

Middlesex Coalition for CHILDREN

Middlesex County 2016 Election Guide

A Guide to the Candidates for the Connecticut General Assembly Representing Towns in Middlesex County

Please join us for our meetings every second Thursday of the month at the
Dekoven House at 9 am. Sept-May

The Coalition holds public meetings monthly on issues important to children. It convenes task forces to mobilize and coordinate community efforts to address specific children's issues, and advocates for children at the local, state and national levels.

The Middlesex Coalition for Children works to improve the lives of children growing up in Middletown and Middlesex County.

Middlesex County by Town



District Representation by Town

Some towns have multiple districts. You can go to cga.ct.gov/red2011 to find your district.

State Senate

District 9	Cromwell, Middletown, Newington, Rocky Hill and Wethersfield
District 12	Bradford, Durham, Guilford, Killingworth, Madison, and North Branford
District 13	Cheshire Middlefield, Middletown, and Meriden
District 20	Bozrah, East Lyme, Montville, New London, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Salem, Waterford
District 33	Chester, Clinton, Colchester, Deep River, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland, and Westbrook
District 34	Wallingford, Durham, North Haven, and East Haven

State House of Representatives

District 23	Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, and Westbrook
District 32	Cromwell and Portland
District 33	Middletown
District 34	East Hampton, East Haddam, and Colchester
District 35	Clinton, Killingworth, and Westbrook
District 36	Haddam, Chester, Deep River, and Essex
District 82	Middlefield and Meriden
District 86	North Branford, Guilford, Wallingford, and Durham
District 100	Middletown
District 101	Madison and Durham

How Did We Create This Guide?

All candidates were asked for a short biography, a short statement about their priorities for children's issues, their contact information, their website and social media information, a headshot, any opportunities to volunteer with their campaign, contact for their volunteer coordinator, and the location and contact information for their campaign headquarters.

The information included in the Candidates Guide has either been provided by the candidates themselves, or if they didn't respond, was taken directly from the most relevant parts of their website. None of the information has been edited for content, only for length.

If you visit our website, an electronic version of this guide is available.
Go to: www.middlesexchildren.org, click about, then publications.

Candidates are listed in alphabetical order, and Senate and House districts are listed in numerical order.

Please Get Involved!

Many candidates are in competitive races. Other candidates are running unopposed. Either way, if there is a candidate you support, we urge you to get involved.

In this guide, we have listed candidate addresses, contact information, and volunteer contacts, when possible.

So take one night and make phone calls, go door to door, put up a lawn sign, send a small donation, and tell your friends why you support your candidate.

Every little bit helps and, in a small state like Connecticut, a small margin can win or lose an election.

We hope you'll spend even an hour working for those who work for us.

Senate District 9

Representing Cromwell, Middletown, Newington, Rocky Hill and Wethersfield



Paul Doyle, Incumbent
Democrat

Senator Paul Doyle was elected to the Senatorial District in November 2006. For 12 years prior to his Senate service, Senator Doyle served in the state House of Representatives from the 28th Assembly District. He currently is a partner in the law firm of Heneghan, Kennedy & Doyle LLC in Rocky Hill.

38 Thornbush Road, Wethersfield

Phone: 860-257-7952

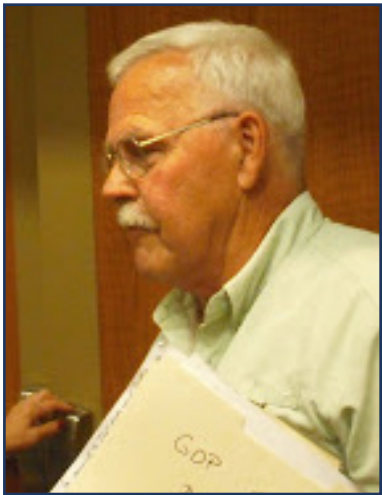
Email: paul@doyleforstatesenate.com

www.doyleforstatesenate.com

785 Bow Lane, Middletown

Phone: 203-246-0068

Email: eroberts@canoe127.com



Earle Roberts
Republican

Mr Roberts did not provide any biographical information and no autobiographical information was found on Mr. Roberts.

Senate District 12

Branford, Durham and Guilford, Killingworth, Madison and North Branford



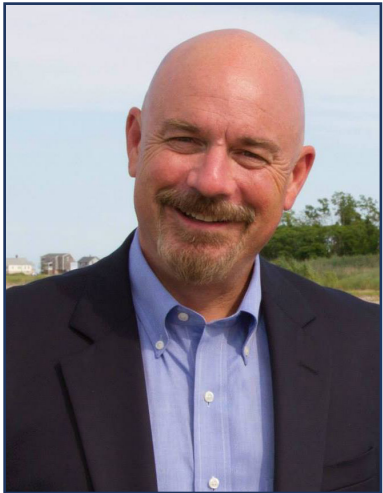
Ted Kennedy Jr., Incumbent
Democrat

I have the honor of serving as the State Senator for the 12th District of Connecticut, representing Branford, North Branford, Guilford, Madison, Killingworth and Durham. As a parent, I know that nothing is more important than the welfare of our children – their safety, their health and their education. I am a childhood bone cancer survivor, amputee and attorney, with a proven record of collaboration and advocacy. I have spent my life fighting for affordable health care and championing the civil rights of children with disabilities.

45 Dairy Hill Road, Madison

Phone: 203-915-5508
Email: bhwj@me.com

www.wilson4senate.com
[@brucewilsonjr](https://facebook.com/pages/BruceWilsonforSenate)



Bruce Wilson
Republican

My name is Bruce Wilson, candidate for state senate of CT's 12th District. I am not a politician – I'm a family man, a working man, an ethical man who is seeking to serve the community that enabled me to craft a wonderful life here in Connecticut; a life that was not given to me, but rather was earned every day through hard work, integrity, and a vision for a brighter tomorrow. Never was politics the plan, but rather emerged as a civic responsibility to rectify the poor decision making and misguided values of current leaders in Hartford. As a state, we must own our mistakes and have the courage to face them...and we must do so, together. For it is only together that we can get to where we need to be: building healthy businesses and creating well-paying jobs - jobs that pay mortgages and tuitions, jobs that drive our economy forward and bring our kids back.

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Senate District 13

Cheshire, Middlefield, Middletown, and Meriden



Dante Bartolomeo, Incumbent
Democrat

Senator Bartolomeo is running for her third term as State Senator. A member of the Meriden City Council from 2008 - 2012, her roles included Deputy Majority Leader. Between 2005 and 2008, she was a member of the Board of Directors of Meriden’s Children First Initiative, an organization committed to supporting children under age 8. She also served as community organizer for Healthcare4every1. She is a graduate of Mercy High School in Middletown and Colby College.

167 Reynolds Drive, Meriden

Phone: 203-440-2272
Email: Danteforstatesenate@yahoo.com

www.danteforstatesenate.com
[@dantebartolomeo](https://www.facebook.com/DanteStateSenate)

For Volunteer Opportunities:
www.danteforstatesenate.com/index.php/contact

Meriden HQ: 1295 East Main Street
Cheshire HQ: 1081 South Main Street

Phone: 203-904-2991
Email: HQ@lensuzio.com

www.lensuzio.com
www.facebook.com/len.suzio

For Volunteer Opportunities:
Contact HQ@lensuzio.com



Leonard Suzio
Republican

Having served on the board of a home (High Hopes) for special needs children as well as on the Meriden Board of Education I can appreciate the challenges associated with the care of special needs children. One of my sisters has an autistic child and I have seen her struggle to make certain her son gets the support services he needs. I consider affordable housing to be a high priority. In my professional life I work with banks to help them meet the need for affordable housing in the communities they serve.

Senate District 20

Bozrah, East Lyme, Montville, New London, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Salem, and Waterford



Paul Formica, Incumbent
Republican

Hello, I'm Paul Formica, father of four, owner of Flanders Fish Market, First Selectman of East Lyme, and Senator for the 20th District, representing Bozrah, East Lyme, Montville, New London, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Salem & Waterford. With a unique and fresh perspective, a strong desire to bring common sense and innovation to Hartford, I am asking for your support. As a parent, I understand the needs of families; as an entrepreneur, I respect the importance of small businesses; and as the community official, I understand the need to keep taxes low while delivering essential services.

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Phone: 860-739-4688
Email: campaign@formicaforsenate.com

www.formicaforsenate.com
www.facebook.com/SenatorFormica

For Volunteer opportunities:
www.formicaforsenate.com/volunteer

Headquarters: 17 Starr Street, New London

Phone: 860-705-0891
Email: henowitzr@gmail.com

www.ryanhenowitz.ctdemsonline.com
www.facebook.com/1771832539769564



Ryan Henowitz
Democrat

Ryan Henowitz was raised in Montville and spent his entire childhood in New London County. He attended Montville public schools, and graduated from St. Bernard's in 2001, joining the Army after graduation. He served two tours of Duty during the War in Iraq. As a medic in the 2-7 Infantry Battalion, he was awarded the Combat Medical Badge and an ARCOM with valor, for actions at the Battle of the Baghdad International Airport and was honorably discharged in 2006. He returned after his service and enrolled at Three Rivers Community College and then Eastern Connecticut State University, where he earned his BA. Today he works as a Legislative Advocate and policy consultant.

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Senate District 33

Chester, Clinton, Colchester, Deep River, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland, and Westbrook



Art Linares, Incumbent
Republican

Senator Linares has represented the 33rd District since 2013. From a Cuban-American family, Sen. Linares attended Westbrook public schools and graduated from the Sykes College of Business at the University of Tampa in Florida, where he majored in entrepreneurship, developing his own company as he earned a college degree. He is co-founder of Greenskies, a successful, Middletown-based, commercial solar energy company.

1110 Old Clinton Road Unit W, Westbrook

Phone: 203-623-8230
Email: aslinares33@gmail.com

www.re-electartlinares.com
[@artlinares33](https://www.facebook.com/SenatorArtLinares)

East Hampton HQ: 190 East Main Street
Centerbrook HQ: 22 Main Street
Clinton HQ: 242 East Main Street

Phone: 203-293-0231
Email: norm@norm.vote

www.norm.vote
www.facebook.com/normneedleman2016

For Volunteer opportunities:
Contact Kevin Coughlin, 203-710-0193



Norm Needlemon
Democrat

37 years ago, Norm founded Tower Laboratories, a manufacturing business. Today, the business is a leader in its category. He shares profits with over 225 employees, provides top-notch benefits, and even has an interest-free loan program to help employees and their families get through hard times. Norm is serving his third term as First Selectman in Essex. He lives in Essex with his life partner, Jacqui Hubbard, the Executive Director of The Ivoryton Playhouse. Norm is a committed member of our community, and plays a major role in local and regional non-profit organizations, as both an executive and a financial supporter.

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Senate District 33, Continued

Chester, Clinton, Colchester, Deep River, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland, and Westbrook



Colin Bennett
Green

My priorities are improving job growth through ramping up the state's clean energy economy, improving education for all of our children and young people, and stabilizing taxes for low and middle income families. In the coming weeks I'll post more specific information on each of these priorities as well on other issues relevant to this race. In the meantime, if you have questions or want to know my thoughts on an issue, feel free to email me at colinbennettforsenate@gmail.com

487 E Pond Meadow Road, Westbrook

Phone: 860-395-8392
Email: colinbennettforsenate@gmail.com

[@senate4bennett](https://www.facebook.com/Bennett.for.Senate)

Senate District 34, Unopposed

Wallingford, Durham, North Haven, and East Haven

7 Sycamore Lane, North Haven

Phone: 203-234-2371
Email: lfasano@fillaw.com

[@senatorfasano](https://facebook.com/senatorfasano)



Leonard Fasano, Incumbent
Republican

Senator Fasano has served in the Senate since 2008. A graduate of Yale and Quinnipiac Law School, he practices law as President and Founder of Fasano, Ippolito, and Lee LCC in New Haven. He helped establish the East Haven Land Trust and has been active in pursuing open space acquisitions and in protecting Long Island Sound.

House District 32

Cromwell and Portland



Christie Carpino, Incumbent
Republican

Representative Carpino is running for a fourth term in the House of Representatives. A graduate of the University of New Hampshire with a law degree from Northeastern University, she is a trial attorney who advocates on behalf of her clients at all stages of the litigation process. Christie also volunteers regularly with the Legal Services School Expulsion Project and has done so since 2007, assisting low-income families who face the complex and emotional world of school expulsions

29 Sovereign Rdg, Cromwell

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16 Pleasant Street, Cromwell

Email: myronmpj@sbcglobal.net

www.myronjohnsonstaterep.com



Myron Johnson
Democrat

Myron P. Johnson was born and raised in this community and its future is a matter of pride and vital importance. He is not a politician out for upper gains, instead he brings a vast knowledge and commitment to improve our community and state. Myron Johnson spent four years on the executive branch of local town government before running for State Representative. He has a unique insight of the future and its development and he wants to put us on a road that better prepares us for the future. Our state budget is in crisis and our infrastructure is crumbling. Myron has solutions that will create jobs and bring businesses back to Central Connecticut

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House District 33

Middletown



Joseph Serra, Incumbent
Democrat

Representative Serra was elected to represent the 33rd District in the General Assembly in 1992. A lifelong Middletown resident, Rep. Serra has served on the Middletown Democratic Town Committee since 1984. He is the Secretary-Treasurer of the Connecticut Association of Street and Highway Officials (CASHO), a position he has held for the past 33 years. Rep. Serra is a member of the Board of Directors for the Middlesex Community College Foundation.

PO Box 233, Middletown

Phone: 860-347-0119
Email: josephcserra@yahoo.com

140 Knox Boulevard, Middletown

Phone: 860-575-7125
Email: szynkowicz2016@aol.com

www.szynkowicz2016.com
www.facebook.com/100007745298299

For Volunteer opportunities:
Contact 860-575-7125 or email szynkowicz2016@aol.com



Lynda Szyrkowicz
Republican

Linda J. Szyrkowicz is currently an elected member of the Board of Education in Middletown, member of the Citizens Advisory Committee, and a member of the Elks and a member of the Middletown Republican Town Committee. Linda is self-employed as a security Auditor and married to Vincent P. Szyrkowicz. Her daughter, Andrea is a senior at Dartmouth College in Hanover, NH. Linda is endorsed by the Republican Party and the Independent Party as candidate for State Rep in the 33rd.

House District 35

Clinton, Killingworth, and Westbrook



Jesse MacLachlan, Incumbent
Republican

In November of 2014, the voters of the 35th District chose MacLachlan as their representative voice in Hartford. MacLachlan understands that Connecticut spends too much, taxes too much and is too expensive to live in. As a young person himself, he understands the inability of young adults to settle in Connecticut and understands the struggles of seniors to afford retirement. The result is a phenomenon of individuals that leave the state in search of opportunity and an affordable place to live. MacLachlan knows first-hand the difficulties faced by many who choose to stay in Connecticut. MacLachlan’s primary concern is to help make Connecticut a more affordable place for young workers, families and retirees.

19 Stony Point Road, Westbrook

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Email: m.ellen.dahlgren@gmail.com

www.ellendahlgren.com
www.facebook.com/ellendahlgren2016
[@ellendahlgren16](https://twitter.com/ellendahlgren16)

For Volunteer opportunities:
www.ellendahlgren.com/volunteer



Ellen Dahlgren
Democrat

I’m running to represent Connecticut’s 35th House District. It really is “for our children.” I promise to look to the next generation – not just to the next election. I promise to work and vote like our kids depend on it. That doesn’t just mean supporting education and services that they need today. It also means building the kind of economy that will provide good jobs for them in the future. And it means ongoing, committed stewardship of our environment. In our shoreline area, conservation of our natural environment and addressing climate change directly impact our local economy.

House District 35, Continued

Clinton, Killingworth, and Westbrook



Ian Barron
Green

As your representative, I will fight for Connecticut to diversify its industrial and commercial base - no longer will we be a state that solely produces the tools of war or headquarters insurance vampires. We can exploit the existing industrial infrastructure that supports military production facilities, such as Electric Boat or Sikorsky, to diversify the industrial output of our great state. The industrial revolution started in New England, and there is no reason that a new industrial revolution, that of clean energy and the advanced technology of the twenty first century, cannot start here again. We have the infrastructure, as well as the technology. All that we need is the will.

30 Egypt Lane, Clinton

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Phone: 860-391-5925
Email: acoco@une.edu

www.facebook.com/RepCoco2016
[@CocoforCT35th](https://twitter.com/CocoforCT35th)



Austin Coco
Libertarian

As your representative, I will fight for a system that more accurately represents the diverse ideas of the Connecticut people: Instant Runoff Voting. Our current system, First Past the Post favors a two-party system, and punishes anyone else who wants to run to spite that system through the spoiler effect. With Instant Runoff Voting, or a ranked choice ballot, people can list their candidates in order of preference. This system eliminates the “spoiler effect”, and requires that a candidate get at least half the vote. It will not guarantee absolute equality between the field of candidates, but it is a huge step in the right direction, and one we need to take if we want candidates who actually represent the diverse ideas and beliefs of Connecticut.

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House District 36

Haddam, Chester, Deep River, Essex



Philip Miller, Incumbent
Democrat

Representative Miller is seeking a fourth term after being elected in 2011 in a special election. Rep. Miller served as First Selectman of Essex from 2003 to 2011. Previously Rep. Miller was Director of the Bushy Hill Nature Center in Ivoryton, where he founded and developed a natural history day camp. He is a former chair of the Middlesex County Revitalization Commission. He is self-employed as a naturalist and writer.

24 Bushy Hill Road, Ivoryton

Phone: 860-388-7208
Email: philmillerCT@yahoo.com

facebook.com/RepPhilMiller

148 Pokorny Road, Higganum

Phone: 860-490-3959
Email: bob@bobsiegrist.com

www.bobsiegrist.com
www.facebook.com/BobSiegristForStateRep
@BobSiegrist



Robert Siegrist
Republican

Bob was 12 years old when his family moved from East Berlin to Haddam, Connecticut. He was born and raised in Connecticut, and has worked in Chester since 1999. The passion for politics and love of his community is what inspired him to run for the State Representative of the 36th District of Connecticut, serving Chester, Deep River, Essex, and Haddam. “Everything I love is here and I know I can make a difference for the better.” Our children deserve the best education possible. Our teachers deserve to be supported and encouraged to do their jobs. Please join me in supporting our teachers so they can provide Connecticut’s youth with an educational system they can be proud of.

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House District 86

North Branford, Guilford, Wallingford, and Durham



Vincent Candelora, Incumbent
Republican

Representative Candelora is running for his sixth term in the House of Representatives. A graduate of Connecticut College and the Dickenson School of Law at Penn State, Rep. Candelora served on the North Branford Town Council for three terms, one term as Deputy Mayor. He has also served as President of North Branford’s Chamber of Commerce, is Past-President of the North Branford Rotary Club, and is active in youth sports.

405 Sea Hill Road, North Branford

Phone: 203-481-4463
Email: Vincentcandelora@comcast.net

3 Gail Drive, Northford

Phone: 203-484-2660
Email: mase_attorney@sbcglobal.net

Vincent Mase
Unaffiliated

Vincent Mase is challenging Incumbent Vincent Candelora in District 86.

There was no response from the candidate and we were not able to find any information about him.

House District 100

Middletown



Matthew Lesser, Incumbent
Democrat

Matt Lesser has been a strong voice for families, teachers and children in Hartford. Matt has been honored as a “Children’s Champion” four times by the Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance and one of “40 under 40” young leaders by Connecticut magazine. He successfully secured Alliance District funding to help close Middletown’s Achievement Gap, led the fight to save funding for the Even Start program at Middletown Adult Education, saved funding for the Bielefield Family School Connection, helped protect Family Resource Centers at Macdonough and Farm Hill and has supported other programs throughout the region. He has tackled issues such as juvenile mental health care, homelessness, juvenile justice reform, college affordability and the effects of cancer on young people.

2 Mazzotta Place, Middletown

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64 Liberty Street, Middletown

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[@moranforstaterep100th](https://www.facebook.com/MoranforStateRep100th)

[@moranforstaterep100th](https://www.facebook.com/MoranforStateRep100th)



Anthony Moran
Republican

Anthony Reno Joseph Moran was born on September 9th 1996 in Middletown, Connecticut to Mr. & Mrs. Raymond J. Moran (Copes). The Moran family relocated to Middletown in 2006 and have resided here since. Anthony’s political interest started in fourth grade when he was a student at Macdonough Elementary School when he visited the capitol this interest blossomed more in Middle School when Anthony worked on his first campaign in 2011. Anthony has also served in a variety of Student and Community Leadership roles Anthony lives an open life as a gay identified man. Moran is currently studying Criminal Justice at Middlesex Community College where he aspires in becoming a Municipal Animal Control Officer.

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House District 23, *Unopposed*

Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, and Westbrook



Devin Carney, Incumbent
Republican

I am a lector at Grace Episcopal Church in Old Saybrook, on the board for the annual Academy Awards night at The Kate (and as emcee), a member of the Old Saybrook Players, a member of the ASPCA, Habitat for Humanity, and Career Beginnings (a big brother / big sister organization). As a lifelong resident of the 23rd District, I pledge to help parents and students keep educational decisions at the local level.

99 Grassy Hill Road, Old Lyme

Phone: 860-388-7612
Email: repdevincarney@gmail.com

[@repdevincarney](http://www.facebook.com/repcarney)

House District 34, *Unopposed*

East Hampton, East Haddam, Colchester

181 Petticoat Lane, East Haddam

Phone: 860-615-9885
Email: contact@melissaziobron.com

melissaziobron.com
[@MelissaZiobron](http://www.facebook.com/cthouse34)

For Volunteer opportunities:
melissaziobron.com/volunteer/

Incumbent



Melissa Ziobron, Incumbent
Republican

Representative Ziobron is seeking reelection for a second term. A lifelong resident of the reconfigured 34th district, Rep. Ziobron has been an active member of the East Haddam Board of Education, and has served on the Middlesex Chamber Revitalization Committee and the Midstate Regional Planning Agency. Most recently she was the first Economic Development Coordinator for the town of East Haddam. She is an avid environmentalist and volunteers throughout her community.

House District 82, *Unopposed*

Middlefield and Meriden



Emil Altobello, Incumbent

Democrat

Representative Altobello is running for his 12th term in the House of Representatives. A member of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, he has served in many capacities on bonding sub-committees and the Bond Commission. A native of Meriden and graduate of Meriden schools, he was a member of the Meriden City Council from 1987 to 1995, where he served as Majority Leader, Chairman of the Public Works Committee and Chairman of the Finance & Budget Committee. He is active in many Meriden clubs and organizations.

555 Preston Avenue, Meriden

Phone: 203-634-1692

Email: buddyaltobello2002@cox.net

House District 101, *Unopposed*

Madison and Durham

85 Liberty Street, Madison

Phone: 203-245-9054

Email: Noreen@kokoruda.org

www.facebook.com/repKokoruda



Noreen Kokoruda, Incumbent
Republican

Representative Kokoruda won a special election in Feb. 2011, and is in her third term. As Executive Director of the Shoreline Foundation, she worked for many years to provide safe and fun summer camps for local kids. Rep. Kokoruda served 13 years on the Madison Board of Selectmen, and as Chairman of Madison's Beach and Recreation Commission for almost 10 years.

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WWW.MIDDLESEXCHILDREN.ORG