mediator and attorney specializing in family and matrimonial work.

Walker previously served as a corporate lawyer for General Foods and on the Grievance Committee for the 9th Judicial District.

County Court: Zambelli

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LETTERS TO

New Rochelle will be a debt

In the Oct. 18 to made to the City of undertaking to bond us for purposes of acquisition and reconstruction New Rochelle will the debt service on funding will cost us per year. Now the bonded more than associated with the go and ultimate closure Depot and Canton. If that the additional from Home Depot more than 65 million