

TRULY INDEPENDENT?

Independent Voters and Independent Candidates—Who Are They and Why Aren't They
Part of the Parties?

Monday, September 30 at 3 PM Dyke Center for Family Business, Husson University

Panelists:



Jackie Salit, President, IndependentVoting.org and author of *Independents Rising* is a highly respected political innovator and advocate for the rights of independent voters.

Toby McGrath – Deputy Chief of Staff for Senator Angus King. He lives in Brunswick. He was Chief of Staff in the Maine Speaker's Office before running campaigns. He was the Maine Campaign Manager for President Obama in 2008 and 2012 and has managed various winning statewide referendum, candidate and bond campaigns.



Jill Goldthwait – Four time Independent State Senator from Bar Harbor. She was a Peace Corps volunteer in Tonga, worked as an emergency room nurse at Mount Desert Island Hospital and served on the Bar Harbor Town Council for 9 years prior to running for Maine State Senate. She recently retired as Director of Government Relations for Jackson Laboratory.

Eliot Cutler – Independent candidate for Governor in 2010. Throughout a distinguished career that has taken him from his hometown of Bangor to the nation's capital, around the world and home again to Maine, Eliot Cutler has maintained an abiding love for his state and a commitment to helping Maine fulfil its promise as a place of unrivalled natural beauty and boundless opportunity. He has been a lawyer, public servant, and successful businessman.



Ben Sprague – Independent Bangor City Councilor. After receiving his degree from Harvard, Ben worked for the Boston Red Sox and taught high school diploma, career development, and computer classes in Massachusetts. He moved back to Bangor where he is a financial advisor with Means Investment Company.

Moderator: **Mark Kelley**, Director of Journalism, New England School of Communications

Independent voters now outnumber members of any political party both in Maine and in the United States. Panelists will be asked to address issues such as: “Why are the number of unenrolled or independent voters increasing?”—and “How does a person who runs as an independent candidate and becomes an office holder serve an independent constituency.”

This event is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Bangor and the Bangor Public Library.