

Join the Green Party

We need a few good women and men. When you register to vote, join us. We'll welcome you; and we'll love you more. They have millions of voters; won't even know you're there.

The Green Party is the largest of Connecticut's third parties - about 2000 voters. We compete in Fairfield County; won elections in Fairfield, New London, New Haven, Willimantic, Norwich, more. More than 60 Greens serve in towns statewide.

We are part of a National party; you could become President.

I joined the Green Party because I believe in our future. I wanted to affiliate with a party that held Environmental Wisdom, Social Justice and Peace as its core beliefs.

We want open government and encourage citizen participation. More than 40% of voters choose not to affiliate with either major party. We aspire to be the voice of the others. Our goal is to break open the monopoly of government by The Republicans and Democrats.

Our greatest asset is WE'RE NOT THEM! We accept public contributions for our campaigns. Average \$24 to \$29. We don't take those ten-thousand dollar checks from those who want to buy access and votes. We're not them. WE ARE NOT FOR SALE!

Tired of the mess, the greed, mail from Linda, the inaction... we are the alternative. Vote for Green candidates- your vote is not ever wasted.

Help us Join the Green Party

I wrote this. I approve this message. If I didn't, I wouldn't print it - Benedict M. Holden

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GP.org

GRASSROOTS DEMOCRACY
ECOLOGICAL WISDOM
COMMUNITY-BASED ECONOMICS
RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY
FUTURE FOCUS AND SUSTAINABILITY

BEN HOLDEN

For

SELECTMAN - 2YR TERM



(Ryan Casey, The Canton News)

Very Independent
Gets stuff done
Progressive, green
Compassionate
Fiscal Conservative
Open to new Ideas

www.green-canton.org

Ben's Bio:

Born: Hartford, Ct. 1947 Age 68

Dad: Benedict M. Holden, Jr.

-Writer, Lawyer, General, Judge, Author

Mom: Grace Jones Holden

Northwest Catholic High School 1965

C.U.A. Journalism School 1964

University of Hartford, 1971 BA History

Connecticut Culinary Institute 1996

Ritz Escoffier Ecole de Gastronomie Francaise

Mobility impaired, active, disabled senior citizen

Spinal Arthritis, Congenital Connective Tissue Disorder

-Weighed 329 lbs in 1972, Lost 160 lbs in 11 months

"I'm tough"

Civic, social activities:

University of Hartford Board of Regents

Regents' Executive and Finance Committee

Student Association President/ Chairman

Publisher UH NEWS Liberated Press

Students for a Democratic Society, Vietnam Summer

Project- AIM, The Mobilization to End the War

(MOBE), L.N.S. Liberation News Service, more.

The Bounce Tube cofounder, director

Work:

14 Years in the floor covering industry-

Beattie Mfg Company- National Sales Manager

Ben Elfman and Son- Asst mgr distribution center

Carpet Factory Outlet- manager of five stores

10 Years in retail electronics: Newmark and Lewis,

Tweeter etc.

6 Years as professional chef:

Aloha Baking and Catering, Cafe 880 Jazz,

State Armory, St. Mary's Church, Chef-Instructor

Pastry and Baking

The Future Is Now

Canton is at a crossroads. We will see new faces in town government in November. We face serious decisions which will determine our future.

Our Board of Selectmen ends its term with unfinished business- the Lawton Road Fields, Solar Panels on the Community Center roof, Canton Hydro, the town bridge, and the new town garage.

I am running for the BoS to do those unfinished things. I imagine a board in which neither major party has a majority and we can accomplish the new future focus goals of what we need.

I'm a tree-hugger. I see an open, fallow old field I think of cows, horses, corn, potatoes, onions, not houses. We behave in a counter-intuitive manner with money. Raise taxes every year and cut services. We need to grow grand list; and we have lots, houses and property up East Hill Road but a potential buyer has to drive up the road from hell. We have vacant commercial space we could recycle.

Moving to Canton is the best decision I've ever made. We have tree-covered bumps we call mountains, open space, and working farms. We have the nicest, friendliest people. I think it is vital we keep that small-town closeness.

In my two-year term on the BoS my to-do list has much to work on:

Make our town government as open and friendly as our citizens,

An aloha spirit- welcoming citizen participation.

Expand agriculture, grow our farms.

The new town garage: our public works employees work in unacceptable conditions; the old garage is an environmental catastrophe in waiting and in fifty years we'll get back half the cost from the 16-18 big hiway trucks we don't have to buy.

Fix Dial-a-Ride; Family-sized units of public housing; in-town public transportation; plan for our energy future, a food store for Collinsville, more-but I'm only planning on two years.

Active in Canton

Volunteer for Dool program with senior center and CIS- 6th grade TAG group for 8 years.

Serves as member of the Energy Committee and on Parks and Recreation Commission; over 3.5 years best attendance record of any member of either. Persistence is a virtue.

2014 Booked summer concert series in Mill Pond Park. Worked with Bob Skinner and P&RC members. Quality and variety of the music worth every effort. Brought in two acts each in 2012 and 2013.

Introduced proposal for Mills Pond Phase 2 to P&RC in August 2013. After six months work we submitted STEAP Grant application. BoS approved, state approved \$500,000 to polish every active area of this jewel of a park. Rehab and handicap access for pool house.

2008 Town Meeting- authored amendment to Ethics Ordinance to remove recipients of town welfare, senior tax credits and volunteer firemen from definition as town employees.

2013 Solarize. Wrote prose portion of town application: roll out- sales plan; Judi Friedman of PACE helped create tours and meetings. Asked BoS to waive half of building permit fees. They did. Canton one of five towns in round 2, sold \$1.2M in 24 weeks.

2006 Asked Senior Commission to create a combined Senior and Social Services Office. Didn't know the economy would implode, just wanted better service w/ in-town social worker

2009 Began annual address to BoS about voting at town hall and handicap access. Suggested move to High School. And: Pool Repairs, Town Garage, Canton Hydro, Main Street project. Lawton Road Fields et al