

**Secretary of the State**

**SUSAN BYSIEWICZ**



**NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE**

**LEARN HOW TO VOTE BY USING YOUR IPOD**

In an effort to reach as many voters as possible, my office is posting new instructional videos for using optical scan ballots and the vote-by-phone system on my office's website and making them available for download onto personal recording devices, including iPods.

In today's world it's difficult to reach voters, especially younger ones, unless you're using the same technology they use. So, I took a cue from my teenage children and decided my office would produce videos that people could download, and then watch when and where they want.

The 90 second instructional videos have been produced in both English and Spanish and can be found at: <http://www.sots.ct.gov/ElectionsServices/HAVA/AudioVisual/PSA-OpticalScan-90Seconds-English.mov>. In addition, the Secretary of the State's office has mailed nearly 800 copies – one for each polling place in Connecticut - to registrars of voters across the state. I am encouraging the registrars to play the videos at the entrance of every polling place in their city or town.

According to a new study from Young Voter Strategies and Rock the Vote, young people (18-31) will number 50 million in 2008, which is bigger than the baby boom generation, and by 2015 they will likely comprise one third of the U.S. electorate. ([www.youngvoterstrategies.org](http://www.youngvoterstrategies.org))

This is just another step in our aggressive outreach program to educate voters before they head to the polls. To date my office has conducted over 130 optical scan voting machine demonstrations across the state. Additionally, we are in the process of training nearly 3,000 poll workers and election officials.

**STAND UP CONNECTICUT!**

Coming soon to a public access TV station near you will be "Stand Up Connecticut." This show, produced by my office, focuses on educating voters, encouraging civic participation, and informing viewers of current issues facing the State of Connecticut.

This month, with the assistance of Janis Murtha, Republican Registrar of Voters for South Windsor, our show will highlight Connecticut's new optical scan voting technology. I also was joined by Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, and Paulette Hotton, President of the Connecticut Better Business Bureau to discuss our crack down on out of state companies operating illegally in Connecticut. Finally, I concluded the show by taking questions from Connecticut's residents.

To find out which station and what time you can see Stand Up Connecticut you can visit: [www.ct.gov/occ/cwp/view.asp?A=1412&Q=260402](http://www.ct.gov/occ/cwp/view.asp?A=1412&Q=260402).

Sincerely,

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This year, voters in Connecticut will be filling in an oval rather than pulling a lever

**Facts and Stats**

**Likely September 11th Primaries**

Bristol	Middlebury
Bridgeport	New Britain
Colchester	New Haven
Cornwall	Lebanon
Cromwell	Lisbon
Derby	Oxford
East Hartford	Plainville
Easton	Preston
Griswold	Stratford
Hamden	West Haven
Hampton	Woodbury
Hartford	Woodstock

**SOTS Trivia Corner**

Who signed the US Constitution on behalf of Connecticut's citizens?

*Check back next week for the answer.*

*Previous Issues Answer: South Windsor was the first town in Connecticut to use optical scan voting.*

Questions or Comments? Contact us at: [Susan.Bysiewicz@po.state.ct.us](mailto:Susan.Bysiewicz@po.state.ct.us) or call (860) 509-6200.  
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