

Voters Return Balestracci Wilson Loses Seat on the Board

by Fay Abrahamsson for the *Guilford Courier*, 11/7/2007

Democratic incumbent Carl Balestracci, Jr. easily won re-election to the office of first selectman after beating challenger and Republican Kenneth Wilson, Jr. by almost 500 votes. This will be Balestracci's third, non-consecutive term as first selectmen. He won the top office in 2001; lost to Charles "Gene" Bishop in 2003 but won a seat on the Board of Selectmen; and won the top seat again in 2005. "I am thrilled," said Balestracci. "The constituents recognized the work we have done and the progress we have made in such areas as open space and balance of development. We have made great strides in these areas and others. Now we can continue our work for the next two years." The new Board of Selectmen will be composed of Balestracci as first selectman, followed by top vote-getters Veronica Wallace, Sal Catardi, Joseph Mazza, and Cynthia Cartier. The election was a big win for the Democrats--of the 10 Democratic candidates running for office, all 10 won their races.

Guilford's election results are listed below.

<u>Voting Districts</u>	<u># 1</u>	<u># 2</u>	<u># 3</u>	<u># 4</u>	<u># 5</u>	<u>Abs.</u>	<u>Total</u>
<i>First Selectman</i>							
Carl Balestracci - D*	713	635	573	583	691	145	3340
Ken Wilson - R	499	500	637	579	500	141	2846
<i>Board of Selectmen</i>							
Veronica Wallace - D*	682	590	552	551	662	143	3180
Sal Catardi - D*	654	589	524	539	638	135	3079
Joe Mazza - R*	552	541	642	608	544	144	3031
Cindy Cartier - R*	501	501	622	578	515	131	2848
<i>Board of Finance</i>							
Matt Hoey - D*	863	763	717	739	824	189	4095
Mike Ayles - D*	757	664	609	605	728	062	3425
Jim O'Keefe - R*	618	635	704	694	694	168	3513
Mark Santino - R	497	495	618	562	562	149	2883
<i>Board of Education - Full term</i>							
Bill Bloss - D*	854	775	748	763	822	194	4167
Barbara Dudley - D*	924	824	806	835	894	205	4488
Ted Zuse - D*	859	787	785	783	830	192	4236
Mary Beeman - R*	498	685	742	722	718	206	3571
<i>Board of Education - Two year seat</i>							
Kathy Nolan - D*	733	646	630	625	674	153	3461
Linda Sanacora - R	428	461	520	505	491	122	2527
<i>Board of Assessment Appeals</i>							
Barbara Henningson - D*	652	600	543	536	704	142	3177
Richard Evans - R	503	487	583	579	450	143	2745
<i>Town Treasurer - unchallenged race</i>							
Robert Hartmann - R*	765	724	795	811	721	201	4017

*Winners