



Welcome Guest

Login | Register

pressofatlanticcity.com

This is for personal, noncommercial use only.

To search archives, visit  
pressofatlanticcity.com/archives

# Environment pushed aside in campaign, forum says

Economy dominating race for N.J. governor

By DEREK HARPER, Statehouse Bureau, 600 202 4025 | Posted: Wednesday, October 14, 2009 |

GALLOWAY TOWNSHIP — In a race revolving around

forum at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

Panelist Ed Kougers, environment leader for the New Jersey Network, noted a Gallup poll

environment by 51 percent to 42 percent

Sharon Schuman, executive director of Stockton's Center for Urban & Economic Justice, chaired the discussion and pointed to a Zogby International poll released last week of people

living in southern New Jersey, said that the environment to be in their top two concerns

Regardless of who wins office, panelists pointed out that the candidates will have to deal with

economic times with limited economic resources.

Michael S. Rodriguez, a Stockton assistant political science professor, said his efforts to dig through the candidates' Web sites found varied responses.

Chris Depoort, a former EPA administrator, said he had looked at the candidates' Web sites and

Rodriguez said he had to dig to find them. He said Republican challenger Chris Christie seemed to strongly support shore protection, but for economic reasons; the beaches are the basis for the state's multibillion shore tourism economy.

open space funding over periodically issuing bonds, but none has said specifically how to do that.

Matt Elliot, with Environment NJ organization, said candidates will discuss the environment. The group will hold a town hall event on Oct. 11.

It is unfortunate, he said later, because there is interest

He pointed to a recent town hall event in Westfield, Union County, that the group hosted. It reserved a 90-person room at a library, but with more than 120 people it was standing room only.

Jaggett and surrogates for the two other candidates fielded questions for the night.

Elliot's group also is planning a series of town hall events in other parts of the state.

The town hall in Westfield was held in a room that was standing room only. About 120 people, who appeared to be mostly undergraduates, attended.

It was the first of six events the Hughes center is hosting during the school year.

E-mail Derek Harper:

DHarper@pressofac.com

© 1970-2009 Press of Atlantic City Media Group