



In the photo, democratic secretary of state candidate Natalie Tennant, second from left, campaigns in New Martinsville last week, shaking hands and talking with citizens at Quinet's Court Restaurant as part of a northern panhandle campaign swing. Also pictured is Wetzel County Commissioner Bob Gorby, one of several local officials whom Tennant visited. (Photo by Bill Abraham)

Tennant Campaigns Here For Secretary Of State

Democratic candidate for West Virginia Secretary of State Natalie Tennant brought her campaign to New Martinsville March 25, visiting the Wetzel County Courthouse and Quinet's Court Restaurant as part of a swing through the northern panhandle.

Tennant said voter confidence needs to be restored to the election process, for which she proposed a VOTE program — Volunteers Organizing the Electorate.

She said that VOTE works within communities and existing civic organizations "to use positive peer support to motivate each other to get out and vote and get involved. It would use leaders in our communities, colleges, and high schools to set examples as poll workers." Tennant said she has set such an example by signing the Code of Fair Campaign Practices, "And I encourage other candidates to do the same."

The Marion County native and former WVU Mountaineer described the code as "a

voluntary bond between politicians and the public to run a clean campaign, based on issues and limit campaign spending to \$150,000 for the primary."

On Wednesday, she spoke in the Wheeling area about her "vision for a progressive office that would streamline the process for businesses and taxpayers."

Tennant said she also plans to use her experience as a small business owner, former television journalist, and former state treasurer's office employee to help promote West Virginia small businesses to streamline the process of business-government communications. "We can do that by using technology and e-government to make the process simpler," Tennant explained.

Tennant has been endorsed by diverse organizations such as Teamsters Local 175 and the political action committee representing American Electric Power.