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and Senate.

Polistina said, "We have proven that we can work together."

Whelan countered on the same question, "Compromise is not a dirty word."



Assembly Candidates

The second hour at Dante Hall was dedicated to the four candidates for the state Assembly representing the 2nd District.

Incumbent John Amodeo of Margate is running with Chris Brown of Ventnor on the Republican ticket. The Democrats are current Atlantic County Freeholder at Large Alisa Cooper of Linwood and attorney Damon Tyner of Egg Harbor Township.

Amodeo is seeking his third two-year term in the Assembly. It is Cooper's and Brown's first run for the Assembly while Tyner ran previously in 2005, coming in third behind Frank Blee and Jim Whelan.

As each of the candidate took their turn it was pretty basic; the issue burning the region is "jobs, jobs, jobs," as Cooper said.

She said she learned from her mother, the late Assemblywoman Dolores Cooper, to stand up for seniors and veterans and pledged to take on the issue of women health care.

Amodeo said he is tired of politicians who say what they think voters want to hear.

"I will honestly tell you how it is," said Amodeo.

He said he and Polistina sponsored S-11 in the State House, a five-bill aviation jobs package. Amodeo said creating jobs in the region is a must for the future and stressed the need to give towns the tools to control their taxes.

Brown called for stabilization of spending and said he wants children to have the opportunity to stay in New Jersey and not be forced to move away to find jobs or an affordable community in which to live.

"Your vote on Nov. 8 is trust in the future," he said.

Tyner called for across-the-board cooperation.

"We can choose to create jobs or we can settle for problems created by Democrats and Republicans," Tyner said. "We

Brown said the region needs to be cleaned up, crime brought under control and a public and private partnership with Stockton and Rutgers created that would enhance it.

Tyner said bipartisan cooperation is the key to future success.

All four candidates exchanged jabs during their allotted time, but in the end all agreed that creating sustainable jobs, getting crime under control and working together to create a destination resort are keys to stabilizing the economy.

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